

This guide has been prepared by Spanish Solidarity with Cuba and coordinated by María Ángeles Altozano Moreno and Ricardo Carreras Lario

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Cover: photos of Milka María Peña and Gloria Amaya, and four tourism photos of Cuba

Inside cover: photo of Laura Pollán, and photo of the Capitol Building in City of Havana

The black and white photographs in this guide of the mothers and wives of political prisoners are part of a photo documentary created by photographer Alexander Polo, in cooperation with People in Need (PIN), an NGO from the Czech Republic that carries out aid and cooperation projects in problematic regions throughout the world, and promotes human rights and democracy. This NGO has expressed its solidarity with Cuban democrats and their families since 1997. For more information about PIN, visit www.peopleinneed.cz <<http://www.peopleinneed.cz>>. Permission to display the complete photo documentary on the Damas de Blanco may be requested by writing to icdc@peopleinneed.cz.

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MAP OF CUBA

Area: 110,922 square kilometers
Population: 11,177,743

Political-Administrative Division: 14 provinces and 169 municipalities
Capital: City of Havana

Provinces: Camagüey, Ciego de Ávila, Cienfuegos, Granma, Guantánamo, Havana, City of Havana, Holguín, Municipality of Isla de la Juventud, Las Tunas, Matanzas, Pinar del Río, Sancti Spiritus, Santiago de Cuba, Villa Clara



I. Introduction

We hope to open your eyes to the reality of Cuba and your heart to solidarity with the Cuban people

Seeing other places and cultures is a privilege. It is also an opportunity for personal enrichment, especially if you manage to absorb a reality that is different from your own.

Cuba has an image as an agreeable and pleasant tourist destination. However, there is another reality. **Did you know...?**

- * **Fidel Castro has been in power for 47 years, without elections or rival parties**
- * **In Cuba, there are no independent communications media**
- * **The average wage in Cuba is around 12 euros per month**
- * **In most cases, the Cuban people cannot express opinions against the**

The streets of Cuba are full of smiles and music, but inside its houses, poverty reigns; there is a lot of conversation, but there are taboo topics that are not discussed. The beaches are spectacular and the hotels are luxurious, but they are reserved for foreigners. The average Cuban cannot access the best beaches or the best hotels – and could not afford them anyway. In the shadow of these luxury hotels, the Cuban people suffer a critical housing problem. Frequently, several generations live in the same house, which is typically in poor condition. The list goes on... And this is the situation for the average Cuban. Now, let us spare a thought for the advocates of democracy who are marginalized and repressed by the regime because they seek peaceful change for their country; for human rights activists who are fired from their jobs in reprisal for their activities. Let us reflect on the political prisoners, and on their families, who are forced to travel long distances in order to visit their loved ones in prison, in a country with a brutal transport crisis. And these brave women, who must support their children while they help their husbands who have been unjustly imprisoned, are the Damas de Blanco (Ladies in White). They were recognized with the award of the Sakharov Prize by the European Parliament in 2005; however, in the majority of cases, the Cuban Government refused all permission to travel outside the island to collect this well earned award.



Transport in Cuba is in permanent crisis. In the photograph, Cubans travel in an antique bus or "camello" [camel].

Many tourists soak up Cuba's beaches without soaking up any of Cuba itself, disconnected from the true reality of the country. Don't be one of them. Get to know the real Cuba, and do something about it. In the face of all these injustices and confronting situations, ask yourself:

What can I do? A lot!

We suggest that **you add a component of solidarity, responsibility and democracy to your visit**. Use your visit to Cuba as an opportunity to do something for the present and future of the Cuban people, lending your support to those who need it most. When you go to Cuba, make sure you pack your understanding, hope and encouragement along with your towel and bathing suit. Take with you your solidarity, democratic beliefs, faith in a better future, and your certainty that a peaceful transition to democracy, from within Cuba and by Cubans, is possible and desirable.

Acts of solidarity require hardly any effort from you, and yet bring great rewards: the Cuban people receive moral or material support and you have the personal satisfaction of being more than just a spectator.

You can visit the family of a political prisoner, taking along your encouragement and medicine, too. You can call them from a phone booth to lend your support. You can slip them a letter under the door. You can take along a toy for one of their children. And so much more.

Any one of these things will enrich your trip, and you will be helping Cubans who are suffering and need your support. Don't just lie on the beach with your head in the sand.

If you go to Cuba, do it right!

Visitors to Cuba, lend your support!

Spanish Solidarity with Cuba

II. About this Guide and its Contents

In this guide, we offer some details that will be very useful for anyone wishing to lend their solidarity during their trip to Cuba.

We combine some snippets of simple tourist information with details about help and solidarity. So, on the one hand, here we offer details of interest to the general tourist for the various provinces of Cuba – places to see, cultural information, history. On the other hand, we provide information about how travelers like you can show their solidarity.

1. Tourist Information

The general tourist information offers descriptive details about each province. Secondly, there is a schematic summary of points of interest and curiosities, grouped into three categories:

- ✦ **What you should see** – essential areas to visit in each region, including the municipalities
- ✦ **What you should know** – historical and cultural details of the area for those who want more in-depth information
- ✦ **The quaint and curious** – intriguing anecdotes or details regarding the popular culture of the area or its socio-cultural characteristics

Thirdly, there is a box summarizing the demographic details of each province, such as its area and population.

All these details have been compiled from various tourist guides to Cuba, as well as Internet tourism sites.



2. Solidarity Information

There are four headings that classify information concerning useful contacts for those interested in offering their help and solidarity:

1. Churches and Donation Centers
2. Independent Libraries
3. Families of Political Prisoners
4. Defenders of Democracy and Human Rights

The guide contains addresses for centers to make donations, such as churches, religious centers or independent libraries under the headings “Churches and Donation Centers” and “Libraries,” respectively.

Tourists can take products such as basic hygiene products, children’s toys, clothes or medicine to these places. All these items, which for the traveler mean very little, are very necessary for Cubans because in Cuba, they are in such short supply. The traveler can take books or magazines, too. In Cuba, freedom of expression is so limited that there are no independent Cuban publications, and Western publications are censored; therefore, the island’s citizens are anxious to access the kind of reading material that all of us enjoy outside Cuba.

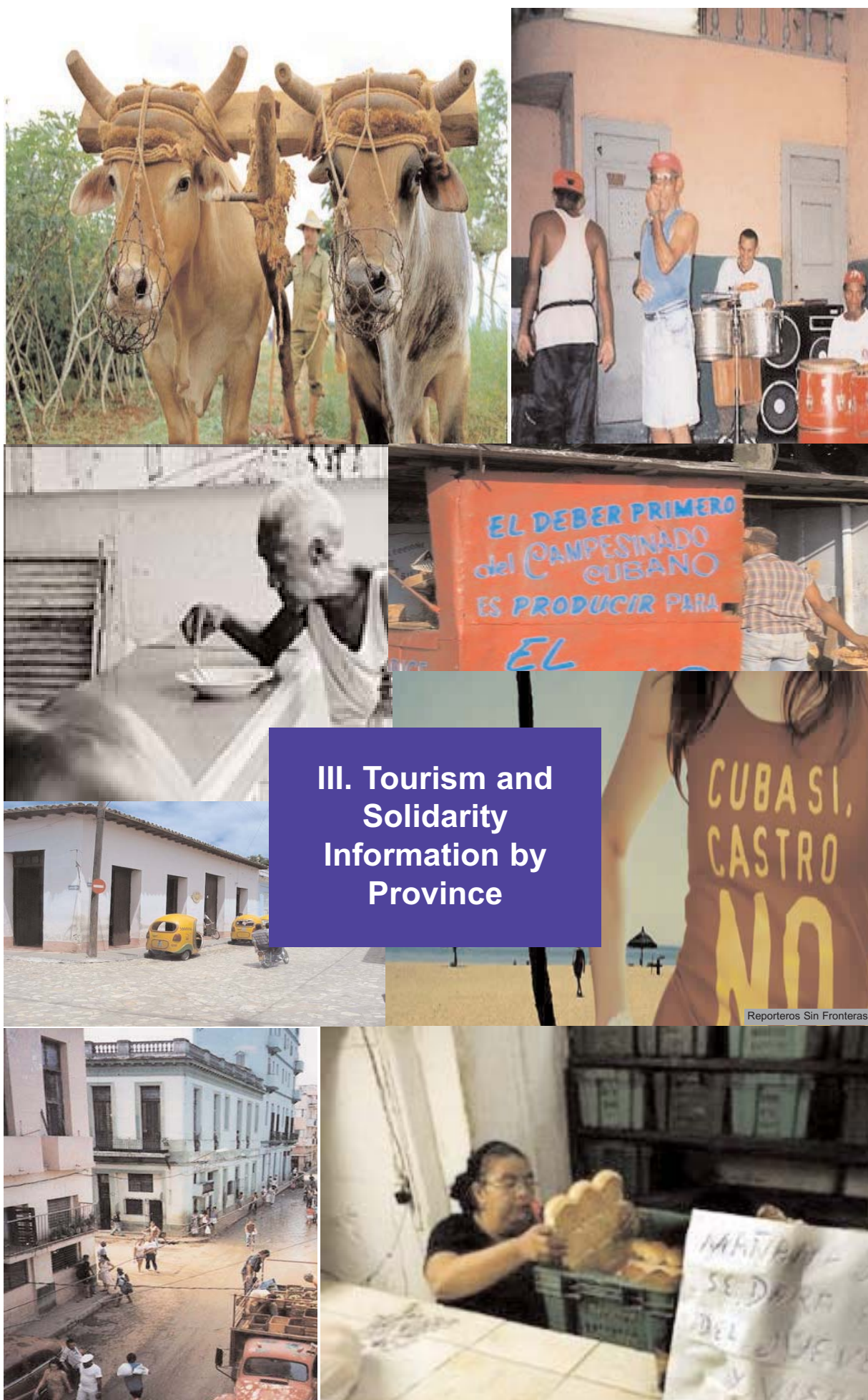
We also provide contacts for prisoners of conscience and their families, and also for the activists who campaign for democracy and human rights. These individuals have an especially difficult situation, and accordingly, any moral or material support they receive from travelers to Cuba is vitally important. It’s enough to make a phone call, write them a few words of support, or give them a letter either directly or to family members of those who are in prison. The traveler can also take them medicine or any other vital article. In this guide, you will find the addresses of the families of prisoners of conscience. Although the vast majority of them are still in prison, some are on conditional release, frequently due to illness. The ones shown here are those recognized by Amnesty International. In fact, we know that there are many more prisoners of conscience – around 300 – but owing to the diversity of existing sources, and the contrasting (and in many cases contradictory) addresses provided by them, we have restricted our listing to those recognized by Amnesty International. For completeness, the following Internet sites offer details on the other prisoners of conscience:

- ✦ Amnesty International:
<http://www.amnesty.org>
- ✦ Inter-American Human Rights Commission:
<http://www.cidh.org/countryrep/Cuba76sp/cap.1a.htm>
- ✦ Christian Democratic Party of Cuba:
<http://www.pdc-cuba.org/prepol-99.htm>
- ✦ Payo Libre:
<http://www.payolibre.com/presos.htm>

Concerning human rights activists and defenders, we have compiled contacts for different organizations, such as independent trade unions and associations, press agencies and political parties. Many of these organizations have members in prison, but continue to work in favor of democracy and human rights.

3. Other Information

The final section of the guide contains the **telephone prefixes** for Cuba’s principal cities and provinces; this information is extremely useful when making calls from or to the island. There is also a **list of recommended medicine and books** that Cubans would be very happy to receive. Lastly, there are various details of interest about Cuba and the situation being experienced there by its citizens. **These are things that travelers will assuredly find interesting, and surprising, too.** We also discuss some **precautions** that “solidarity” travelers should take.



Province of Camagüey

Camagüey is a province in central Cuba, and the largest in terms of area. Prior to the current political-administrative division, it also included the neighboring province of Ciego de Ávila. The capital is Camagüey city. The region is a varied one, comprising coastal and inland areas.

Dominated by extensive plains, the Camagüey region comprises some 16,000 square kilometers. With over one hundred square kilometers of beach area, the province possesses an enormous tourism potential. A particularly notable feature is the 20-km-long Santa Lucía beach, on the northern coast of the province. Lying offshore, we find the largest coral barrier reef in the country, extending around 36 km in length and protecting the coast against the turbulent current of the Old Bahamas Channel. The zone is replete with exceptional dive sites.

Camagüey province has been shaped by its history of livestock farming, and subsequently sugarcane growing.

What You Should See:

- ✦ The city of Camagüey houses the largest architectural zone of Cuba
- ✦ The Holy Sepulcher, the oldest colonial edifice in Latin America
- ✦ The city was also the seat of the first Law Courts in Latin America
- ✦ The Sierra de Cubitas, where the native inhabitants held ceremonies, and numerous cave paintings may still be found; they are the only prominent feature on the extensive plains
- ✦ From Santa Lucía, tourists can visit the Los Cocos beach and a nearby lagoon that serves as habitat to a colony of flamingos
- ✦ The Sabinal and Romano keys, almost untouched by the hand of man
- ✦ Any of the towns lying on the great inland plain, which contrast with the coastal zones in both climate and environment

What You Should Know:

- ✦ Camagüey is known as the City of Tinajones because these huge, fired-clay vessels are found here in large numbers. They were used in historical times for storing rainwater
- ✦ Camagüey was the cradle of four independence movement constitutions
- ✦ There are abundant signs of pre-Columbian settlements in various zones of Camagüey. Evidence shows the existence of several chiefdoms (or cacicazgos): Camaguayo, Guáimaro, and Camaguebax, from which the region takes its name
- ✦ In June, the city celebrates the festival of San Juan camagüeyano, a typical carnival of the province

The Quaint and Curious:

- ✦ Camagüey is the birthplace of Ignacio Agramonte, illustrious Major General of the Cuban army during the Ten Years War (1868-1878), waged against colonial Spanish domination. The poet Nicolás Guillén was also a native of the region, and the house where he was born is open to visitors (in calle Hermanos Agüero and Príncipe)
- ✦ Another Camagüeyan identity was Eva Adán, who directed independence activities in Camagüey City, where she was taken prisoner on January 2, 1897
- ✦ It was also the site of the island's first literary work, "Espejo de Paciencia" (Mirror of Patience) by Silvestre Núñez de Balboa (1608)



Population: 774,100 inhabitants

Area: 15,990 km²

Municipalities: Camagüey, Ciego de Ávila, Esmeralda, Florida, Morón, Guáimaro, Nuevitas, Jatibonico, Santa Cruz del Sur and Vertientes

***Characteristics:** Nicolás Guillén, perhaps Cuba's best-known poet, described Camagüey as a "gentle region of shepherds and hats" due to the importance of livestock in bygone years.

Contact Information: Centers for Donation, Prisoners and Activists

Churches and Donation Collection Centers

CAMAGÜEY (prefix 32)

Churches

Baptist Church

☞ Gnral. Gómez 451

Tel. 29-4359

Baptist Church

☞ 7ma. 112

Garrido

Tel. 29-4005

Christian Pentecostal

☞ Church of Cuba

M. Varona 708

Tel. 28-1562

Church of Charity

☞ Ave. Libertad and Soc.

Patriótica La Caridad

Tel. 29-5208

Church of Solitude

☞ República 254

Tel. 29-2392

Church of Mercy

☞ Pza. los Trabajadores 4

Tel. 29-2783

Cathedral Church

☞ Independencia 54

Tel. 29-4965

Church of San José

☞ Ave. Mártires 259

La Vigía

Tel. 28-2268

Church of Christ

☞ Cristo

Tel. 9-5565

Church of the Nazarene in Cuba

☞ Céspedes 41

Jayamá

Tel. 27-2484

Episcopal Church

☞ J. Sanguilí 651

Florat

Tel. 28-3149

Evangelical Pentecostal Church

☞ M. Ramos 368

Tel. 29-7361

Methodist Church

☞ Ave. Van Horne 156

La Zambrana

Tel. 29-1635

Religious Communities

Company of Saint Teresa of Jesús Convent

☞ Avellaneda 221

Tel. 29-8743

Social Sisters Cisneros 120

Tel. 29-6943

Hijas de Maria Auxiliadora

☞ T. Lasquetti 26

Tel. 29-3792

Servants of Mary

☞ M. R. Silva 297

Tel. 29-9287

Methodist Church of Cuba

☞ Serafina 2

Tel. 3726

Independent Libraries

▽Provincial Coordinator: José

Agramonte Leiva

* *Political prisoner*

Rolando Pérez Gómez Library

☞ Artola #209 between Bella Vista and Jaime Noruega.

Dist. of La Vigía CAMAGÜEY

Director: Dulce Maria Suárez Ramírez

Jorge Mas Canosa Library

☞ Calle Cristenden at the end # 22, District of Nuevo Salome. CAMAGÜEY

Director: José Agramonte Leiva

* *Political prisoner*

José Martí Library

.Avenida de Angora, NUEVITAS

Director: Doris Álvarez Peña

Pedro Luis Boitel III Library

☞ Calle Cielo # 401 Between Callejón del Cura and central main road. CAMAGÜEY

Director: José Antonio Mola Porro

El Mayor Library

☞ Calle Sedanos # 99, Apt. 4, between Martí and San Lorenzo. CAMAGÜEY

Director: Eduardo González Vázquez

Julio Tang Tessier Library

📄 Luis Aldana # 98, Between William Soler and Cándido González, Municipality of Sibanicu. CAMAGÜEY
Director: Lázaro González Adán
* **Political prisoner**

Enmanuel Library

📄 Calle Gustavo Villena # 414 between central main road and Maceo, FLORIDA
Tel: 32-53-3561
Director: Lázaro Iglesias Estrada

José de la Luz y Caballero Library

📄 Calle San Esteban # 654 between Lugareño and San Ramón. CAMAGÜEY
Tel: 32-25-5897
Director: Dr. Lázaro Bosq Hinojosa
* **Political prisoner**

Abraham Lincoln Library

📄 Arenera # 35, between Pasaje and Quiñones, District of Saratoga. CAMAGÜEY
Director: Wilber Lincon Franco

Families of Political Prisoners

CAMAGÜEY

1. Alejandro González Raga

Sentence: Case #2 of 2003, 14 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88
Prison: Kilo 8, Camagüey

📄 **Family address: Palomino #50 between 7 and 8, District of Amalia Simone, Camagüey**
Family contact member: Bertha María Bueno Fuente (wife)
☎ Tel. 32-286708

2. Normando Hernández González

Sentence: Case #2 of 2003, 25 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88
Prison: Hospital Provincial, Pinar del Río

📄 **Family address: Calle Buena Esperanza #18, between H and Luz, District of Piñerúa, Vertientes, Camagüey**
Family contact member: Yarai Amparo Reyes Marín (wife)
☎ Tel. (32) 37564



Normando Hernández, journalist and prisoner of conscience, before his imprisonment.



Blanca González, mother of Normando Hernández González, during an act of public protest.

3. Mario Enrique Mayo Hernández ***Provisional release (conditional liberty)**

Sentence: Case #2 of 2003, 20 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88

Family address (mother): Calle San Cipriano #58 A, Altos, between Academia and República, Camagüey

*This house, in the center of Camagüey, is easy to locate

Family contact member: Nélsida Hernández Villamonte (mother)

Tel. 32-298394

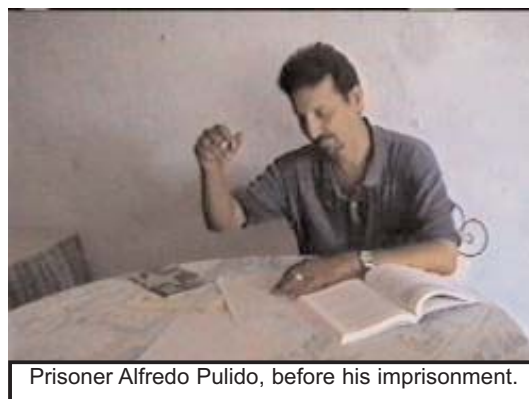
4. Alfredo Pulido López

Sentence: Case #2 of 2003, 14 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88

Prison: Kilo 7, Camagüey

Family address: Palomino #445 between Línea and Primera, District of La Mascota
Family contact member: Rebeca Antonia Rodríguez Sauto (wife)

Tel. (32) 253591



Prisoner Alfredo Pulido, before his imprisonment.

Defenders of Democracy and Human Rights

Christian Liberation Movement

Seeks a peaceful change to democracy

Director: Dr. Alfredo Pulido López

*** Political prisoner**

Address: Palomino #445 between Línea and 1ra, District of La Mascota, CAMAGÜEY

Wife: Rebeca Antonia Rodríguez Sauto

Tel. 29-4458

College of Independent Journalists

Defends the freedom of the press

Director: Normando Hernández González

Address: Calle Buena Esperanza No. 18 between H and Luz, Vertientes. CAMAGÜEY

Tel. 32-3-7564

Julio Sanguily Committee for Attention to Political Prisoners

Helps political prisoners and their families

Director: Ileana López Valdés

Address: Bayardo Agramonte unnumbered between Amalia Simoni and Acción Cívica, América Latina, District of Boveros, CAMAGÜEY

Tel. 28-6595

National Independent Workers

Confederation of Cuba (Camagüey Headquarters)

Lázaro González Adán

*** Political prisoner**

Address: Calle Luis Aldana # 98, between Cándido González and William Soler. Sibanicú. CAMAGÜEY

Tel. 5332 38308

Trade Union Press Agency Lux Info Press (deputy headquarters)

María Josefa Díaz Fernández

Address: Luis Aldana # 98, between William Soler and Cándido González Sibanicú, CAMAGÜEY

Tel. 5332 3 8308

Press Agency "El Mayor"

Disseminates independents news

Director: Alejandro González Raga

*** Political prisoner**

Address: Palomino # 50 between 7 and 8, District of Simone, CAMAGÜEY

Tel. 32-29-6963

Province of Ciego de Ávila

The province of Ciego de Ávila lies in the central part of the island, and its capital is the city of Ciego de Ávila. It is one of the least populated regions of Cuba. Its chief sites of tourism interest are the Coco and Guillermo keys, which are linked to the mainland by a stone causeway. The islets form part of the group of keys known as the Jardines del Rey (King's Gardens), where tourists can enjoy the virgin environment and bird sanctuaries.

Tourist development in this region is based on its ecological and sightseeing potential, featuring more than 50 km of coral sand beaches notable for their extraordinary beauty, quality and state of conservation. The flora and fauna are diverse and attractive, with one of the largest flamingo colonies in the Caribbean, and no species harmful to man are present. The undersea environment and coral barrier reefs offer magnificent diving, and the climate is stable and warm throughout the year.

Ciego de Ávila has a long sugar-growing tradition and a culture stretching back hundreds of years, some of which can be appreciated at the Municipal Museum in Morón city.

Sugarcane-growing and the sugar industry, together with fruit and vegetable crops and livestock, are the principal economic activities in the territory; and also the tourism.

What You Should See:

- ✦ The city of Ciego de Ávila, founded in 1840, is characterized by the regularity of its grid-shaped plan and buildings adorned with impressive entranceways and neoclassical columns of varied designs. Worthy of mention is the Teatro Principal (Town Theater), whose acoustics have earned it the reputation as one of the island's best
- ✦ Coco and Guillermo Keys, marvelous locations for enjoying the beach and nature that possess important tourist complexes
- ✦ Morón, home of the Laguna de la Leche (Milk Lagoon) and Laguna Redonda (Redonda Lagoon), as well as Morón city itself and the Dutch township. The surrounding area contains important hunting and fishing reserves
- ✦ The Idolillo de Barro (Clay Idol), which is on display with over 1600 other archeological artifacts in the Museo de Morón

What You Should Know:

- ✦ Coco Key takes its name from the presence of the White Ibis – popularly known as the Coco (coconut) Bird – a colorful and typical inhabitant of the area
- ✦ Coco Key provides one of the largest habitat areas for flamingos, especially the pink flamingo, and constitutes one of the most important reserves in the hemisphere
- ✦ Pilar Beach, on Guillermo Key, is named in honor of the boat owned by the American writer Ernest Hemingway

The Quaint and Curious:

- ✦ The exuberant wildlife of Coco, Guillermo and Paredón Grande Keys inspired Diego Velázquez to name the area in homage to the Spanish King Fernando El Católico (King Ferdinand the Catholic)
- ✦ Morón is known as the City of the Rooster (from a prominent statue), and is the closest city to the Jardines del Rey. The town center conserves several buildings with high architectural and urbanistic value
- ✦ Laguna de la Leche, 3 km outside Morón, with a surface area of 66 km², is the largest natural body of water in Cuba



Population: 410,700 inhabitants

Area: 6,910 km²

Municipalities: Chambas, Morón, Bolivia, Primero de Enero, Ciro Redondo, Florencia, Majagua, Ciego de Ávila, Venezuela and Baragua

***Characteristics:** The province is characterized by its areas of significant interest to tourism – the Coco Key environs – and particularly for its predominance of natural over urban areas, affording tranquility to its visitors

Contact Information: Centers for Donation, Prisoners and Activists

Churches and Donation Collection Centers

☐ **CIEGO DE ÁVILA**
(prefix 33)

Churches

Baptist Church

☐ **E. Marmol 91**
Tel. 2-2354

Episcopal Church

☐ **M. Gómez 25**
Tel. 2-2-5164

Methodist Church of Cuba

☐ **Bembeta 254**
Tel. 2-3607

Saint Eugene Church

☐ **Independencia 3**
Tel. 2-2372

Religious Communities

Missionary Brothers of Charity

☐ **H. Castillo 112**
Tel. 2-2197

Independent Libraries

▽ **Provincial Coordinator: Maritza Quintana Parra**

Ignacio Agramante Library

☐ **Honorato del Castillo # 154, between República and Cuba. CIEGO DE ÁVILA**
Tel. 33-22-2235

Director: Juan Carlos González Leyva

Enrique Loynaz del Castillo Library

☐ **Calle Fructuoso Rodríguez #41, MORÓN**

Director: Emilio Martín Morales

Mother Teresa of Calcutta Library

☐ **Miraflores Nuevos, Municipality of Bolivia. CIEGO DE ÁVILA**
Tel: 33-8-8729

Director: Marisa Paula Álvarez Larrazana

Huber Matos Library

☐ **Building 13, apt. 39, Micro Municipality of Venezuela. CIEGO DE ÁVILA**
Tel: 33-9-1201

Director: Osmel Sánchez López

Families of Political Prisoners

CIEGO DE ÁVILA



Pablo Argüelles Morán

1. Pedro Argüelles Morán

Sentence: Case #1 of 2003, 20 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88

Prison: Nieves Morejón, Sancti Spíritus

☐ **Family address: Simón Reyes #69 between Central Main Road and Joaquín de Agüero, Ciego de Ávila**
Family contact member: Yolanda Vera Nerey (wife)

☎ **Tel. 33-28394**



Pablo Pacheco Ávila

2. Pablo Pacheco Ávila

Sentence: Case #1 of 2003, 20 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88

Prison: Prisión de Morón, Ciego de Ávila

☐ **Family address: Pasaje D# 205 A, between 4ta and 5ta, District of 9 de abril, Ciego de Ávila**
Family contact member: Oleyvys García Echemendía (wife)

☎ **Tel. 33-228394**

Defenders of Democracy and Human Rights

Cuban Foundation for Human Rights

Promotes human rights and civilian culture in Cuba

Director: Juan Carlos González Leyva

* **Under house arrest**

(see photo and box below)

📍 **Address:** Calle Honorato del Castillo # 154 between República and Cuba, CIEGO DE ÁVILA

☎ **Tel.** 33-2-22-35

Brotherhood of the Independent Blind

Promotion of the rights of the blind and visually impaired as independent persons.

Ex-Director: Juan Carlos González Leyva

📍 **Address:** Calle Honorato del Castillo # 154 between República and Cuba CIEGO DE ÁVILA

☎ **Tel.** 33-2-22-35

Ávila Cooperative of Independent Journalists

Dissemination of news and articles without government censorship

Director: Pedro Argüelles Morán

* **Political prisoner**

📍 **Address:** Building 39, apt. 5, Micro District A, CIEGO DE ÁVILA

☎ **Tel.** 33-2-22-35

College of Independent Journalists

Dissemination of news and articles without government censorship.

Director: Pablo Pacheco Ávila

* **Political prisoner**

📍 **Address:** Pasaje D # 205 A between 4ta and 5ta, district of 9 de abril CIEGO DE ÁVILA



Juan Carlos González Leiva, shown in the photo at the left, is a lawyer and human rights activist. Besides being extremely brave and noble, Juan Carlos also happens to be blind. He was imprisoned in 2002 for promoting human rights. While in prison, the fact that he is sightless did not prevent him from suffering humiliation and mistreatment. After two years without trial, in 2004, he was sentenced to four years in jail for alleged criminal contempt. He is now serving the remainder of his sentence under house arrest, and continues to denounce abuses against human rights, specially against handicapped persons and some marginal groups.

Province of Cienfuegos

The present-day province of Cienfuegos was formerly part of the province of Las Villas. Its capital is also named Cienfuegos, and is one of the most beautiful cities in Cuba.

There is some industrial activity in Cienfuegos (sugar production, food industry, electrical energy generation, chemical industry), as well as fishing and port services. It is the site of the country's main shipping terminal for raw sugar. The province's agriculture and livestock activity is fundamentally made up of sugarcane-growing and cattle pastures.

Cienfuegos is undeniably blessed with many great attractions, and accordingly is emerging as one of the principal tourist destinations in Cuba. It should form an integral part of any planned tourist trip around the island. The area's attractions can be divided into three zones: the city of Cienfuegos and its bay, the Caribbean coast neighboring the Bay of Cienfuegos, and the mountainous area of the Sierra del Escambray.

What You Should See:

- ✦ The city of Cienfuegos; the city center was declared a National Monument, and there are important architectural works from the 19th century
- ✦ The Bay of Cienfuegos, with its sandy stretches, offers conditions for the practice of all varieties of water sports
- ✦ The fort of Castillo de Jagua, which dominates the entrance to the Bay, was built in 1745 in order to protect that part of the island against raids by pirates and corsairs
- ✦ Palacio de Valle, an example of the city's prevalent architectural eclecticism, harmonizes the neo-mudéjar and Byzantine styles with neo-Venetian, Gothic and Baroque

What You Should Know:

- ✦ The city of Cienfuegos is so beautiful that it is often called the Pearl of the South or the City of the Sea. It is Cuba's most essentially Caribbean city, together with Santiago
- ✦ The historic urban center of Cienfuegos city was declared a World Heritage site by UNESCO in July 2005
- ✦ The capital received its name in honor of the governor general of the island, Don José Cienfuegos, and was formerly known as Fernandina de Jagua
- ✦ The undersea environment in the area is ideal for diving, with coral formations to be found at medium and shallow depths in Barreras Cove and Las Playitas

The Quaint and Curious:

- ✦ The Paseo del Prado in Cienfuegos comes ahead of the famous esplanade in Havana as the country's longest
- ✦ The Tomás Acea Cemetery, situated on the outskirts of the city, was completed in 1926 and its design was based on North American concepts that prevailed at the time for this kind of project. It is actually a garden cemetery, the only one of its kind on the island
- ✦ The Cuban poet and writer Camilo Venegas was born in Cienfuegos, and indeed one of his poems harks back to the trains that passed through there in his infancy
- ✦ The Old Cemetery contains various famous sculptures, but the anonymous work known as Sleeping Beauty is undeniably the most arresting



Population: 396,700 inhabitants

Area: 4,178 km²

Municipalities: Aguada de Pasajeros, Rodas, Palmira, Lajas, Cruces, Cumanayagua, Cienfuegos and Abreus

*** Characteristics:** Nearly all the tourist attractions of the province are concentrated in its capital, Cienfuegos city, and the Bay where it is located.

