



BOISDALE JAZZ & CIGAR CLUB HAVANA JAUNT 2010

SUNDAY 21ST FEBRUARY - SUNDAY 28TH FEBRUARY





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Day 1

Sunday 21st February



Hotel Nacional - Cuba's most prestigious hotel



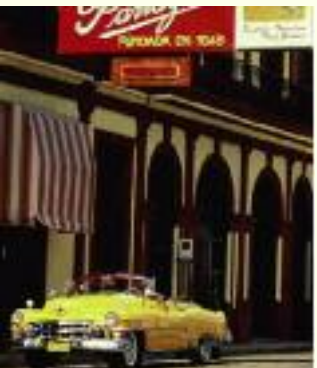
Havana taxi at rest

Day 2

Monday 22nd February



La Corona cigar factory



Cigar buying tour of Havana

11.45am Virgin direct flight from Gatwick Airport

4.40pm VIP arrival in Havana, the record is six minutes from touch down to an indifferent Mojito. After sufficient time to smoke a reasonable cigar or two we transfer to Nacional Hotel de Cuba. The rooms on the **VIP Executive Floor** have their own reception, breakfast room, free access to an ordinary gym, and the business centre (run by the delightful Daisy) with wireless internet connection. I will have already inspected your rooms and checked you in, so this process is, touch wood, *tres tranquilo*.

7.30pm Meet on the Nacional's legendary terrace for welcome cocktails followed by a dinner of garlic and sour orange fed pig at El Barocca Restaurant spit-roasted over charcoal especially for us. Conveniently within minutes walk of our hotel it is an open-sided thatched restaurant with a magnificent view of the Havana bay. The legendary band Floridita Musica will perform for us that night. An early night is always recommended on arrival, but usually ignored. Those in urgent need of a first night nightcap will probably find themselves at the One Eyed Cat a couple of minutes walk away from the hotel (**cocktails, dinner, wine & rum at El Barocca all included**).

7am-8.30am Breakfast at the Nacional Hotel.

Option 1:

9.00am **Cigar Buying Tour**. Starting with a VIP tour of the La Corona Factory, where Hoyo de Monteray and Punch cigars are made, with Simon Chase of Hunters of Frankau. This is the first day of the Festival and it is important for those who wish to purchase interesting cigars to do so today before the swarms of cigar aficionados from all over the world descend on Havana and clean out all the best stock. We will do this by air-conditioned coach. Smoking one's way around Havana is also an enjoyable, if unenergetic, way to orientate oneself, and yes there will be a bar on board! (**all included**).

Option 2:

10.00am Personal guided tour of Havana with the Boisdale Jazz & Cigar Club cultural attaché Conor Macgillycuddy e.g. palaces, architecture, art galleries and bars (**guide included** but all transport and refreshment **to be paid locally**).

Option 3:

20 minute taxi to the beach or relax by the pool and join everyone for lunch later.



BOISDALE JAZZ & CIGAR CLUB HAVANA JAUNT 2010



*The Cigar Festival
Inauguration Dinner*

1.30pm **Boisdale and Hunters & Frankau 2010 Cigar Festival Luncheon** organised in conjunction with Habanos hosted by Jemma Freeman and Simon Chase to include a fascinating cigar tasting. Venue and details still not finalised, but it will be monumental. (*cocktails, lunch, wine, rum & cigars all included*).

Option 1:

7.30pm **The Cigar Festival Inauguration Dinner.** Every year this dinner takes place in a different location with a cigar brand theme and serious entertainment. As yet the Habanos Cigar Festival Itinerary is not finalised so details are not available. All we know at this stage is that it will happen at this sort of price, which will incidentally include all the cigars, cocktails, wine, dinner and quite a nice goody bag, if previous events are anything to go by. (*Estimated supplement of \$225.00*).



Havana good time!



Option 2:

Free evening to explore Havana in the good company of *The Boisdale Breast Pocket Guide to Havana 2010*.



Havana Opera House



Day 3

Tuesday 23rd February



Zapata's wildlife



*Zapata Peninsula:
Our accommodation!*



*Tropicana Cabaret show
Tropicana Club*

Day 4

Wednesday 24th February

Breakfast at the Nacional.

