

Itinerary

Itinerary – Chile – Cuba – Dominican Republic – May - June 2009

Day	Date				Trip Day
Wednesday	13-May-2009	Melb to Santiago 0630 Mel-Sydney QF404 0700 Sydney to Santiago QF321 0955 Arrive 1210 Ian arrives LA 1446 13:50	HOSTAL AMAZONAS PLAZA ITALIA AV. VICUÑA MACKENNA 47, next to Argentina Embassy FONO/FAX: (56 2) 635 16 31 SANTIAGO- CHILE		1
Thursday	14-May-2009				2
Friday	15-May-2009				3
Saturday	16-May-2009	Santiago to Havana LA588 1535			4
Sunday	17-May-2009	Day 1 - Havana - Arrival Day This evening we will have a group meeting and enjoy dinner in a local restaurant	Hotel Armadores de Santander	53 (7) 8628000	5
Monday	18-May-2009	Day 2 – Havana Today we are on tour in the stunning capital. We begin on foot walking through the historic colonial centre stopping in the plaza and visiting the fortresses. These structures were built by the Spaniards between the 16th and 19th centuries. We also stop at a cigar factory and the Museum of the Revolution. Soak up the atmosphere of the cobbled streets and avenues of the Old Havana. Dinner at the fabled “La Bodeguita del Medio”	Hotel Armadores de Santander	53 (7) 8628000	6
Tuesday	19-May-2009	Day 3 - Havana (Viñales) We depart early for our full day trip to the lovely Viñales Valley. Heading out to Pinar del Río in the westernmost province of Cuba this is where the best tobacco trees are to be found. We take in the grand vista at the lookout point of 'Los Jazmines'. We stop to view a prehistoric mural and then enjoy a Creole lunch at a local restaurant. In the afternoon we visit the Indian's Cave taking a boat journey through the underground cavern	Hotel Armadores de Santander	53 (7) 8628000	7

Wednesday	20-May-2009	Day 4 - Havana to Cienfuegos (via Bay of Pigs) After breakfast we head south east to Cienfuegos known as the "Pearl of the South". We are in for an interesting day as we visit the National Park with a large swamp and diverse ecosystem. We also visit the Bay of Pigs, scene of the failed US lead invasion with a stop at the museum. There may even be time for a swim	Jagua Hotel	53 (43) 551003	8
Thursday	21-May-2009	Day 5 - Cienfuegos (Santa Clara) Cienfuegos is a charming town with interesting art and colonial architecture on show. We take trip to nearby Santa Clara which is the main city of Villa Clara province. We are here to visit the monuments to "Mi Amigo", Che Guevara. We tour the sites which include the museum, mausoleum and memorial. In the afternoon we head back to our base in Cienfuegos	Jagua Hotel	54 (43) 551003	9
Friday	22-May-2009	Day 6 - Cienfuegos to Trinidad A leisurely drive to the stunning city of Trinidad which was declared by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site in 1988. There is a definite feeling of walking through an outdoor museum. We stay at the beautiful 4 star Trinidad del Mar very close to lovely Ancon Beach	Costa Sur Hotel	53 (41) 996174	10
Saturday	23-May-2009	Day 7 - Trinidad We have a comprehensive tour of the city planned today. Included in our stops are the 'Museo Romantico', the Sugar Mill Valley, and the Manaca Iznaga Tower. We lunch at the 'Canchanchara' and enjoy a cocktail to break up the day. The Museum of History is also worth a visit	Costa Sur Hotel	53 (41) 996174	11
Sunday	24-May-2009	Day 8 - Trinidad We have set aside the whole day for exploration. There are limitless streets and neighborhoods to wander through as well as a multitude of historical buildings and plaza to locate. You may choose to take the short trip to the beaches of 'Playa Ancon' for a more leisurely day of swimming, snorkeling or sailing	Costa Sur Hotel	53 (41) 996174	12
Monday	25-May-2009	Day 9 - Trinidad to Camagüey We have a travel day today heading to Camagüey city, which is a provincial capital. We have time in the late afternoon to explore the narrow winding streets and the picturesque churches. We will find a local restaurant and enjoy dinner in the old town	Gran Hotel	53 (32) 292093	13
Tuesday	26-May-2009	Day 10 - Camagüey to Santiago de Cuba We move on to Santiago de Cuba the second most important city in Cuba. Exuding both music and history, it is considered the capital of the eastern part of the island and birthplace of 'son' music and of the Cuban Revolution. En route we take lunch in a local restaurant in Bayamo City, capital of Granma	San Juan Hotel	53 (22) 687200	14

		province. This town was the second Spanish settlement in Cuba, which Diego Velázquez founded in 1513			
Wednesday	27-May-2009	Day 11 - Santiago de Cuba Our tour of Santiago includes a visit to Cespedes Park and the Moncadas Garrison. There is so much to see in this vibrant city. In the evening we will seek out some local clubs to enjoy the musical flavours of the traditional Cuban sound. Bring your dancing shoes or just sit back and enjoy a 'Cuba Libre'. Try stopping those toes tapping!	San Juan Hotel	53 (22) 687200	15
Thursday	28-May-2009	Day 12 - Santiago de Cuba to Guardalavaca We journey north to coastal town of Guardalavaca stopping at Playa Blanca en route. Legend has it that this is the first place that Christopher Columbus landed when he arrived in the "New World". There are a variety of sites to commemorate this event for us to enjoy. We arrive in Guardalavaca late in the afternoon	Club Amigo Guardalavaca	53 (24) 430444	16
Friday	29-May-2009	Day 13 - Guardalavaca A day to savour. You have earned a days relaxation to rejuvenate. You can spend it in the sun with a good book or be as active as you like in this lovely north coast beach resort. If you are feeling adventurous there is an opportunity to explore many of the smaller beach side villages	Club Amigo Guardalavaca	53 (24) 430444	17
Saturday	30-May-2009	Day 14 - Guardalavaca to Havana We transfer to Holguin Airport and take the short flight (included) to Havana. We are back in time to ready ourselves for a Cuban 'grand finale'. A night savouring the in depth journey we have enjoyed together	Hotel Armadores de Santander	53 (7) 8628000	18
Sunday	31-May-2009	Day 15 - Havana - Departure day To Santo Domingo DR Copa Airlines CM295 07:20 to Panama City Panama City to Santo Domingo CM308 0959 Arrive 13:29 Bus to Puerto Plata	Ken & Elaine Brown #33 Vista de Oro Cabarete Dominican Republic Phone: 809 571 9742 Ken 829 451 9666, Elaine 829 451 9669		19
Monday	01-June-2009				20
Tuesday	02-June-2009				21
Wednesday	03-June-2009				22
Thursday	04-June-2009	Early morning bus to Santo Domingo	Mercure Comercial		23

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Friday	05-June-2009				24
Saturday	06-June-2009	To Havana via Panama City. Havana to Panama City CM271 09:10 Panama City to Havana CM246 12:18			25
Sunday	07-June-2009	Havana to Santiago 0255 LA587	HOSTAL AMAZONAS PLAZA ITALIA AV. VICUÑA MACKENNA 47, next to Argentina Embassy FONO/FAX: (56 2) 635 16 31 SANTIAGO- CHILE		26
Monday	08-June-2009	Santiago to Auckland 2250 QF322			26
Tuesday	09-June-2009				26
Wednesday	10-June-2009	Arrive Auckland 0400 Auckland to Melbourne QF132 0630 Arrive 0835			26
Thursday	11-June-2009				26