Contact Information: Centers for Donation, Prisoners and Activists

Churches and Donation Collection Centers

CIENFUEGOS

(prefix 432)

Churches

Adventist Church

☞ Avenida 48, No. 4302

Tel. 8674

Baptist Church

☞ 37 No. 6013

Tel. 3213

Diocesan Caritas Church

☞ 99 No. 6401

Tel. 45-1365

Episcopal Church of Cuba

☞ 37 No. 4221

Tel. 8237

Cathedral Church

☞ Avenida No. 56,

No. 2902

Tel. 5297

Methodist Church

☞ Alegría 193 Caonao

Tel. 2-0206

Methodist Church

☞ 37 No. 5802

Tel. 7741

Nazarene Church

☞ 61 No. 5408

Tel. 3200

Church of Our Lady of Montserrat

☞ Avenida 54 and 45

Tel. 5467

Church of Holy Patronage

☞ Avenida 60, No. 3912

Tel. 5657

Pentecostal Church

☞ 55 No. 5410

Tel. 8452

Bishopric of Cienfuegos

☞ 37 No. 5602

Tel. 5657

Sisters of Immaculate Mary

☞ Avenida 58, No. 3503

Tel. 6881

AGUADA DE PASAJEROS (prefix 43)

Churches

Evangelical Pentecostal Church

☞ Maceo 186

Tel. 6-2570

Parish Church Jesus of Nazareth

☞ Maceo 130

Tel. 6-2293

Independent Libraries

José A García Taboada Library

☞ Calle 15 corner 4 Bldg. 5 Apt. 7

District of Tulipán

CIENFUEGOS

Director: Pedro Castellanos Pérez

Vitral Library

☞ Calle 55 # 5612 between 56 and 58

La Juanita, CIENFUEGOS

Director: Alejandro Tur Valladares

Jóvenes de Jagua Library

☞ Calle 49 # 5803 between 58 and 60

CIENFUEGOS

Director: Pablo González Villa

Martiana Library

☞ Calle 49 # 7112 between 71 and 73

CIENFUEGOS

Director: Jorge Félix Pérez Ricabal

José Maceo Library

☞ Calle Bimagall # 40 between

Panchito Pérez and Aguero,

AGUADA DE PASAJEROS

Director: Bernardo Arévalo Padrón

* *Provisional release*

José Ángel Buesa II Library

☞ Juan Bruno Zayas 220 Altos, between

Camilo Cienfuegos and Ezquerra, CRUCES

Director: Ernesto Ramón Domenech

Families of Political Prisoners

CIENFUEGOS

1. Pedro Genaro Barrera Rodríguez

Sentence: 18 years for criminal contempt and sabotage

Prison: Campamento El Diamante. Rodas. Cienfuegos

☞ Address: Ave. 64 No. 7504 between 75 and 77. Cienfuegos

Family contact member: Pedro Castellanos Pérez

2. Juan Carlos Vázquez García

Sentence: 30 years for terrorism, evading arrest, espionage, forging of documents and illegal exit

Prison: Ariza. Municipality of Rodas. Cienfuegos

 **Address: Building No. 4 Refinería apt. 1. District of Pastorita. Cienfuegos**

Family contact member: María Eugenia Rodríguez Pérez

3. Ricardo Pupo Sierra

Sentence: 3 years for public menace

Prison: Ariza. Rodas. Cienfuegos

 **Address: Finca La Candita. Rodas. Cienfuegos**

Family contact member: Roberto Sierra Rodríguez.

 **Telephone 49260 (Roberto el Caramelero)**

4. Bernardo Arévalo Padrón

*** Provisional release (conditional liberty)**

Director of Línea Sur Press

 **Address:**

Céspedes # 61 between Moncada and Mayía Rodríguez

Aguada de Pasajeros, Cienfuegos

Family contact member: wife Libertad

Acosta Díaz




Arévalo Padrón – on the right – prior to his latest imprisonment for journalistic activities.

Defenders of Democracy and Human Rights

Cuba Press Bureau


Disseminates news, articles and information

Director: Sunset Nogueras

 **Address: Avenida 52 # 3503 apt. 2 between 35 and 37 CIENTFUEGOS**

Trade Union Press Agency Lux Info Press (branch office)

Marvin Hernández Monson


 **Address: San Carlos # 36 between Cisneros and Máximo Gómez. PALMIRA**

Democracy Movement

Promotes democracy

Director: Pedro Castellanos Pérez

 **Address: Calle 4 cnr. 85, building 5 apt. 7 CIENTFUEGOS**


 **Tel.: 4-32-5805**

Línea Sur Press

Disseminates news, articles and information

Director: Bernardo Arévalo Padrón

*** Provisional release**

 **Address: Céspedes # 61 between Moncada and Mayía Rodríguez AGUADA DE PASAJEROS**
Wife: Libertad Acosta Díaz

Democratic Solidarity Party

Disseminates democratic ideas and promotes the free participation of all citizens in society

Director: Teresita Platero

 **Address: Avenida 64 A # 6108 apt. 3 between 61 and 63 CIENTFUEGOS**

 **Tel.: 43-2-5395**

Province of Granma

The province of Granma, located on the southeastern part of the island, attracts the traveler's interest with its bountiful natural gifts. An imposing place of encounter between mountains and sea, it also possesses a great historical tradition. The capital is Bayamo, founded in the 16th century and one of the first townships on the island. It was burned by its inhabitants in 1869 in the face of the advancing Spanish colonial troops.

December 1956 saw the landing of an expeditionary force from the ship Granma at the Las Coloradas beach, ushering in the final phase of the revolution that overthrew Batista in 1959. The Granma – a shortening of “grandmother” in English – gave its name to both the province and also Cuba's most important newspaper. Totally controlled by the government, the Granma serves as the official publication of the Communist Party.

In the province, we find the immense floodplain of the River Cauto, the largest in Cuba, and the Sierra Maestra mountain range, home to the island's highest peak, Pico Turquino, standing 1,974 m above sea level. The verdant territory of the region blends the hot climate of the lowland areas and the cool temperatures of the mountains, with lush vegetation and abundant springs. Near the Viramas hunting reserve, there is a unique black-sand beach.

What You Should See:

- ✦ The city of Bayamo, Cuba's second township founded in 1513. It was the first capital of the so-called Republic in Arms, which was constituted in 1868 when the different fronts of the independence movement fighting against Spanish power achieved unification. Bayamo has the status of a National Monument City
- ✦ The beach at Las Coloradas, where Fidel Castro, Che Guevara and other guerrilla fighters landed from the Granma; the site is interesting from an historical perspective
- ✦ The Bayamo museum, whose displays include Cuba's first independent newspaper, El Cubano Libre (The Free Cuban), published by Céspedes
- ✦ The extreme southeast of the province, home to the Cabo Cruz (Cape Cross) lighthouse and the El Guafe region. The existence of vestiges of indigenous peoples and sites of archaeological interest reinforce the tourist attraction of this part of eastern Cuba

What You Should Know:

- ✦ The province of Granma emerged from the last political-administrative division of the country, approved in November 1976
- ✦ The population of the province is of more African and mixed descent (mestizo) than the island average
- ✦ In 1608, the Bishop of Cuba, Fray Juan de las Cabezas Altamirano, was kidnapped in Bayamo by the French pirate Gilbert Girón, who demanded payment of a ransom. The citizens of Bayamo refused, and attacked instead. They rescued the Bishop and put the pirate to death. This event served as the inspiration for the first poem written in Cuba: “Espejo de Paciencia” (Mirror of Patience)

The Quaint and Curious:

- ✦ The capital of Granma, Bayamo, was the birthplace of the Cuban national anthem, La Bayamesa
- ✦ The province of Granma is considered as one of the starting points of Cuban culture
- ✦ Bayamo is known as the “city of coaches” due to the number of horse-drawn carriages that may be seen in many parts of the city
- ✦ Carlos Manuel de Céspedes, considered by Cubans as their Founding Father, was born in Granma



Population: 819,500 inhabitants

Area: 8,327 km²

Municipalities: Bayamo, Manzanillo, Jiguaní, Cauto Cristo, Río Cauto, Yara, Guisa, Buey Arriba, Bartolomé Masó, Campechuela, Media Luna, Niquero and Pílon

***Characteristics:** Granma is home to the Sierra Maestra, geographical backbone of the eastern end of the island. The highest peak in the province is La Bayamesa, rising 1,730 m above sea level

Contact Information: Centers for Donations, Prisoners and Activists

Churches and Donation Collection Centers

BAYAMO (prefix 23)

Churches

Church

☞ Ave. J. Menéndez 103

Tel. 5-4436

Parish Church

☞ Saco 18

Tel. 5-3104

Catholic Bishopric

Bishopric of the Holy Savior of Bayamo and Manzanillo

☞ Calle José Joaquín

Palma #130

P.O. Box 27

Bayamo 85100

Tel. 42-2514, 5-3104

Religious Communities

Convent

☞ Masó 186

Tel. 5-5111



Independent Libraries

▽ **Provincial Coordinator: Tania de la Torres**

Rafael María Merchán Library

☞ **Loynaz #127 between Martí and José Miguel Gómez, Manzanillo**

Director: Tania de la Torre Montesino

Antonio Bachiller y Morales Library

☞ **Ave Francisco Vicente Aguilera # 248 between Milanes and Martínez, Bayamo**

Mártires del Remolcador 13 de Marzo Library

☞ **4ta Avenida #39 between 5 and 6 Nuevo Manzanillo**

Director: Julio Antonio Valdez Guevara

* **Provisional release**

Jesús Yáñez Pelletier II Library

☞ **Ave. Maso #31 Manzanillo**

Director: Xiomara Moncada Almaguer

“Fermín Valdés Domínguez” Independent Library

☞ **Calle León # 221 between Purísima and San Salvador, Manzanillo**

Director: Eddy de la Cruz Fernández

“Frank País García” Independent Library

☞ **Callejón de América # 25 between Barnadas and San Agustín, Santiago de Cuba**

Telephone: 22-6-65-2974

Director: Alina Ramírez Carbonell

Families of Political Prisoners

PROVINCE OF GRANMA

1. Julio Antonio Valdez Guevara

* **Provisional release (conditional liberty). Recently exiled in the US**

Sentence: Case #5 of 2003, 20 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88

Prison: House Arrest

📄 **Family address: 4ta Avenida #39 between 5ta and 7ma, District of Nuevo Manzanillo, MANZANILLO**

Family contact member: Cruz Delia Aguilar Mora (wife)

☎ **Tel. (23)54451 – Cruz Delia**

Defenders of Democracy and Human Rights

Democratic Party November 30 Frank País

Promotes human rights and the
Universal Declaration

Director: José A. Rebustillo Méndez

📄 **Address: Calle Concepción # 253
between Concordia and San Salvador
MANZANILLO**

Trade Union Press Agency Lux Info Press (branch headquarters)

Luis Sergio Núñez

📄 **Calle 3l # 224 between 18 and 22.
District of Rosa La Bayamesa
BAYAMO**

☎ **Tel.: 5387 9 3412**

**E-Mail: Vicmadomingues@yahoo.es
National Independent Workers**



Members of the Democratic Party November 30 "Frank País", at a meeting in Havana.

Confederation of Cuba (branch office)

Luís Sergio Núñez Rodríguez

📄 31 # 224. between 18 and 22.

District of Rosa La Bayamesa

BAYAMO

☎ Tel.: 5323 42 3374

National Trade Union and Labor Training Center (CNCSL) (branch headquarters)

Director: Alexis Ramírez Rodríguez

📄 Calle Cacique Guama # 69, between

Pío Rosado and Capotico. District of San Juan del Cristo

BAYAMO

☎ Tel.: 5323 423374

Independent Union of Construction Workers

General Secretary: Félix Rivero Cordovi

📄 Calle 33 #323, between 18 and 22

District of Rosa La Bayamesa

BAYAMO

☎ Tel.: 5323 42 3374

Independent Union of Health Workers

General Secretary: María del Carmen

Jerez Guevara

Coordinator: Roberto Martínez Escalona

Organizer: Matilde Jerez Guevara

📄 Head Office: Prolongación Mazo # 66.

District of Taíno

MANZANILLO

Independent Trade Union Association

General Secretary: Carlos Acosta Rosales

📄 Head Office: Avenida Jimmy Hirzer, unnumbered, corner of Línea

BAYAMO

Independent Union of Transport Workers

General Secretary: Yoandris Montoya

Coordinator: Leonor Aldana Matos

Organizer: Yosvani Montoya Ávila

📄 Head Office: Raúl Gómez # 209, between C and B. District of La Unión

BAYAMO

Independent Union of Commercial and Restaurant Workers

General Secretary: Ariel Arzuaga Peña

Coordinator: Jorge Pacheco Ávila

Organizer: Odalis Aldana Pena

📄 Head Office: Calle 21 # 10, between 14 and Milanés. District of La Bayamesa
BAYAMO

Syndicate of Free Sports Persons

General Secretary: Gabriel Díaz García

Organizer: Osniel Díaz Sánchez

Coordinator: Daniel Díaz Sánchez

📄 Head Office: Raúl Gómez # 266, between Guillermo Torre and Calle C.

District of La Unión

BAYAMO

☎ Tel.: 5323 42 3374

Free Syndicate of Educators

General Secretary: Omar Villar Rovillarta

📄 Head Office: Avenida-1ra # 5, between 3ra and 4ta, District of

Jesús Menéndez

BAYAMO



Act commemorating the repression of March 2003, which is celebrated annually in Prague and other cities.

Pro Human Rights Organization of the Gulf of Guacanayabo

Promotes the concept of human rights and the text of the Universal Declaration

Director: Cruz Delia Aguilar Mora

📄 Address: 4ta. Ave. No. 39 between 5 and 7, District of Nuevo
MANZANILLO

☎ Tel.: 63-5-4451

Province of Guantánamo

Guantánamo is the most easterly of Cuba's provinces; the capital is Guantánamo, and there are 10 municipalities. It is characterized by contrasts: there are zones of virtual desert in close proximity to the lush vegetation of the mountains. In fact, the greater part of the province is covered by mountains.

The architecture and culture of Guantánamo are different from those in the rest of Cuba. Looking out over the narrow strait of the Windward Passage, the province is influenced by the island of Haiti, which lies only 80 km away at its closest point. Guantánamo has also received a considerable influx of immigrants from Jamaica, explaining why many of its buildings are reminiscent of its Caribbean neighbor, or the French quarter of New Orleans.

Its yields of coconut, coffee, cocoa, salt, sugarcane and various agricultural crops are basic to the province's economy. However, it also produces industrial valves and pumps, bicycles, hand tools for agriculture, home furniture, and the contributions of various food industry and printing plants.

What You Should See:

- ✦ The city of Guantánamo. Here we can see Guantánamo's Revolution Square, homage to one of Cuba's independence heroines, Mariana Grajales
- ✦ The port area of the Caimanera municipality is an active center of trade due to the leasing of Guantánamo Bay to the United States, which uses it as a naval base
- ✦ Monte Líbano, in Baracoa; in these mountain heights there are caves with galleries holding beautiful stalactites and stalagmites that form remarkable arabesque designs
- ✦ The township of Baracoa, founded by Spanish conquerors in 1512, lays claim to being Cuba's first. It is a city notable for the friendly nature of its people and the beauty of its setting, surrounded by steep coastlines, wooded areas, mountains and rivers. The beach of Yateritas is located here

What You Should Know:

- ✦ Guantánamo has been the cradle and workplace of great scientists and engineers, both Cuban and foreign. It has seen scientists of the stature of German naturalist Dr. Jehannes Christopher Gundlach and engineer Leticio Salcines
- ✦ The Nipe-Sagua-Baracoa mountains dominate the province, dividing both climate and scenery: the northern coast is the island's wettest, and the southern coast is its hottest
- ✦ It borders on the well-known United States naval base of Guantánamo, located inside the Bay. Here, several hundred prisoners are kept confined by the US government in a kind of legal limbo, without having been tried, a matter that has attracted a large amount of criticism

The Quaint and Curious:

- ✦ Guantanamera ("woman from Guantánamo"), composed by Joseíto Fernández with verses by José Martí, is perhaps Cuba's most internationally known song
- ✦ It is the birthplace of writer Regino Biti, who, together with José Manuel Poveda and Agustín Acosta, formed the trio of poets that produced the island's first lyric renaissance
- ✦ Guantánamo folk music, represented by the Changüü, rhythms from the province, French *tumba* and many others traditions.



Population: 507,300 inhabitants

Area: 6,178 km²

Municipalities: Baracoa, Caimanera, El Salvador, Guantánamo, Manuel Támes, Imías, Niceto Pérez, San Antonio del Sur, Maisí and Yateras

***Characteristics:** In Guantánamo, we also find frequent areas of stony, burnt ground with stunted vegetation and abundant cacti – a stark contrast with the verdant cane fields and forests

Contact Information: Centers for Donations, Prisoners and Activists

Churches and Donation Collection Centers

GUANTÁNAMO
(prefix 21)

Churches

Parish Church

☞ P. A. Pérez and E. Giro
Tel. 32-4114

Episcopalian Church of
All Saints

☞ J. Martí y F. V. Aguilera

Tel. 32-6229

Miraculous Virgin Church

☞ R. E. Boti 508

Tel. 32-6287, 32-5037

BARACOA (prefix 21)

Churches

Catholic Church

☞ Maceo 152

Tel. 4-3352

Independent Libraries

▽Provincial Coordinator:

Isabel Corcovas Osoria

Cuba Nueva Library

☞ Calle #3 Norte #1151 Corner 5

West, District of Pastorita.

GUANTÁNAMO

Tel. 21-32-4382

Director: Isabel Corcovas Osoria

José A. Hecheverría Library

☞ Calle Emilio Giró 502 between Luz

Caballero and Gómez

GUANTÁNAMO

Tel: 21-32-4848

Director: Erminia Ramírez Jiménez

Frank País Independent Library

☞ Bldg. 13 2nd floor apt. 4, Worker
District

GUANTÁNAMO

Tel: 21-32-5011

Director: Odalis Márquez Abascal

Martín Luther King Library

☞ Carlos M. de Céspedes 803 between
Prado and Aguilera

GUANTÁNAMO

Tel: 21-32-2610

Director: Marielys Castro Fernández-Rubio

Families of Political Prisoners

GUANTÁNAMO

1. Juan Carlos Herrera Acosta

Sentence: Case #8 of 2003, 20 years'
imprisonment. Violation of Law 88

Prison: Kilo 7, Camagüey

☞ **Family address: 3 Oeste #1105**
between Pintó and Varona, Guantánamo
Family contact member: Ileana Danger
Hardy (wife)

2. Néstor Rodríguez Lobaina

***Ex-prisoner of conscience**

☞ **Contact address: Calle 17 Norte, bet-**
ween San Gregorio and Santa Rita,
building 154 apt. 3404 C, district
of Caribe, Guantánamo city

☎ Tel.: 21 38 1676



Relatives and friends calling for a fair trial for Néstor Rodríguez, released from prison after serving six years for "contempt toward the office of the commander-in-chief".

3. Manuel Ubals González

Sentence: Case #8 of 2003, 20 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88

Prison: Boniato, Santiago de Cuba

📄 **Family address: Calle 4 Sur, between 1 and 2 Oeste Interior #955, Guantánamo**

Family contact member: Mayelin Bolívar González (wife)



The wife and three children of Manuel Ubals, unjustly imprisoned for promoting human rights in his country.

Defenders of Democracy and Human Rights

Independent Cooperative "Progreso 1"

Independent producer and commercializer of agriculture and livestock products
Director: Joel Pérez Hernández

📄 **Address: Valle de Bejuquera, Filipinas, NICETO PÉREZ**

☎ **Tel.: 7-8-30-21-03**

National Independent Workers Confederation of Cuba (branch office)

Armando Díaz Fernández

📄 **Address: Calle San Gregorio # 558, Corner 2 Norte. GUANTÁNAMO**

United Council of Cuban Workers

Promotion of free trade unionism. Defense of workers' rights in the face of the current political system.

Director: Yesenia Rodríguez Aguilar

📄 **Address: Crombet # 453 between Martí and Máximo Gómez, GUANTÁNAMO**

☎ **Tel.: 21-32-36-83**

Wife of political prisoner

Randy Cabrera Mayor

Cuban Youth for Democracy

Movement promoting independent universities and the freedom of expression and association on university campuses

Director: Néstor Rodríguez Lobaina

* **Ex-prisoner of conscience**

Luis Díaz Sánchez (acting)

📄 **Address: Calle 17 Norte between San Gregorio and Santa Rita., building 154 apt. 3404 C, Caribe GUANTÁNAMO**

☎ **Tel.: 21-38-1676**

Club of Political Prisoners and Ex-Prisoners

Assists political prisoners and ex-prisoners

Director: Manuel Ubals González

* **Political prisoner**

📄 **Address: Calle Carlos Manuel # 811 between Prado and Aguilera GUANTÁNAMO**

☎ **Tel.: 21-32-4211 / 38-1676**

Province of Holguín

The province of Holguín is the fourth-largest in the country, and contains 14 municipalities. It is also Cuba's third most important tourist hub. Its capital is the city of Holguín, founded in 1725 by Captain García Holguín, when he received a grant of land in the area and constructed the first dwellings.

It possesses large citrus-growing areas, and tobacco and sugarcane plantations. The fishing industry also plays a significant role. The province's fundamental economic activities are based on agriculture, industry and tourism. Today, it is one of Cuba's principal industrial zones. Known as the Land of Nickel, its production of this mineral accounts for 20% of the country's export income.

Tourism has undergone a notable development over the past few years. Holguín contains many natural attractions, and the beauty of its countryside and beaches is unsurpassed.

What You Should See:

- ✦ Holguín city, provincial capital. The city's urban aspect is dominated by various parks, particularly the Parque Calixto García in the center. The visitor may also browse the Moncada and Bayado galleries, the library, the Casa de la Trova club, the Museum of Natural Sciences or the Museum of History. Ascending the 464 steps to the hilltop of Loma de la Cruz (Hill of the Cross) affords a panoramic view of the city
- ✦ The city of Banes, considered the archaeological capital of Cuba
- ✦ Guardalavaca, one of the province's most famous beaches; here, vacationers will find a flourishing coral barrier reef, interesting sea cliffs and intriguing vegetation
- ✦ The Banes Indo-Cuban Museum, which displays a golden idol, the first to be found in the area; and the Provincial Museum, which houses a stone axe that constitutes the modern-day symbol of the province

What You Should Know:

- ✦ The Holguín province's most exceptional mountain feature is the Seat of Gibara, a hill in the shape of a gigantic saddle that is located in the Maniabón range, in the north
- ✦ Holguín is one of the country's most industrialized provinces; it is also the third most populous after City of Havana, ranking just behind Santiago de Cuba
- ✦ The capital's best-known building is the old City Hall known as La Periquera, which got its name from the colorful uniform of the Spanish soldiers who guarded it
- ✦ Guillermo Cabrera Infante, the brilliant Cuban writer who only recently died in exile, was born in the beautiful coastal city of Gibara, in the north of the province

The Quaint and Curious:

- ✦ Christopher Columbus made landfall at Bariay, on the coast north of Holguín, on October 27, 1492. Impressed by the lush vegetation, warm climate and spectacular coastline, he declared it to be the most beautiful land ever seen by human eyes
- ✦ Besides Cabrera Infante, the province is also the birthplace of writer Reinaldo Arenas, as well as Fidel Castro and his brother Raúl
- ✦ On February 1, 1751, the Spanish monarch Fernando VI sent a dispatch to Santiago de Cuba, in which by royal decree he declared the formal recognition of the settlement
- ✦ Holguín is called the "city of parks" because of the number of squares and parks it contains



Population: 1,013,600 inhabitants

Area: 9,300 km²

Municipalities: Antilla, Báguanos, Banes, Cristino Naranjo, Calixto García, Cueto, Frank País, Gibara, Holguín, Mayarí, Moa, Rafael Freyre, Sagua de Tánamo, Urbano Noris

***Characteristics:** The province of Holguín is the island's third most important tourist region

Contact Information: Centers for Donations, Prisoners and Activists

Churches and Donation Collection Centers

HOLGUÍN (prefix 24)

Churches

Adventist Church

☞ Garayalde 224

Tel. 42-5879

Saint Isidore Cathedral

☞ Maceo 122

Tel. 42-2107

Orthodox Church of God

☞ Ave. de los Alamos

Tel. 46-8010

Orthodox Church of God

☞ Ave. de los Alamos 28
Lenin

Tel. 42-5759, 46-8189

Orthodox Church of God

☞ Martí 201-B

Tel. 46-8005

Salvation Army

☞ Rastro 62

Tel. 42-4674

Pentecostal Evangelical Church

☞ Agramonte 101

Tel. 42-5620

Friends Church

☞ R. Manduley 114

Tel. 46-3352

Methodist Church

☞ Cables 121

Tel. 46-2129

Methodist Church

☞ Central Main Road 1

Tel. 42-4287

Church of Saint Joseph

☞ R. Manduley 116

Tel. 42-3155

BANES (prefix 24)

Churches

Catholic Church of Our Lady of Charity

☞ J. Martí 11

Tel. 8-2338

Baptist Convention

☞ Ave. Cardenas 1107

Tel. 8-3395

Friends Church

☞ Los Angeles 4108

Tel. 8-3221

GIBARA (prefix 24)

Churches

Catholic Church of San Fulgentius

☞ Sartorio 3

Tel. 3-4430

Friends Church

☞ J. Mora 13

Tel. 3-4109

MAYARI (prefix 24)

Churches

Methodist Church

☞ L. Vidal 238

Tel. 5-3419

Catholic Church

☞ A. Maceo 2

Tel. 5-2774

MOA (prefix 24)

Churches

Adventist Church

☞ Calle 41

Los Mangos

Tel. 6-4179

Baptist Church

☞ R. Galván No. 2

Pueblo Nuevo

Tel. 6-6130

Baptist Church

☞ Calle 5ta. No. 12

Los Mangos

Tel. 6-6864

Independent Libraries

▽Coordinator: Eliécer Consuegra Rivas Gastón Vaquero Library

☞ Calle Carlos Manuel de Céspedes
2007 between General Marrero and
Ave de Cárdenas, BANES

Tel: 24-8-3706

Director: Martha Díaz Rondón

Calixto García Library

☞ Tamá arriba, BANES

Tel: 24-82-687

Director: Guillermo Llanos Ricardo

Wenceslao Aguilera Library

☞ Feria Calle Celia Sánchez Manduley
33 between Máximo Gómez and
Diego Manuel

LLebra, ANTILLAS

Tel: 24-88-505

Director: Eliécer Consuegra Rivas

Pedro Luis Boitel 4 Library

☞ Calle 1ra. # 19 between 6ta and 8va,
district of Joselillo

MOA

Director: Felipe Disnay Ramos Leiva

Gral. Arnaldo Ochoa Library

 **Calle B # 31 District of Manuel Fajardo. Velazco, GIBARA**


Director: Arnaldo Pino Leiva

Lucia Iñiguez Library

 **Landín Ave 36 # 4116 Velazco**

Director: Carlos Noel Naranjo Arencibia

Biblioteca José Martí Pérez

 **C/Roble #86 A, e/ 8va y 9na, rpto. Silva. BANES**

José Martí Library

 **Calle 20 # 8 District of**

Quinto Patio Velazco

Director: Rafael Leyva Leyva

Biblioteca Máximo Gómez Báez

 **C/ Torrentera #2810 e/ Ramón Pintó y canal, BANES**

Director: Sergio Abreu Paz

Families of Political Prisoners

HOLGUÍN

1. Próspero Gainza Agüero

Sentence: Case #6 of 2003, 25 years' imprisonment.

Other acts against National Security

Prison: Boniato, Santiago de Cuba

 **Family address: Calle 20, No. 428 Bottom,**

La Playa, Moa

Family contact member: María Esther Blanco (wife)

 **Tel. (24) 64596**




In 2004, Próspero Gainza Agüero sewed his mouth shut in protest against the situation that he and the rest of the prisoners are suffering in Boniato prison, one of Cuba's harshest penitentiaries. The jail is located some 203 km from where his wife Maria and son live.

Defenders of Democracy and Human Rights

National Civic Movement Calixto García

Promotes freedom of expression and association, and restoration of a democratic regime

Director: Jorge Luís Labarca Peña

 **Address: Calle 1ra # 24, between 22 and Capitán. Urbío, District of Libertad HOLGUÍN**

 **Tel. 24-460-170**

National Movement of Civic Resistance Pedro Luis Boitel

Works to pursue and denounce violations of citizens' rights

Director: Próspero Gaínza Agüero

*** Political prisoner**

 **Address: Calle B #28 Bottom, La Playa, MOA**

Wife: Maria Esther Blanco Aguirre

Syndicate of Free Artisans

General Secretary: Magalis Pareta


 **Head Office: Carretera de Jíbara km 3 1/2**

District of Camarones

HOLGUÍN

National Independent Workers Confederation of Cuba (branch office)

Cesar Román Ramírez

 **Calle González Valdés # 57, Corner Libertad. Loma de la Cruz HOLGUÍN**

 **Tel.: 5324 42 6378**

Union of Electrical Energy Workers

General Secretary: Mauricio Leiva Infante


 **Head Office: Calle 12 # 39, Playa Blanca HOLGUÍN**

Syndicate of Steel and Mechanical Workers

General Secretary: Eider Grana Toledo

Organizer: Magalis Hernández Hernández

Spokesperson: Aurora Colón Bravo

 **Head Office: Building 33 apt. 35, District of Villanueva. HOLGUÍN**

Syndicate of Agricultural and Livestock Workers

General Secretary: Arnaldo Pino Legua

 **Head Office: Calle 2B # 31, District of Manuel Fajardo, Velazco. GIBARA**

Municipality of Isla de la Juventud

Isla de la Juventud is a Caribbean island, the second-largest of the Cuban archipelago. Its capital is Nueva Gerona. Together with more than 600 keys and islets, it forms the Canarreos Archipelago in the southwestern part of Cuba, at the mouth of the Gulf of Batamó.

In the present day, Isla de la Juventud is considered to be a special municipality by reason of its insularity and unique characteristics. Its economic activity is based fundamentally on agriculture, principally citrus. There is also marble quarrying, fishing, and ceramics for both utilitarian and artistic purposes.

Principal tourist attractions include the International Dive Center in the Hotel Colony, and Key Largo del Sur.

The one-time island of La Evangelista – as it was first baptized by Columbus – was for many years a haunt of pirates and smugglers, who used it as a base for their various misdeeds until they were eventually rooted out by the Spanish authorities. Later known as the Isle of Pines, in 1975 it was given the name of Isla de la Juventud (Island of Youth) that it now bears today.