Option 1: ***BJ&CC Zapata Expedition 2010***

8.00am We will keep our rooms at the Nacional so we will only need to pack for a day at sea, dinner that night and for lunch the next day (nothing too formal!). We will travel for just under three hours in a more than comfortable air conditioned bus, hopefully with a DVD player, but definitely with a bar and fridge.

A beautiful drive through fascinating countryside of lush exotic landscapes to the Zapata Peninsula, 2000 sq km of virgin territory with 900 species of native plants, amazing bird life, crocodiles, alligators and Trichechus Mammatus or manatee (sea cows), the Conquistadors (in the absence of any alternative rational) believed to be mermaids.

10.45am On arrival we will transfer to our ecotourism accommodation (a replication of a pre Columbus Indian village) followed shortly by a cocktail reception and our lobster picnic on the beach with a local band, followed by diverse activities ranging from sea and fresh water fishing, and exploration by boat of the Las Salinas Wildlife Refuge to cigar smoking and relaxation on the beach.

I will have travelled out the week beforehand and will arrange a party for the evening drawing in the best of local musical and dancing talent for a barbeque of local fish and mammalian specialities. For those of you who are ominously thinking about what we may be drinking as first time eco tourists, other than local beer and rum, let me put your minds at rest. We will enjoy a constant supply of perfectly reasonable wine that we will bring with us in unreasonably large quantities from the best (and only!) wine merchant in Havana.

Option 2: Glorious free day and evening for which we can organise whatever may be desired, for instance the best seats at the legendary Tropicana Cabaret show, which must be done once in a lifetime, but arguably not twice! (***to be paid locally***).

Option 1: ***BJ&CC Zapata Expedition 2010 cont...***

8.00am onwards Breakfast followed either by relaxation or amongst many possible activities a grand tour of the Bay of Pigs battle ground and museum.


BOISDALE JAZZ & CIGAR CLUB HAVANA JAUNT 2010


Clear waters in the Bay of Pigs



La Cocina de Lilliam

Day 5
Thursday 25th February



Marina Hemingway

1.00pm Picnic lunch somewhere beautiful with a view and a beach.

3.30pm Depart for Havana

6.15pm Arrive at The Nacional.

Option 2: Personal guided tour of Havana (*guide included* but all transport and refreshments *to be paid locally*).

8.30pm Dinner at my favourite restaurant, the paladar **La Cocina de Lilliam**, in Mirimar - the beautiful ambassadorial district of Havana. Probably the best food in Havana, this restaurant is set in an exotic tropical garden and will always be a part of our itinerary. Lilliam is a formidable cook whose children and grandchildren very charmingly and professionally run the restaurant. Her recipes are resonant of haut bourgeois cooking of 1950s Havana. Over the last twelve years we have always had lunch here. My plan is to bring in a band and afterwards to take those with sufficient energy to Casa del Musica for an evening of salsa dancing (*cocktails, dinner, wine & rum at La Cocina de Lilliam - all included*).

Breakfast at The Nacional

9.00am

Option 1: A novel idea, and a first for the Boisdale Jazz & Cigar Club Havana Jaunt, a **free day and free evening!**

Option 2: Cigar Festival surprise event with which we are involved, about which we are sworn to secrecy, but it will be moderately exciting.

Option 3: VIP tour of the tobacco plantations (*to be paid locally*).

Option 4: Take a boat from Marina Hemingway for a day's marlin fishing (*to be paid locally - approximately £250*)

Option 5: Day trip by small plane to Cayo Largo where the beaches are made of fine brilliant white talcum powder.



Cayo Largo


BOISDALE JAZZ & CIGAR CLUB HAVANA JAUNT 2010


Day 6
Friday 26th February



La Guarida entrance

Breakfast on the terrace at the Nacional.

Free morning.

