CUBA BY SEA
HISTORY, CULTURE AND CONTEMPORARY LIFE
February 23 to March 5, 2017

a program of the stanford alumni association
Since Cuba’s doors have increasingly opened to Americans, it has become the latest “must visit” destination. Stanford Travel/Study has conducted more than 30 educational trips to Cuba over the past 18 years, and we have seen firsthand what a remarkable destination it is. Now for the first time, we are pleased to offer our inaugural trip to Cuba by sea aboard the elegant three-masted ship, Le Ponant. A Stanford traveler favorite, Le Ponant provides the perfect vantage point from which to explore the virtually untouched coastlines and bays of this island nation while still giving us access to the people, cities and sights that make this country so extraordinary. See—and be—history with us!

BRETT S. THOMPSON, ’83, DIRECTOR, STANFORD TRAVEL/STUDY

Highlights

**MEET** with Cubans from all walks of life: artists, students, teachers, musicians, doctors, entrepreneurs, farmers and others.

**LEARN** of Cuba’s tumultuous and complex history through visits to important historical sites and lectures by our own faculty, special guides and guest speakers.

**SPEND** two nights in Havana and explore this dynamic city’s cobble-stoned plazas, baroque architecture and historic monuments.
SCOTT PEARSON has been studying economic change in developing countries for 50 years. Between 1968 and 2002, Professor Pearson taught economic development and international trade at Stanford's Food Research Institute. He has co-authored a dozen books, won awards for his research and teaching, and advised governments on food and agricultural policy. Since retiring, Scott has lectured on more than 50 Travel/Study trips. His passion is to understand why empires and nation states have risen and fallen. During our program, he will discuss the political and economic histories of Cuba and the Caribbean region from the 15th century to the present, focusing on pirates, slavery, sugar, imperialism, revolution, the Castro brothers and U.S.-Cuban relations.

— Professor, agricultural economics, Food Research Institute, Stanford University, 1968–2002; served five years as director
— Dean’s Award for Teaching in the School of Humanities and Sciences, 1978
— MA, international relations, Johns Hopkins University
— PhD, economics, Harvard University

"It was an incredible experience to learn about Cuba through Professor Pearson’s fascinating lectures combined with hearing from Cuban residents about their lives and experiencing the country firsthand."

MEGAN PILLSBURY, CUBA FAMILY ADVENTURE, 2013

SIGN UP ONLINE: alumni.stanford.edu/trip?cuba-sea2017
OR BY PHONE: (650) 725-1093
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23
HOME / MIAMI, FLORIDA, U.S.
Arrive in Miami independently and check in to our hotel. Join fellow travelers for an orientation at our hotel this evening.
CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL MIAMI AIRPORT

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24
MIAMI / SANTIAGO DE CUBA, CUBA / EMBARK
Transfer to the Miami Airport for our one-hour flight to Santiago de Cuba. On arrival, embark our beautiful sailing ship, Le Ponant. Attend a mandatory briefing followed by a welcome reception and dinner onboard this evening. The ship remains in port overnight. LE PONANT (B,L,D)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25
SANTIAGO DE CUBA
Founded in 1515 at the head of a spacious bay surrounded by mountains, Santiago de Cuba, Cuba’s second-largest city, is also one of its oldest. Its eclectic architectural styles range from colonial to art nouveau. Meet with members of the Ateneo de Santiago, an organization of artists who represent different professions within the arts, to discuss Santiago’s thriving arts scene. Continue on a tour of the town, including a visit to Parque Céspedes, where Fidel Castro delivered his victory speech in 1959; Calle Heredia, the Old City’s loveliest street; San Juan Hill and its monuments to the Spanish-American War; and a medical facility where we learn about Cuban healthcare.
LE PONANT (B,L,D)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26
AT SEA
Spend a relaxing day at sea enjoying lectures and the amenities of our ship as we sail toward Trinidad. LE PONANT (B,L,D)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27
TRINIDAD
The crown jewel of Cuba’s colonial towns, Trinidad was founded in 1514 and is now a UNESCO World Heritage site with cobblestoned streets, neoclassical and baroque homes, and buildings with wrought-iron grillwork. Take a walking tour with a city historian to visit some of the city’s plazas and museums. Meet the owner of a private casa particular (bed and breakfast) to learn about this form of Cuban independent business. Trinidad is steeped in religiosity, including Santería and other Afro-Cuban religions, and we’ll explore these belief systems with practitioners. Continue to the Santander Family Ceramics Workshop to meet local artisans before returning to our ship to set sail for Cienfuegos.
LE PONANT (B,L,D)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28
CIENFUEGOS / BAY OF PIGS / GRAN PARQUE NATURAL MONTEMAR
Disembark in Cienfuegos, a thriving port since Columbus’ arrival in 1494. Drive to the Bay of Pigs, where we visit the Playa Giron Museum with its displays of artifacts from the failed U.S.-based invasion of Cuba. Visit a community project and an art school to learn about young artists in Cuba from students, teachers and organizers. Meet with park officials and local residents at the magnificent Gran Parque Natural Montemar, Cuba’s largest, most diverse wilderness and a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, to learn about Cuba’s efforts to preserve its wildlife.
LE PONANT (B,L,D)
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1
PUNTA FRANCES, ISLA DE LA JUVENTUD
Today we visit one of the most remote and beautiful beaches in Cuba, where we take advantage of the excellent swimming and snorkeling. The beach, on Isla de la Juventud off Cuba's southern coastline, is part of Parque Nacional Marino de Punta Frances Punta Pedernales, a marine conservation area established in 1978. We'll have an opportunity to meet and talk with Cubans concerned with preserving the natural environment and fragile ecosystem of the island. LE PONANT (B.L.D)