What You Should See:

- ✦ No visitor should leave without having visited the Caves at Punta del Este (Eastern Point): decorated with a profusion of indigenous drawings, the site is considered to be the Sistine Chapel of Caribbean cave art
- ✦ Restful and relaxing Bibijagua beach is famous for its black sands, product of the corrosive action of the sea against the marble base rock
- ✦ Key Largo del Sur, an attractive tourist destination, with vibrant warm-water beaches such as Sirena, Lindamar, Los Cocos and Tortuga, is also a sanctuary for tropical fauna and birds (turtles and pelicans)
- ✦ The Ciénaga de Lanier (Lanier Marshes) nature reserve

What You Should Know:

- ✦ The island was discovered and named La Evangelista by Christopher Columbus on June 13, 1494, during his second voyage to the New World
- ✦ Past inmates of the Modelo Penitentiary include those responsible for the violent attack on the Moncada Barracks – among them Fidel Castro. The amnesty by dictator Batista meant they only served part of their sentence here, in conditions that were much more comfortable than those endured by the more than three hundred peaceful political prisoners currently in Cuban jails
- ✦ The El Abra ranch, where José Martí was confined in 1870 and wrote “El presidio político en Cuba” (The Political Prison in Cuba), is gazetted as a National Monument

The Quaint and Curious:

- ✦ The name Isla de la Juventud (Island of Youth) comes from the thousands of young people from different parts of the world (and various provinces of Cuba) who studied in its rural schools and worked in its citrus orchards from age 14, in violation of International Labor Organization conventions subscribed by the Cuban government
- ✦ It is also known as the “island of a thousand names”
- ✦ The island’s pelicans have become its symbol, due to the large number of these birds in Key Largo del Sur
- ✦ The typical dance of the Isla de la Juventud is the Sucu-Sucu, with its main venue being Bibijagua beach



Population: 79,000 inhabitants

Area: 3,056 km²

***Characteristics:** Today, Isla de la Juventud has a population that is quite representative of the other Cuban provinces, having received a considerable number of migrants from all over the country during the past few decades

Contact Information: Centers for Donations, Prisoners and Activists

Independent Libraries

José Martí Library

📁 Calle B, Escalera #4047 between 4 and 8, Apartment #2, Micro 70
NUEVA GERONA

Director: Ibrahim Varela Savón

* **Ex-political prisoner**

Evangelina Cossio Cisneros Library

📁 Calle 37 #3610 between 36 and 38
NUEVA GERONA

Director: Rebeca Chávez Águila (wife of prisoner Rafael Mollet Leiva)

Evangelina Coccio Cisneros Library

📁 Calle 12 #5137 between 51 and 53,
District of Abel Santamaría,
NUEVA GERONA

Director: Milani Velásquez Perdomo

13 de Marzo Library

📁 Calle 8 between E and F, Bldg. 2053 A
apt. 3, Micro District 70, NUEVA GERONA.
Tel.: 46-32-4202

Director: Sergio Santacruz de Oviedo Nario

Fabio Prieto Llorente Library

📁 Calle 51 between 46 and 50 # 4613 A
District of 26 de Julio. NUEVA GERONA

Director: Marianela Leiva Serrano

10 de diciembre Library

📁 Calle C between 6 and 8 Bldg 3038
apt. 2

Micro 70, NUEVA GERONA

Director: Ana Berta Juliá Núñez

Pinos Nuevos Library

📁 Calle 37B between 4 and 4B # 404
apt. 8 GERONA NORTE

Director: Pedro Pablo Meneses Meneses

28 de Enero II Library

📁 Calle 22 between 1ra and 3ra escalera
103 apt. 2

District of Sierra Caballo

NUEVA GERONA

Director: Noel de la Pena Rivera

Guillermo Lesante Naser Library

📁 Calle 45 between 30 and 32 # 3005
NUEVA GERONA

Tel: 32-3393

Director: Héctor Pachá García



Martiana Library

📁 Calle C between D and 53 apt. 4
Micro 70.

NUEVA GERONA

Director: Gloria Ester Casa Pena

Ernest Hemingway Library

📁 Escuela de Cabo,
La Demajagua

Director: Carlos Serpa Maceira

Families of Political Prisoners

NUEVA GERONA

1. Rolando Jiménez Posada

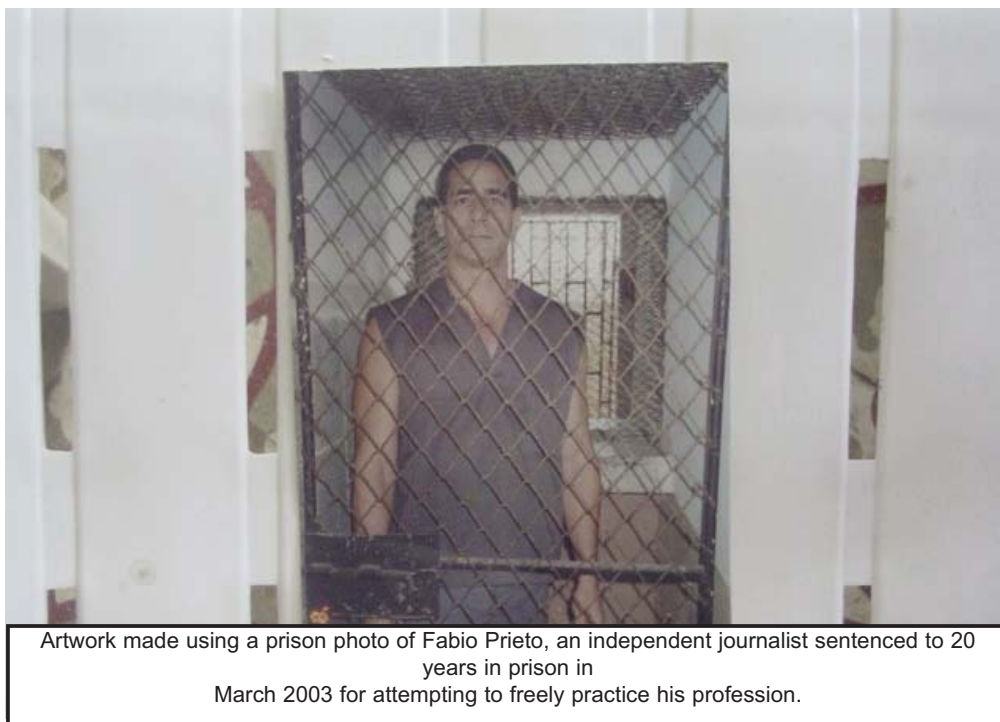
Sentence: Case #173 of 2003, pending sentencing.

Prison: National Security Headquarters, Isle of Pines

📁 Family address: Calle 28 A #5111, between 51 and 53, Nueva Gerona

Family contact member: Lamaciél Gutiérrez Romero (wife)

☎ Tel.: (46) 323393 – Eloína – Neighbor or (46) 322500 – Lázaro



2. Fabio Prieto Llorente

Sentence: Case #3 of 2003, 20 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88

Prison: Kilo 8, Camagüey

Family address: Calle 30 #4903 between 49 and 51, Nueva Gerona

Family contact member: Miranta Llorente Torres (mother)

3. Rafael Mollet Leiva

Sentence: Pending sentencing

Prison: El Guayabo, Isle of Pines

Family address: Calle 37 #3203, Apartment #1, between 32 and 34, Nueva Gerona

Family contact member: Rebeca Chávez Aguila (wife)

Tel.: (46) 322334

Defenders of Democracy and Human Rights

Pinero Movement for Human Rights

Advocates human rights and the practice of independent journalism

Director: Fabio Prieto Llorente

*** Political prisoner**

Address: Calle 30 # 4903 between 49 and 51

NUEVA GERONA

Mother: Miranda Llorente Torres

Sister: Lourdes Prieto Llorente

National Independent Workers Confederation of Cuba (branch office)

Héctor Pacha García

Address: Calle 45 #3005, between 30 and 32. NUEVA GERONA

Tel.: 5346 32 3393

Cuban Foundation for Human Rights

Denounces human rights violations. Helps political prisoners and their families

Director: Lázaro Ricardo Pérez García

Address: Calle 30 # 5107 between 51 and 53, NUEVA GERONA

Tel.: 61-2-2500

Pinero Committee for Human Rights

Denounces human rights violations and conducts seminars on civil society in the "Luis de la Masa Redondo" public school

Address: Calle No. 4005 between 6 and 8 Micro District 70, NUEVA GERONA

Tel.: 61-2-6370

Province of Havana

Havana province is located at the western end of the island. The capital is City of Havana, with the province extending around it to the South, East and West.

In 1975, the province of Havana was subdivided into two provinces with independent administrations: the provinces of City of Havana and Havana (La Habana), respectively.

The province of Havana encompasses numerous towns and cities with scant relationship among them, except for the fact that they are included under the same Administrative Area. Accordingly, many of the activities typical of each city within the territory are carried out independently, without any link to its other population centers.

It is the province with the greatest number of municipalities, totaling 19 in all. Together, they form a region that blends delightful rural areas with important urban centers, while the attractive coastline is a constant presence.

The economy of the province of Havana is based on industry and agriculture. Its principal products are: electrical energy, petroleum and natural gas, cement and other construction materials, carbide and acetylene, electrical and telephone cables, glass, paints, beverages and spirits, textiles, clothing, tobacco and citrus.

What You Should See:

- ✦ El Salado, an important spa resort with a secluded beach that is sheltered by a coral reef, just 25 minutes from the capital
- ✦ Other notable beaches are Jibacoa, Arroyo Bermejo and Amarilla
- ✦ Artemisa, noted for its neoclassical-style monuments and the ruins of its famous coffee plantation
- ✦ Batabanó, one of the first cities founded by Velázquez in 1515. In the present day, this small harbor town serves as a port for the crossing to Isla de la Juventud (formerly Isle of Pines)

What You Should Know:

- ✦ The fishing town of Santa Cruz del Norte is home to the production facilities of the Santa Cruz distillery, producer of the famous Havana Club rum
- ✦ Mariel is significant as the departure point for the Cuban exodus to the United States, which took place in 1980. The emigrants of that time are known as "marielitos". Before they left, many suffered acts of repudiation orchestrated by the government
- ✦ The Resource Management Area of Rancho Azucarero (Sugar Farm), located in Artemisa, contains a virgin tropical forest together with the ruins of a centuries-old coffee plantation. Here, we may also find some species of African fauna introduced into the area by man

The Quaint and Curious:

- ✦ The writers José Martí, Lezama Lima and Alejandro Carpentier were born in the province of Havana
- ✦ There are a great number of religious cults in Havana, ranging from Christian beliefs to the saint worship (or "santería") steeped in Afro-Cuban traditions, as well as Oriental philosophies
- ✦ A few kilometers of beachfront are also dotted with various oil wells



Population: 701,767 inhabitants

Area: 5,730.5 km²

Municipalities: Bauta, Caimito, Mariel Artemisa, Guanajay, Bejucal, Batabanó, Alquizar, Quivicán, San Antonio de los Baños, Güira de Melena, San José de las Lajas, Güines, Melena del sur, Jaruco, San Nicolás de Baris, Nueva Paz, Santa Cruz del Norte and Madruga.

***Characteristics:** Havana is the province with the greatest number of municipalities, totaling 19 in all

Contact Information: Centers for Donations, Prisoners and Activists

Churches and Donation Collection Centers

SANTIAGO DE LAS VEGAS (prefix 683)

Churches

Seventh Day Adventist Church

📄 **Avd. 305 No. 17002**

Lutgardita
Tel. 2783

Methodist Church

📄 **194 No. 40318**

Tel. 3138

Seventh Day Adventist Church

📄 **Circular 7**

Sta. Elena

Tel. 3144

El Rincón Parish Church

📄 **Carretera S.A. de los**

Baños km 23

El Rincón

Tel. 2396

Santiago Parish Church

📄 **190 No. 41718**

Tel. 3233

Religious Communities Daughters of Charity

📄 **M. Gomez 164**

Tel. 3381

Independent Libraries

Provincial Coordinator

Rafael María Mendive Library

📄 **Building 56, Apt. 7 District of Los Cocos, BARACOA**

Director: Pablo Silva Cabrera

* **Ex-political prisoner**

General Juan Bruno Zayas Library

📄 **Calle 28 #2719 between 27 and 29,**

QUIVIACÁN JOSÉ MIGUAL

Tel. 78629204

Director: Martínez Hernández

* **Political prisoner**

Simón Bolívar Library

📄 **Avenida 45 #2410 between 24 and 26 Cabañas, EL MARIEL**

Director: Ileana de los Angeles Iglesias Nodarte

Sebastián Arcos Bergnes Library

📄 **Ave. 83 #3006 between 30 and 32 Batey Cruz, GUINES**

Tel. 78629204

Director: José Izquierdo Hernández

* **Political prisoner**

Families of Political Prisoners

ARTEMISA

1. Alfredo Felipe Fuentes

Sentence: Case #6 of 2003, 26 years' imprisonment.

Violation of Law 88; Acts against the independence or territorial integrity of the State (Article 91 of the penal code)

Prison: Guamajal, Province of Villa Clara

📄 **Family address: Calle 35 # 4007, between 40 and 42, District of La Matilde, Artemisa**

Family contact member: Loida Valdés González (wife)

☎ **Tel. (6)363622 or (63)363198 (Father Tony, at the church)**



Loida Valdés, wife of Alfredo Felipe Fuentes, sentenced to 26 years' imprisonment for promoting the Varela Project and independent trade unionism. He is serving his sentence 410 km away from his wife.

GÜINES

2. Miguel Galbán Gutiérrez

Sentence: Case #4 of 2003, 26 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88
Prison: Agüica Provincial Penitentiary, Matanzas

📄 **Family address: Calle 52 #9914, between 99 and 103, Güines**
Family contact member: Teresa Galbán Gutiérrez (sister)

☎ **Tel. (6) 23192 Blanca (aunt)**



Miguel Galbán Gutiérrez, imprisoned journalist. In 1999, he was expelled from his workplace for holding different ideas from those of the regime. He was imprisoned in 2003 and is serving a sentence of 26 years.

3. José Ubaldo Izquierdo Hernández

Sentence: Case #4 of 2003, 16 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88
Prison: Combinado del Este, Havana

📄 **Family address: Avenida 83 #3006 between 30 and 32, Batey Cruz, Güines**
Family contact member: Yamilka Morejón Morfa (wife)

☎ **Tel. (6) 222007 (Julia, ask for Bernardo)**

SAN MIGUEL DEL PADRÓN

4. José Enrique Santana Carreira

Sentence: Criminal Contempt, Resistance and Public Disturbance. Criminal Contempt, Resistance and Public Disturbance.
Prison: Guasán, Havana

📄 **Family address: Belinda #11019 between Mario Díaz and Lindero, Diezmero, San Miguel del Padrón**
Family contact member: Ana Luisa Carreira Rodríguez (mother)

☎ **Tel. (7) 526406 – Lidia, neighbor**

5. Ricardo Ramos Pereira **Provisional release (conditional liberty)*

Sentence: Pending Trial Case # 165 of 2002. Criminal Contempt, Resistance and Public Disturbance.

📄 **Family address: Calle Capitán Miranda #4207 between Mario Díaz and C. District of Diezmero. San Miguel del Padrón**
Mother's address: Capitán Miranda #11205 between Mario Díaz and Calzada de San Miguel. Diezmero
San Miguel del Padrón
Family contact member: Carmen Pereira Jiménez (Mother) or wife

SAN JOSÉ DE LAS LAJAS

6. Héctor Raúl Valle Hernández

Sentence: Case #4 of 2003, 12 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88
Prison: Guanajay, Havana Province

📄 **Family address: Calle 40 #6123 between 61 and 65, San José de las Lajas**
Family contact member: Darelys Velázquez Falcón (wife)



Héctor Raúl Valle (in the photo above, in blue striped shirt) with other political activists.

Defenders of Democracy and Human Rights

Democratic Workers Federation of Cuba

Defends free trade unionism without government sponsorship or control

Vice President: Héctor Raúl Valle Hernández

* **Political prisoner**

📄 **Address:** Calle 40 # 6123 between 61 and 65, SAN JOSÉ DE LAS LAJAS

National Independent Workers Confederation of Cuba

Havana province provincial delegate:
Emilio González Torres

📄 **Address:** Avenida 89, between 44 and 46 #416. Alturas del Río, GÜINES

☎ **Tel.:** 5362 23895

E-mail: Marthaidapaso@yahoo.es

Carlos Castro Álvarez (Decorum Work Group)

📄 **Address:** Calle 70 #5703
Between 57 and 59,
SAN ANTONIO DE LOS BAÑOS, 32500

December 10 Movement

Promotes free exchange of ideas

Director: José Patricio Armas

📄 **Address:** GÜINES

Union of Rural Youth

Promotes a project of alternative development for youth in rural zones

Director: Yamila Iturralde Aguila

📄 **Address:** Calle 2 No. 325 Central
Abraham Lincoln
ARTEMISA

☎ **Tel.:** 63-3314

Occidental Press Agency (APO)

Director: Rafael Peraza Fonte

📄 **Address:** Calle 17 A - 3206 between 32 and 34, District of Erix
ARTEMISA - Havana 33800

College of Engineers and Architects

Independent professionals for freedom of expression and intellectual creativity.

Director: Atty. Miguel Galbán

* **Political prisoner**

📄 **Address:** Calle 52 # 9914 between 99 and 103, GÜINES

☎ **Tel.:** 7-8-30-21-03

Latin American Federation of Rural Women (FLAMUR)

Luz María Barceló Padrón

📄 **Address:** C/ 40 # 2906 between 29 and 33. SAN JOSÉ DE LAS LAJAS

☎ **Tel.:** 47-86-5952

City of Havana

City of Havana (Havana), formerly San Cristóbal de la Habana, is the capital of the Cuban Republic; with over two million inhabitants, it is also the Caribbean's most populous city. It was founded by the Spanish conquistador Diego Velázquez de Cuéllar in the year 1515.

Havana is a capital three times over. Besides being the capital of the Cuban republic, it is the capital of its eponymous province (City of Havana) and the surrounding Havana province as well. It constitutes the principal tourism focus for the entire island, and offers a mix of beaches, landmarks and socio-cultural traditions.

As for its economy, it is based fundamentally on industry and services. It is also the seat of the political and economic administration of the country. Some of the most important industries include: foodstuffs, pharmaceuticals, biotechnology, light industry, fisheries, textiles, petroleum refining, cigar and tobacco factories, and steelworks. The harbor is the largest in Cuba, and is mainly used in the loading and unloading of goods. Agricultural lands make up 33% of the province's area, with forested areas accounting for 4%. City of Havana contributes 43% to the nation's GDP, a figure that indicates the city's importance to the national economy.

What You Should See:


- ✦ Old Havana. Part of this area is actually a museum: The National Capitol, the Cathedral, and the Main Square (Plaza de Armas). There is another section that is extremely run-down – and just a short walk outside the main tourist haunts provides ample evidence of this
- ✦ The Castillo del Morro, a castle built on the headland (morro) by the Spanish to defend the entrance to the bay
- ✦ The Havana Seawall or "Malecón" is an unparalleled attraction! The Malecón has various historical landmarks along its length, such as the monument to those lost aboard the USS Maine – whose sinking in Havana harbor was a catalyst for the United States' entry into the 1898 Spanish-American War. There is also the equestrian statue of General Calixto García. If you take some time to stroll around, you will see some once-beautiful buildings that are now sadly quite dilapidated
- ✦ The Vedado and Miramar neighborhoods. Vedado is one of the liveliest neighborhoods (or barrios), with numerous hotels and music bars. Miramar is considered a luxurious address and is the favored district of diplomats

What You Should Know:

- ✦ The city's Old Havana or La Habana Vieja has been declared a World Heritage site by UNESCO
- ✦ The Municipality of Guanabacoa is renowned as a center of the Afro-Cuban santería cult
- ✦ The beachside town of Cojimar, to the city's east, was a favorite fishing destination of Ernest Hemingway. It was here he found the inspiration for "The Old Man and the Sea"

The Quaint and Curious:

- ✦ The city was the setting for the films "Strawberry and Chocolate" and "Havana Blues"
- ✦ There are a great number of religious cults in Havana, ranging from Christian beliefs to the saint worship or "santería" stemming from Afro-Cuban traditions, as well as Oriental philosophies
- ✦ Lovers of ice cream will find the famous Coppelia ice-cream parlor in the Vedado neighborhood. First opened in 1965, it featured in the movie Strawberry and Chocolate. However, don't go along expecting a wide range of flavors or exceptional quality because Cuba's state-sponsored capita-



Population: 2,163,824 inhabitants

Area: 723.92 km²

Municipalities: Arroyo Naranjo, Boyeros, Centro Habana (Havana Center), Cerro, Cotorro, Diez de Octubre, Guanabacoa, la Habana del Este (East Havana), La Habana Vieja (Old Havana), La Lisa, Marianao, Playa, Plaza, Regla and San Miguel del Padrón

***Characteristics:** Havana is a legendary city, occupying a pre-eminent position as a key center of important cultural and historical riches (monuments, theaters, etc.), as well as its place as Cuba's capital and seat of government.

A look at...

Here, we offer a brief look at two defenders of democracy in Cuba. One is a women's collective known as The Ladies in White ["Las Damas de Blanco"], the other a pro-democracy group that launched the Varela Project, coordinated by Oswaldo Payá. Both are recognized in Cuba and abroad, having won column space for themselves with the international press, and a place in the hearts of their fellow citizens. Both the Ladies in White and Payá are recipients of the Sakharov Prize for Human Rights, which is awarded annually by the European Parliament.



The Ladies in White call for the freeing of their husbands through song and prayer. Every Sunday, these tireless women walk through the Miramar District calling for an amnesty for family members who have been unjustly imprisoned.

Las Damas de Blanco (The Ladies in White)

The Ladies in White are a group of women comprised of the wives and relatives of the political prisoners who were unjustly incarcerated by the Cuban Government in March 2003.

Tireless defenders of human rights, the Ladies in White came into being in 2003, following Cuba's "Black Spring" wave of government crackdowns. Their objective was very clear: to seek amnesty for their loved ones and all Cuban prisoners of conscience.

Through their courage, they have shown the entire world that an open call for rights and freedoms in Cuba might be a brave act, but not an impossible one. Moreover, their friendly bearing and gentle demeanor prove this kind of activism can also be an act of peace and love.

Every Sunday after attending mass, the Ladies in White walk in silence down Miramar Avenue and other Havana streets, calling for the release of their loved ones. Dressed all in white and carrying photographs of these prisoners of conscience, they give out white gladioli and pray as they go.

The Ladies also hold periodic meetings in which they discuss the situation of the prisoners and share their experiences and feelings. And, of course, they continually address both Cuba and the world to denounce the abuses committed against their imprisoned family members.



Their situation, however – despite the hope they continue to nurture – is difficult, since in addition to suffering the absence of their relatives, they must also endure Government reprisals. On various occasions, they have been subjected to threats, coercion and dissuasive maneuverings by the Castro regime, aimed at silencing their voices. But to no avail because the streets now belong to the Ladies in White, and the dignity of all humankind walks with them side-by-side.

For more information:

<http://www.damasdeblanco.com/>

Visitors to Cuba, please lend your support

Oswaldo Payá Sardiñas, the Varela Project and the All Cubans program

Oswaldo Payá is the best-known Cuban democrat on and off the island, and leader of the Christian Liberation Movement [Movimiento Cristiano Liberación] human rights group.

Under his coordination, the Varela Project has been promoted by hundreds of activists across the island and signed by tens of thousands of Cubans. It is undoubtedly the most successful Cuban opposition initiative of recent times. The project is centered on a legislative bill with grounds in the actual Cuban constitution, which seeks to reform the Cuban political system by using “law to make law” and achieve a peaceful transition to democracy.

The Varela Project proposes a popular vote on: freedom of expression and free press, freedom of association, amnesty for political prisoners who have not threatened the lives of others, economic freedom, and a free electoral and democratic framework.

This proposal has been promoted by Cuban citizens from within the country, in order for Cubans themselves to decide whether or not the changes Cuba needs are to be made. For the first time, the Cuban Government feels cornered by its own contradictions, and on the defensive against a Cuban initiative calling for the right to vote on the desired changes.

More than 24,000 Cubans have already made the free and conscious decision to put their signatures to the Varela Project. These signatures provided the support to put the project before the National Assembly of Popular Power on May 10, 2002, and again on October 3, 2003. Accordingly, besides being lawful under the terms of the Constitution, it also qualifies as a draft bill because it has collected 10,000 signatures on two occasions. Oswaldo Payá received the Sakharov Prize for Human Rights from the European Parliament in 2002.

Recently, Payá has advanced the “All Cubans” [“Todos Cubanos”] initiative. A participatory project with contributions by thousands of Cubans, it has culminated in the drafting of a democratic constitution with accompanying legislation for the country’s transition to democracy. For more information:

<http://www.solidaridadconcuba.com/oswaldo/oswaldo.asp>



Payá presents “Todos Cubanos”, a new project that lays the foundation for a democratic constitution for Cuba.



Contact Information: Centers for Donations, Prisoners and Activists

Churches and Donation Collection Centers

Churches

Seventh Day Adventist Church

📄 Gertrudis 109

Lawton

Tel. 98-6566

Baptist Church

📄 Maceo 62

Guanabacoa

Tel. 97-7853

Baptist Church

📄 Rabi 824

Santos Suarez

Tel. 40-2402

Baptist Church

Aposento Alto

📄 Ave. S. Allende 607

Havana Center

Tel. 79-8130

Betel Baptist Church

📄 211 No. 519

Marianao

Tel. 22-2870

La Víbora Baptist Church

📄 S. Anastasio 614

Víbora

Tel. 98-6776

Regla Baptist Church

📄 Martí 619

Regla

Tel. 97-8589

Ebenezer Baptist Church

📄 Ave. 53 No. 9609

Marianao

Tel. 20-3940

Calvary Baptist Church

📄 Ignacio Agramonte 502

Old Havana

Tel. 61-1195

El Jordan Baptist Church

📄 5ta. No. 13923

Guanabacoa

Tel. 97-7175

William Carey Baptist Church

📄 Calle J No. 555

Vedado

Tel. 32-2250, 33-3637

Open Bible Church

📄 198 No. 28907

Consuelo

Tel. 45-1905

Chapel of Saint Joseph

📄 Ayestarán 194

Ayestarán

Tel. 70-3082

Cathedral of Havana

📄 Empedrado 156

Old Havana

Tel. 61-7771

Catholic Church of the Holy Guardian Angel

📄 Compostela 2

Old Havana

Tel. 61-0469

Catholic Parish Church of Our Lady of the Candelmas

📄 285 No. 27619

Wajai

Tel. 45-4976

Catholic Church of the Sacred Heart

📄 Varona 16

Tel. 44-1853

Central Methodist Church

📄 Virtudes 152

Havana Center

Tel. 63-6641

Corpus Christi Church

📄 146 No. 904

Cubanacan

Tel. 33-7175

Church of God in Cuba

📄 90-B No. 6102

Marianao

Tel. 20-2146

Carmel Church

📄 Linea 1114

Vedado

Tel. 3-4789

Cuban Church of the Nazarene

📄 Ave. 47 No. 5414

Marianao

Tel. 22-2922

Cuban Church of the Nazarene

📄 251 No. 2601

Punta Brava

Tel. 29-9367

Our Lord of The Sainted Calvary Church

📄 2da and Gertrudis

Víbora

Tel. 99-3316

Episcopal Church of Cuba

📄 Ave. de Italia 462-A

Havana Center

Tel. 33-3293

Church of the Escolapians

📄 Máximo Gómez

Guanabacoa

Tel. 97-7241

Holy Spirit Church

📄 Acosta 161

Old Havana

Tel. 62-3410

Free Evangelical Church

📄 Ave. 71 No. 12834

Marianao

Tel. 20-6583

**Los Pinos Nuevos
Evangelical Church**

☞ Suárez 58

Old Havana

Tel. 61-3384

**Pentecostal Evangelical
Church**

☞ Calzada de Infanta
1251

Havana Center

Tel. 70-0350

**Pentecostal Evangelical
Church**

☞ Calzada 10 de Octubre
769

A. Apolo

Tel. 91-4282, 44-6945

Immaculate Church

☞ Prensa 302

Cerro

Tel. 40-2876

Jesús of Miramar Church

☞ Ave. 5a No. 8003

Marianao

Tel. 23-5301

Church of Charity

☞ Manrique 570

Havana Center

Tel. 61-0945

**Our Lady of Mercy
Church**

☞ Cuba 806

Old Havana

Tel. 63-8873

Miraculous Virgin Church

☞ San Andres 6

Guanabacoa

Tel. 97-7961

Miraculous Virgin Church

☞ Santos Suárez 366

Santos Suárez

Tel. 41-8449

The First Church of God

☞ Aldabó and 10

Los Pinos

Tel. 44-1032

**Mary The Helper
Church**

☞ Brasil 311

Old Havana

Tel. 61-1446

Mary The Helper Church

☞ Calzada del Cerro 1239
Cerro

Tel. 70-7301

**Methodist Church
of Cuba**

☞ 54 No. 3302

Marianao

Tel. 23-4936

**Methodist Church
of Playa**

☞ 58 No. 4305

Playa

Tel. 29-3064

**Methodist Church
of Playa**

☞ 58 No. 4306

Playa

Tel. 23-0456

Montserrat Church

☞ Ave. de Italia y

Concordia

Havana Center

Tel. 63-1889

**Our Lady of Charity
Church**

☞ Calzada de Bejucal
2317

A. Apolo

Tel. 44-3211

**Our Lady of Charity
Church**

☞ 298 and Ave. 1ra-B

Santa Fé

Tel. 29-7480

**Our Lady of the
Guard Church**

☞ Ntra. Sra. de Regla
y Quiroga

Luyanó

Tel. 99-1227

**Parish Church of
Christ the King**

☞ Ermita 223

Ayestarán

Tel. 81-6492

**Parish Church of
Christ the Savior**

☞ 130 and Avd. 45

Marianao

Tel. 20-1052

**Parish Church of Jesus
and Mary**

☞ Revillagigedo 303

Old Havana

Tel. 63-7586

**Parish Church of
Puentes Grandes San
Jerónimo**

☞ Calzada de Puentes

Grandes 25-A

Puentes Grandes

Tel. 40-5033

**Parish Church of
Saint Ann**

☞ J.A. Bañuls and M.

Grajales

C. Florido

Tel. 96-3924

Parish Church of el Cerro

☞ Sto. Tomás and Peñón

Cerro

Tel. 41-5772

**Parish Church of the
Sacred Heart of Vedado**

☞ Línea and C

Vedado

Tel. 32-6807

**Our Lady of the Guard
Parish Church**

☞ Santuario 11

Regla

Tel. 97-6228

**Our Lady of Carmen
Parish Church**

☞ Calzada de Infanta

and Neptuno

Havana Center

Tel. 78-5168, 70-1196

**Our Lady of the Pillar
Parish Church**

☞ S. Jacinto 11

Cerro

Tel. 70-7027

**Saint Augustine
Parish Church**

☞ Aved. 37 No. 4208

La Sierra

Tel. 29-5196 Fax. 24-9276

**Saint Francis of Paula
Parish Church**

☞ M. Rodriguez 804

La Víbora

Tel. 41-5037

**Saint Francis Xavier
Parish Church**

☞ Avd. 51 No. 10620

Marianao

Tel. 20-7598

**Saint Judas and
Saint Nicholas
Parish Church**

☞ S. Nicolas 830

Old Havana

Tel. 63-3987

Parish Church

☞ E. Giral 331

Guanabacoa

Tel. 97-7368

Parish Church

☞ 474 No. 703

Guanabacoa

Tel. 96-4241

**Parish Church of
Puentes Grandes**

☞ Calzada Puentes

Grandes 25-A

Puentes Grandes

Tel. 81-2839

**Christ of the Good
Voyage Parish Church**

☞ Villegas and Amargura

Old Havana

Tel. 63-1767

Presbyterian Church

☞ Sta. Felicia 259

Luyanó

Tel. 98-4818

**Reformed Presbyterian
Church**

☞ Reforma 560

Luyanó

Tel. 33-9621

**Reformed Presbyterian
Church**

☞ Salud 218

Havana Center

Tel. 62-1219

**Reformed Presbyterian
Church**

☞ Salud 222

Havana Center

Tel. 62-1239

Tel. 33-8819 (Offices)

Queen Church

Avd. de Bolivar 463

☞ Havana Center

Tel. 62-4979 (Curia P.P.

Jesuits) Tel. 33-8460

(Offices)

**St. Anthony of Padua
Church**

☞ 60 No. 316

Marianao

Tel. 23-5045

Saint Francis Church

☞ Cuba and Amargura

Old Havana

Tel. 33-8938

St. Joseph Church

☞ Serafines 4

Juanelo

Tel. 91-4368

**Saint John of Bosco
Church**

☞ Sta. Catalina 674

Tel. 41-5405

**Saint John of Letrán
Church**

☞ 19 No. 258

Vedado

Tel. 32-7329

**Saint Michael of
Padrón Church**

☞ A and Calzada de

Güines

Tel. 91-1148

Saint Katherine Church

☞ Panorama 672

Nuevo Vedado

Tel. 81-7647

Saint Claire Church

☞ 210 No. 107

Lawton

Tel. 99-1056

**Holy Cross of Jerusalem
Church**

☞ 66 No. 1520

Marianao

Tel. 29-6462

Holy Pentecostal Church

☞ Calzada de Güines

10011

Rosalía

Tel. 91-3605

**God of the Complete
Gospel Church**

☞ Avd. 107 No. 9811

Cuatro Caminos, Cotorro

Tel. 4176

**First Pentecostal Church
of Cuba**

☞ 111-A No. 3217 Amp. A.

