Mercedes Mejia is producer and director of Michigan Radio’s Stateside show. She has traveled to Cuba three times, most recently in 2016 for a series covering the connections between the island nation and Michigan. Mercedes is a fluent Spanish speaker with a deep connection to Latin America. Besides Cuba, her travels have included Mexico, Ecuador, Guatemala, Belize, and Brazil. She looks forward to helping Michigan Radio listeners discover Cuba.
Cuba Discovery

DAY 1: DEPART USA - ARRIVE HAVANA CUBA
Upon arrival in Havana at the Jose Marti International Airport and clearing customs, meet your local English speaking Cuban Guide outside the baggage terminal. Your drive from the airport orients you with Cuba’s enigmatic capital city, whose nearly 500-year Old Havana is home to the largest collections of Spanish-Colonial architecture in the Americas. Make a photo stop and learn more about the Colonial architecture in the Americas. Enjoy a fascinating walking tour of the Plaza de la Revolucion, the center of Cuban political life where millions of Cubans listened to speeches of Fidel Castro. Religion has always played an important role in Cuban society. Enjoy a fascinating walking tour of the Colon Cemetery founded in 1876, and noted for its elaborate sculpted memorials containing more than 500 major mausoleums and chapels. The cemetery is the final resting place for famous Cubans including artists, writers, musicians and ballplayers. Check into your hotel and unpack for your five night stay. Dinner is included at a local restaurant in Havana this evening.

(B,L) Overnight: Havana

DAY 2: OLD HAVANA (UNESCO) - MUSEUM OF THE REVOLUTION
This morning enjoy a guided walking tour of pedestrian only Old Havana, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. See the beautiful Cathedral de la Havana, built in baroque style in 1748 and learn about its preservation and continuous restoration. Next, enjoy a fascinating tour of the Havana Club Rum Museum with a local Cuban rum expert to learn about the history and process of making Cuban Rum and an opportunity to sample the differences. Following lunch at a local Paladar in Old Havana this afternoon we visit the famous Museum of the Revolution that displays documents and artifacts, weapons and planes from the revolution. Learn about the Bay of Pigs, the 1961 historic clash between the CIA trained Cuban exiles & rebel forces. Next head to the charming fishing village of Jaimanitas to visit the incredible Home and Work Shop of world famous artist, painter and ceramicist Jose Fuster, often called the “Picasso of Cuba”. He has adorned an entire neighborhood with colorful ornate mosaics. Here we spend time with to discuss the influence of the artist’s work and their lives and community. Dinner is on your own this evening allowing you to explore the fine restaurants, cuisine and Jazz clubs of Havana. Perhaps even take in the world famous Tropicana Cabaret Show on your own that offers an evening of music and history at this famous nightclub show that presents song-and-dance performances of 1950’s Cuba.

(B,L) Overnight: Havana

DAY 3: HAVANA - CIGAR FACTORY - HABANA COMPAS
This morning following breakfast we begin the day with a fascinating visit and guided tour with a local cigar expert to the La Corona Cigar Factory. See firsthand and learn about the history and the process of Cuban cigars being hand rolled. The factory rolls such brands as Hoyo de Monterrey and Cuaba & Punch. Next enjoy a performance by the amazing Habana Compas Dance Group. Interact with the students and teachers to learn more about the Cuban dance culture. Next, tour the famous Nacional Hotel, once Havana’s flagship hotel that has hosted celebrities and world leaders during its heyday, such as Winston Churchill and Frank Sinatra to name a few. Free time to explore this historic property housing pictures and nostalgia from a by gone era or even sip a Mojito on the patio. Meet a former famous professional Cuban baseball player and join in a discussion regarding the history and love of this game in Cuba and the U.S. Dinner is included this evening at a local Paladar.

