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## SOUTHEASTERN GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY FIELD TRIP ANNOUNCEMENT

18-23 March 2018

# Geology and Geomorphology of Western Cuba



The Southeastern Geological Society has a most unique opportunity to examine the spectacular geology and geomorphology of Western Cuba, hosted by renowned Cuban geologist and paleontologist, Manuel A. Iturralde-Vincent, former deputy director of the Cuban National Natural History Museum. Manuel has written extensively on Cuban geology, and has led many trips across Cuba. This 5-day excursion will begin with a chartered flight from Tampa, Florida to Havana. We will examine varied and complex terranes, including Jurassic-Cretaceous continental margin deposits, the K-T boundary and Paleogene synorogenic foredeep sediments, ophiolites and Cretaceous volcanics, Miocene to Quaternary marine and terrestrial deposits, tower karst, and modern coastal environments (including snorkeling). A special SEGS field guide (authored by Manuel) will be provided.

Visas, travel, meals, and lodging will be coordinated by Holbrook Travel of Gainesville, which has handled all Cuban expeditions for the Florida Museum of Natural History. The cost of the trip is \$2,320 per person (with minimum of 10 paying – this cost drops with more participants), PLUS \$350.00 per person for airfare. Roundtrip flight will depart from, and return to, Tampa International Airport. This price includes accommodations (double occupancy), meals, entrance fees, activities listed in itinerary, private vehicle transportation unless otherwise noted in itinerary, non-alcoholic beverages with meals, full time guide for duration of program (required), all tips/gratuities, bottled water on bus, stipend \$100.00 for Manuel, carbon offset (we can drop this fee), and departure tax. Current passport (with at least 6 months remaining) required.

This is *preliminary* announcement, but we are asking for an initial response in order to gauge interest. Please do not respond unless you think you will genuinely be able to attend. A second announcement will follow soon. A non-refundable deposit of \$200.00 will be required by November to reserve your place. Please indicate your initial (serious) interest by sending a short message to SEGS VP Jon Bryan at [bryanj@nwfsc.edu](mailto:bryanj@nwfsc.edu).

A general field schedule, suggest by Manuel, is given below:

## ITINERARY

*BLD = Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

### **Sunday 03/18/2018 Vinales Los Jazmines or La Ermita (LD)**

Upon arrival in Havana (morning flight arrival) transfer directly to Viñales stopping at a tobacco farm along the way. Discussion of the Geology and the scenic overview at the Visitor's Center of Viñales Natural Park. Overview of the geology and tower karst geomorphology of the Viñales valley and surroundings. Stop for a brunch at Palmas Barrigonas along the road. Dinner at a local restaurant with a great view of the valley near the hotel.

### **Monday 03/19/2018 Vinales Los Jazmines or La Ermita (BLD)**

After breakfast observe the Jurassic-Cretaceous continental margin sections of Pangea to Proto Caribbean, overview of Paleogene foredeep and the Cretaceous-Tertiary boundary deposit at Moncada town. A boxed lunch is included. Dinner will be at the hotel.

### **Tuesday 03/20/2018 Varadero Hotel Tuxpan or similar (BLD)**

This morning depart for Varadero with lunch at Bucanaygua Bridge. During the drive you will have the opportunity to see outcrops and varying landscapes along with ophiolites, Cretaceous arc and Paleocene sections. At the end of the day enjoy dinner at the hotel.

### **Wednesday 03/21/2018 Veradero Hotel Tuxpan or similar (BLD)**

This morning enjoy snorkeling on the barrier reef from the shore at Playa Coral. Later in the afternoon visit a cave in Varadero to see the interesting karst and archeological features.

### **Thursday 03/22/2018 Havana Hotel Capri or similar (BLD)**

This morning depart for Havana stopping to observe Quaternary marine and coastal deposits in Boca de Jaruco and Santa Maria del Mar. After lunch at the Morro-Cabana complex with a view of the bay you will continue to Old Havana. Explore Old Havana's cobblestone streets with a walking tour where for the opportunity to see architecture constructed during Spanish colonial times. During the exploration visit the Plaza de Armas, Plaza de San Francisco de Asís, Plaza de la Catedral, and Plaza Vieja. Visit the Museum of the Revolution and the Plaza of the Revolution for an important view into Cuba's modern history. In the evening enjoy a farewell dinner at a local paladar (or private restaurant) to experience Cuba's food and restaurant renaissance, part of the economic reform ongoing in Cuba. Later you will have the option for enjoy the many musical, dance, and other productions; from local jazz clubs to cabaret, ballet, even hip hop.

Friday 03/23/2018

(BL)

Today visit Ernest Hemingway's home, Finca La Vigia, in the modest town of San Francisco de Paula. (This will work with the evening Southwest flight only). After lunch there will be time for independent exploration of Havana before returning to the airport for the 6:00pm flight.