Hatuey, Cotorro

Tel. 3919

Saint Mary Church

☞ 26 and Ave. 31

Santa María del Rosario

Cotorro

Tel. 218

Religious Communities

Capuchin Fathers

☞ Corrales 5,

Old Havana

Tel. 61-8691

**Congregation of Servants
of Mary**

☞ 23 No. 602, Vedado

Tel. 32-1464

Congregation of Servants of Saint Joseph

📄 Primelles 321, Cerro
Tel. 41-7745

La Anunciata

📄 E. Barnet 468, Havana Center
Tel. 62-4929

Missionaries of Charity

📄 Calle 32, Vedado
Tel. 30-2765

Jesus and Mary

📄 Address 3ra. No. 16601
Alta Havana
Tel. 57-8261

Salesian Congregation

📄 Brasil 311,
Old Havana
Tel. 61-1445

Missionaries of God

📄 100 No. 3118, Marianao
Tel. 20-2261

World Mission of Cuba Pastoral House

📄 10 No. 12910, Aldabó
Tel. 33-5170, 44-3261

Claretian Missionaries Novitiate House

📄 Blanquita 1933,
Antonio Maceo
Tel. 41-7643



Crusader Missionaries of the Church

📄 Avd. 51 No. 5860,
La Ceiba
Tel. 20-2777

Orders of the Passionist Missionaries

📄 Buenaventura 761
La Víbora

Saint Rita Church

📄 between 5ta and 26
Miramar

*This is the church where the Ladies in White go to pray every Sunday, to ask for their husbands to be set free.

Independent Libraries

▽Provincial Coordinator:
Julia Cecilia Delgado

Juana Alonso Rodríguez I Library

📄 Reforma # 1222 +between
Independencia and América. District of
Martí El Cerro
Director: Rogelio Travieso Pérez

Jorge Mañach Library

📄 Calle 86 # 719 between 7ma and 9na,
Playa
Director: Ricardo González Alfonso
* **Political prisoner**

Vaclav Havel Library

📄 Calle 180 #37907 between 383 and
Final, District of Guadalupe, Santiago de
las Vegas
Director: Tulimia Amores Rodríguez

Dulce María Loynaz I Library

📄 Vista Hermosa #608 between
Concepción and Santa
Ana, Apt. K-5, Cerro

Dulce María Loynaz Library

📄 25 # 866, Apt. 3, between A and B.
Vedado

Director: Gisela Delgado Sablón
(wife of prisoner Héctor Palacios)

Dulce María Loynaz II Library

📄 Peñalver #466 Apt. 9 between
Oquendo and Franco, Havana Center
24 de febrero Library

📄 Campanario #564 between Dragones
and Salud,
Havana Center

Director: Leonardo Miguel Bruzón Ávila
* **Provisional release**

Grito de Baire Library

📄 Calle 186 #40914, between 409
and 411
Santiago de las Vegas
Director: Rolando Monteagudo Pérez

Padre Félix Varela Library

📄 **Campanario #354 between San Rafael and San Miguel, Havana Center**
Director: Roberto de Miranda
 * **Provisional release**

Emilio Máspero Library

📄 **Ave. Carlos III, Apt. 10 between retiro and Placencia, Havana Center**
Heberto Padilla Library

📄 **Calle 1ra #28 between C and D, District of El Rosario, Municipality of Arroyo Naranjo**

Director: Magalys López García

Elena Mederos Library

📄 **Calle 35 #4806 between 48 and 50, Playa**

Director: Elizardo Sánchez Santacruz and Mercedes Núñez

Francisco De Arango y Parreño Library

📄 **San Nicolás 206 between Concordia and Virtudes, Havana Center**
 Director: Lázaro Javier Martínez

Gertrudis Gómez de Avellaneda II Library

📄 **Calzada 10 de Octubre #698 between Mario and Gustavo, District of Santa Amalia**

Arroyo Naranjo

Director: Dr. Celia Jorge Ruiz

José Lezama Library

📄 **Lima Franco #10 Apt. 53 between Estrella and Carlos III**

Director: Beatriz del Carmen Pedroso León (wife of prisoner Julio César Gálvez)

Families of Political Prisoners

1. Martha Beatriz Roque Cabello *Provisional release (conditional liberty)

Sentence: Case #12 of 2003, 20 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88
 Given conditional liberty for health reasons

📄 **Family address: Luis Estevez #352, between Cortina and Figueroa, Santos Suárez, Havana**

☎ **Tel. 7-406821**

2. Oscar Elías Biscet González

Sentence: Case #15 of 2003, 25 years' imprisonment. Public Disturbance and Offense against national symbols. Acts against independence or territorial integrity of the State. (Art. 91 of the Penal Code)

Prison: Combinado del Este

📄 **Family address: Acosta #464 between 8va and 9na, Lawton 10 de Octubre**

City of Havana

Family contact member:

Elsa Morejón Hernández (wife)

☎ **Tel. (7) 991774**



Below, the unjustly imprisoned human rights defender Dr. Oscar Elías Biscet, shown here during one of his arrests by the Cuban government. Above, Biscet's wife, Elsa Morejón, holds his photograph.



Journalist Ricardo González, sentenced to 20 years in jail for practicing independent journalism and starting the local magazine De Cuba (About Cuba) – an intolerable threat to the Cuban Government's information monopoly. On the right, González pictured with his wife, who must now endure her husband's absence.

3. Ricardo González Alfonso

Sentence: Case #10 of 2003, 20 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88

Prison: Combinado del Este

📄 **Family address: Calle 11 #78 Apt. 2, between E and Font, Lawton, Havana**

Family contact member: Alida Viso Bello (wife)

4. Marcelo Cano Rodríguez

Sentence: Case #11 of 2003, 18 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88

Prison: Ariza, Cienfuegos

📄 **Family address: Calle 72 #907 Altos, between 9na and 11na, Playa, City of Havana**

Family contact member: Bárbara Yurubí Dueñas (wife)

☎ **Tel. (43)546239**

5. Juan Adolfo Fernández Saínz

Sentence: Case #12 of 2003, 15 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88

Prison: Canaleta, Ciego de Ávila

📄 **Family address: Calle Belascoaín # 465 Apt. 16, 6th Floor, between Zanja and Salud, Havana Center Municipality, Havana**

Family contact member: Julia Núñez Pacheco (wife)

☎ **Tel. (7)861-0900**



Adolfo Fernández, unjustly imprisoned for peacefully promoting democracy and human rights in his country. On the right, Fernández's wife Julia Núñez Pacheco, wearing a top with a photo of her husband.

6. Oscar Espinosa Chepe * **Provisional release (conditional liberty)**

Sentence: Case #11 of 2003. 20 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88

📄 **Family address: Calle 39 #4212, Apt. 3, between 42 and 44, Playa, City of Havana**

☎ **Tel. (7)209-4645**

7. Efrén Fernández Fernández

Sentence: Case #16 of 2003, 12 years' imprisonment.

prison. Violation of Law 88

Prison: Guanajay, Havana

📄 **Family address: Calle Clavel #582, between Tulipán and Concepción, El Cerro**

Family contact member: Yamilé Velázquez Batista (wife)

☎ **Tel. (7) 404856 – Ernesto**

8. Mijail Bárzaga Lugo

Sentence: Case #12 of 2003. Violation of Law 88. Protection of the Cuban Economy and National Independence.

Prison: Agüica, Matanzas

📄 **Family address: Calle 17 #213 between 6 and 8, District of Ampliación de San Matías, San Miguel del Padrón, Havana**

Family contact member: Belkis Bárzaga Lugo (sister)

☎ **Tel. 7-526798 (Gregoria Corrales)**



School teacher Roberto de Miranda, shown here with his wife and grandson, before his imprisonment. He is currently on provisional release due to illness.

9. Roberto De Miranda Hernández

* **Provisional release (conditional liberty)**

Sentence: Case #16 of 2003, 20 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88. Acts against the independence or territorial integrity of the State (Art. 91 of the penal code)

📄 **Family address: Campanario #354 between San Miguel and San Rafael, First Floor, Havana**
Family contact member: Soledad Rivas Verdecia (wife)

☎ **Tel. (7)866-2928 (Fela, neighbor)**

10. Edel José García Díaz

* **Provisional release (conditional liberty)**

Sentence: Case #14 of 2003, 16 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88

📄 **Family address: Campanario No. 222, 3rd Floor, Apt. 37 A between Concordia and Virtudes, Municipality of Havana Center, City of Havana**
Family contact member:

María Margarita Borges Hernández (wife)

☎ **Tel. (7)-867-8469 or (7) 835-6050 (Esperanza)**



Beatriz Pedroso, journalist and wife of political prisoner and fellow journalist Julio César Gálvez, during a press interview concerning the situation of Cuban prisoners.

11. Julio César Gálvez Rodríguez

Sentence: Case #14 of 2003, 15 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88
Prison: Combinado del Este, Havana

📄 **Family address: Francos #10, Apt. 53, 4th Floor, between Estrella and Carlos III, Havana Center**
Family contact member: Beatriz Pedroso León (wife)

☎ **Tel. (7) 8784348**

12. Orlando Fundora Álvarez

*** Provisional release (conditional liberty)**

Sentence: Case #15 of 2003, 20 years' imprisonment. Case #15 of 2003, 20 years' imprisonment. House Arrest

📄 **Family address: Avenida del Rosario #5 between Calzada de Bejucal and Calle A, District of Rosario, Municipality of Arroyo Naranjo, Havana**
Family contact member: Yolanda Triana

13. Nelson Molinet Espino

Sentence: Case #12 of 2003, 20 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88
Prison: Kilo 8, Pinar del Río

📄 **Family address: Calle Velásquez #3823 (interior) between Pasaje Rico and Cantera, District of Jacomino, San Miguel del Padrón, City of Havana**
Family contact member: Quirenia Guerra Lugo (wife)

☎ **Tel. (7) 618020 – mother**

14. Héctor Maseda Gutiérrez

Sentence: Case #11 of 2003, 20 years' imprisonment.
Case #11 of 2003, 20 years' imprisonment
Prison: La Pendiente, Villa Clara

📄 **Family address: Calle Neptuno #963 between Aramburo and Hospital, Havana Center**
Family contact member: Laura Pollán Toledo (wife)

☎ **Tel. (7) 873-4165**

15. José Miguel Martínez Hernández

Sentence: Case #5 of 2003, 13 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88
Prison: Agüica, Matanzas

📄 **Family address: Calle 28 #2719 between 27 and 29, Quivicán, Havana Province**
Family contact member: Sofía del Carmen García Miranda (wife)

☎ **Tel. (6) 54805 – aunt.**

(6) 754807 – mother, Amada



Laura Pollán, one of the principal representatives of the Ladies in White, is the wife of prisoner of conscience Héctor Maseda, journalist and peaceful opponent of the regime.



Dolia Leal, wife of Nelson Aguiar, walks alongside the other Ladies calling for the liberation of her husband, who is serving his sentence in the most easterly area of Cuba, far away from his family.

16. Nelson Aguiar Ramírez

Sentence: Case #12 of 2003, 13 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88

Prison: Combinado del Este

📄 **Family address:** Calle 28 #157, Apt.

15, between 17 and 19, Vedado.

City of Havana

Family contact member:

Dolia Leal Francisco (wife)

☎ **Tel. (7) 203-8584 (Elizardo) or Laura Pollán**

17. Jorge Olivera Castillo

***Provisional release (conditional liberty)**

Sentence: Case #14 of 2003, 18 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88

Family address: Calle San José #708, Apt. 43, between Lucerna and Belascoaín

📄 **Family contact member:** Nanci Alfaya (wife)

Tel. (7) 863-3232

18. Regis Iglesias Ramírez

Sentence: Case #16 of 2003, 18 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88

Prison:

Combinado del Este, Havana

Family address (wife): Lugareño #104, between Céspedes and Línea del Ferrocarril, Lawton, 10 de Octubre

Mother's address (Isabel Ramírez): Porvenir #269, Apt. 4, between B and Beales, District of Lawton

Family contact member: Celia Teresita RojasGonzález (wife) **Tel. (7) 98-6833 – Judit (evenings)**



Regis Iglesias, shown here in the center between Oswaldo Payá and Antonio Díaz on the day of the first submission of signatures for the Varela Project, a democratic initiative that seeks the calling of a referendum on political reforms.

19. Marcelo López Bañobre

*** Provisional release (conditional liberty)**

Sentence: Case #11 of 2003, 18 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88

📄 **Family address:** Calle 21 #3014 between 30 and 34, Playa, City of Havana

Family contact member:

Marcela Sánchez Santacruz (friend)

☎ **Tel. (7) 203-8584**

20. Héctor Palacios Ruiz

*** Provisional release (conditional liberty)**

Sentence: Case #11 of 2003, 25 years' imprisonment. Other acts against the State

Prison: Hospital Provincial, Pinar del Río

📄 **Family address:** Calle 25 #866

Apt. 3 between A and B. Vedado.

Municipality of Plaza

☎ **Tel. (7) 8302103**

21. Ángel Juan Moya Acosta

Sentence: Case #15 of 2003, 20 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88

Prison: Combinado del Este, Havana

📄 **Family address: Zone 16, building 626, apt. 8. Almar, City of Havana**

Family contact member: Bertha Soler

☎ **Tel. (7) 8734165 (Laura Pollán)**



Berta Soler, wife of Ángel Juan Moya Acosta; they have two children, Lienys, age 14 years and Luis Ángel, age 11. In prison, Ángel Juan sorely misses his children and hopes they will inherit "a future of peace, prosperity, happiness, justice, respect, tolerance and freedom".

22. Omar Rodríguez Saludes

Sentence: Case #16 of 2003, 27 years' imprisonment. Acts against National Security

Prison: Central Toledo

📄 **Family address: Calle C#41 Altos, Apt. 1 between María Regla and Armas, Lawton, Havana**

Family contact member: Ileana (wife)

23. Arnaldo Ramos Lauzerique

Sentence: Case #12 of 2003, 18 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88

Prison: Nieves Morejón, Sancti Spíritus

📄 **Family address: Calle Manglar No. 354, between Francos and Oquendo, Havana Center**

Family contact member: Lydia Lima (wife)

☎ **Tel. (7)879-2426**



Ileana Marrero, wife of independent journalist Omar Rodríguez, sentenced to 27 years' imprisonment for photographing the real Cuba. Vladimiro Roca – a recognized opponent of the regime – has stated that Omar Rodríguez is the opposition's most important photographer.

24. Miguel Valdés Tamayo

*** Provisional release**

(conditional liberty)

Sentence: Case #15 of 2003, 15 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88

📄 **Family address: Calzada de San Agustín, #691, between San Miguel and Gustavo, District of Párraga, Arroyo Naranjo, City of Havana**

Family contact member: Bárbara (wife)

☎ **Tel. (7)261-0011 – neighbor**

25. Pedro Pablo Álvarez Ramos

Sentence: Case #13 of 2003, 25 years' imprisonment. Other acts against the State

Prison: Combinado del Este, Havana

📄 **Family address: Carlos III #809, second floor, Apt. 10 between Retiro and Plasencia, Havana Center**

Family contact member: sister

☎ **Tel. (7) 879-5277 or 863-2208**

26. Antonio Ramón Díaz Sánchez

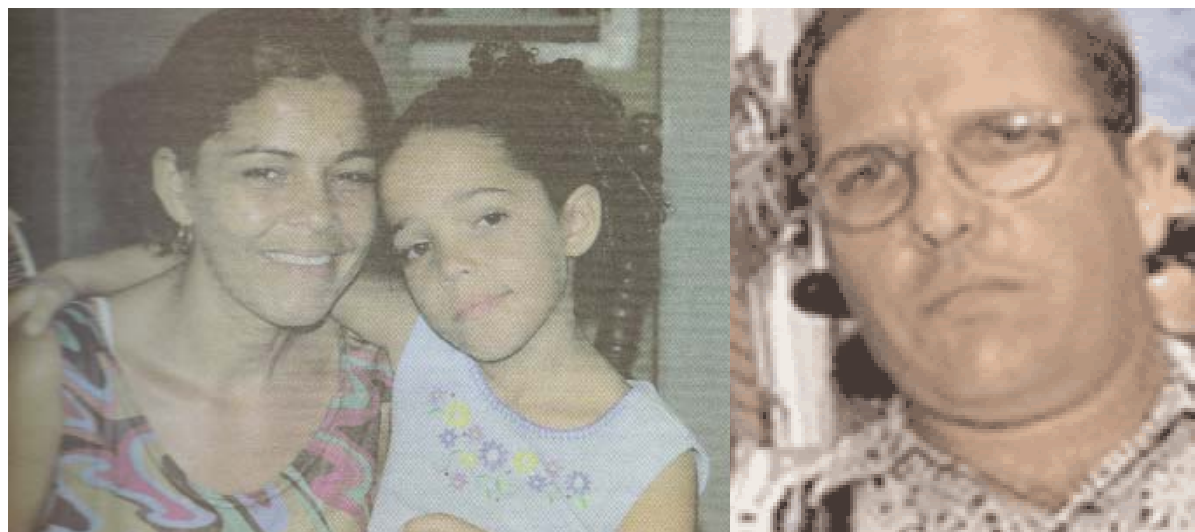
Sentence: Case #16 of 2003, 20 years' imprisonment. Date of arrest: 10/25/96

Prison: Canaleta, Ciego de Ávila

📄 **Family address: Calle 122 #2903, between 29 and 31, District of Zamora, Marianao, Havana**

Family contact member: Gisela Sánchez Verdecia (wife)

☎ **Tel. (7)261-0011 – neighbor**



Gisela Sánchez and her daughter Masiel. They are the wife and the daughter of Antonio Díaz (right-hand photo), a pro-democracy activist who has been in prison since March 2003 for promoting the Varela Project. His unjust incarceration shattered the peaceful home they had made together with their two daughters.

27. Francisco Pastor Chaviano González

* **Provisional release (conditional liberty)**

Sentence: Disclosure of Secrets Concerning National Security (Art. 91 of the Penal Code)

Case #132 of 1995, 15 years' imprisonment.

Prison: Combinado del Este

📄 **Family address: Calle 236 #126, between 1 and 3, Jaimanitas, Playa.**

Family contact member: Ana Aguililla Saladrigas (wife)

☎ **Tel. (7) 2713815 – Ana Aguililla Saladrigas**

28. Rafael Corrales Alonso

Sentence: Criminal Contempt, Resistance and Public Disturbance.

Case #165 of 2002, 5 years' imprisonment.

Prison: Valle Grande, Havana

📄 **Family address: Avenida 67 A #1633 between 16 and 20, Centro del Cotorro, City of Havana.**

📄 **Family contact member: Rosa Alfonso Pirez (mother)**

☎ **Tel. (7) 6822476/6823488 – Belkis Bárzaga Lugo**

29. Carmelo Díaz

* **Provisional release (conditional liberty)**

Sentence: Independent journalist (APSIC)

📄 **Family address: Calle Neptuno, apart. 307, 7 between Galiano and Águila**

30. Orlando Zapata Tamayo

Imprisoned in 2002

📄 **Family address:** Galiano No. 459-1
and San José, City of Havana.
Family contact member: brother

31. Emilio Leyva Pérez

Sentence: Public disturbance in
case 439/05

Prison: unidad de 100 y Aldabó

📄 **Family address:** Calle Bella No. 61,
between Finlay and Cisneros
Betancourt, Los Pinos, Arroyo Naranjo,
City of Havana.

📄 **Family contact member:**
Lisbet Álvarez Alvarado (wife)



Orlando Zapata Tamayo – on the left – is a human rights activist. A bricklayer by profession, he is being held in the Taco-Taco prison in Pinar del Río province where, according to his family, he is humiliated and mistreated.

Defenders of Democracy and Human Rights

Democratic Solidarity Party

Fernando Sánchez López

📄 **Address:** Trocadero 414
between Galiano and S. Nicolás
Havana

Adolfo Fernández Saínz

* **Political prisoner**

📄 **Address:** Belascoain 465, apt. 19
between Zanja and Salud, Havana

☎ **Tel.:** 53 78 610900

Liberal Democratic Party of Cuba

Héctor Maseda

* **Political prisoner**

📄 **Address:** Neptuno No. 963 between
Hospital and Neptuno, Havana

☎ **Tel.:** 53 7 87 84 010

(Reinaldo Cárdenas, Organizer)

📄 **Address:** Vista Hermosa No. 608, 5th
floor, apart. K, between Santa Ana and
Concepción
Cerro, Havana

Socialist Democratic Current

Manuel Cuesta Morúa

📄 **Address:** Edificio C-11 Apto 4 Zona 6
Alamar, Habana del Este
Ciudad La Habana

☎ **Tel.:** 53-7-76-3-0912
cosdec2002@yahoo.es

Independent Libraries Project of Cuba

Independent cultural project that promotes
the freedom to read without censorship

Director: Gisela Delgado Sablón (wife of
prisoner Héctor Palacios Ruíz)

📄 **Address:** Calle 31 #866 apt. 3
between A and B, Vedado, province of
Havana City

☎ **Tel.:** 7-8-30-21-03

Christian Liberation Movement

Christian Association for Peaceful Change
and National Reconciliation

Director: Oswaldo Payá Sardiñas

📄 **Address:** Calle Peñón # 221 between
Ayuntamiento and Monasterio,
City of Havana

☎ **Tel.:** 05 37 40 48 56

(home) 05 37 41 01 49

E-mail: mclpaya2@compuserve.com
payalibera@hotmail.com

Union of Christian Trade Unionists

Defends free trade unionism

Director: Carmelo Díaz Fernández

* **Provisional release**

📄 **Address:** Calle Neptuno # 307 betwe-
en Cruz del Padre and
Nueva del Pilar, Municipality of Cerro

☎ **Tel.:** 7-8-63-2208

Organization Tamarindo 34 for Human Rights

Publicizes and promotes the Universal Declaration of Human Rights
Director: Migdalia Rosado Hernández

📍 **Address:** Calle Tamarindo # 34 between Rabí and 10 de Octubre, Santos Suárez, Municipality of 10 de Octubre postal code 10500

☎ **Tel.:** 7-63-94-25

United Council of Cuban Workers

Defends free trade unionism, without State sponsorship or control

Director: Pedro Pablo Álvarez Ramos

* **Political prisoner**

📍 **Address:** Carlos III 809 Apt. 10 between Retiro and Plasencia, City of Havana, Postal Code 10300

☎ **Tel.:** 7-63-2208

E-mail: secretariado@webcutc.org

Lawton Foundation for Human Rights

Oscar Elías Biscet González

* **Political prisoner**

📍 **Address:** Avenida Acosta between 8va and 9na, Lawton, 10 de Octubre, City of Havana

☎ **Tel.:** 7-99-1774

Independent Economist

Director: Oscar Espinosa Chepe

* **Provisional release**

📍 **Address:** Calle 39 A # 4212 apt. 3 between 42 and 44, Playa Postal Code 11300

☎ **Tel.:** 7-209-4645

Wife: Miriam Leyva

Cuban Pro Human Rights Committee

Denounces human rights violations and defends the articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

📍 **Address:** Calle H No. 305 upper floors between 13 and 15 Vedado

☎ **Tel.:** 32-5610

Trade Union of Culture Workers

General Secretary:

Carlos Alberto Rivera Saborit

📍 **Address:** Avenida 41 #3605, between 36 and 42. Playa, City of Havana

☎ **Tel.:** 537 202 1521

E-Mail: Carlosaborit@yahoo.es

Cuban Institute of Independent Economists

Performs economic and social research outside the supervision and ideological slant of the State

Director: Marta Beatriz Roque Cabello

* **Provisional release**

📍 **Address:** Luis Estévez # 352 between Cortina and Figueroa Santos Suárez

☎ **Tel.:** 7-40 68 21

Cuban Commission for Human Rights and National Reconciliation

Denounces human rights violations and promotes the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Director: Elizardo Sánchez Santa Cruz

📍 **Address:** Avenida 21 # 3014 between 30 and 34, Municipality of Playa

☎ **Tel.:** 53 7 - 23 85 84

Artistic and Literary Decorum Work Group

Association of professionals who are independent from the State and work for freedom of expression and intellectual and professional creativity, in the face of the pressures that the regime imposes

Director: Ernesto Roque

📍 **Address:** División # 15 between Estrella and Maloja Havana Center

☎ **Tel.:** 7-8-62-9204

E-mail: eaefc33@yahoo.es

Center for Social Studies

Prepares academic research on the political, social and economic reality of Cuba

Director: Héctor Palacios Ruiz

* **Provisional release**

📍 **Address:** Calle 31 # 866 apt. 3 between A and B, Vedado

☎ **Tel.:** 7-8-30-21-03

Wife: Gisela Delgado Sablón

National Council for Civil Rights in Cuba

Promotes civil rights and denounces violations of the associated civil rights by the regime

Director: Francisco Chaviano González

* **Political prisoner**

📄 **Address:** Calle #236 No. 126 between 1ra and 3ra.

Jaimanitas. Playa

☎ **Tel.:** 21-381

Wife: Ana Aguililla Saladrigas

President: Jorge Omar Lorenzo Pimienta

📄 **Address:** Calle 262 #512. Between 5ta and 5ta A, Town of Santa Fé, Municipality of Playa

☎ **Tel.:** 7-21-3815

Cuban Social Democratic Party

Promotes the ideals of social democracy and peaceful change

Director: Vladimiro Roca Antúnez

📄 **Address:** Calle 36 # 105 between 41 and 43, Nuevo Vedado

☎ **Tel.:** (01153)7-81-8203



The President of the opposition Social Democratic Party of Cuba, Vladimiro Roca, is the son of legendary communist leader Blas Roca. In the photo above, Roca is shown leaving the jail where he spent five years in prison for signing the petition "Our homeland is for everyone", calling for freedoms in Cuba.

July 13 Movement

Fights for human rights

Director: Carlos Oquendo Rodríguez

* **Ex-political prisoner**

📄 **Address:** General Lee #265 between Juan Delgado and D'Strampes Santos Suárez Municipality of 10 de Octubre

' **Tel.:** 7-44-6509

Society of Independent Journalists

Manuel Márquez Sterling

"Jorge Mañach" Independent Library

Disseminates news items independently of Government interests. Also a library specializing in the independent press

Director: Ricardo González Alfonso

* **Political prisoner**

📄 **Address:** Calle 86 No. 712 between 7ma and 9na, Municipality of Playa

☎ **Tel.:** 7-99-0439

Wife: Alida Viso Bello

National Alliance of Independent Farmers of Cuba

Defends the right to the free production and commercialization of agricultural and livestock products

Director: Antonio Alonso

📄 **Address:** Calle 180 # 37907 between 382 and Final, District of Guadalupe Santiago de las Vegas

☎ **Tel.:** (68) 34741

E-mail: Anailcuba@aol.com

JOURNALISTS

Adolfo Fernández Saínz

* **Political prisoner**

📄 **Address:** Belascoain 465, apt. 19 between Zanja and Salud Havana Center, Havana

☎ **Tel.:** 53 7 8610900

Reinaldo Cosano Alén

Independent Journalist

📄 **Address:** Calle 486 # 7B06 between 7B and 9 Guanabo Beach Havana 19120

Amarilis Cortina Rey
(Cuba-Verdad)

📄 **Address:** Santa Eulalia #5 Between Ursula and María Ayala La Lira, Arroyo Naranjo Havana 10900

Miriam Leiva Viamonte

(wife of ex-prisoner Oscar Espinosa Chepe)

📄 **Address:** 39-A No. 4212, Apt. 3
Playa, Havana

☎ **Tel.:** 53 7 2094645

e-mail: leivia2002@yahoo.com



Miriam Leiva – shown in the photo with other members of the Ladies in White – is an independent journalist and wife of Oscar Espinosa Chepe, an economist and journalist who is currently on provisional release (conditional liberty) due to illness.

Oscar Mario González

*** Ex-political prisoner**

City of Havana

☎ **Tel.:** (53 7) 20 812 55

Rafael Peraza Fontes

(Occidental Press Agency – APO)

📄 **Address:** Calle 17 A – 3206
between 32 and 34
District of Erix
Artemisa – Havana 33800

Miguel Ángel Ponce de León

(Decorum Work Group)

📄 **Mercaderes 2 apt. 4 Old Havana**
Havana, Cuba
PO Box 9006
Postal Code Havana 9

Tania Díaz Castro

📄 **Address:** Álamo
Havana

Lucas Garve

(CPI)

📄 **Address:** Libertad 126 Interior 3
between María Luisa and Unión
Mantilla, Arroyo Naranjo
Havana 19, Havana
José A. Fornaris

(Cuba-Verdad)

📄 **Address:** Calle Embil #8114, apt. B1
Between 6 and 8
District of Embil
Rancho Boyeros, Havana

Juan Gonzáles

📄 **Address:** Armas #435 apt. 1
Between D and E, Lawton
Havana

Carmen Luisa Pinto Pereira

(Decorum Work Group)

📄 **Address:** Cortina #412 (ground floor)
between Carmen and Vista Alegre
La Víbora, Havana 10500

(Cuba-Voz)

📄 **Address:** La Sola 264
between Milagros and Johnson
Santos Suárez
Havana 10500

Alida de Jesús Viso Bello

(Cuba Press)

📄 **Address:** calle 11 #78 apt. 2
between E and Fonts
Lawton, Havana

Eduardo Gutiérrez Estrada

(ANC)

📄 **Address:** Calle A #8016 between
Dolores and 2da.
District of Dolores
San Miguel del Padrón, Havana

Felix Antonio Bonne Carcaces

📄 **Address:** Calle 221, No. 23621
between 236 and 246
Boyeros
Havana

René de Jesús Gómez Manzano

📄 **Address:** Calle 18, No. 162
Apt. 2, between 13 and 15,
Vedado, Revolution Square, Havana

Independent News Agencies

Centro Norte del País (Central North) (CNP – Caibarién)

Director: Edel José García Díaz

* **Provisional release**

📍 **Address:** Campanario 222, 3rd floor
Room 37 A between Concordia and Virtudes

☎ **Tel.:** (53 7) 63 32 32

Havana Center

News Agency of Cuba (ANC)

Contact: Mijail Barzaga Lugo

* **Political prisoner**

📍 **Address:** Calle 17 # 213 between 6 and 8 District of Ampliación de San Matías
San Miguel de Padrón
Havana

Cuba Press

📍 **Address:** Calle Cuchillo 19, 1st floor
between Rayo and San Nicolás,
Bulevar Chino

☎ **Tel.:** (53 7) 63 32 32

Havana Center – Havana

New Press Agency (ANP)

Director: Mercedes Moreno

📍 **Address:** Calle C # 41 (upper floors)
Apt. 1 between Armas and Maria Regla, Lawton

☎ **Tel.:** (53 7) 91 05 57 (friend's house)

Havana

Cuba Truth

Director: José Antonio Fornaris

📍 **Address:** Calle Embil #8114, apt.
B1 between 6 and 8
District of Embil
Rancho Boyeros, Havana

Cuba Voice

Contact: Ohalys Victores

📍 **Address:** La Sola 264 between
Milagros and Johnson
Santo Suárez,
Havana 10500

Decorum Work Group

Ex-Director: Manuel Vázquez Portal

* **Ex-political prisoner**

📍 **Address:** Building 979 apt. 14 Zone 24
Alamar, East Havana

☎ **Tel.:** (53 7) 78 18 77

Havana Press

📍 **Address:** Calle Maloja # 383,
top flrs between Division and Gervasio

☎ **Tel.:** (53 7) 63 32 32

Havana Center

NotiCuba

Director: Angel Pablo Polanco

📍 **Address:** Calle Espadero No. 107
Apt. 4, upper flr between Jorge and Figueroa

☎ **Tel.:** (53 7) 41 66 49

Havana 10200

Union of Journalists and Writers of Cuba (UPECI)

Director: María de los Ángeles González Amaro

📍 **Address:** Calle Gustavo #23, apt. #9
between 10 de Octubre and Gonzalo
District of Santa Amalia
Municipality of Arroyo Naranjo

☎ **Tel.:** (53 7) 98 28 15

Havana

Independent Press Agency

CubaPress

Free practice of journalism without censorship or ideological slant

📍 **Address:** Peñalver 466 apt. 4 between
Francos and Oquendo,
Havana Center, Postal Code 10300.