Option 1: Lunch at Havana's most famous, and the Boisdale Jazz & Cigar Club's favourite, paladar **La Guarida** in Central Havana. Enrico serves excellent, imaginative and authentic Cuban food and provided some inspiration for the menu in Floridita London. La Guarida certainly has one of the world's most memorable restaurant entrances; regulars include, Robert de Niro, the King of Spain, Jimmy Carter, and The Manic Street Preachers (**cocktails, lunch, wine, rum all included**).

Option 2: Free day.

Option 1: Free evening.

Option 2:

7.00pm Depart for the **Cigar Festival Gala Dinner**. The venue is not confirmed as yet. Fidel Castro always used to host the evening and although it is unlikely, the possibility exists, however improbable, that he may do so again. More than almost any historical figure I can think of, he has spent a lifetime defying the odds and surprising the pundits. Tickets for this event will be many times oversubscribed, particularly as the special limited edition cigars provided on the evening will be in time worth significantly more than the ticket price for the event. Recent guests of honour have included **David Soul, Matt Dillon, Joseph Fiennes and Jeremy Irons. (estimated \$525.00)**.

Day 7
Saturday 27th February



Our last night in Havana

Breakfast on the terrace at the Nacional.

Option 1: **Club Havana** for a lazy beach day and an excellent lunch on the terrace (**cocktails, lunch, wine & rum - all included**). Other activities include: all water sports, tennis, Intergalactic Perudo Spoof, salsa dancing, and cigar smoking on the beach.

Option 2: Free day.

9.00pm **Boisdale Jazz & Cigar Club Havana Dinner 2010** at a surprise venue (**cocktails, dinner, wine & rum - all included**).

As this is the "big" night of the week in Cuba we will then go on to enjoy the best live music in Havana (**to be paid locally**).

Day 8
Sunday 28th February

Breakfast on the terrace at the Nacional

12.30pm Lunch from the grill by the pool at the Nacional. A little relaxation before departure is a good idea (**cocktails, wine, lunch & rum all - included**).



BOISDALE JAZZ & CIGAR CLUB HAVANA JAUNT 2010



Day 10
Monday 1st March

4.30pm VIP transfer to Havana Airport. This involves the ability to check in through Business Class which avoids excruciating queues and also provides access to a complimentary lounge bar for our comfort and sustenance.

7.10pm Flight departs.

8.45am Arrival at Gatwick Airport.

IMPORTANT GENERAL NOTES



- The departure is 11.45am, Sunday 21st February. We depart Havana at 7.10pm, Sunday 28th February arriving back well rested in London at 8.45am, 1st March.
- This tour is organised in conjunction with **Floridita Travel** and **Havana Holdings Cuba**.
- The week will be hosted by Randal Macdonald.
- The BJ&CC cultural attaché Conor Macgillycuddy will be supervising all sophisticated activities.
- **Free days & evenings:** Almost limitless excursions and activities can be organised and programmed into a personal itinerary before departure.
- **Cuban Visa** is included.
- **VIP** Airport Reception and departure are included.
- **All Hotel** accommodation is included.
- **All transfers** to and from the airport are included.
- **All breakfasts** are included.
- **Three dinners and three lunches** with cocktails, reasonable wine, and rum are included.
- **Local guides available every day** are included.
- **Boisdale Breast Pocket Havana Guide 2010** included.
- All luxury coach travel is included.
- No taxis are included. Taxis in Havana average £2-£6 per journey per taxi.
- Restaurants: although you can eat and drink locally for next to nothing the **"to be paid locally"** restaurants suggested in this itinerary average around £40 - £50 per head all in.
- Insurance is **not** included.
- All times quoted are local times and may vary nearer the time of travel; these will be confirmed to you then.
- Anything not included in the tour price is highlighted to **be paid locally**.
- All meals marked **"included"** include designated cocktails on arrival, mineral water and unlimited quantities of reasonable wine and rum, but do not include any cigars or any alternative drinks.
- All optional items are subject to numbers of people interested and availability locally.
- Elements of this itinerary may change due to circumstances beyond our control.

Cost per person travelling is **£1,750** and is based upon two people sharing twin/double accommodation.

Supplement for single room occupancy is **£135.00**.

Virgin Atlantic Premium Economy (equivalent to business class) supplement is **£475**.