(B,L,D) Overnight: Havana

DAY 4: HAVANA - VINALES VALLEY (UNESCO) - PINAR DEL RIO
Today we travel out of Havana and into the rural Cuban countryside to the Vinales Valley located in the western most mountainous range in Cuba and declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This region, the western province of Pinar del Rio is known for its stunning scenery, a landscape of prehistoric looking flat-top mountains or “mogotes”, tobacco plantations, caves and rivers. Next, visit a traditional Tobacco Farm and Farmhouse to meet with the farmer to learn about tobacco cultivation, the drying process and experience a cigar rolling demonstration inside the drying hut. Enjoy a visit inside his farmhouse, meeting and interacting with his family while enjoying some Cuban coffee. A great opportunity to witness up close, how Cuban families live in a rural setting. Next enjoy lunch at the beautiful Finca Paraíso Paladar (organic farm) offering incredible panoramic views of the Vinales Valley and an opportunity to meet the Cuban family that owns this organic farm. Later stop at the Los Jasmines viewpoint offering incredible panoramic views of the Vinales Valley and an opportunity to enjoy the spectacular scenery and take photos of this beautiful and unique region of Cuba. Return to Havana later this afternoon with the evening on your own to explore Havana’s many outstanding Paladaras, Jazz clubs or simply relax.

(B,L) Overnight: Havana

DAY 5: HAVANA - HEMINGWAY FARM - CLASSIC CAR CLUB
Next enter the world of Ernest Hemingway with a visit to Hemingway’s Farm, Finca La Vigia (meaning...
Following breakfast, this morning, we’ll transfer to the airport for our return flight home with incredible memories of the amazing people and culture of your Cuba.

DAY 6: HAVANA - FLIGHT BACK TO USA
Following breakfast, this morning, we’ll transfer to the airport for our return flight home with incredible memories of the amazing people and culture of your Cuba.

CUBAN TRAVEL VISA is required for travel to Cuba and applies to US citizens only. The Cuban Visa cost is $100 per person including processing fees and is Not Included in the tour rates. Cuban Visa cost will be invoiced with your final payment and is subject to change. Cuban born passengers require a different Visa process and additional costs.
Enclosed please find a deposit in the amount of $375 per person to secure reservations for __________ # of people.

Premier’s Travel Protection Plan (TPP): ☐ Yes, I (we) wish to purchase travel protection (TPP) (TPP must be purchased with initial deposit)

Enclosed please find payment in the amount of $________________ ($375 per person) to secure the Premier’s Travel Protection Plan (TPP).

TOTAL PAYMENT $________________

RT AIR GATEWAY ____________ ROOMMATE’S RT AIR GATEWAY

To avoid change fees, submit Passport names (first/mid/last) exactly as they appear on Passports.

NOTES:

Visa

Credit Card # ___________________ Exp Date: ________________ CVV# ___________________ Amount to be charged $________________

Credit Card Billing Address: ☐ Check if address is the same as above

Address ___________________ City ___________________ State __________ ZIP __________ Tel# ___________________

Signature ___________________ Date __________

SIGNATURE REQUIRED (for credit card use & acceptance of terms*) *(I/We) agree to pay according to the credit card issuer agreement. I understand and accept the cancellation fees/policy and all other terms.

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AIR NOTE

Air Schedules may not be available until Final Trip Documentation is received. Air seats are assigned by the airline and sometimes not assigned until the day of travel. Air seat changes can only be attempted upon receipt of e-tickets and Final Trip Documentation at which time availability may be limited. If specific seat assignments or airline choice is extremely important to your reservation, we recommend you book your own air reservations. Please make this adjustment to land only/own air at time of tour reservation.

*BOOKING DISCOUNT

Make your final payment by check prior to the Final Payment Due Date & receive $200 per couple/$100 per person Booking Discount

• Initial Deposit can be made by check or credit card to be eligible.

• Payments after Initial Deposit are considered part of final payment & must be made by check.

ONLINE BOOKING OPTION

Save time, postage & secure your seat for this group departure. Simply type https://res.premierworlddiscovery.com into your web browser & use the Booking Number (Web Code) from this flyer to make your Deposit online in just a few minutes. No need to submit a Reservation Form if booking online.