☎ **Tel.:** 87-95578

Independent Press Agency

Havana Press

Dissemination of news
independently of Government interests
Director: Jorge Olivera Castillo

* **Ex-political prisoner**

📍 **Address:** San José No. 408 apt. 43,
4th floor, Municipality of Havana Center
Wife: Nancy Alfalla

National Organizations

Christian Historical Trade Union Center

General Secretary: Agapito Albelo Pavón

Organizer: Ismael Omar Castellano

Coordinator: Enrique Gómez

📍 **Address:** San Lázaro # 907, between
Aramburu and Soledad. Havana Center

☎ **Tel.:** 537 873-3919 / 537 863-7848

Christian Historical Trade Union Center

Coordinator: Dulce María Amador Morales

📄 **Address: San Rafael # 622 apt. 9, between Belascoaín and Gervasio Havana Center**

☎ **Tel.: 537 878 8020**

Manual and Artisan Workers Unions

General Secretary: Vicente González

Organizer: Olga Martínez Lozano

Coordinator: Atty. Lourdes Millian Romero

📄 **Address: Franco # 420, between Santa Marta and Clavel. Havana Center**

Education Workers Unions

General Secretary: Ivette Toledo Momo

Organizer: Julio Ramón Hernández

National Coordinator: Gonzalo Momo

📄 **Address: Building D-57 Apt. 1 Zone 8 Alamar, East Havana**

National Independent Workers Federation of Cuba

Honorary President: Iván Hernández

Carrillo (See page 68, "Matanzas")

*** Political prisoner**

General Secretary: Rolando Pérez Alfonso

📄 **Address: Santa Martha # 470, between Retiro and Árbol Seco. Havana Center**

☎ **Tel.: 537 879 3412**

Email-marioroliperez@yahoo.es

Organizing Secretary: Willian Toledo Terredo

📄 **Address: San Rafael # 622 apt. 9, between Belascoaín and Gervasio Havana Center**

Women's Front: Maria Elena Mir Marrero

📄 **Address: 5ª. Avenida D # 47812, between 478 and 480 (interior upper flrs). Guanabo, East Havana, City of Havana.**

☎ **Tel.: 537 96 4987**

Labor and Human Rights Issues:

Ángel Luís Ferreiro

📄 **Address: San José # 612, between Gervasio and Escobar. Havana Center**

☎ **Tel.: 537 879 3412**

Spokesman: Carlos Achinsong

📄 **Address: Zanja # 206, between Manrique and Campanario. Havana Center**

☎ **Tel.: 537 879 3412**

Union of Commercial and Restaurant Workers

General Secretary: Carlos Toledo Terrero

Organizer: Milagros Toledo García

Spokesperson: Leonor Vera Bosh

📄 **Address: 296 # 304 between 3ra and 3ra-A Santa Fe. Playa, City of Havana**

Union of Transport Workers

General Secretary: Gregorio González Bravo

Organizer: Maria Cañizares Santos

Coordinator: Damaris Carrazana

Canozares

📄 **Address: Belascoaín # 310, between San Rafael and San Miguel. Havana Center**

Trade Union of Fisheries Workers

General Secretary: Alejandro Báez Salas

📄 **Address: San Carlos # 420, between Línea and Loma, Párraga. Arroyo Naranjo, City of Havana**

Construction Workers Union

General Secretary: Jorge L. Aponte Leal

📄 **Address: 296 # 115, between 3ra and 3ra-A, Santa Fe. Playa, City of Havana Free Workers Union**

General Secretary: María Elena Mir Marrero

📄 **Address: 5ta Avenida D # 47812, between 478 and 480 interior upper flrs. Guanabo, East Havana Tel.: 537 96 4987**

Union of Bicycle Taxi Drivers

General Secretary: Marcial Torres Guisado

📄 **Address: Florida # 168, between Vives and Puerta Cerrada, Old Havana**

Association of Self-Employed Workers

General Secretary: Ismael Salazar

📄 **Address: San Rafael # 622 apt. 9, between Belascoaín and Gervasio Havana Center**

Solidarity Trade Union

General Secretary: Carlos Acheson Guzmán

📄 **Address: Zanja # 206, between Manrique and Campanario. Havana Center**

Public Services Union

📄 **Address:** Avenida 89 #4416,
between 44 and 46
Güines.
Havana

☎ **Tel.:** 5362 23895

E-mail: MarthaidaPaso@yahoo.es

College of Independent Educators

Provide an independent voice for Cuban teachers, and work for an open education system free from ideology

Director: Roberto de Miranda Hernández

* **Ex-political prisoner**

📄 **Address:** Campanario No. 354, 1st
floor, between San Miguel and San
Rafael, Havana Center

☎ **Tel.:** 87-63 4000

Union of Railway Workers

General Secretary: Ángel Luís Ferreiro

📄 **Address:** San José # 612, between
Gervasio and Escobar. Havana Center

☎ **Tel.:** 537 879 3412

Independent Union of Education Workers

General Secretary: Valentín Rigoberto
Cabrera Águila

📄 **Address:** Libertad # 413 Apt. G, between
Juan Delgado and Destrampe.
Santos Suárez, 10 de Octubre
E-mail: Valentincabrera@yahoo.es

United Council of Cuban Workers (CUTC)

Pedro Pablo Álvarez Ramos

* **Political prisoner**

Carmelo Díaz Fernández

* **Ex-political prisoner**

Alfredo Felipe Fuentes

* **Political prisoner**

Atty. Manuel A. Brito López

Atty. Israel Picallo Ortiz

📄 **Address:** Carlos III 809 Apt. 10 between
Retiro and Plasencia,
City of Havana
10300, Cuba

☎ **Tel.:** (537) 63 2208

E-mail: secretariado@webcutc.org



Members of the College of Independent Educators with President Roberto de Miranda – center, in white – who is currently on provisional release due to illness. In the past, the college has organized children's drawing competitions, and on some occasions, the government has confiscated the prizes – toys – and even the drawings themselves.

**Independent Union of Trade
Unions of Cuba**

📄 **Address:** Luis Estévez # 674, between
Lacret and Gozo. Santos Suárez, 10 de
octubre,
City of Havana.

☎ **Tel.:** 6906403

**Trade Union Press Agency
Lux Info Press
(Havana branch office)**

📄 **Address:** Calle 486 # 7 B06, between
7ma. and 9na. Guanabo, City of Havana.

☎ **Tel.:** 5379 6 4987

📄 **Address:** Florida 168 apt. 12 between
Vive and Puerta Cerrada.
Old Havana

E-mail: Mari2225000@yahoo.com

Giliberto Figueredo Alvarez

📄 **Address:** Pasaje A # 17 between
Desagüe and Peñalver. Havana Center

☎ **Tel.:** 537 99 2294

**Trade Union of Electrical, Gas and Water
Plant Workers**

General Secretary: Lester Miguel Sánchez

📄 **Address:** Campanario # 762, between
Sitio and Manrique
Havana Center

**National Trade Union and
Labor Training Center
(CNCLS)**

Director: Víctor Manuel Domínguez García

E-mail: vicmadominguez@yahoo.es

📄 **Address:** Calle San José # 564, between
Lealtad and Escobar
Havana Center

☎ **Tel.:** 537 879 3412

Director, City of Havana: María
Elena Mir Marrero

📄 **Address:** 5ta Avenida D # 47812, between
478 and 480, interior upper flrs.
Guanabo,
East Havana

☎ **Tel.:** 537 96 4987

Director: Enrique Pérez González

📄 **Address:** Calle Campanario No. 354,
between San Miguel and San Rafael
Havana

☎ **Tel.:** 537 976557
537 97761

**Independent Workers
Trade Union of Cuba
(USTIC)**

General Secretary:

Jorge Luis Madrigal

Organizing Secretary:

Mercedes Moreno

National Coordinator:

Ofelia Astorac Obregón

International Relations:

Jorge Pablo Cordero

Public Relations:

Ibis Martínez Gómez

Labor and Social Issues:

Betsy Lee López

Attention to Political Prisoners:

María Eugenia Tito Moya

Adviser: César Guerra

📄 **Address:** Calle Tenerife #156
between Carmen and Rastro
Havana Center

**Foundation for the Freedom of
Expression**

📄 **Address:** Calle Libertad No. 126 B
(interior) between María Luisa and
Unión.

**Mantilla. Arroyo Naranjo,
City of Havana**

President: Luís García Vega (Lucas Garve)

Collaborators:

Aimée Cabrera

Reinaldo Cosano Alén

Ana Leonor Díaz Chamizo

Proyecto Universitario Sin Fronteras

Secretario general: Néstor Rdguz. Lobaina

📄 **Address:** Egido 570 apto6 (alto) e/
Corrales y Apodaca. Habana Vieja

☎ **Tel.:** (537) 8678714 /(537) 5 281 8521

Province of Las Tunas

The province is located in the eastern region of Cuba, and its capital is the city of Victoria de las Tunas. The word “Tunas” dates back to the western part of the present-day Municipality of Las Tunas, where almost four centuries ago, the indigenous inhabitants of Cuba established the cacicazgo (chiefdom) of Cueibá. By 1603, the settlement of Hato de Las Tunas (Las Tunas Ranch) – so named because of the area’s potential for cattle-raising and breeding – was already established in the old chiefdom. A fertile zone rich in abundant pasture land, it was populated by the species of dryland (or xerophyte) plants popularly known as tunas – the prickly pear.

After various centuries dedicated to sugarcane and cattle-farming, Las Tunas has recently begun to develop a tourist industry. The emerging offer for vacationers is complemented by hunting estates and forests with an emphasis on ecotourism. The economy of the province is fundamentally agrarian, and there is a sugar-refining and iron- and steel-milling industry also.

The province has an important cultural heritage. The folkloric fun of the so-called Jornada Cucalambéana or “Day of Cucalambé” is complemented by sophisticated artistic expression (the city is known as the country’s sculpture capital), artistic movements and numerous historical attractions.

What You Should See:

- ✦ Victoria de las Tunas has become one of Cuba’s most modern and active cities, and an important communication center. One sculpture of particular interest is the Statue of Liberty, located in the Independence Park
- ✦ The monument built in honor of the poet Juan Cristóbal Nápoles Fajardo (nicknamed “El Cucalambé”) in the capital
- ✦ The fine, white-sand beaches of Covarrubias, protected by a coral barrier reef. Nearby is Malagueta Bay, which offers magnificent conditions for bird-watching enthusiasts
- ✦ Castillo de Salcedo, declared as a heritage site of the province

What You Should Know:

- ✦ The city of Puerto Padre was the scene of significant military events during the Cuban wars of independence. In the present day, opponents of the dictatorship have a notable profile
- ✦ For some years now, in this region, a milk production project has been underway with the backing of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP)
- ✦ Victoria de las Tunas has been termed Cuba’s sculpture capital, and features beautiful works by Rita Longa
- ✦ The Jornadas Cucalambéanas, famed as a symbol of Cuban culture, owe their name to Juan Cristóbal Nápoles Fajardo, a local poet who adopted the pen-name of El Cucalambé

The Quaint and Curious:

- ✦ In Las Tunas, there are wetlands with an important sanctuary for American crocodiles, containing around 20,000 individuals of the species
- ✦ Las Tunas is the birthplace of poet Heberto Pérez López (National Prize for poetry), best known for his work El Canto a Chaparra (Song to Chaparra)
- ✦ The “La Caobilla” (or Las Vitalinas) gold mines were the site of Cuba’s first slave revolution in 1533



Population: 774,100 inhabitants

Area: 15,990 km²

Municipalities: Victoria de las Tunas, Puerto Padre, Manatí, Jobabo

*** Characteristics:** Although not overly equipped for tourism, the province of Las Tunas possesses a very important cultural heritage

Contact Information: Centers for Donations, Prisoners and Activists

Churches and Donation Collection Centers

LAS TUNAS (prefix 31)

Churches

Seventh Day Adventist Church

☞ A. Villamar 98
Tel. 4-4147

Catholic Church Parish of Saint Jerome

☞ Francisco Vega 172
Tel. 4-4389

Baptist Church

☞ L. Ortiz 196
Tel. 4-5385

Los Pinos Nuevos Church

☞ 24 de Febrero 106
Tel. 4-4920

Pentecostal Church of Cuba

☞ J. Sanguily 2
Tel. 4-4365

PUERTO PADRE (prefix 31)

Churches

Los Pinos Nuevos Church

☞ C. Benítez 22
Tel. 5-2585

Seventh Day Adventist Church

☞ C. Benitez 89
Tel. 5-3265

Catholic Church Parish of Saint Joseph

☞ Ave. Libertad 82
Tel. 5-2575

Independent Libraries

▽ Provincial Coordinator: Héctor Riverón

Félix Varela Library

☞ Calle 35 #2A between Rubén Batista and Saturnino Aneiro, Nuevo Amancio
AMANCIO RODRÍGUEZ
Director: Fernando Mexidor Vazquez

Pablo Morales Library

☞ Calle Julián Grimau #12. Vázquez
PUERTO PADRE
Director: Juan Téllez Rodríguez

Juan Gualberto Gómez Library

☞ Calle 2 #25 Batey Jesús Menéndez
VICTORIA LAS TUNAS
Director: Marta Pascual

Carlos J. Finlay Library

☞ Calle Emilio González #63 between E. Ávila and L. Licea, District of Aguilera
VICTORIA LAS TUNAS
Director: José Luis García Paneque
* **Political prisoner**

Carlos Manuel de Céspedes Library

☞ Calle Fe del Valle #23, Barrio Alipio Carrillo, **AMANCIO RODRÍGUEZ**
Director: Marlene González Conesa (wife of prisoner Jorge Luís González)

José Martí Independent Library

☞ Calle Robert Mirabal, **MANATI**

Thomas Jefferson Library

☞ Calle 13 # 6 between Lenín and Jesús Menéndez. **PUERTO PADRE**
Director: Alexis Guerrero Cruz

Leopoldo Pita Library (Trade Union Issues)

☞ Amado Jiménez #122, District of La Aurora, **AMANCIO RODRÍGUEZ**
Director: Gustavo Colás Castillo

Mario Manuel de la Peña Library

☞ Calle Mario Oro #118, between J. Mayedo and Cuba, District of Buena Vista
VICTORIA LAS TUNAS
Director: Héctor Riverón González

Reinaldo Arenas Library

☞ Poblado Guayabal
AMANCIO RODRÍGUEZ
Director: Idania Quesada

Camilo Cienfuegos Library

☞ Calle 15 #60 between Cándido González and calle 20. District of Progreso
COLOMBIA
Director: Orestes Ginebra

Theodore Roosevelt Library

☞ Calle Donato Mármol # 169 between Mártires de la Herradura and 25 de Diciembre, **PUERTO PADRE**
Director: Joaquín Iglesias Torres

Families of Political Prisoners

PUERTO PADRE

1. Luís Enrique Ferrer García

Sentence: Case #7 of 2003, 28 years' imprisonment. Other acts against National Security
Prison: Mar Verde, Santiago de Cuba

 **Family address: Calle Circuíto Norte #88C, between Camilo Cienfuegos and Calle 32, Puerto Padre, Las Tunas**

Family contact member: Milka María Peña Martínez (wife)

 **Tel. (31) 55491**



The Ferrer García brothers – Luís Enrique and Daniel – are in jail for promoting a peaceful transition to democracy. Luís Enrique is the father of Libertad (“Freedom”) and husband of Milka María – both shown in the photo at right. See box below

The Ferrer brothers

Daniel and Luís Enrique Ferrer are two pro-democracy activists, and brave and peace-loving defenders of human rights. Thanks to their efforts, the Varela Project, an initiative that seeks a referendum on the introduction of democratic reforms, collected numerous signatures in Las Tunas and Santiago de Cuba, where they both worked as coordinators. Their mother Amelia and sister Ana Belkis are both staunch defenders of the two brothers. Luís Enrique's wife Milka María Peña, shown in the photo above, was pregnant when her husband was jailed in 2003. She lives in Puerto Padre. Milka María, Ana Belkis, Amelia and other relatives of the Ferrer brothers have suffered humiliation and threats both for the dignified manner in which they call for the liberation of their loved ones, and for the brothers' brave stoicism in prison. During Luís Enrique's trial, the prosecutor called for the death penalty, in reprisal for the courageous bearing of the two brothers before the sham court that unjustly convicted them. Luís Enrique politely asked the judge to sign the Varela Project petition. He was handed the longest sentence of all those who stood trial in Cuba's Black Spring crackdown: 28 years for promoting democracy in his own country.

2. José Luís García Paneque

Sentence: Case #7 of 2003, 24 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88

Prison: Los Mangos, Bayamo (Granma)

 **Family address: Calle Emilio González No. 63 between Eliades Avila and José Licea, District of Aguilera, Tunas**

Family contact member: Yamilé Llénez Labrada (wife)

 **Tel. (31) 42910**




Physician and journalist José Luís García Paneque was imprisoned for freely expressing his ideas. His absence from his family causes suffering to his wife and four children. In 2005, he was in danger of dying due to his fragile health.

3. Jorge Luís González Tanquero

Sentence: Case #7 of 2003, 20 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88

Prison: Los Mangos, Bayamo (Granma)


 **Family address: Calle Fe del Valle #23, between 106 and Anastasio Quiñones, Amancio Rodríguez, Tunas**
Family contact member: Marlene González Coneza (wife)


 **Tel. (53) 31-92760**

4. Reynaldo Labrada Peña

Sentence: Violation of Law 88

Prison: Boniato, Santiago de Cuba

 **Family address: Mártires de la Herradura #4, between Antonio Barrera and 48, Puerto Padre, Las Tunas**
Family contact member: Gisela Verdecia García (wife)

 **Tel. (31) 52595 (Moisés) (31)55405 (Gisela)**

5. Alfredo Rodolfo Domínguez Batista

Sentence: Case #7 of 2003, 14 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88

Prison: Provincial de Holguín

 **Family address: Calle 61 #25 between 32 and 34, Delicias, Puerto Padre, Las Tunas**
Family contact member: Melba Santana Ariz (wife)


 **Tel. 031 56 4129**

Defenders of Democracy and Human Rights

Pro Human Rights Party of Cuba


Defends the 30 articles comprising the Universal Declaration of Human Rights
 Director: Ezequiel Morales Carmentate

* **Ex-political prisoner**


 **Address: Calle 25 # 24, district of Armando Silva, PUERTO PADRE**
Popular Liberal Party

Director: Armando Ramón Parra Jorna

 **Address: Ramón González # 10 r/ René Ramos and Josué País, district of Santo Domingo, VICTORIA LAS TUNAS**


 **Tel.: (31) 4-4896**

Brothers to the Rescue Christian Democratic Party

 **Address: Calle 18 # 2 between 25 de Diciembre and Salvador Cisneros**
PUERTO PADRE

"Pedro Luis Boitel" Movement

Helps political prisoners and their families
 Director: Rigoberto Díaz Cutiño

 **Address: Calle 25 # 23 A between Goicuría and 38, district of Fernando Betancourt**
VICTORIA LAS TUNAS

Carlos Manuel de Céspedes

Independence Movement

Seeks peaceful change to democracy. Also denounces human rights violations

Director: Jorge Luis González Tranquero

* **Political prisoner**

📍 **Address:** Fe del Valle # 23, district of Alipio Carrillo, El Batey, AMANCIO
Tel.: 31-9-2760

Libertad (Las Tunas)

Director: Berta Mexidor Vázquez

☎ Tel.: (53 3) 14 51 90

Cuba – United States Free Union Party

Independent Political Party

Director: Ramón Velázquez Toranzo (provincial delegate)

📍 **Address:** Dumañueco, MANATÍ

Liberal Democratic Party

Independent Political Party

Director: Pedro Ener García Rodríguez

📍 **Address:** Carlos Sosa Ballester # 52 A between Cristino Naranjo and Eddy Chibás, district of Sosa, VICTORIA LAS TUNAS

Christian Liberation Movement

Promotes peaceful change to democracy through civil channels

Director: Luís Enrique Ferrer García

* **Political prisoner**

📍 **Address:** Calle Circuito Norte #88C, between Camilo Cienfuegos and Calle 32, PUERTO PADRE

Wife: Milka María Peña Rodríguez

Democratic Solidarity Party

Independent Political Party

Director: Amauri Peña Rodríguez (provincial delegate)

📍 **Address:** Maceo # 55 between Lico

Cruz and Martí, VICTORIA LAS TUNAS

Christian Democratic Party

Independent Political Party

Director: Orlando Sinabad Pueyo

📍 **Address:** Nicolás Heredia # 38 between Lorenzo Ortiz and

Francisco Varona, VICTORIA LAS TUNAS

Independent Journalist

Disseminates news freely and without censorship

Director: Juan Téllez Rodríguez

📍 **Address:** Julián Grimau # 78 between 1 and 62, Vázquez,

PUERTO PADRE

☎ Tel.: (31) 5-9163

Hidelfonso Hidalgo González

📍 **Address:** Building 10 A, apt. B-6, district of Buena Vista VICTORIA LAS TUNAS

☎ Tel.: (31) 4-5403

Rigoberto Díaz Cutido

(member of the “Pedro Luís Boitel” Pro-Democracy Movement)

📍 **Address:** Calle 25 #23-A between Goicuría and 38, District of Betancourt Las Tunas 4 VICTORIA LAS TUNAS

Humanitarian Project for Attention to the Aged

Provides humanitarian assistance to aged persons in situations of neglect.

Director: Dolores Loida Fuentes García

📍 **Address:** Mario Oro # 118 between J. Mayedo and Cuba, district of Buena Vista VICTORIA LAS TUNAS

National Association of Independent Farmers

Independent producer and commercializer of agricultural products without government interference

Director: Reynaldo Jiménez Yancé

📍 **Address:** 13 de Octubre # 105 between Vicente García and Colón VICTORIA LAS TUNAS

☎ Tel.: (31) 4-5403

Cuban Foundation for Human Rights

Defends and promotes human rights

Director: Pedro Arístides Faxas Galindo (provincial delegate)

📍 **Address:** Calle 36 # 6 District of José Martí, Guayabal AMANCIO

☎ Tel.: (31) 9-6138

Independent Libraries Project of Cuba

Promotes freedom to read without censorship

Director: Marlenis González Coneza
(wife of prisoner Jorge Luís González)

📍 **Address: Fe del Valle # 23, district of Alipio Carrillo, El Batey, AMANCIO**

☎ **Tel.: (31) 9-2760**

National Independent Workers Federation of Cuba

Defends free trade unionism, without any government political affiliation. Also defends workers in dealings with the government

Director: Ricardo Rafael Serpa Valdés

📍 **Address: 13 de Octubre # 83 between Lora and Nicolás Heredia,**

First District VICTORIA LAS TUNAS

☎ **Tel.: (31) 4-4900**

Independent College of Physicians

Provides medical attention to all persons, without politically motivated discrimination. Complying with the Hippocratic oath
Director: Dr. José Luis García Paneque

📍 **Address: Emilio González # 63 between E. Avila and L. Licea, District of Aguilera, VICTORIA LAS TUNAS**

☎ **Tel.: 31-4-2910**

Latin American Federation of Rural Women

Carries out a social development project for women in Cuba's rural areas

Director: Oralís Leticia Martínez

📍 **Address: Building #10 A, Apt. 6, Av. Camilo Cienfuegos, District of Buena Vista VICTORIA LAS TUNAS**

☎ **Tel.: (31) 47 650**

E-mail: cinanaic1@web.correosdecuba.cu

Union of Independent Sugar Industry Workers

Free trade unionism and protection for the rights of workers in the sugar industry against State control

Director: Gustavo Colás Castillo.

📍 **Address: Amado Jiménez # 122, district of La Aurora, AMANCIO RODRÍGUEZ**

☎ **Tel.: 31-9-2760**

Cultural Civic Center Federico Capdevila

Promotes a project aimed at providing the Cuban people with information and preparing them for a peaceful transition to democracy

Director: Rigoberto Díaz Cutiño

📍 **Address: Calle 25 # 23 A between Goicuría and 38, District of Fernando Betancourt, VICTORIA LAS TUNAS**

☎ **Tel.: 31-4-2910**

National Independent Workers Federation of Cuba

Pablo Gregorio Molina Nieves

📍 **Address: Adonis Cabrera # 96, between 33 and Circunvalación.**

District of VICTORIA LAS TUNAS

☎ **Tel. 5331 4 4178**

Eastern Area Independent Workers' Trade Union Federation

General Secretary: Juan Ramón Ortiz Morales

📍 **Address: Adonis Cabrera # 96, between 33 and Circunvalación. VICTORIA**

LAS TUNAS

Union of Agriculture and Livestock Workers

General Secretary: Omelio Efigenio Fontaine Leiva

📍 **Address José Liceo # 6, between 6 and Flor Crombet. VICTORIA LAS TUNAS**

Union of Commercial and Restaurant Workers

General Secretary: Idania María Durán Chuchudengui

📍 **Address: Calle Ángel Guerra # 142**



A group of regime opponents in a meeting with the Ladies in White to offer their support. Some are prisoners released on conditional liberty, who were also unjustly imprisoned for defending their country's right to democracy.

Province of Matanzas

The province of Matanzas was initially famous for its excellent harbor, intense commercial activity and development of the sugar industry. However, these days it is better known for its almost 20 km of beaches comprising the seaside resort area of Varadero, located on the Hicacos Peninsula.

The capital city of the province is also called Matanzas, and is known for its cultural life. Cárdenas is another important city.

Of all the Cuban provinces, Matanzas possesses the greatest number and diversity of tourist attractions. The best-known and internationally recognized of these is Varadero, which began to achieve prominence in the North American market from 1920 onward, assisted by the patronage of multi-millionaire Irene Du Pont.

The economy of the province is based fundamentally on tourism and citrus-growing.

What You Should See:

- ✦ The city of Matanzas holds an enormous potential for tourist development. At present, its main economic support is derived from sugar-growing and refining; it also accounts for almost the country's entire production of shade cloth for tobacco-growing
- ✦ The Varadero tourist complex offers many different and attractive activities for visitors, from underwater diving to parachuting, and of course its pristine beaches
- ✦ The Yumurí Valley and the Bellamar Caves. The caves, which contain crystalline formations with large numbers of stalagmites and stalactites, are amongst the most visited in Cuba
- ✦ The Zapata Wetland – the largest in the Caribbean – and the Zapata Peninsula national parks. Here, the visitor will find the famous Laguna del Tesoro (Treasure Lagoon), and it is possible to see caymans
- ✦ The Bacunayagua Bridge, located on the outskirts of the province, offers an impressive view of the Yumurí Valley

What You Should Know:

- ✦ More than one-third of Cuba's visitors pass through Varadero
- ✦ The city of Matanzas is known as the "Athens of Cuba" owing to its rich cultural heritage; it is also known as the city of bridges
- ✦ Cárdenas is also known as the City of the Flag because it was here that the national ensign was raised for the first time
- ✦ Jagüey Grande is home to the country's largest orchard area

The Quaint and Curious:

- ✦ Although now an important tourist zone, in former times, the salt lakes and forests of Varadero were commercially exploited by the inhabitants
- ✦ Matanzas is the birthplace of a popular Cuban rhythm: the danzón
- ✦ Matanzas is the primary citrus-growing province of Cuba



Population: 643,400 inhabitants

Area: 11,978 km²

Municipalities: Calimete, Cárdenas, Ciénaga de Zapata, Colón, Jagüey Grande, Jovellanos, Limonar, Los Arabos, Martí, Matanzas, Pedro Betancourt, Perico, Unión de Reyes and Varadero

***Characteristics:** Together with Havana, Matanzas has the greatest share of Cuba's international tourism. Varadero is the highest-profile location, and the principal center for tourism and leisure in Matanzas

Contact Information: Centers for Donations, Prisoners and Activists

Churches and Donation Collection Centers

MATANZAS (prefix 52)

Churches

Adventist Church

☞ San Miguel 13110

Playa

Tel. 6-2370

Baptist Church

☞ Independencia and

Zaragoza

Tel. 5-3186

Christian Pentecostal Church

☞ S. Francisco 26817

P. Nuevo

Tel. 9-1767

Church of Christ

☞ Plácido 15

Tel. 5-3295

Church of Charity

☞ 91 No. 31001

Tel. 2589

Miraculous Virgin Church

☞ 129 No. 22602

Playa

Tel. 6-1366

Methodist Church

☞ Manzano 30217

Tel. 4634

Reformed Presbyterian Church of Cuba

☞ D. de Mayo 8301

Tel. 4125

Church of St. John the Baptist, S. Rafael and S. Vicente

☞ P. Nuevo

Tel. 9-2050

Church of Saint Peter

☞ S. Alejandro 2

Versailles

Tel. 3366

Religious Communities

Convent Daughters of Charity

☞ C. Cienfuegos 12706

P. Nuevo

Tel. 9-2361

Convent Servants of Mary

☞ Mujica 7703

Tel. 4606

Carmelites

☞ Manzano 165

Tel. 4280

CÁRDENAS (prefix 5)

Churches

Bethel Evangelical Church

☞ 21 No. 60

Tel. 52-4552

Methodist Church

☞ 13 No. 58

Tel. 52-3633

Parish Church

☞ Ave. 1ra 359

Tel. 52-1939

Presbyterian Church

☞ 13 No. 65

Tel. 52-4939

Second Reformed Presbyterian Church

☞ 26 and Céspedes

Tel. 52-1710

Christian Center for Reflection, Dialogue and Social Development

☞ Cespedes and 25

Tel. 52-2923

COLÓN (prefix 5)

Churches

Evangelical Group

☞ C. Garcia 397

Tel. 3-2230

Adventist Pastoral House

☞ L. Caballero 47A

Tel. 3-3520

Parish Church

☞ Carr. Central k. 188

Tel. 3-2670

Parish Church

☞ Diago and M. Gómez

Tel. 3-2942

JAGÜEY GRANDE (prefix 59)

Churches

Parish Church

☞ 50 No. 1527

Tel. 2055

Parish Church

☞ 54 No. 113-A

Tel. 2343

Reformed Church of Christ

☞ 15 No. 6026

Tel. 2878

JOVELLANOS (prefix 5)

Churches

Bethel Evangelical Church

☞ 10 No. 1308

C. Rojas

Tel. 89-2160

Methodist Church in Cuba

☞ 9-B No. 2202

Tel. 8-3210

Parish Church Our Lady of Assumption

☞ 13 and 16

Tel. 8-2483

Church of St. Michael Archangel

☞ 16 No. 702

St. Michael of the Waters

Tel. 89-6162

PEDRO BETANCOURT (prefix 5)

Churches

Episcopal Church

📄 9 and 24

G. de Macurijes

Tel. 8-9341

Bethel Evangelical Church

📄 24 No. 3309

Tel. 89-8314

Parish Church of St. Catherine

📄 28 and 27

Tel. 89-8304

UNIÓN DE REYES (prefix 5)

Churches

Catholic Church

A. Maceo and
Independencia

📄 Juan G. Gómez

Tel. 41-9100

Bethel Evangelical Church

J. Martí 7

📄 Juan G. Gómez

Tel. 41-9127

Bethel Evangelical Church

J. Romeu 3

📄 San A. de Cabezas

Tel. 41-8149

Presbyterian Church

📄 J. Perret 100

Tel. 41-2249

Church of St. Anthony of Padua

📄 G. García and L. Pérez

San A. de Cabezas

Tel. 41-8148

VARADERO (prefix 5)

Churches

Church of St. Elvira

📄 1ra. 4604

Tel. 61-2349

Religious Communities Episcopal Vicarage Christian Movement for Peace

📄 34 No. 109

Tel. 66-7219

Independent Libraries

▽ Provincial Coordinator:

Iván Hernández Carrillo

Juan Gualberto Gómez II Library

📄 Mesa #32 between San José and
Concha, COLÓN

Director: Iván Hernández Carrillo

* **Political prisoner**

Juan Gualberto Gómez II Library, Branch 1

📄 Spanish Republican Center

PERICO ELADIO

Director: Esteban Guerrero

Juan Gualberto Gómez II Library, Branch 2

📄 Calle 133 # 14207 between 142 and
144

District of Pastorita

Juan Gualberto Gómez II Library, Branch 3

📄 Calle Ricardo Trujillo # 13 A
between San José and Camilo
Cienfuegos
COLÓN

Abraham Lincoln Library

📄 Logia #13102 Corner of Aballí,
District of Playa, MATANZAS

Director: Hugo Araña San-Hoyerdo



Above, Hugo Araña in the "Abraham Lincoln" library. In addition to his position as library director, Hugo Araña is an independent journalist and writer. Three of his works have been vetoed by the Council for the Performing Arts because of what it considers to be "ideological problems".