THURSDAY, MARCH 2
AT SEA
Enjoy our final day on the ship at sea as we sail toward Havana. LE PONANT (B.L.D)

FRIDAY, MARCH 3
HAVANA / DISEMBARK
Disembark this morning in the capital and get acquainted with the city on a walking tour of Old Havana, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Admire the city's many squares and busy avenues, including Plaza San Francisco, a stunningly beautiful old square surrounded by buildings dating from the 18th century. Visit the Taller Experimental de Gráfica, Havana’s printmaking and lithographic workshop, and meet the artists working there. After lunch, spend some time wandering around Havana’s oldest square, the 16th-century Plaza Vieja, before checking in to our hotel and enjoying dinner at a lovely seaside paladar. HOTEL MEJIA COHIBA (B.L.D)

SATURDAY, MARCH 4
HAVANA
Today attend a private flamenco performance and talk to the group’s director and members about the cultivation of artistic talent in Cuba. Then embark on a walking tour led by local architects that includes such architectural gems as the Bacardi Building, erected in 1930 and one of Cuba’s most impressive examples of art deco architecture. Enjoy a guided tour of the Museum of Cuban Art with local curators before lunch at a paladar. Take some time in the afternoon to explore the many famous sites and landmarks along the Paseo de Marti, commonly called the Paseo del Prado, before our farewell dinner this evening. HOTEL MEJIA COHIBA (B.L.D)

SUNDAY, MARCH 5
HAVANA / MIAMI, FLORIDA, U.S.
After breakfast at our hotel, transfer to the airport in Havana and check in for our return flight to Miami, connecting to independently booked flights home. (B)
Le Ponant

*Le Ponant* is a sleek, 290-foot-long, three-masted sailing vessel. Built in 1991 in France and refurbished in 2012, *Le Ponant* has 32 well-appointed cabins positioned mid-ship, all with outside views, queen or twin beds, mini-bar, hi-fi system, individual air conditioning, telephone, bathrobes, and private shower and toilet. The four-deck vessel has ample deck space and is well-served by two restaurants. Breakfast and lunch are enjoyed buffet-style under a canopied deck, while dinner is taken in the attractive dining room. Other facilities include a main lounge, terrace lounge and bar, small library and boutique.

Program Cost

Rates are per person, based on double or single occupancy, as specified.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CAT.</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>DOUBLE**</th>
<th>SINGLE**</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Cabin on the Marie-Galante Deck with a porthole window and a queen bed or twin beds, 116 to 121 sq. ft.</td>
<td>$11,995</td>
<td>$15,995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Cabin on the Marie-Galante Deck with porthole windows and a queen bed, 135 to 145 sq. ft.</td>
<td>$12,395</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Cabin on the Antigua Deck with a picture window and a queen bed, 132 to 164 sq. ft.</td>
<td>$12,795</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Association nonmembers add $300 per person.
**Please call the Travel/Study office for specific room sizes and bed choices.
Deposit & Final Payment
A $1,000-per-person deposit is required to hold your space on this program. Sign up online at alumni.stanford.edu/trip/?cuba-sea2017 or call the Travel/Study office at (650) 725-1093. Final payment is due 120 days prior to departure. After that date, refunds can be made only if the program is sold out and your place(s) can be resold, in which case a $1,000-per-person cancellation fee will apply.

Cancellations & Refunds
Deposits and any payments are refundable, less a $500-per-person cancellation fee, until 120 days prior to departure. After that date, refunds can be made only if the program is sold out and your place(s) can be resold, in which case a $1,000-per-person cancellation fee will apply.

Insurance
Stanford Travel/Study provides all travelers who are U.S. or Canadian citizens with minimal medical, accident and evacuation coverage under our group-travel insurance policy. Our group policy is intended to provide minimal levels of protection while you are traveling on this program. You may choose to subscribe to optional trip-cancellation and baggage insurance. Information offering such insurance will be provided to travelers with their welcome materials. The product offered includes special benefits if you purchase your policy within 14 days of written confirmation of your participation on the trip.

Eligibility
We encourage membership in the Stanford Alumni Association as the program cost for nonmembers is $300 more than the members’ price. A person traveling as a guest paid for by a current member will not be charged the nonmember fee. For more information or to purchase a membership, visit alumni.stanford.edu/goto/membership or call (650) 725-0692.

Responsibility
The Stanford Alumni Association, Stanford University and our operators act only as agents for the passenger with respect to transportation and ship arrangements and exercise every care possible in doing so. However, we can assume no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity in connection with the service of any automobile, motorcoach, launch or any other conveyance used in carrying out this program or for the acts or defaults of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the program. We cannot accept any responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delays or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, force majeure or other causes beyond our control. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger as tour rates provide arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to make such alterations to this published itinerary as may be deemed necessary. The right is reserved to cancel any program prior to departure in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the program. No refund will be made for an unused portion of any tour unless arrangements are made in sufficient time to avoid penalties. Baggage is carried at the owner’s risk entirely. It is understood that the ship’s ticket, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the passenger and the cruise company. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time that passengers are not onboard their plane or conveyance. Neither the Alumni Association, Stanford University nor our operators accept liability for any carrier’s cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable ticket in connection with the tour. Program price is based on rates in effect in June 2016 and is subject to change without notice to reflect fluctuations in exchange rates, tariffs or fuel charges.
“This was one of the very best trips I have ever taken. It was an amazing experience to be in Cuba at this particular time when everything is changing.”

NEANNA MILES, MA ’72, CUBA SEMINAR, 2015