

WELCOME To CUBA MAGAZINE



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Arriving Cuba

The distance between the José Martí International Airport and the city of La Habana is approximately 20 km (12 miles). There are no public buses that pass by the airport en route to La Habana, thus you must either take a personal taxi or tourist bus. The taxi charges approximately \$30-40 dollars, and the tourist bus charges approximately \$10-15 dollars

Car Rental Services/Companies

In order to drive a rental car in Cuba you have to have a license and be off 18 years of age or older. You can pay by cash, credit card or travelers checks. You can rent a car either by the distance, or for unlimited travel, which is priced higher. Each car rental company offers different types of vehicles, but virtually all types are available, 4 x 4, cars, and coaches for multiple passengers. When you rent a car in Cuba it is mandatory that you rent insurance, however, the coverage varies from complete coverage to minimal coverage. Prices vary accordingly. The roads are in good shape throughout Cuba.

Cubacar
Transtur
Veracuba

Havanautos
Panautos
Rex(limosine)
Cayo CO-Cayo Guillermo

Airline Companies

AOM	33-4098
Aerocaribbean	45-3013
Aeroflot	33-3200
Aerogaviota	29-4990
Air Jamaica	33-4011
ALM	33-3730
Avianca Sam	33-4700
Copa	33-1758
Cubana	33-3911
Iberia	33-5041
Lacas	33-3114
LTU	33-3549
Martinair Holland	33-4364
Mexicana	33-3531
TAAG	33-3527
Viasa	33-5068

Credit Card Services

Cuba does not have any ATM machines, however, you can get cash off your credit card at the following location. Moreover, this office provides other credit card services for those who need them.

Hotel Habana Libre Trip
Calle 23, esquina M
Plaza
La Habana.

You can use any type of credit card (American Express, Visa, Mastercard, Discovery, JCB, Banamex, Bancomer, Carnet, Diners Club International, etc.) or travellers check in Cuba, providing it is not issued on a US bank. The same is true for travellers checks.

All foreigners, when visiting Cuba, can import money freely without limits. The local currency, known as the Peso and accepted nationwide, is issued in various denominations. Coins are issued in 1, 5, 10, 25, and 50 cent denominations. Before departing Cuba all monies not used must be returned to the bank offices located at the international airports.

A large percentage of goods and services throughout Cuba are priced in US dollars. This is particularly true in tourist centers, and where services are offered for interna-

tional travelers. Other currencies are also accepted include those of Canada, France, Germany, Finland, Mexico, Japan, Spain, Italy, Switzerland, Sweden, Holland, Portugal, Austria, and Belgium.

Internet Services

Internet service in Cuba is restricted and all of those offering services are either state owned, or they are private foreign owned firms who have a special license to operate in Cuba. Currently, there are no internet cafe's, however several companies are working at providing this service. For those who have authorization to obtain internet service the cost is US \$260.00 per month, by means of a regular telephone modem. For corporations the fee oscillates between US \$600-\$800, plus an additional fee is levied based on the total number of bytes transferred. The only company that provides this service is www3.cuba.cu/.

Other companies exist that offer service by the hour, starting with a base of around 20 hours. The fee for this service is normally between US \$3.00-\$5.00 per hour. Companies that offer this service are, <http://www.islagrande.cu/colombusnet/>, <http://www.infocom.etecsa.cu/>, and www.cubaweb.cu/teledatos/index.htm.

Currently, there are no so called "internet cafe's" where visitors can pay by the hour for internet access.

The following site, <http://www.cubaweb.cu/>, is the official site of Cuba.

Language Schools

There are no language schools in Cuba that provide language instruction for foreigners, as there are in Guatemala or Mexico. For those interested in studying Spanish or other careers in Cuba, one should contact the following institution.

Dirección de Relaciones Internacionales
Oficina de Pregrado Internacional
Ministerio de Educación Superior
Calle 23 No 667 e/ D y E
Vedado. La Habana, Cuba
Fax: (537) 33-4133
Tel: (537) 33-4133, 32-1778

E-mails: opc@reduniv.edu.cu
josefina@cujae.ispjae.edu.cu