Guillermo Cabrera Infante Library

📄 Central Cuba Libre,

PEDRO BETANCOURT

Director: Ulises Sigler González

General Pedro Betancourt Avalos Library

📄 Calle 22 #1910 between 19 and 21
PEDRO BETANCOURT


Families of Political Prisoners

PROVINCE OF MATANZAS

1. Diosdado González Marrero

Sentence: Case #9 of 2003, 20 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88

Prison: Kilo 5 1/2, Pinar del Río

 **Family address: Santa Rita #29 between Maceo and Santa Teresa, El Roque, Perico, Matanzas**

Family contact member: Alejandrina García de la Riva (wife)

 **Tel. (45) 377232 – Tania, neighbor**



Alejandrina García, wife of Diosdado González. In 2005, Diosdado spent more than two months in a walled cell as punishment for requesting that he be treated as a prisoner of conscience. The Cuban penitentiary regulations state that a prisoner can only spend 21 days in a punishment cell, and yet as Alejandrina explains, Diosdado's punishment "lasted three times as long".



Asunción Carrillo is the mother of Iván Hernández. Her son was sentenced to 25 years in prison for promoting democracy and opposing the regime. Iván is not married, and lived with his grandmother for whom he was her only support.

2. Iván Hernández Carrillo

Sentence: Case #8 of 2003, 25 years' imprisonment. Other acts against National Security
Prison: Guamajal, Villa Clara

 **Family address: Calle Mesa #32 between San José and Concha, Colón Matanzas**

Family contact member: Asunción Carrillo Hernández (mother)

 **Tel. (45) 82845 – Tomás Fernandez Tihert**

An incredible story: Gloria Amaya and the Sigler family



Gloria Amaya is a mother whose life has been destroyed by the grief of knowing that her three sons – from left to right, Miguel, Ariel and Guido – have been jailed for simply defending their ideas. Gloria Amaya waits and hopes that one day they can live in peace and freedom.

The case of the Sigler family is truly amazing. With a sick husband, Gloria Amaya González brought up her five children virtually on her own, and imbued them with a brave and noble nature. All are peaceful activists. Three of the brothers, Ariel, Guido and Miguel, were imprisoned for defending human rights and democracy during the Black Spring wave of crackdowns in 2003. The three were sent to different prisons. Gloria, an elderly woman in fragile health, was beaten when her sons were arrested. Since then, besides having to endure the imprisonment of her three sons, she suffers reprisals and humiliation by the government.

“It is very difficult for me to say what I feel, when they have stripped from my soul what I love most in my life, my sons. Even worse, there was no justification for this because my sons haven’t committed any crime; they just think differently from the government and argue for respect for human rights. I feel heartsick, full of pain and anguish. It’s extremely emotional for me when they let me see them, when I see my heroes who, even though they are far away, still keep up the same courage they have always shown”.

Miguel completed his sentence and was released; however, faced with the threat of being tried again, he went abroad with his family into exile. Guido and Ariel are still in jail, sentenced to 20 years’ imprisonment. Visitors to Cuba, please lend your support.

3. Ariel Sigler Amaya

Sentence: Case #7 of 2003, 20 years’ imprisonment. Violation of Law 88

Prison: Provincial para jóvenes, Villa Clara

📄 **Family address:** Calle 22 #1910 P, between 19 and 21, Pedro Betancourt, Matanzas

Family contact member: Noelia Pedraza (wigçfe)

☎ **Tel.** 042 28 31 78 (Idania)

4. Guido Sigler Amaya

Sentence: Case #7 of 2003, 20 years’ imprisonment. Violation of Law 88

Prison: Hospital Covadonga, Havana

📄 **Family address:** Calle 22, #2103 Interior, between 21 and 23, Pedro Betancourt

Family contact member: Yusleid and Sigler Amaya (daughter)

5. Miguel Sigler Amaya


Released from prison in 2005 after serving a 26-month sentence.

He is currently in exile abroad with his wife Josefa Peña

6. Félix Navarro Rodríguez

Sentence: Case #8 of 2003, 25 years' imprisonment. Other acts against National Security

Prison: Combinado de Guantánamo

 **Family address: Calle Peatonal #6, District of Las Canteras, Perico, Matanzas**

Family contact member: Sonia Álvarez Campillo (wife)

 **Tel. 45-82845 – Tomás Fernández Tihert**



Schoolteacher Félix Navarro pictured here with his wife, Sonia Álvarez, on the right, and his daughter, Sahilí Navarro, center. This will be the last such family portrait for a long time if Félix Navarro serves out his full sentence of 25 years in prison.

Defenders of Democracy and Human Rights

Alternative Option Movement

Denounces human rights violations

Director: Miguel Sigler Amaya

* **Ex-political prisoner**

 **Address: Calle 22 # 1910 between 19 and 21, Pedro Betancourt**

 **Tel.: 45-898448**


Peace, Love and Freedom Party

Helps political prisoners and strengthens civic consciousness

Director: Diosdado González Marrero

* **Political prisoner**

 **Address: Santa Rita No. 29, Poblado El Roque, Perico.**

 **Tel.: 7-63-9425**



Members of the Peace, Love and Freedom Party's Matanzas branch.

"Patria" Independent Press Agency Disseminates alternative information

Director: Iván Hernández Carrillo

* **Political prisoner**

 **Address: Calle Mesa No. 32 between San José and Concha, Colón**


Pedro Luis Boitel Pro-Democracy Movement

Helps political prisoners and their families

Director: Félix Navarro

* **Political prisoner**

 **Address: Calle 30 # 1104 between 11 and 13, Jovellanos, 42600**

 **Tel.: 5-82-845**

Rodolfo Damián

Journalist

(Cuba Press)

 **Address: Logia 1302 corner Aballí La Playa, Matanzas 40400**

National Independent Workers Federation of Cuba

Leonel Vera Tabares

 **Address: Building 5, Apt. 3. District of Jesús Menéndez, Matanzas**

Trade Union Press Agency Lux Info Press (Matanzas branch) Caridad Díaz Beltrán

 **Address: Calle 30 # 1104 between 11 and 13 Jovellanos Matanzas**

 **Tel.: 5345 8 2845**

Province of Pinar del Río

The province of Pinar del Río is Cuba's third-largest in terms of area. The capital is Pinar del Río, which is also the most important city in the province.

Its principal tourism sites are concentrated in the Viñales Valley, home to some of Cuba's most stunning scenery and classified as a National Natural Monument.

There are nature trails over the length and breadth of the region, perfect for those interested in obtaining a closer look at the exuberant flora and fauna. For example, there are the cave systems of Palmarito, El Indio and Santo Tomás – the latter at 45 kilometers being the largest in the Antilles.

What You Should See:

- ✦ The capital Pinar del Río is a picturesque city
- ✦ Casa Robaina, a special place for those interested in Cuban tobacco. In fact, Pinar del Río is a tobacco center of Cuba and a paradise for lovers of Cuban cigars
- ✦ The Guanahacabibes Peninsula, where there are numerous caves containing archaeological remains, and a perfectly conserved coral reef that is ideal for diving
- ✦ The beaches of María La Gorda, where divers can perform their favorite activity at the International Dive Center
- ✦ Viñales is the most famous tourist destination in the province. It is characterized by the beauty of its landscapes, where we find mogotes (prominent knolls) interspersed with tobacco fields, crop lands and rustic houses. Located in the Órganos Range, it was declared a World Natural Heritage site by UNESCO

What You Should Know:

- ✦ In the rustic community of Los Acuáticos, the inhabitants cure all their ills with water
- ✦ Although pinareños (Pinar del Río inhabitants) are stereotyped among other Cubans as dull-witted, and form the butt of many jokes about their ineptitude, the University of Pinar del Río has obtained 34 prizes from the Academy of Sciences, 2 prizes for Technological Innovation and 6 prizes under the Innovative Entity category
- ✦ Pinar del Río is one of the most picturesque cities in Cuba. Lying at the very western end of the island, it has managed to maintain its own identity unaffected by the influence of other Cuban cities
- ✦ The plantations of Abra del Ancón, Sierra del Infierno, Valle de las Dos Hermanas, Hoyo de Jaruco, and the Valle de San Vicente grow the best tobacco in the world

The Quaint and Curious:

- ✦ The beach of María La Gorda ("Big Mary") owes its name to local legend. The eight kilometers of fine, cream-colored sand and calm, crystalline waters are named for a generously proportioned woman called María, who was kidnapped from Venezuela and carried there by pirates, only to be left behind on that part of the island
- ✦ The celebrated and ill-fated singer Polo Montañez hailed from this region. He released two records in Colombia that won him fame, and then shortly thereafter died in an automobile accident in Cuba. If you haven't heard of him before, have a listen to his music – you're certain to enjoy it. Other famous pinareños include writers Alyn Bengochea, Iliana Prieto Jiménez, Cirillo Villaverde and Rosita Delgado de Pazos, the composer of the province's anthem
- ✦ The North American occupation of the City of Pinar del Río was postponed on account of a Friday the 13th because the officer in charge, George Davis, was highly superstitious
- ✦ If in Pinar del Río they happen to ask you who owns Maceo's white horse, the answer is not what you would usually expect. That is because the "horse" is actually a store, is painted blue and not white, and is owned not by Cuba's 19th-century hero Antonio Maceo but by a small business concern (you can find it on a corner of the calle Maceo)



Population: 734,864 inhabitants

Area: 10,925 km²

Municipalities: Bahía Honda, Candelaria, Consolación del Sur, Guane, La Palma, Los Palacios, Mantua, Minas de Matahambre, Pinar del Río, San Cristóbal, San Juan y Martínez, San Luis, Sandino and Viñales.

***Characteristics:** Notable as a region of abundant flora and fauna, and for being somewhat different to the other Cuban provinces

Contact Information: Centers for Donations, Prisoners and Activists

Churches and Donation Collection Centers

PINAR DEL RÍO *Churches*

Adventist Church

☞ Coronel Pozo 67

Tel. 3680

Free Baptist Church

☞ G. Medina

Tel. 2017

Cathedral of San Rosendo

☞ A. Maceo

Tel. 2430

Visiting House

☞ Maceo 112

Tel. 2342

Methodist Church

☞ R. Morales 85

Tel. 4916

Religious Communities

Daughters of Charity

☞ M. Gomez 164

Tel. 3381

BAHIA HONDA (prefix 86)

Religious Communities

Carmelite Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesús

☞ Casa de Monjas

21 No. 3208

Tel. 235

CANDELARIA (prefix 85)

Churches

Catholic Church

☞ Ave. 33 No. 3801

Tel. 9-8294

CONSOLACION DEL SUR (prefix 8)

Churches

Baptist Church

☞ Avd. 51 No. 5640

Tel. 8-2946

Catholic Church

☞ Avd. 6 No. 5102

Tel. 8-2664

Religious Communities

Missionaries of Charity

☞ 47 No. 5602

Tel. 8-2926

LOS PALACIOS

(prefix 8)

Church

Catholic Church

☞ Ave. 23

Tel. 3-7361

SAN CRISTÓBAL

(prefix 85)

Church

Zion Baptist Church

☞ Capitan Reyes 63

Tel. 2089

Independent Libraries

Julio Baguer Library

☞ Isabel Rubio #158,

GUANE

Pueblos Cautivos Library

☞ Calle Orlando Nadarse #40,

SAN CRISTÓBAL

Director: Odalys Sayas Miranda

Democracia Library

☞ Río Seco La Hilda Carretera

SAN JUAN Y MARTÍNEZ

Director: Ramón Trujillo Domínguez

San Isidoro Labrador Library

☞ Calle Clodoveo Pedroso #24 E,

Las Martinas,

SANDINO

Director: David Reyes Estrada

Arístides Arteaga Library

☞ Calle Juana Romero and Terminal.

Director: Dagoberto Montiel Galainena



Berta Peraza was the director of the independent library Amigos de la Libertad (Friends of Freedom). Unfortunately, the library no longer exists because Berta was obliged to go into exile due to the tension she felt for being unable to express herself

Amor, Paz, Democracia and Libertad Library

Libertad #38 interior carretera el cementerio
SAN JUAN Y MARTÍNEZ

San Pablo Library

Finca La Irene unnumbered
Cooperativa Carlos M. De Céspedes and Manuel Lazo,
SANDINO

Director: Fidel Suárez Cruz

* **Political prisoner**

Martín Luther King II Library

Calle Francisco Rivera 104 between José M. Padrón and Isabel Rubio,
SAN JUAN Y MARTÍNEZ

Escambray Library

Calle Sandino A-66, López Peña,
SAN CRISTÓBAL

Director: Ramón Meneses Negrín
PINAR DEL RÍO

Reyes Magos Library

Adela Azcuy #10 between Gerardo Medina and 1ro de Mayo

Director: Víctor R. Arroyo

* **Political prisoner**

Dr. Evelio Rodríguez del Aya Library

Celso Maragoto #143 between Coronel Pozo and Avellaneda

Director: José Félix Rodríguez Rodríguez

Juan Gualberto Gómez III Library

Calle Los Pinos Bldg. #111, Apt. A-4
2nd floor, District of Hermanos Cruz

José Ángel Buesa Library

Rafael Ferro #486. La Coloma

George Washington Library

Calle Emilio Núñez #66 between Comandante Pinares and Celestino Pacheco

Director: Lucia Fara Hernández Placencia

Antonio Maceo Library

Calle Vivero, San Juan y Martínez

Director: Omar Milián Doménech

Dr. Tomas Romay y Chacón Library

Calle 27 de Nov. Bldg. Comercio
Stairway A floor # Apt. 6 between Marti este and Ampliación de Maceo.

Director: Juan Carlos Martínez Méndez

Library: Václav Havel

Camilo Cienfuegos # 1 between calle 11 and Arroyo, District of Cuba Libre.

Tel: 82-75-1776

Director: Dr. Richard Acosta Camba

Aldo Cabrera Heredia Library

Calle Acueducto # 23 between Coronel Pozo and Méndez Capote

Director: Leonardo Costales Pita

Juan Amador Rodríguez Library

Calle 11 # 59 between San Ignacio and Raúl Sánchez, district of Cuba Libre

Director: Virgilio Pita

Martín Herrera Library

Entronque de San Luís, El Cafetal, San Juan y Martínez

Director: Israel Silva Rodríguez

Juan Pablo II Library

Comandante Murieta # 16



The consulting rooms of physician Hanoi Hernández, which he established in his own home in Pinar del Río in the days when he could still live in Cuba. Hanoi was continually persecuted for independently practicing an activity that is considered sensitive by the Government. He was left with no choice but to go into exile. Hanoi was director of the Biblioteca Juan Pablo II (John Paul II Library).

Families of Political Prisoners

PINAR DEL RÍO


1. Víctor Rolando Arroyo Carmona

Sentence: Case #2 of 2003, 26 years' imprisonment. Other acts against National Security

Prison: Combinado de Guantánamo

 **Family address: Adela Azcuy #19 between Gerardo Medina and 1ro de Mayo, Pinar del Río**

Family contact member: Elsa América González Padrón (wife)

 **Tel. (82) 754241 – Arroyo's mother**



At left, Víctor Rolando Arroyo shown on the inauguration day of an Independent Consultancy. Víctor Rolando, who is currently in prison, had already been imprisoned on two previous occasions. In 2000, he was imprisoned for six months for buying toys to hand out to poor children in his city on the feast of the Magi. The toys were confiscated and never returned.

2. Fidel Suárez Cruz

Sentence: Case #2 of 2003, 20 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88

Prison: Violation of Law 88 [sic]

Family address: Cooperativa Carlos Manuel de Céspedes, Finca La Irene, El Cayuco, Manuel Lazo

 **Family contact member: Aniley Puente Varela (wife)**

 **Tel. 84-444839**

CONSOLACIÓN DEL SUR

3. Eduardo Díaz Fleitas

Sentence: Case #2 of 2003, 20 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88. Acts against the independence or territorial integrity of the State (art. 91 of the penal code)

Prison: Hospital Provincial, Pinar del Río

 **Family address: Calle 20 #1303 A, Entronque de Herradura, Consolación del S.**

Family contact member: Margarita Deulofeu Almiró (wife)

 **Tel. (88) 85132 – Wife or (82) 85148 Neighbors**

SANDINO (See page 94: “Pueblos cautivos”)

4. Horacio Julio Piña Borrego

Sentence: Case #2 of 2003, 20 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88

Prison: Kilo 5 1/2, Pinar del Río

 **Family address: Calle Clodoveo Pedroso #136, Las Martinas, Sandino**

Family contact member: Ada Rosa Borrego (mother)

 **Tel. 048 444 107**

Defenders of Democracy and Human Rights

Pro Reform Forum

Grouping of intellectuals who are independent from the State, working for social and political reforms

Director: Víctor Rolando Arroyo Carmona

* **Political prisoner**

📍 **Address: Calle Adela Azcuy # 10
between Primero de Mayo and
Gerardo Medina
PINAR DEL RÍO**

☎ **Tel.: 011-53-75-4241**

Wife: Elsa González Padrón

Center for Civic and Religious Education

Promotes each person as a free, responsible and participative human being, in order to reconstruct and strengthen civil society

Director: Dagoberto Valdés

📍 **Address: Calle Máximo Gómez
160 between Avenida Rafael Ferro and
Comandante Pinares
PINAR DEL RÍO
Postal Code 20100**

☎ **Tel.: 82-23-59**

E-mail: obipinar@cooc.co.cu

Pro Human Rights Party

Defends the 30 articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Also prints the independent newspaper "El Pinareño"

Director: Horacio Julio Piña Borrego

* **Political prisoner**

📍 **Address: Calle Clodoveo Pedroso
136, Las Martinas
SANDINO
Postal Code 24150**

**Lázaro Raúl González
(CPI)**

📍 **Address: Calle 21 Building 22, apt. 9
Herradura,
PINAR DEL RÍO
Postal Code 24500**

Union of Hospitality and Tourism Workers

General Secretary: Ariel Acosta Almira

📍 **Address: Celso Maragoto # 143, between
Coronel Pozo and Avellaneda
PINAR DEL RÍO**

National Independent Workers Federation of Cuba (branch office)

José Félix Rodríguez Rodríguez

📍 **Address: Calle Celso Maragoto
143-a, between Coronel Pozo and
Avellaneda
PINAR DEL RÍO**

☎ **Tel.: 5382 77 3671**

Union of Water and Sewage Workers

General Secretary:

Conrado Rodríguez Suárez

📍 **Address: Celso Maragoto # 143-A,
between Coronel Pozo and Avellaneda
PINAR DEL RÍO**

☎ **Tel.: 5382 773671**

Independent Union of Energy Workers

General Secretary:

José Félix Rodríguez

📍 **Address: Celso Maragoto # 143, between
Coronel Pozo and Avellaneda
PINAR DEL RÍO**

☎ **Tel.: 5382 773 671**

Union of Forestry Workers

Coordinator:

Ramón Echevarria Ledesma

General Secretary:

Pedro Huiria Cabrera

📍 **Address: Antonio Tarafa # 12 between
Rafael Morales and 28 de septiembre
PINAR DEL RÍO**

Branch headquarters: Municipality of
SAN LUIS

Directors Roberto Calatallu,
Yenis García and Federico García

Union of Tobacco Workers

General Secretary:

Pablo Enrique Zayas

Organizer:

Víctor Manuel Suárez Almeida

Public Relations:

Dioselis Blanco González

📍 **Address: Finca Vivero, San Juan y
Martínez.
PINAR DEL RÍO**

**Contact José Félix Ruiz
in Pinar del Río**

☎ **Tel.: 5382 773 6371**

Province of Sancti Spíritus

Sancti Spíritus is a province located in central Cuba. Its capital is the city of Sancti-Spíritus (or “Holy Spirit”), which was founded in the island’s center and served as the staging point for the colonization of its various areas. Sancti Spíritus and Trinidad are the two most important cities in the province, and are also the first official Cuban townships, being founded by the Spanish in the year 1514.

This central-Cuban province combines mountains, valleys and beaches. To the south lies the Guamuhaya mountain range, one of the most important mountain systems in the country, blessed with rich wildlife, an extensive forested zone and beautiful pine groves, which have resulted in the creation of a national park on Mount Potrerillo.

The most important economic activities are agriculture (tobacco, rice, coffee, cocoa, sugarcane, citrus and vegetables), mining (petroleum, gypsum and rock salt), cattle-farming, and sugar and petroleum refineries.

What You Should See:

- ✦ The capital Sancti-Spíritus has preserved its historic old quarter, with constructions dating from the 18th and 19th centuries: the town square, the Central Parish Church, the Town Theater, and the bridge over the Yayabo river
- ✦ The beaches on the Ancón Peninsula are amongst the best on Cuba’s southern coast, and it is there that one can appreciate magnificent coral reefs
- ✦ Trinidad constitutes one of the most complete and best-preserved architectural enclaves in Latin America, and is one of the most beautiful cities in Latin America
- ✦ The Escambray Range and the Caguanes National Park are a Biosphere Reserve and possess an important cave system

What You Should Know:

- ✦ Trinidad was declared a World Heritage site by UNESCO in 1988. It is a museum city, characterized by its streets laid with colorful paving stones
- ✦ In the Topes de Collantes National Park is one of Cuba’s principal health centers
- ✦ The Valle de los Ingenios (Valley of the Mills) is considered a museum of the Cuban sugar industry, and contains the ruins of 75 former installations including sugar mills, summer houses, barracks and other facilities related to the sector – currently going through the greatest crisis in its history
- ✦ Thanks to the presence of Trinidad, the colonial city par excellence, Sancti Spíritus is one of the island’s most visited provinces

The Quaint and Curious:

- ✦ The province is home to a variety of sponge that can only be found there (in Zaguanes) and nowhere else
- ✦ The famous Christ of the True Cross, in the Church of the Holy Trinity, is one of the treasures of religious art in Cuba
- ✦ Trinidad is known as the Museum City of Cuba by virtue of being one of the island’s most beautiful colonial centers. It was founded under the name of “Town of the Holy Trinity”. Visitors to the Town Square can almost believe they have been transported back in time



Population: 460,631 inhabitants

Area: 6,744 km²

Municipalities: Cabaiguán, Fomento, Jatibonico, La Sierpe, Sancti Spíritus, Taguasco, Trinidad and Yaguajay

***Characteristics:** Two of Cuba’s first colonial townships, Sancti Spíritus and Trinidad, were founded in the province. Both are of significant interest from an artistic and tourism standpoint

Contact Information: Centers for Donations, Prisoners and Activists

Churches and Donation Collection Centers

SANCTI SPÍRITUS
(prefix 41)

Churches

Baptist Church

Independencia 54

Tel. 2-6648

Iglesia Mayor

Jesús Menéndez #1

Presbyterian Church

Q. Banderas 5

Tel. 2-4186

Evangelical Convention of Cuba

J. A. Mella 22

Tel. 2-4674

Church of Charity

Céspedes 207

Tel. 2-6593

Parish of the Holy Spirit

Agramonte 58

Tel. 2-4855



At right, the famous Church of Sancti Spíritus

Independent Libraries

20 de Mayo Library

Calle 26 de Julio # 30 between 3ra del Oeste and Ferrocarril, District of Colón.

SANCTI SPÍRITUS

Telephone: 41 5-2664

Director: Blas Giraldo Reyes Rodríguez

* **Political prisoner**

Comandante Cesar Páez Library

Calle Ordulio Morales # 50, Las

Tosas. SANCTI SPÍRITUS

Director: Ana Margarita Perdigón Brito

Félix Varela Library

Calle 2da # 16 between 1ra and 3ra, Zona de desarrollo, Obo Grande, district of Colón, **SANCTI SPÍRITUS**

Director: Elvis Gregorio Pérez Lara

Pablo Neruda Library

Calle General Carrillo, between Máximo Gómez and Martí

SANCTI SPÍRITUS

Director: Eulalio García

Families of Political Prisoners

SANCTI SPÍRITUS

1. Director: Blas Giraldo Reyes Rodríguez

Sentence: Case #4 of 2003, 25 years' imprisonment. Other acts against National Security

Prison: Nieves Morejón, Sancti Spíritus

Family address: Avenida 26 de Julio #30 between 3ra. del Este and Ferrocarril, District of Colón, Sancti Spíritus

Family contact member: Isel de las Mercedes Acosta Obregón (wife)

Tel. (41) 24173 (neighbor Ivonne)

Defenders of Democracy and Human Rights

Sancti Spíritus Press

Director: Juan Antonio Vera Freire.

Address: Alonso No. 53 between Camilo Cienfuegos and Yara, **SANCTI SPÍRITUS**

Tel.: 41-5-2664

Democratic Solidarity Party

Director: Raimundo Perdigón Brito

Address: Calle 26 de Julio # 30 between 3ra del Oeste and Ferrocarril, district of Colón, **SANCTI SPÍRITUS**

Tel.: 41-5-2664

Province of Santiago de Cuba

Santiago de Cuba is Cuba's second most important province. The capital is Santiago de Cuba, and like Havana, has many attractions to offer the tourist.

It occupies a superb position on the shores of the Caribbean Sea. The areas of interest in Santiago province are divided mainly into two areas: the coast, with its crystal-clear waters against the backdrop of the nearby mountains, and the capital, whose sweltering heat and leisure and tourist sites make it a very Caribbean city.

Santiago de Cuba, which was founded by the Spanish in 1514, served as the island's first capital, and centuries later figures as one of the country's most attractive tourist centers. It was declared a City in 1522. Throughout the 16th and 17th centuries, it was the target of numerous attacks by corsairs and pirates, prompting intense fortification works around the square by the authorities of the day.

What You Should See:

- ✦ The capital, Santiago de Cuba, is Cuba's second most important city after Havana. Worth visiting: the town center where you will find Céspedes Park, established in commemoration of Founding Father Carlos Manuel de Céspedes; the Cathedral; the Padre Pico Stairs; and the house of Adelantado (Governor) Diego Velázquez, one of the oldest on the continent
- ✦ The beach of Moncada, scene of the assault on the Moncada barracks
- ✦ The Shrine to the Virgin of Charity of El Cobre, patron saint of Cuba. It is located in a pretty and picturesque part of the country, next to the copper mines and close to the capital
- ✦ Siboney Beach, ideal for relaxing and soaking up the Cuban climate
- ✦ Baconao Reserve, 80,000 hectares with pockets of dense vegetation and excellent beaches for aquatic activities
- ✦ The fortress of San Pedro de la Roca del Morro, and the various ruins of French homesteads found in the mountains to the city's east.

What You Should Know:

- ✦ Santiago de Cuba is a city of hills and steep streets, containing numerous places of interest to the tourist and a history that is closely intertwined with Cuba's struggles for independence
- ✦ Each day there are spectacular changes of the guard in front of the tomb of Cuban patriot José Martí, located in the city of Santiago
- ✦ The castle of San Pedro de la Roca (Saint Peter of the Rock) has been declared a World Heritage site by UNESCO
- ✦ The conqueror of Mexico, Hernán Cortés, was the first mayor of the city of Santiago. His expedition left from this part of the island

The Quaint and Curious:

- ✦ Some Havana locals refer, somewhat disparagingly, to the inhabitants of Santiago de Cuba and other eastern areas as "Palestinians"
- ✦ The Bacardi family, originally from Spain, lived in Santiago de Cuba and it was here that they created the rum that bears their name
- ✦ For a long time, pirates were a constant presence around the coast of Santiago de Cuba, sailing and pillaging throughout its waters, while managing to evade the Spanish authorities
- ✦ The rear Chapel of the Shrine to the Virgin of Charity of El Cobre houses the gold medal awarded to Ernest Hemingway for his Nobel Prize
- ✦ Within Santiago de Cuba province is Mount Turquino, the island's highest peak



Population: 512,327 inhabitants

Area: 6,582.65 km²

Municipalities: Santiago de Cuba, Contramaestre, Julio Antonio Mella, II Frente, III Frente, Palma Soriano, San Luís, La Maya and Guamá

***Characteristics:** The province is notable as Cuba's second most important region – and the city of Santiago de Cuba is second in importance only to Havana

Contact Information: Centers for Donations, Prisoners and Activists

Churches and Donation Collection Centers

SANTIAGO DE CUBA

Churches

Cathedral

☞ Heredia and Lacret

Tel. 62-8502

Gran Orden Church

☞ B. Masó 206

Tel. 62-4098

Church of Saint Thomas

☞ F. Penas 308

Tel. 62-4389

Church of Mary Help of Christians

☞ Lorraine 1021

Tel. 62-2909

Methodist Church

☞ Lacret 753

Tel. 62-8811

Parish Church of Saint Anthony

☞ 3ra. # 252

Fomento

Tel. 62-6372

First Baptist Church

☞ P. Rosado 503

Tel. 62-6643

Church of Saint Francis

☞ Sagarra 121

Tel. 62-2812

Church of Saint Luke

☞ 4ta. # 312

Fomento

Tel. 62-5300

Church of Saint Teresita

☞ J. A. Saco 953

Tel. 62-3765

Church of the Holy Trinity

☞ Genral. Portuondo 661

Tel. 62-2820

Second Baptist Church

☞ H # 102

Fomento

Tel. 62-8585, 68-6077

Third Baptist Church

☞ A # 103

V. Hermosa

Tel. 62-8245

Baptist Church of Eastern Cuba

15 No. 104

Tel. 64-1328

Holy Family

Catholic Church

☞ 11 No. 53

Vta. Alegre

Tel. 64-1085

Religious Communities

Sisters of the Sacred Heart

☞ Hartmann 803

Tel. 62-4090

Saint Basil Seminary

☞ C. Garcías

Tel. 62-2303

EL COBRE (prefix 22)

Churches

Charity of El Cobre Church

Tel. 3-6118

PALMA SORIANO (prefix 225)

Churches

Pentecostal Evangelical Church

☞ C. García 249

Tel. 3788

Baptist Church

☞ P. Borrero 52

Tel. 2416

Independent Libraries

▽ Provincial Coordinator:

Ana M^a Espinosa

Mahatma Gandhi Library

☞ Paraíso # 69 between Cayamo and Cisneros, PALMA SORIANO

Tel: 22-5-3124

Director: Astrea del Rosario Ibáñez Isaac

Bartolomé Masó Library

☞ Calle 7ma Final Loma Blanca, Palmarito de Cauto, MELLA

Tel: 22-5-3237

Director: Leonel Grave de Peralta

* **Political prisoner**

República Checa Library

☞ Paraíso # 69, between Cayamo and Cisneros, PALMA SORIANO

Director: Elena Masias Enamorado

Rafael Maria de Mendive Library

☞ Ríos Rivera #307 between Lora and Villuenda, SANTIAGO DE CUBA

Director: José Ramón Rosabal Ramos

Rosa Blanca Library

☞ Calle L # 104 upper, between 3era and avenida Céspedes, District of Sueño SANTIAGO DE CUBA

Raúl Rene Chivas Library

📁 Building D. Stairway 55D
Apartment 2, Micro 3,
District of Abel Santamaría
SANTIAGO DE CUBA
Director: Juana Rosa Hernández Gómez

Jerzy Popieluzko Library

📁 Calle segunda final # 370.
Apartment A. La Cuba
PALMA SORIANO
Director: Roilan Montero Tamayo
* **Ex-political prisoner**

René Eduardo Chivás Library

📁 Building 6, Stairway 4,
Apartment 5, Micro 3,
District of Abel Santamaría
SANTIAGO DE CUBA
Tel: 22-67-5172
Director: Idalmis Núñez Reinoso

Nueva República Library

📁 Pasaje #9 between 13 and Bravo
Correoso
District of Santa Bárbara
SANTIAGO DE CUBA
Director: Altagracia Figueredo Cala

11 de Septiembre Library

📁 Bldg. b-26 Apt. C, district of
Antonio Maceo
SANTIAGO DE CUBA
Director: Dr. Luis Milán
* **Political prisoner**

28 Enero Library

📁 Ayaquera # 7 Mangos de Baragua
SANTIAGO DE CUBA
Tel: 22-55-260
Director: Prudencio Villalón Rades

Martí de Hermanos al Rescate Library

📁 Juan Moll con Entronque de Boniato
SANTIAGO DE CUBA
Director: Robert Perera Gómez

30 de Noviembre Library

📁 Martí # 33. El Cristo
SANTIAGO DE CUBA
Director: Evelio Orella Pérez

Centenario de la República Library

📁 San Carlos #257 between Félix Pena
and San Pedro, **SANTIAGO DE CUBA**
Tel: 22-62-8493
Director: Haydee Beatriz Rodríguez



On the left, the Nueva República (New Republic) Library run by Altagracia Figueredo. On the right, the Centenario de la República (Republican Centenary) Library. In Cuba, the government censors texts that it considers inappropriate or “ideologically contaminated”. The independent libraries allow Cubans to have limited and cautious access to books that many tourists to the island can enjoy in their own countries without anyone persecuting them for doing so.