Upgrade to **VIP Executive 6th Floor** at Nacional Hotel de Cuba supplement of **£120** for the week per person.

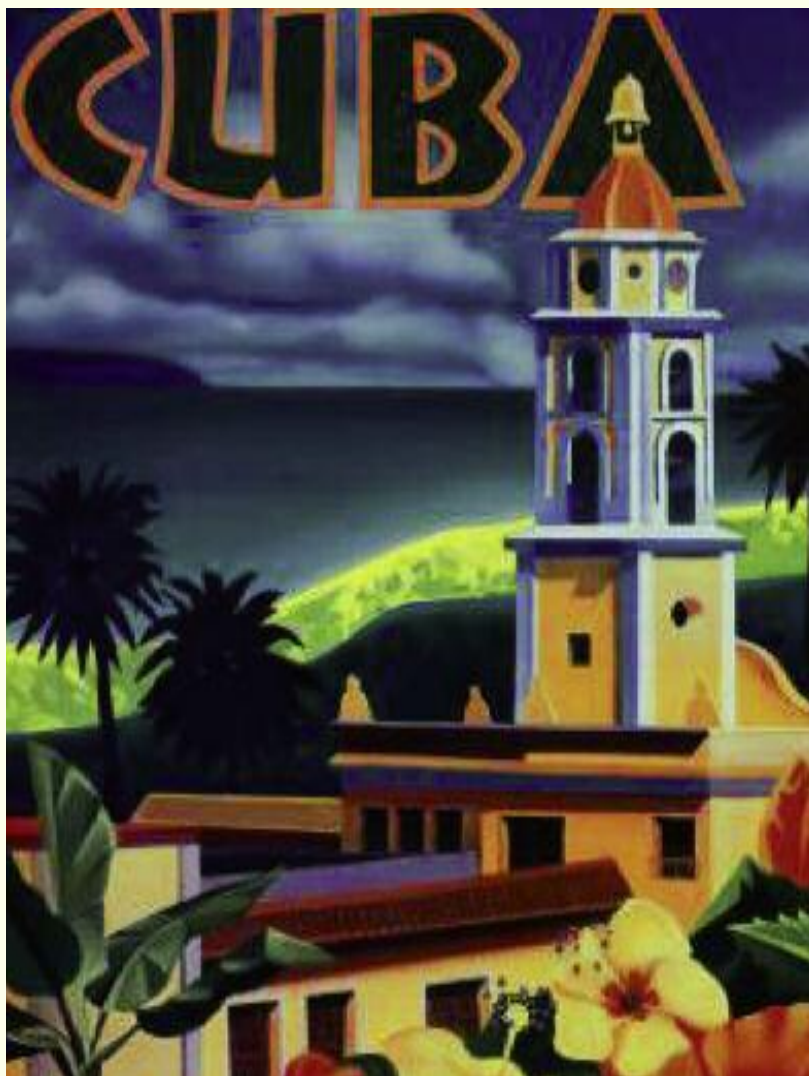
The BJ&CC Zapata Expedition 2010 is a supplement of **£250.00** and includes *luxury coach with bar, boat excursions, nature reserve trekking, lobster picnic lunch, guides, one night accommodation, barbeque dinner with band, visit to The Bay of Pigs, luxury picnic lunch, and all cocktails, rum and wine at ALL times (NB your room at the Nacional Hotel is held for this overnight stay)*

The group will be limited to a maximum of 18 guests.

Tickets for the Cigar Festival Dinners need to be paid for and reserved ASAP. Demand is seriously outstripping supply. **The Inauguration Dinner is approx \$225.00**, and the **Cigar Festival Gala Dinner is \$525.00**.

To reserve your place on the Boisdale Jazz & Cigar Club Havana Jaunt 2010 please contact randal@boisdale.co.uk or telephone 0207 259 1254

Before departure you will receive all the detailed information you will require for this expedition in terms of currency, what to bring, what not to do, etc., which will not in fact amount to very much more than you would have imagined, but may be useful.



BOISDALE JAZZ & CIGAR CLUB

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