Families of Political Prisoners

PROVINCE OF SANTIAGO DE CUBA

1. José Daniel Ferrer García

Sentence: Case #4 of 2003, 25 years’ imprisonment. Other acts against National Security
Prison: Kilo 8, Camagüey

📁 Family address: Calle 7, Final, #318, Loma Blanca, Palmarito de Cauto,
Municipality of Julio Antonio Mella, Palma Soriano
Family contact member: Belkis Cantillo Ramírez (wife)

☎ Tel. (225) 3251 – Luisa María, wife of Alexis



On the left, Lisandra, wife of Doctor Luís Milán, gazes forlornly at a family portrait. Her husband – shown in the photograph at right, wearing a white shirt – is in jail for having supported the Varela Project, which promotes reformation of Cuban legislation in order to move toward a democratic society. Next to him is Alexis Rodríguez, also found guilty of defending democracy. Both are now in prison where they are continually mistreated.

2. Luis Milán Fernández

Sentence: Case #16 of 2003, 20 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88

Prison: Mar Verde, Santiago de Cuba

/Family address: Building B27, Apt. 10, District of Antonio Maceo, Santiago de Cuba

Family contact member: Lisandra Laffita Hernández (wife)

☎ **Tel. (22) 692980 – Dr. Carrazana – neighbor (22) 692252**

3. Alexis Rodríguez Fernández

Sentence: 15 years for being a mercenary in the service of the USA

Date of arrest: 04/19/03

Prison: Marverde. Santiago de Cuba

📄 **Family address: Calle Lora No. 54 between Moncada and Ruíz Rivera**
Family contact member: Luisa María Leveque Gilbert (wife)

☎ **Tel. 022 53251 (wife)**

4. Leonel Grave de Peralta Almenares

Sentence: Case #4 of 2003, 20 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88

Prison: Canaleta, Ciego de Ávila

📄 **Family address: Calle B #168, between 4ta and 5ta, Palmarito de Cauto, Santiago de Cuba**

Family contact member: Mariluz Almenares Almarales (mother)

☎ **Tel. (225)3251 – Luisa, wife of another political prisoner.**

5. José Gabriel Ramón Castillo

Sentence: Case #1 of 2003, 20 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88

Prison: Prisión La Pendiente, Santa Clara

📄 **Family address (mother): Peralejo #311 A, between Trinidad and Habana, Santiago de Cuba**

Wife's address (Blanca Rosa Echevarría): Calle Bacardí No. 5 between Crombet and Hatuey, Santiago de Cuba

Family contact member: Blanca Rosa Echevarría (wife)



At left, Juana Felipe, the mother of prisoner of conscience Jesús Mustafá, bravely holds up a photograph of her son (on the right). She makes calls for his freedom like that shown here with complete disregard for the threats and insults she has received from some of her neighbors – whose attitudes have been shaped by Cuba's political police, the Department of State Security.

6. Jesús Mustafá Felipe

Sentence: Case # 4 of 2003 – 25 years' imprisonment Case 18/February 2003, 18 months.

Acts against National Security. Criminal contempt

Prison: Canaleta, Ciego de Ávila

 **Family address: Calle Camilo Cienfuegos #151 between Callamo and los Guao, Palma Soriano**

Family contact member: Mercedes Elías Rivero (wife) Juana Felipe (mother)

 **Tel. (225) 3251 – Luisa María, wife of Alexis**

7. Claro Sánchez Altarriba

Sentence: Case #3 of 2003, 15 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88

Prison: Kilo 8, Camagüey

 **Family address: Santa Rosa #106 between Virgen and Callejón de Santiago, Santiago de Cuba**


Family contact member: María Elena Infante Jiménez (wife)

 **Tel. (22) 635178 (María Isabel – sister)**

8. Ricardo Enrique Silva Gual

Sentence: Case #4 of 2003, 10 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88

Prison: Provincial de Guantánamo

 **Family address: Calle Martí, Altos, #458, between Eduardo Chibás and Oscar Lucero, Palma Soriano, Santiago de Cuba**

Family contact member: Elina Rosa Gual Iglesias (mother)

 **Tel. (225) 2458 – Elina**

Defenders of Democracy and Human Rights

Independent Institute for Culture and Democracy

Promotes open debate of ideas and a culture of democratic tolerance

José Gabriel Ramón Castillo

*** Political prisoner**

Address: Bacardí # 5 corner of Crombet, district of San Pedrito
SANTIAGO DE CUBA

Tel.: 22-6-624-390



José Gabriel Ramón Castillo, founder of the Institute for Culture and Democracy (Instituto de Cultura y Democracia). He is currently serving 20 years in prison for promoting democracy and human rights.

Santiago Press (Santiago de Cuba)

Contact: Alina Ramírez

Tel.: (53 226) 53 942

Independent Press Agency "Santiago Press"

Free practice of journalism

Director: Haydeé Rodríguez Rodríguez

Address: San Carlos # 257 between 3ra and Avenida de Céspedes
SANTIAGO DE CUBA

Tel.: 22-6-203-72 / 22-6-284-51

National Independent Workers Federation of Cuba (branch office)

Alfredo Rafael Viñales Ricardo

Address: Calle San Basilio # 357
Apt. 6, between Carnicería and San Félix.
SANTIAGO DE CUBA

Tel.: 5322 62 3931

Christian Liberation Movement

Promotes peaceful change to democracy

Director: José Daniel Ferrer García

*** Political prisoner**

Address: Calle 7 Final #318, Loma Blanca, Palmarito de Cauto, Julio A. Mella
PALMA SORIANO

Wife: Belkis

Santiago Santana

(APLO)

Address: Building D12, apt. 6,
District of José Martí.
SANTIAGO DE CUBA

Independent Cooperative "Transition"

Independent producer and commercializer of agriculture and livestock products.

Director: Juan Manuel San Emeterio

Address: "Loma del Gato", Santiago de Cuba. Municipality of Jutinicú
SONGO-LA MAYA

Tel.: 68-3-4741

Latin American Federation of Rural Women (FLAMUR)

Maura Iset González Burque

Address: Calle Céspedes #206
between Gral. García and Méximo Gómez.
San Luis.
SANTIAGO DE CUBA

Oriental Free Press Agency

(APLO – Santiago de Cuba)

Ex-Director: Luis Alberto Rivera Leyva

*** Ex-political prisoner**

Address: Hermanos Villazana #20
between Prolongación de Corona and Calle 3
District of Veguita de Galo
SANTIAGO DE CUBA

Tel.: (53 226) 203 09

Trade Union of Health Workers

General Secretary: José A. Porro Sánchez

Organizer: Atty. Maria Toledo Matamoras

Coordinator: Noemí Matamoras Torres

Address: Escanio # 253 between Pradera and General Miniet
SANTIAGO DE CUBA

Trade Union Press Agency Lux Info Press (branch office)

Marilyn Lahera Fernández

Address: San Basilio # 357 Apt. 6,
between Carnicería and San Félix
SANTIAGO DE CUBA

Tel.: 5322 62 3931

Province of Villa Clara

The province of Villa Clara is in the center of Cuba. The capital is Santa Clara. However, there are two other important cities: Sagua la Grande and Remedios – one of Cuba's least-known colonial gems.

The province of Villa Clara, at the geographical center of the island, boasts a broad spectrum of attractive leisure options. Here, the excellent beaches, rich cultural traditions and history come together within an environment where vacationers can immerse themselves in raw natural beauty.

The economy upheld a solid sugar-producing tradition until recent times, when the end of Soviet subsidies exposed the enormous inefficiency of Castro's centralized economy. Other economic activities include the electrical appliances industry and medium-heavy industry, chemicals, fisheries, coffee-growing and forestry plantations.

The principal tourist attractions are the areas of Lake Hanabanilla and Escambray, the keys and coastline in the north, and the mineral/medicinal waters of the thermal spa at Elguea.

What You Should See:

- ✦ Santa Clara – here, the visitor can find hunting estates, reservoirs for trout fishing, and the only town square in the country with two churches and a statue of the Immaculate Virgin Pregnant with Child
- ✦ The hiking area of La Atalaya, where tourists can enjoy organized walks to observe the flora and fauna, visits to rural homesteads, tours of coffee plantations, forests of timber-producing species, and waterfalls
- ✦ Two supremely natural regions: the Cubanacán Protected Area, a natural paradise to the south of the capital containing ten completely indigenous species; the fishing town of Caibarién, from which a series of country lanes leads the visitor to various virgin keys, and El Hanabanilla, an artificial lake nestled amongst the mountains where fishing championships are held
- ✦ Remedios, a location of great importance for the province during the 16th century, until repeated pirate attacks led to the founding of Santa Clara – thus relegating Remedios to secondary importance. Its urban center was declared a National Monument in 1980

What You Should Know:

- ✦ Remedios ranks eighth in order of the cities founded by the Spanish and is the oldest settlement of the province, dating back to 1514. It is renowned for the traditional open-air Parrandas (fiestas) that enliven the local streets
- ✦ The capital of Villa Clara, Santa Clara, was founded in 1689 by the inhabitants of a coastal township who fled from constant attacks by pirates and corsairs
- ✦ The province contains various key systems, whose intimate beaches, translucent waters and fine white sand provide perfect conditions for diving and underwater photography

The Quaint and Curious:

- ✦ Amongst the bird life on view in the province, we find the colorful Toco-ro (or Cuban Trogon), Cuba's national bird
- ✦ Tourism in Villa Clara province is predominantly directed at experiencing nature and the environment, essentially offering a form of ecotourism where what matters most is the setting itself, and the natural beauty and features to be found there



Population: 833,424 inhabitants

Area: 8,661.5 km²

Municipalities: Camajuaní, Cifuentes, Corralillo, Encrucijada, Manicaragua, Placetas, Quemado de Guines, Ranchuelo, Remedios, Sagua la Grande, Santa Clara and Santo Domingo

***Characteristics:** Visitors to Villa Clara can enjoy eco-tourism, a concept based around the enjoyment of natural landscapes that have scarcely been touched by man

Contact Information: Centers for Donations, Prisoners and Activists

Churches and Donation Collection Centers

SANTA CLARA
(prefix 422)

Churches

Seventh Day Adventist Church

☞ **P. de la Paz 124**
Tel: 2-2473

Baptist Church

☞ **Trista 60**
Tel: 3861

Church of the Good Voyage

☞ **P. Estevez Sur 51**
Tel: 2-6332

Church of the Divine Shepherdess

☞ **Cuba and P. Morales**
Tel: 2-6554

Church of the New Pines

☞ **P. de la Paz 61**
Tel: 4095

Church of Saint Clare of Assisi

☞ **M. Abreus 113**
Tel: 2-2078

Methodist Church

☞ **Villuendas 152**
Tel: 4352

Life Temple Pentecostal Church

☞ **J. Jover 158**
Tel: 2-7488

Presbyterian Church

☞ **C. Pichardo 49**
Tel: 3060

Presbyterian Church

☞ **L. Vidal Altos 104**
Tel: 2-2421

CAIBARIEN (prefix 42)

Churches

Reformed Presbyterian Church

☞ **Avenida 13 No. 1014**
Tel: 3-3438

Baptist Church

☞ **1ra 1114**
Tel: 3-3451

PLACETAS (prefix 42)
Churches

Baptist Church

☞ **4ta 2**
Tel: 8-2551

Church of the New Pines

☞ **2ra 49**
Tel: 8-3746

Saint Anastasio Parish Church

☞ **2ra 22**
Tel: 8-2408

Pentecostal Church

☞ **1ra 177**
Tel: 8-2683

REMEDIOS (prefix 42)

Churches

Central Parish Church

☞ **C. Cienfuegos 20**
Tel: 39-5683

Pentecostal Church

☞ **Placido 79**
Tel: 39-5687

Independent Libraries

Enrique José Varona Library

☞ **Hermanos Cárdenas # 26 between Demetrio Brito and Valeriano López, CAMAJUANÍ**

Director: Joaquín Cabezas de León

Pedro Luis Boitel II Library

☞ **2da del Este # 166 between 6 and 7 del Sur, PLACETAS**

Director: Marte Antonio Valdés

20 de Mayo II Library

☞ **Calle 2da Oeste between 4ta and 6ta del Sur, PLACETAS**

Director: Omar Pernet

* **Political prisoner**

Zoila Águila Almeida Library

☞ **Ctra. Fidencia Kilómetro 1½, Finca Fortún, casa #11 del barrio "El Bostezo"**
Director: Blas Augusto Fortún Martínez

Marta Abreu Estévez Library

☞ **Calle 3ra #83 between 2da and A, District of Virginia, SANTA CLARA**
José Lezama Lima II Library

☞ **Calle Africa # 16 between Salud and Santo Domingo. District 72**
MANICARAGUA

Director: Evelio Osmel Rodríguez Díaz

Dr. Roberto Avalos Library

☞ **Alemán # 615-A between Hospital and misionero.**

SANTA CLARA

Tel: 42-28-2219

Director: Guillermo Fariñas Hernández

* **Provisional release**

Porfirio Guillen Amador Library

San Miguel 396 between Toscano and San Pedro, SANTA CLARA

Director: Alina Inocencia Becerra Harrera

Escambray Library

Juan Bruno Zayas (sur) #113 between Jesús Menéndez and Juan Pando Ferrer. MANICARAGUA

Director: Moraima León Sabina

Conrado Primitivo Pérez Hernández Library

Juan Bruno Zayas # 32 Sur Manicaragua, SANTA CLARA

Wilfredo Lam Library

Calle Villuendas # 60 upper floors between Martí and Independencia. SANTA CLARA

Tel: 42-20-5748

Director: Atty. Miriam Fernández Armas

Proyecto Cuba Libre Library

Calle 110 # 2518 between 25 and 27, CAIBARIEN.

Tel: 42-35-1385

Director: Margarito Broche Espinosa

* **Provisional release**

Pablo Morales Barbas Library

Calle Tozcano # 162A between Martí and Julio Jover, SANTA CLARA

Director: Olga Lilia González Barroso

30 de Noviembre Library

Calle 5ta del Oeste # 58 between 3ra and 4ta del sur, PLACETAS

Tel: 42-88-4344

Director: Amado Ruiz Moreno

Maria Cabrales Library

Bldg. 10 apt. 5 District of José Martí SANTA CLARA

Director: Noelia Pedraza Jiménez

Eduardo R. Chibas Library

Calle Padre Chao # 151 between central main road and ciclon, SANTA CLARA

Director Eddy Espinosa Francos

Calixto García Iñiguez Library

Calle 1ra # 21 between A and B, district of Nuevo Condado. SANTA CLARA

Director: Yuniesky García López

José de la Luz and Caballero Library

General Mariño # 331 A between Campo and Circunvalación. District of Virginia, SANTA CLARA

Director: Bernardo Luis Ascanio Camargo

Jesús José Sardiñas Jiménez Library

Calle 6ta # 16 between 3ra and carretera de Sagua, District of Camacho

Director: Idalberto Fernández

27 de Junio Library

Casa # 59, Batey Central Azucarero Quintyn Banderas, CORRALILLOS

Director: Guillermo Casabuena Montesinos



The Pedro Luis Boitel National Civic Resistance Movement, whose headquarters are in Villa Clara.

Luis Estévez Library

Calle 2da bloque Capt 2 between Carretera Central and A, District of Vigía, VILLA CLARA

Director: Freddy Joel Martín Fraga

5 de Abril Library

Finca Santa Elvira casa # 35 Poblado Rancho Veloz, CORRALILLO

Director: Yunior López González

Diosdado Aquid Library

Calle Gerónimo Caballero unnumbered, between Panchito Gómez Toro and Coronel Acebedo. SANTA CLARA

Director: Orestes Suárez Torres

Biblioteca Presidio Político P.Luis Boitel

C/ 7ª del Sur #5 entre Paseo Martí y 1ra del Este, SANTA CLARA

Director: Jorge Luís García Pérez 'Antúnez'

* **Ex político prisoner**


Families of Political Prisoners

PROVINCE OF VILLA CLARA

1. Arturo Pérez de Alejo Rodríguez

Sentence: 20 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88

Prison: Guamajal, Santa Clara

 **Family address: Calle Juan Bruno Zayas #113 Sur, between Ramón Pando Ferrer and Jesús Menéndez, Manicaragua**

Family contact member: Moraima León Sabina (wife)

 **Tel. (42) 491467 – neighbor**




In the photograph at left, Arturo Pérez de Alejo with his wife Moraima León. The couple has two children, Ailén, aged 21 years, and Claudia, aged just 9 (shown in the photo at right). After a summary trial, Arturo received the sentence that had been sought by the prosecutor: 20 years' imprisonment. Moraima has repeatedly denounced the abuse and mistreatment that her husband suffers in prison – just as occurs with other prisoners of conscience.

2. Omar Ruiz Hernández

Sentence: Case #1 of 2003, 18 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88

Prison: Nieves Morejón

 **Family address: Luz Caballero #118 between Misioneros and Hospital, Santa Clara**

Family contact member: Bárbara Maritza Rojo Arias (wife)

 **Tel. (42) 218531**



Omar Ruíz is married to Bárbara Maritza Rojo and they have a son, Frank Samuel – all three are shown in the photograph above. Omar is in jail for defending the ideals of democracy. He has been harassed on account of both his political and religious ideas, since he was born into a very devout family and was brought up with seven underprivileged children who were adopted by his parents and whom he considered siblings.

3. Antonio A. Villarreal Acosta

Sentence: Case #3 of 2003, 15 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88
Prison: La Pendiente, Villa Clara

📄 **Family address: Calle Clavel #48 B, between Narciso López and Luis Córdoba, Corralillo**
Family contact member: Silvia Aguada Alfonso (wife)

☎ **Tel. (7) 8784348 (Beatriz Pedroso)**

5. Léster González Pentón

Sentence: Case #1 of 2003, 20 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88
Prison: Guamajal, Santa Clara

📄 **Family address: Calle Primera #28, between A and Río, District of Ruiz del Sol, Santa Clara**
Family contact member: Janet Ocaña (wife)

☎ **Tel. (42) 20 11 91**



Political prisoner Librado Linares, of humble rural origins, is married to Magaly Broche and has a son, César (photo above). Librado Linares was arrested on the street in March 2003; his house was subsequently the subject of a six-hour search, which turned up only books and letters.

4. Margarito Broche Espinosa

*** Provisional release (conditional liberty)**

Sentence: Case #1 of 2003, 25 years' imprisonment.

📄 **Family address: Avenida 39 # 1603 between 16 and 18 Caibarién**
Family contact member: María de la Caridad Noa González (wife)

☎ **Tel. (42) 363693**

6. Omar Pernet Hernández

Sentence: Case #1 of 2003, 25 years' imprisonment. Other acts against National Security

Prison: La Pendiente (Hospital Finloy)

📄 **Family address: 7 del Sur #5 between Paseo Martí and Primera del Este, Placetas**
Family contact member: Mirta Pernet Reyes (sister)

☎ **Tel. (42) 82634 – Marte Valdés**

7. Librado Linares García

Sentence: Case #1 of 2003, 20 years' imprisonment. Violation of Law 88
Prison: Provincial de Ariza, Cienfuegos

📄 **Family address: Hermanos Cárdenas #26 between Valeriano López and Demetrio Brito, Camajuaní**
Family contact member: Magaly Broche de la Cruz (wife)

☎ **Tel. 042 48 27 00**

Defenders of Democracy and Human Rights

National Civic Resistance Movement "Pedro Luís Boitel"

Denounces abuses committed against political prisoners

Director: Berta Antúnez Pernet
(niece of prisoner Omar Pernet)

📄 **Address: Calle 7ma del Sur No. 3 A between Paseo Martí and 1ra. del Este PLACETAS**

☎ **Tel.: 42-8-2634**

Cuban Reflection Movement

Defends human rights, assists political prisoners and prisoners of conscience, and works in support of Cuban culture

Director: Librado Linares García

*** Political prisoner**

📄 **Address: Hermanos Cárdenas No. 26 between Demetrio Brito and Valeriano López, CAMAJUANÍ**

☎ **Tel.: 42-48-1445**

Cuban Pro-Democracy Movement

Denounces human rights violations and assists political prisoners

Director: Lester González Pentón

* **Political prisoner**

📍 **Address:** Calle 1ra. No. 28 between A and Ríos, District of Ramón Ruiz del Sol
SANTA CLARA

☎ **Tel.:** 42-20-5832

Democratic Solidarity Party

Promotes change to democracy through peaceful methods

Director: Rolando Pastor Cabello García

📍 **Address:** Avenida 5 # 10013 between 10 and 12.

CAIBARIÉN

Association of Raft Riders for Peace, Democracy and Freedom

Assists raft riders who have been repatriated to Cuba, and the relatives of raft riders now living in the United States

Director: Margarito Broche Espinosa

* **Provisional release**

📍 **Address:** Avenida #39 #1603 between 16 and 18

CAIBARIÉN

☎ **Tel.:** 42-34381

(ask for Margarito or Jorge Cubilla)
42-351468 (Milagros) 36-3693

“Marta Abreu” Forum for Social Studies

Creates a culture of tolerance and conducts independent social sciences research as an alternative to the official line

Director: Guillermo Fariñas Hernández

* **Provisional release**

📍 **Address:** Alemán 615 between

**Misionero and Hospital
SANTA CLARA**

☎ **Tel.:** 42-204091 or Dulce 42-20275

“Mario Manuel de la Peña” National Human Rights Movement

Publicizes the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Director: Omar Pernet Hernández

* **Political prisoner**

📍 **Address:** 2da del Oeste #124-A between 5ta and 6ta del Sur
PLACETAS

Independent Organization for Human Rights “Escambray”

Publicizes the Universal Declaration and denounces human rights violations

President: Arturo Pérez de Alejo

* **Political prisoner**

📍 **Address:** Juan B Zayas 113 Sur between Jesús Menéndez and Juan Pando Ferrer
MANICARAGUA

☎ **Tel.:** 011 53 (42) 49 16 82

(Roberto Álvarez)

Wife: Moraima Sabina León

Trade Union Press Agency Lux Info Press (branch headquarters)

Magalis Suárez

📍 **Address:** Building 1, apt. 10 District of José Martí
SANTA CLARA

☎ **Tel.:** 282219

National Trade Union and Labor Training Center (CNCSL)

Director: Magalis Suárez

📍 **Address:** Calle G Building, Apt. 10 3. District of José Martí
SANTA CLARA

☎ **Tel.:** 5342 282219

E-mail: Rociofernando@yahoo.com

Union of Independent Christian Workers

General Secretary: Miguel Tejeda Tenorio

📍 **Address:** Villaclara
SANTA CLARA

☎ **Tel.:** 5342 206972

Union of Accountants and Economists

General Secretary:

Magalis Suárez Martínez.

📍 **Address:** Calle G Building-10, apt. 3, District of José Martí,
SANTA CLARA

☎ **Tel.:** 5342 282 219

E-Mail: RocioFernando@yahoo.com

National Independent Workers Federation of Cuba

Magalis Suárez Martínez

📍 **Address:** Calle G, Building 10, Apt. 3. District of José Martí
SANTA CLARA

☎ **Tel.:** 5342 282219

IV. Recommended Medicine and Books for the Traveler

1. Medicine

Contrary to government propaganda, medicine is scarce in Cuba and in many instances, Cubans find it difficult to obtain basic medicine such as paracetamol and ibuprofen. In view of this demand, it is worthwhile to use your trip to partially assist in alleviating this need.

In the case of prisoners of conscience, the situation is even more serious due to the fact that the majority of them contract some kind of illness while in prison, or else suffer a worsening of their existing health problems. Their families find it hard to access the medicine they need. High blood pressure, gastritis, anemia and headaches are just some of the common ailments among prisoners.

Suggested Medicine

We recommend that you carry the following medicine, which is useful in treating the illnesses that are headlined above each group **in bold**:

Gastritis / Gastric Ulcer

- ⬆ Omeprazole 20
- ⬆ Lansoprazole 30
- ⬆ Ranitidine 300
- ⬆ Antacid (suspension): magaldrate + simethicone

Arthrosis

- ⬆ Glucosamine + Chondroitin sulfate
- ⬆ Meloxicam 15 mg / 7.5 mg

Glaucoma

- ⬆ Dorzolamide + Timolol (drops)
- ⬆ Levobunolol 0.5%
- ⬆ Latanoprost 0.005%

Tuberculosis

- ⬆ Isoniacide 5 mgr
- ⬆ Riphampicine 300 mgr
- ⬆ Pyrazinamide 500 mg
- ⬆ Ethambutol

Hypertension

- ⬆ Enalapril 10 or 20
- ⬆ Lisinopril 10 or 20
- ⬆ Carvedidol 25 mg or 12.5 mg
- ⬆ Losartan 50 mg
- ⬆ Valsartan + Hydrochlorothiazide
- ⬆ Amlodipine 5 mg or 10 mg
- ⬆ Captopril 25 mg or 50 mg

Peripheral circulatory failure

- ⬆ Troxerutine 300 mg

Ischemic heart disease

- ⬆ Diosmine + Hesperidine

Prostate

- ⬆ Cefasabal (Saw Palmetto + Golden Staff + Horse Chestnut)

Parasitosis

- ⬆ Albendazole 400 mg
- ⬆ Mebendazole 100 mg

Headache

- ⬆ Ergotamine + caffeine (anti-migraine)
- ⬆ Ketorolac (Analgesic)

Anemia

- ⬆ Ferrous sulfate
- ⬆ Polymaltose iron

Miscellaneous

- ⬆ Antibiotics
- ⬆ Cephadrine 500
- ⬆ Penicillin G clemizole
- ⬆ Dicloxacillin 500
- ⬆ Nonsteroid anti-inflammatory drugs
- ⬆ Meloxicam
- ⬆ Sodium diclofenac, 50 mg
- ⬆ Vitamins
- ⬆ B Complex
- ⬆ Ibuprofen
- ⬆ Paracetamol



List of relatives / political prisoners / diseases or illnesses

The following is a list of specific ailments suffered by some prisoners. These diseases or illnesses have also been mentioned by the prisoners' relatives in the book "Las Damas de Blanco" (The Ladies in White). The name of each prisoner of conscience is shown in blue.

CAMAGÜEY

Yaraí Reyes

▲ [Normando Hernández](#)

■ Tuberculosis / chronic gastritis / intestinal irritation.

Rebeca Antonia Rodríguez Souto

▲ [Alfredo Pulido](#)

■ Constant headaches

CIEGO DE ÁVILA

Yolanda Vera Nerey

▲ [Pedro Argüelles](#)

■ Arthritis generalizada

HOLGUÍN

María Esther Blanco

▲ [Próspero Gainza Agüero](#)

■ Glaucoma and cervical arthrosis

ISLA DE LA JUVENTUD

Clara Lourdes Prieto

▲ [Fabio Prieto Llorente](#)

■ Lymphocytis (mother) causing sores in the mouth

■ Cough producing blood, shortness of breath and back pain

HAVANA

Loida Valdés

▲ [Alfredo Felipe Fuentes](#)

■ Pressure / Ear

CITY OF HAVANA

Gisela Delgado

▲ [Héctor Palacios](#)

■ Severe circulatory disorder / deep peripheral circulatory failure / ischemic heart disease / severe hypertension / degenerative arthrosis

Lidia Lima Valdés

▲ [Arnaldo Ramos Lauzerique](#)

■ Hypertensive

Elsa Morejón (psoriasis)

▲ [Oscar Elías Biscet](#)

■ Tooth infection / Chronic gastritis

Julia Núñez

▲ [Adolfo Fernández Saínz](#)

■ Pulmonary emphysema, kidney cyst, hiatus hernia, prostate problems, arterial hypertension, and blepharitis (an infection of the eyes)

Dolia Leal

▲ [Nelson Aguiar](#)

■ Hernia epigástrica/ problemas de riñón

LAS TUNAS

Milka María Peña Martínez

▲ [Luis Enrique Ferrer García](#)

■ Gastritis, ulcer and inflamed digestive tract

Melba Santana

▲ [Alfredo Domínguez Batista](#)

■ Cirrhosis of the liver, as yet unconfirmed

Gisela Verdecia García

▲ [Reinaldo Miguel Labrada Peña](#)

■ Gastritis, headaches and anemia

Yamilé Yáñez Labrada

▲ [José Luis García Paneque](#)

■ Poor intestinal absorption syndrome

MATANZAS

Alejandrina García

▲ [Diosdado González Marrero](#)

■ Tuberculosis, diarrhea, parasite infection

Gloria Amaya

▲ [Ariel y Guido Sigler Amaya](#)

■ Gastritis

SANCTIS SPÍRITUS

Isel de las Mercedes Acosta Obregón

▲ [Blas Giraldo Reyes](#)

■ Generalized arthrosis

VILLA CLARA

Silvia Aguado

▲ [Antonio Villarreal](#)

■ Hernia

Bárbara Maritza Rojo Arias

▲ [Omar Moisés Ruiz Hernández](#)

■ Gastric ulcer / gastritis/Hypertension

Moraima León

▲ [Arturo Pérez de Alejo](#)

■ Problemas gástricos/falta de vitaminas

Yanet Ocaña

▲ [Léster González Pentón](#)

■ Gastritis /hypertension

PINAR DEL RIO

Elsa América González Padrón

▲ [Víctor Rolando Arroyo](#)

■ Hipertensión / acidez / diarrhea

2. Books

Books are highly prized by Cubans because in Cuba, the government controls book distribution channels and does not publish any titles that it considers as “contaminating” from an ideological standpoint.

The only places where citizens can have access to certain kinds of texts are the independent libraries. However, this access is very limited and requires caution because there are few copies available and the people who manage these independent centers are under observation.

Cubans are very anxious to have access to the rich and varied literature that tourists to the island can enjoy in their own countries, without anybody persecuting them for doing so. That is why bringing reading material for Cubans is a proactive way of opening windows for them into other worlds.



Recommended books

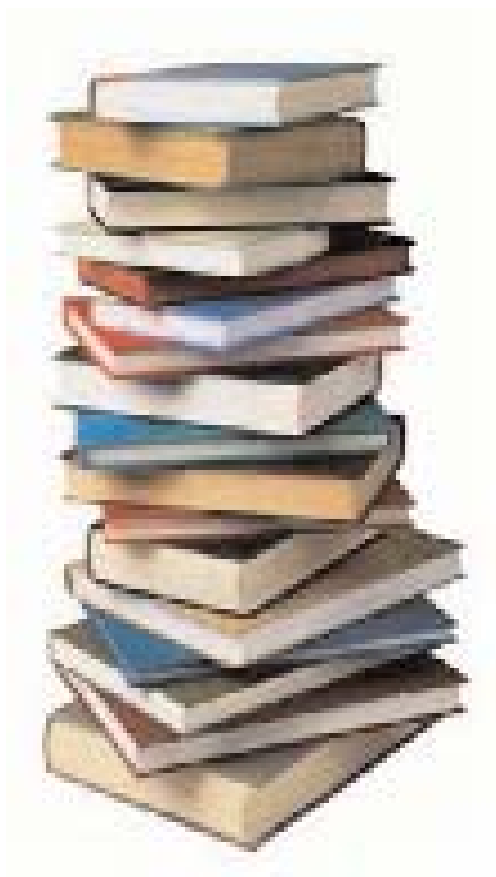
Practically anything is welcome, from fiction novels to books on philosophy, and even children's books. They can be donated to independent librarians or private individuals.

We have recommended some here, and have sorted them into three levels according to their content. The first thing to know is that the Cuban government gets more irritated if you take along books that criticize the regime or have been written by prisoners of conscience; contemporary fiction novels or children's stories are less problematic.

Accordingly, the green section contains books that tourists can quite comfortably carry in their luggage; the books that require a little more care are shown in the orange section; the most sensitive books or pamphlets, which it is advisable to keep from public view and even carry in a discreet part of your suitcase, are shown in the red section.

- * **Current best-selling novels**
- * **Classical Spanish literature**
- * **Books by José Martí (political thoughts)**
- * **Constitutions of democratic countries**
- * **Legal texts**
- * **Biographies**
 - ▲ Adolfo Suárez (architect of Spain's transition to democracy)
 - ▲ Gandhi

- * **Books on philosophy**
 - ▲ “Freedom in Rousseau and Kant: from theory to practice” / José Ramón Recuerdo
 - ▲ “Politics” / Aristotle
 - ▲ “Between Freedom and Equality: Introduction to the Philosophy of Law” / Rodolfo Vázquez
- * **Books on Politics**
 - ▲ “Education, Citizenship and Democracy” / Ana Ayuste
 - ▲ “Ethics and Politics” / Erich Fromm
- * **Children's Stories**



*** Books on the Spanish Democratic Transition**

- ⤴ History of Spain (Secondary School Texts)
- ⤴ "The Road to Democracy in Spain" / Manuel Álvarez Tardío
- ⤴ "The Transition: thirty years on from the dictatorship – establishment and consolidation of democracy" / Carme Molinero
- ⤴ "How the Transition Happened" / Victoria Prego

*** Books on the democratic transition in Chile and the Eastern Bloc countries**

*** Universal Declaration of Human Rights**

*** Novels and essays by authors proscribed in Cuba**

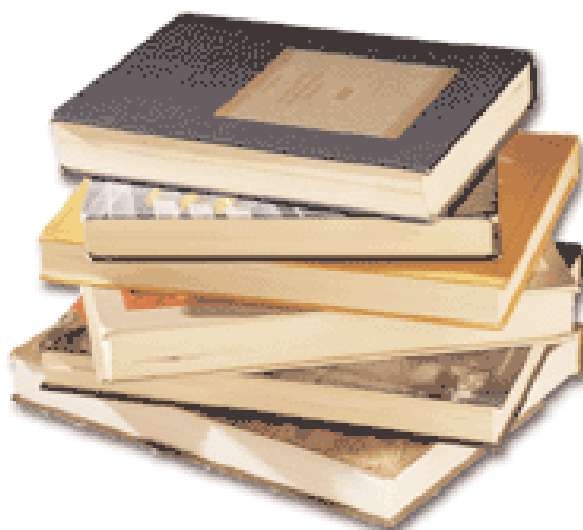
- ⤴ Mario Vargas Llosa
- ⤴ Guillermo Cabrera Infante
- ⤴ Carlos Alberto Montaner
- ⤴ Reinaldo Arenas

*** Booklets on: the Damas de Blanco or the Varela Project**

*** Books written by prisoners of conscience**

- ⤴ Raúl Rivero
- ⤴ Ricardo González
- ⤴ Manuel Vázquez Portal

*** Books on Cuba and Castro**



V. Telephone Area Codes (Prefixes)

-In order to make calls **to Cuba from outside the island** it is necessary to dial the following codes:

- **International call code (Spain): 00**
- **Cuba country code: 53**
- **Area code:** the table shows the codes (prefixes) by province and location (see tables below)

Followed by the number you wish to call.

-In order to make calls **within the island** you need to dial 0, followed by the city area prefix (see table below), and then the number you wish to call.

-In order to make calls **from Cuba to other countries** you must first dial the international dial-out code 119, followed by the country code, and then the number you wish to call.



GRANMA	23
Bayamo	23
GUANTÁNAMO	21
Baracoa	21
HOLGUÍN	24
ISLA DE LA JUVENTUD	46
Cayo Largo del Sur	45
LA HABANA	7
Ciudad de la Habana	7
Aguacate, Madruga	64
Alquízar, Guira de Melena	67
Artemisa, Cabañas	63
Batabanó, Melena del Sur	62
Bauta, Playa Baracoa	680
Bejucal	66
Boca de Jaruco, Canasí	692
Caimito, Ceiba del Agua	680
Guanajay	686
Guines, Catalina de Guines	62
Mariel	63
Jaruco	64
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Some useful telephone numbers

- **National Police:** 82 0116
- **Fire Department:** 81 1115
- **Ambulance:** 24 2811
- **Havana Airport:** 45 3133
- **Roadside assistance 24 h:** 33 4691/23 9833
- **Credit Card Center FINCIMEX:** 55 4444
- **Information:** 113
- **Tourist information:** 24 2424

Great Britain Embassy

-Address: Calle 34, nº704 e/7ª y 17,
Miramar
Tel.: (537) 204 1771/72
embrit@ceniai.inf.cu

Canadian Embassy

-Address: Calle 30 nº 518 esq. a 7ma.
Miramar
Tel.: 204 2516/204 2517

VI. You Might be Surprised

According to official figures, the average monthly wage in Cuba is less than 12 euros per month (334 Cuban pesos at July 26, 2005).

Pensions are even lower. This means that in accordance with UN standards concerning personal income, the average Cuban citizen is living below the extreme poverty threshold – earning less than one US dollar per day. In Cuba, the salary of a physician or nuclear engineer is much lower than what a waiter can earn with tips.



In Cuba **there are very few cell phones**. Cell phones have only recently been legalized, and it is necessary to hold a special permit to own one; they are also very expensive in terms of the average wage. In order to present an image of high economic status, some Cubans will carry around unusable cell phones with a zero call balance.



There are not many **fixed telephones**, either. The level of telephone penetration in Cuba – the percentage of homes with a telephone – is one of the lowest in Latin America. Many homes have no telephone, while in other cases one telephone line services an entire building that houses several families.

The percentage of motor vehicle owners in Cuba is one of the lowest in Latin America, and the Cuban automobile fleet is one of the world's most outdated. There is a profusion of pre-revolution vehicles from the 1950s – true moving museum pieces, although over the years the majority have been progressively rebuilt with a motley collection of replacement parts obtained from former Soviet bloc nations.



Cuba's **level of Internet penetration is one of the lowest in all of Latin America and indeed in the entire world** - providing stiff competition with North Korea. Private access to the Internet is forbidden. **There are some Internet cafés for tourists, but their prices are beyond the reach of Cubans themselves.** The Internet is only available to a relative few at work, and is systematically censored.



All the Cuban mass communications media – press, radio, and television – are controlled by the government. What's more, the Government

prohibits the distribution of foreign media on the island – including magazines such as the Spanish version of Hello! (¡Hola!) or the popular science magazine Muy Interesante. The only items that escape this iron control are small circulation religious publications; then there is the illegal use of satellite dishes to receive foreign channels, and short-wave radio sets to access foreign broadcasters such as Spanish National Radio (RNE), the BBC or Radio Martí, a US-sponsored station that reaches some parts of the country, but suffers from jamming. Cuba's biggest circulation newspaper, the Granma, official organ of the Communist Party, has lost so much credibility that now its most widespread use among the population is as toilet paper – after all, it costs less too. It is also commonly used for wrapping peanuts or *manís*.

The Death Penalty still applies in Cuba. Reestablished when Castro came into power, revolutionary triumph brought the execution of thousands of Cubans by firing squad, frequently after the most summary of trials. The most recent executions were carried out in 2003, for an attempt to hijack a boat that was aborted without any blood being shed. Less than a week intervened between the men's arrest and their execution. They surrendered on April 5th, were sentenced on the 8th, and shot on the 11th.



Bárbaro Leodan Sevilla García, Lorenzo Enrique Copello Castillo and Jorge Luis Martínez Isaac – known as Los Tres Negritos de la Habana (the Havana Three) were executed by firing squad on April 11, 2003. Their crime: the hijacking of a boat without bloodshed, and their subsequent voluntary surrender. Everything points to the executions being used to "set an example" and terrify the population.



Offices of a Revolutionary Defense Committee (CDR) in Havana city. These committees keep watch on citizens to ensure that they comply faithfully with the principles of the Communist Revolution as espoused by the regime, and toe the government line

There are Revolutionary Defense Committees on every street block in Cuba.

They began as an institution for ideological control. The committees watch over citizens in their own homes, reporting on the activities of the inhabitants of each area – whether or not they participate in government events, the extent of their revolutionary zeal, and what they do in private. The committees often function as rumor and gossip mills.



A Cuban phenomenon: “Captive Towns”. Located in isolated areas, the towns were built with forced labor from rural communities in the mountainous region of Escambray, in the former province of las Villas, now known as Villa Clara. Between 1969 and 1970, the army rounded up rural peasants living in the zone, and after imprisoning the men and carrying off the women and children to “shelters”, it forced the men to build shanties in various remote parts of the island. Subsequently, the families were reunited in these townships. They are known as Pueblos Cautivos (captive towns) because the inhabitants were forbidden to leave. The United Nations Commission that visited Cuba in 1988 interviewed various residents of these towns and confirmed the injustices that had been committed against them. The United Nations Agency on Internal Displacements has a record of the testimony of the victims of this ongoing situation. Sandino, Briones Montoto, Fajardo and López Peña are the names of some captive towns in the province of Pinar del Río.

Discrimination and “Apartheid”. Cubans suffer discrimination in comparison to foreigners and government officials. For example, the average Cuban is prohibited from accessing the best hotels, beaches and centers of entertainment. Meanwhile, foreigners living in Cuba can enjoy luxury automobiles and apartments that are prohibited to locals. According to government rhetoric, it has put an end to racial discrimination; however, the police harass people of African and mixed descent, and there are no non-white ministers in Cabinet. Discrimination against homosexuals, and people professing religious beliefs, has been another constant of the regime. While such persons are no longer sent to forced labor camps as in the 1960s, when they and other “deviates” swelled the ranks of the Military Units in Support of Production (UMAP), discrimination still exists.



Today, for many, the “Cuban dream” is to migrate abroad. Many attempt to leave the island by whatever means they can. With their few resources and great imagination they construct their own seagoing craft – like the ingenious “aquatic car” shown in the photograph above.

Restrictions on freedom of movement.

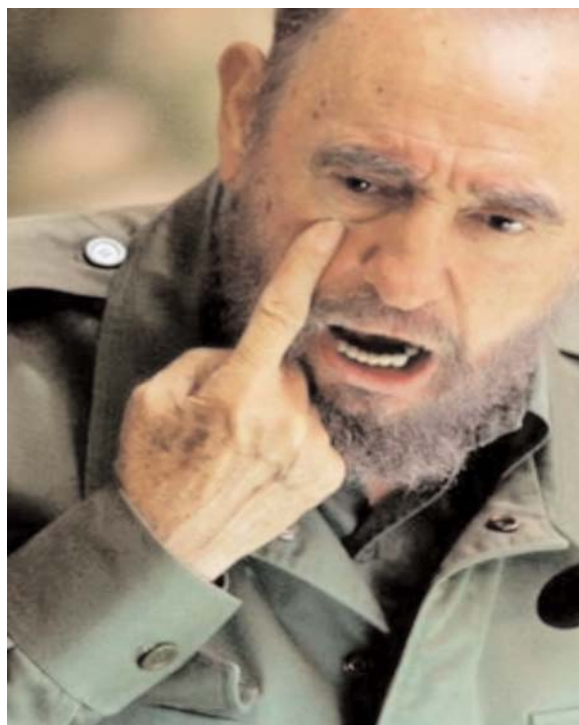
It is extremely difficult for Cubans to travel abroad. As well as the severe restrictions on obtaining exit permits from the country, there are also the corresponding economic difficulties because the price of such travel is beyond the reach of most. The government has erected a thousand and one obstacles to foreign travel, and uses exit permits as a political instrument. There are also restrictions on free movement within the island itself. Decree 217, of April 26, 1997, prohibits people who live in the country’s interior from moving to the capital. In Havana, numerous Cubans from the eastern parts of the country are searched and harassed – especially those of African and mixed descent – and are occasionally deported by train to their places of origin.

Multi-Generational Houses. Because of the extremely marginal wages, the possibilities for Cubans to own their own home are very low – so it is not uncommon to find several generations living in the same dwelling. This implies sharing cramped and tiny spaces totally lacking in intimacy and comfort – not to mention electricity and water because interruptions to utilities are typical. One of the ways of using such spaces is to create a false ceiling in a room, and then install mattresses there as if it were a second floor.



A paradise for “predatory capitalism”. The Cuban government and its national legislation systematically violate numerous labor law conventions of the International Labor Organization.

Employment discrimination. Cuban legislation states that “the political behavior of workers is a fundamental consideration for the continuation of their employment”. It is hardly surprising that the majority of human rights defenders and activists – and their immediate families – have been dismissed from their jobs. Former political prisoners and their relatives are also victims of workplace discrimination. In the case of mixed companies with foreign capital, the government intervenes in the recruitment of personnel and selects workers who are faithful to its politics. This practice is entrenched in Cuban labor law under the notion of “suitability”. This political control that is exerted upon employees violates the ILO’s international labor legislation.



No Trade Union Freedoms. The Cuban government does not recognize any independent trade union and represses unionists who organize such unions. The official trade union, a mass government organization, is the only authorized workers’ collective.

Sole Traders – the “self-employed”. Due to the special crisis of the early 1990s, the Cuban government condoned the existence of small individual businesses in some economic sectors. These self-employed people are called “cuentapropistas” (sole traders). Cuba’s sole traders are subject to heavy regulations and impediments. For example, the small private restaurants known as “paladares” require a special license, can only have a maximum of 12 seats on the premises, and are not allowed to serve lobster. The bureaucratic red tape is increasing and the number of sole traders has decreased from 250,000 in 1995 to around 90,000 at the present day. The government considers them a necessary evil. Operation “coraza” (protective shield), which began in 2003 – ostensibly to crack down on drugs – confiscated the licenses of many sole traders, and repressed the informal economy.

Foreign capital is king. While foreign investors are allowed to open businesses in Cuba, and are even encouraged to do so, Cubans themselves are not authorized to invest in their own country. Participation by Cuban citizens in their country’s economic life is limited to being mere employees, or in some exceptional cases sole traders subject to numerous hindrances and requirements.



In the photo at left, a Cuban man sells cheese by the roadside in order to make a living. On the right, two women cook at home for tourists who come there to eat – an example of one of Cuba’s small home-based private restaurants, called “paladares”. The owners must pay monthly taxes to the State, whether or not they have any clients.



Contrasting images like those above may be found very frequently in any Cuban region. On the one hand, we have the tourist resorts: awash with luxuries and comforts, their streets are clean and paved, and only tourists are allowed. At left, a photograph of Key Largo del Sur. On the other hand, we have the areas where the Cuban people live: neighborhoods with poorly maintained streets and no sanitation, where interruptions to electricity and water occur continually. At right, a Havana neighborhood. These two worlds coexist in Cuba. If you go see Cuba, do it right!

Confiscation of salaries. The wages paid to each employee of a mixed enterprise (the Cuban State in partnership with a foreign corporation) is negotiated between the government and the company. The worker is not even consulted by the parties. The Cuban government collects the employee's salary in dollars and then pays him or her the same figure in Cuban pesos. In real terms, this implies the confiscation of 95% of workers' wages – a practice that is totally prohibited by International Labor Organization conventions signed by the Cuban government. Lamentably, the Spanish companies that invest in Cuba are participants in this de facto confiscation.

Adolescent workers. In Cuba, large numbers of students aged between 14 and 18 are obliged to leave their families and go to preparatory schools "in the country". Alternating between morning and afternoon, they mix their studies with farm labor – such as fruit-picking for example. This is a flagrant violation of international labor legislation and the rights of children and adolescents.



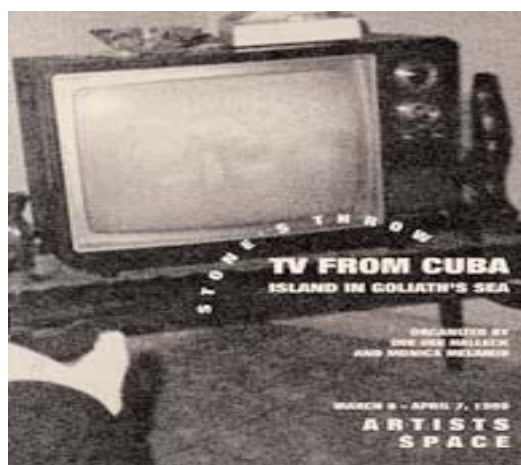
VII. Cuban Curiosities

Cuba can lay claim to Latin America's first railway – built while the island was still a Spanish colony. Spain decided to build a railway in Cuba before trying the idea at home. The Havana-Güines section of track was inaugurated on November 19, 1837 – eleven years before the Barcelona-Mataró link in Spain.



The Cuban street-lighting system dates back to the 19th century. The first electric lighting system in Cuba dates back more than 110 years. It was inaugurated in Havana – still under Spanish control – in March 1889, and lit some streets as well as the Isabel II Park and the Paso de Isabel la Católica.

Cuba was a pioneer of black-and-white and color-TV broadcasting. October 24, 1950 saw the inauguration of Unión Radio Canal 4, which began transmission from the house of Gaspar Pumarejo in Havana. The first images broadcast were advertising for Competidora Gaditana cigarettes and Cristal-brand beer, and a show featuring film actors Pedro Armendáriz and Carmen Montejo. Eight years later, in 1958, Cuba became just the second country in the world to transmit television images in color.



Two Cuban pilots – Agustín Parlá and Domingo Rosillo – were the first to make a commercial flight in Latin America. The date was May 17, 1913 and the destination Cayo (Key) Hueso, with a flying time of 2 hours 40 minutes.

Cuba had newspapers in the 18th century. The first newspaper was published in 1764, with news about events and happenings on the island. It was called the Havana Gazette (Gaceta de La Habana).



Early adopter of divorce legislation. Cuba passed divorce laws before most other countries around the world. The year was 1918, well in advance of Spain and Ireland.

The first Hispanic cosmonaut was the Cuban Arnaldo Tamayo. Arnaldo Tamayo was the first Latin American in space, and the first Cuban cosmonaut. Tamayo made his voyage on September 18, 1980, aboard a Soyuz 18 spacecraft.

Cuban Vicente Antonio de Castro gave the first anesthetic with ether in America. The date was March 10, 1847.



Cuba, a paradise for tiny creatures. There is a total of more than 14,000 species of animals on the island, including some of the smallest in the world. For example, the bee hummingbird or zunzuncito (*mellisuga helenae*), is the world's tiniest bird and measures a maximum of about 6 cm in length, with an average weight of 2 grams. Then there is the pygmy frog or sapito (*smynthillus limbatus*), which is less than 12 mm long, and the butterfly bat, *Nyctiellus lepidus*, the world's smallest, which weighs only 2-3 grams and measures around 3 cm.

There were bullfights in Cuba up until 1899. They were staged from 1514 until their abolition on October 10, 1899.

Cuba has 15 cities with over 100,000 inhabitants. They include Havana, with over 2 million, making it the Caribbean's most populous city. The population of Santiago de Cuba exceeds 500,000 and Camagüey and Holguín each have more than 300,000.

National Hero José Martí spent more time living outside Cuba than in it. It is paradoxical that someone like Martí, who fought so hard for his homeland, can be obliged to live elsewhere at various times, and fight for his nation's freedom from abroad.

Cuba is suffering the longest dictatorship in recent American history. Fidel Castro has effectively exercised absolute control over the island since 1959. He had been in power for 48 years when he provisionally handed over to his brother Raúl due to ill health.



Cuban national anthem. The anthem was composed by Peruchillo Figueredo in the late 19th century. He composed the music first, in 1867, and wrote the words one year later. This is a necessary detail for understanding the popular Cuban expression "to go play the anthem at Peruchillo's house": it is used to let somebody know that what they are telling you is already well known by all.

There are still old fortresses from the 16th century. The oldest fort in Havana is the Castillo de la Fuerza, which was built in 1538 and then rebuilt in 1555.

Cuban sportspeople are recognized the world over. Alfredo de Oro was world billiards champion on 18 consecutive occasions from 1891 onward. Latin America's first Olympic champion was Cuban Ramón Fonst who won the fencing medal in the 1900 games. Cuba is also home to one of the world's greatest ever high jumpers, Javier Sotomayor, with world records at both indoor and outdoor events.

Latin American soaps – called *culebrones* – first began in Cuba. Radio and television drama serials or soap operas (“culebrones”) were for many years an important Cuban export commodity.

Cuba's national symbols were not chosen by its people. Cuba has never had a referendum to decide upon its national symbols; although accepted now by everyone, their selection did not occur democratically.

Fascinating motorist. The first woman to hold a driver's license in Havana was a legendary personality known as La Macorina, back in the early 20th century. Numerous myths have grown up around her because of her free-spirited and progressive nature. She was, however, a very real person. It is believed that La Macorina was born in 1892 in the town of Guanajay – at that time part of the province of Pinar del Río – and her name was María Constancia Caraza Valdés. This thoroughly modern woman lived in the calle Galiano, close to Havana's famous Malecón, and her daring elegance and beautiful eyes made her stand out from the crowd. Her life and personality inspired a famous song.



Famous people who forged historic links between Cuba and Spain.

Throughout history, any number of famous Spaniards have linked their own destiny in some way or other with that of Cuba. Today, these historical and sentimental ties may still be plainly seen. Cuba has attracted many, from famous artists to royalty:

***Federico García Lorca.** The great poet had an extended sojourn on the island, from March to June in 1930. The place fascinated him so much that he would later say “if I go missing, look for me in Andalusia or in Cuba”. Lorca was invited there by his friend Fernando Ortiz, a prolific writer who worked for the Hispano-Cuban Institute of Culture. One legacy of his stay on the island is a poem dedicated to the city of Santiago de Cuba, “Iré a Santiago” (I'll Go to Santiago). Lorca's admiration for every nook he visited on the island was so profound that novelist Lino Novas Calvo commented in 1940 that “here, every Cuban has his Lorca”.



<p>I ll Go to Santiago When the full moon comes I ll go to Santiago de Cuba, to Santiago I ll go in a coach of black water. When I go to Santiago The palm-thatched roofs will s Yes I ll go to Santiago When the palm tree flaps like a to Santiago I ll go And when the banana tree waves li jellyfish, to Santiago I ll go I ll go to Santiago Blond head of Fonseca beside me I ll go to Santiago The rose of Romeo and Juliet in m Yes to Santiago I ll go Oh Cuba! Oh rhythm of desiccated s Yes I ll go to Santiago Oh waist of fire and humor of w</p>	<p>Yes to Santiago I ll go Harp of living tree trunks, cayman and tobacco blossom! Yes I ll go to Santiago That s where I ve always said I d go, to Santiago in a coach of black water. to Santiago I ll go Breeze and alcohol wafting in my wheels, to Santiago I ll go There lies my coral in the twilight, to Santiago I ll go As the sea lies drowned on the shore, to Santiago I ll go white heat, dead fruits, to Santiago I ll go Oh the bovine freshness of your skulls! Oh Cuba! Oh sighing whispering curve of clay! Yes. To Santiago I shall go.</p>
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***Ramón y Cajal.** Spain's Nobel prize-winning physician Santiago Ramón y Cajal spent two years practicing as a military doctor in Cuba. He returned home ill with malaria and dysentery. The money he had earned on the island enabled him to purchase his first microscope.

***Alfonso de Borbón.** Alfonso de Borbón, Prince of Asturias, son of Alfonso XIII and heir to the Spanish throne, renounced his royal birthright by marrying Cuban Edelmira Sampedor Robato in 1933.



***Pablo Ruíz Picasso.** Pablo Picasso's grandfather worked in the Cuban customs office, and in spite of having a wife and children in Málaga, during his time there he married a former African slave, with whom he had children. Accordingly, Spain's great painter had family living in Cuba. It is said that Picasso himself spent some time in Cuba during the 1950s in search of his ancestors, and once there, he followed in his grandfather's footsteps. It seems he had offspring in Cuba himself, the fruit of an affair with a young lady from Sagua la Grande. These descendants bearing the Picasso surname have been described as "black and Catholic, with a predisposition to manual skills".

The list of Spaniards who were left profoundly marked by Cuba is a long one. It includes names such as Juan Ramón Jiménez, Manuel Altolaguirre, Sorolla, Valle-Inclán, and Vicente Blasco [Ibañez].

VIII. Some Precautions

The Cuban Government is repressive in nature. This being the case, it is only natural to ask what risks might be involved for tourists from Spain or other countries who visit Cuba hoping to express their solidarity with the people or institutions described in this guide.

Of course, income from tourism is important for the Cuban State, so generally speaking, tourists receive much better treatment than do Cubans themselves. It is also obvious that any type of repression or action taken against a foreign citizen performing some act of solidarity would have international repercussions – with the consequent cost to the “image” of the Cuban Government.

However, it must be borne in mind that Cuba does not have a true “rule of law” such as we are used to in democratic countries. Accordingly, the reality is that there can be certain risks associated with some types of supportive activities, and we cannot guarantee otherwise. What we can do is recommend some measures that will certainly reduce any possible risks.

We should firstly be aware that various solidarity activities imply different levels of risk. For example, taking medicine to the family of a prisoner of conscience or to a church, or giving children’s books to an independent library is a less risky activity than carrying and distributing books of a political nature on the Cuban regime or its officials.

In order to minimize any risks, we recommend you take the following precautions:

- **Visit different activists, families or institutions – avoid making repeated visits to the same one. That way you will draw less attention to yourself and support more people**
- **Be discreet about your solidarity efforts, especially if you intend to visit the better-known activists. Don’t mention your plans to other Cubans, or “every man and his dog” will soon know of your intentions**
- **And finally, when in Cuba, don’t openly criticize the Cuban Government or Fidel Castro Ruz (and the same goes for his brother Raúl too, OK?)**



XIX. Glossary of Political Prisoners, by Province

Camagüey:

1. Alejandro González Raga (page 12)
2. Normando Hernández González (page 12)
3. Mario Enrique Mayo Hernández (page 13)
4. Alfredo Pulido López (page 13)

Ciego de Ávila:

1. Pablo Pacheco Ávila (page 15)
2. Pedro Argüelles Morán (page 15)

Cienfuegos:

1. Pedro Genaro Barrera Rodríguez (page 18)
2. Juan Carlos Vázquez García (page 19)
3. Ricardo Pupo Sierra (page 19)
4. Bernardo Arévalo Padrón (page 19)

Gramma:

1. Julio Antonio Valdés Guevara (page 21)

Guantánamo:

1. Juan Carlos Herrera Acosta (page 25)
2. Manuel Ubals González (page 26)
3. Néstor Rodríguez Lovaina (page 25)

Holguín:

1. Próspero Gainza Agüero (page 29)

Isla de la Juventud:

1. Fabio Prieto Llorente (page 32)
2. Rolando Jiménez Posada (page 31)
3. Rafael Mollet Leiva (page 32)

Havana:

1. Alfredo Felipe Fuentes (page 34)
2. Héctor Raúl Valle Hernández (page 35)
3. José Ubaldo Izquierdo Hernández (page 35)
4. Miguel Galbán Gutiérrez (page 35)
5. José Enrique Santana Carreira (page 35)
6. Ricardo Ramos Pereira (page 35)

City of Havana:

1. Martha Beatriz Roque Cabello (page 44)
2. Mijail Bárzaga Lugo (page 46)
3. Oscar Elías Biscet González (page 44)
4. Marcelo Cano Rodríguez (page 45)
5. Ricardo González Alfonso (page 45)
6. Roberto De Miranda Hernández (page 46)
7. Oscar Espinosa Chepe (page 46)
8. Efrén Fernández Fernández (page 45)
9. Juan Adolfo Fernández Saíenz (page 45)
10. Orlando Fundora Álvarez (page 47)
11. Julio César Gálvez Rodríguez (page 47)
12. Edel José García Díaz (page 46)
13. Regis Iglesias Ramírez (page 48)
14. Nelson Aguiar Ramírez (page 48)
15. Marcelo López Bañobre (page 48)
16. Héctor Maseda Gutiérrez (page 47)
17. J. Miguel Martínez Hernández (page 47)
18. Nelson Molinet Espino (page 47)
19. Jorge Olivera Castillo (page 48)
20. Héctor Palacios Ruiz (page 48)

21. Ángel Juan Moya Acosta (page 49)
22. Arnaldo Ramos Lauzerique (page 49)
23. Miguel Valdés Tamayo (page 49)
24. Omar Rodríguez Saludes (page 49)
25. Pedro Pablo Álvarez Ramos (page 49)
26. Antonio Ramón Díaz Sánchez (page 50)
27. Francisco Pastor Chaviano González (page 50)
28. Rafael Corrales Alonso (page 50)
29. Emilio Leyva Pérez (page 51)
30. Carmelo Díaz (page 50)
31. Orlando Zapata Tamayo (page 51)

Las Tunas:

1. Alfredo Rodolfo Domínguez Batista (page 62)
2. Luís Enrique Ferrer García (page 61)
3. José Luís García Paneque (page 62)
4. Jorge Luís González Banquero (page 62)
5. Reynaldo Labrada Peña (page 62)

Matanzas:

1. Diosdado González Marrero (page 68)
2. Félix Navarro Rodríguez (page 70)
3. Ariel Sigler Amaya (page 69)
4. Guido Sigler Amaya (page 69)
5. Miguel Sigler Amaya (page 69)
6. Iván Hernández Carrillo (page 68)

Pinar del Río:

1. Víctor Rolando Arroyo Carmona (page 74)
2. Fidel Suárez Cruz (page 74)
3. Eduardo Díaz Fleitas (page 74)
4. Horacio Julio Piña Borrego (page 74)

Sancti Spiritus:

1. Blas Giraldo Reyes Rodríguez (page 77)

Santiago de Cuba:

1. Alexis Rodríguez Fernández (page 81)
2. José Daniel Ferrer García (page 80)
3. Leonel Grave de Peralta Almenares (page 81)
4. Luís Milán Fernández (page 81)
5. Jesús Mustafá Felipe (page 82)
6. José Gabriel Ramón Castillo (page 81)
7. Claro Sánchez Altarriba (page 82)
8. Ricardo Enrique Silva Gual (page 82)

Villa Clara:

1. Arturo Pérez de Alejo Rodríguez (page 87)
2. Omar Pernet Hernández (page 88)
3. Omar Ruiz Hernández (page 87)
4. Antonio A. Villarreal Acosta (page 88)
5. Margarito Broche Espinosa (page 88)
6. Léster González Pentón (page 88)
7. Librado Linares García (page 88)

**The names shown in blue correspond to political prisoners who are no longer in jail, either because they are on provisional release (conditional liberty), or else because they have been released from prison.