

## 5 must-try CUBAN DISHES

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### 1 ROPA VIEJA

*Ropa vieja* means old clothes. Immigrants from the Canary Islands brought this culinary tradition to Cuba. There are various myths about this expression. A poor man is said to have cooked his clothes, telling his family that it was good meat and that they would feel less hungry if they believed they were eating good food. According to another myth, a man sold all his clothes to buy food for his family because he did not have enough money to feed them. *Ropa vieja* is a popular dish, a beef stew with vegetables.

### 2 POLLO CON QUIMBOBÓ

A traditional casserole. Chicken is simmered with chopped okra, onions, garlic, green peppers, tomato and plantain, seasoned with black pepper, coriander and lime. This dish is served with a bowl of steamed or boiled malanga and a side of white rice.

### 3 TAMALES

Classic Latin American dish. Prepared by wrapping a mixture of ground corn, masa and other spices in a cornhusk and steaming it. Comes in different flavors and fillings.

### 4 CERDO ASADO, MOROS Y CRISTIANOS (CONGRÍ), PLÁTANO MADURO

Roast pork in an oven or on a spit. Usually it is served with *moros* and *cristianos*, which accompanies any real comida criolla. *Moros* and *cristianos* is white rice and black beans. Plátano Maduro is fried plantain.

### 5 POTAJE DE FRIJOLES

Colored or black beans are slow-cooked with garlic, onions, pepper and other herbs to produce this delicious thick soup. Sometimes pieces of pork are added. Served with a bowl of plain white rice.



## 5

# TRADITIONAL *versus* CONTEMPORARY BARS

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### 91 SLOPPY JOE'S

Ánimas esq Zulueta  
Habana Vieja ①  
+53 7866 7157  
[www.sloppyjoes.org](http://www.sloppyjoes.org)

An immense bar with an even bigger history. The bar reopened in 2013 after being closed for 48 years. Sloppy Joe's was popular with U.S. tourists in the twenties and thirties during the Prohibition, when they made Havana their playground. This bar is also featured in the movie *Our man in Havana*. Try the Sloppy Joe cocktail, a cool refreshing blend of brandy, port and Cointreau, with a fruity pineapple finish. Yes, Hemingway also was here.

### 92 VIP HAVANA

Calle 9 no 454  
entre E y F  
Vedado ③  
+53 7832 0178  
[www.viphavana454.com](http://www.viphavana454.com)

Everybody is welcome in this modern, avant-gardist bar. Silent movies are projected on a large screen with accompanying music. You can also eat here. This upmarket restaurant specializes in rice and seafood. Elegant and luxurious.

93 **BOLABANA**  
Calle 39 esq 50  
Playa ⑤  
+53 5294 3572

A new contemporary bar with a 'Miami'-style decoration. A trendy location near La Tropical, where hipsters meet the Havana farándula.

94 **SANGRI-LA**  
Avenida 21  
entre 36 y 42  
Miramar ⑤  
+53 5264 8343

The place to see singer Leoni Torres on Tuesdays. As a result, this club has become a well-known place. It alternates between private parties and regular events. Excellent gin and tonic.

95 **BAR DOS HERMANOS**  
Avenida del Puerto  
no 304 esq Sol  
Habana Vieja ①  
+53 7861 3514

Bar Dos Hermanos is located opposite Sierra Maestra terminal. This mojito bar was recently renovated. Hemingway also frequented this bar. Other important guests were Frederico Garcia Lorca and Marlon Brando. Open 24/7.



91 SLOPPY JOE'S

## 5 typical HANDICRAFT MARKETS and shops to buy coffee

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- 141 **CENTRO CULTURAL ANTIGUOS DE ALMACENES DE DEPÓSITO SAN JOSÉ**  
Avenida del Puerto entre Habana y Cuba  
Habana Vieja ①
- The Feria de San José is a giant warehouse facing the sea. Here you can find all the typical souvenirs under one roof. Everything you can think of with a Che on it, cigars, jewels, clothes, paintings. Take advantage of the opportunity to buy some Nauta cards (to go online). The wait is never too long in the Etecsa office.
- 142 **PALACIO DE ARTESANÍA**  
Cuba no 64 entre Cuarteles y Peña Pobre  
Habana Vieja ①
- A colonial palace where you can buy several things. There's a section dedicated to typical musical instruments used to play traditional Cuban music. Also a good selection of Cuban handicrafts, clothing and jewellery. There's also a restaurant, bar and ice cream shop.
- 143 **MERCADO LA RAMPA LA FERIA DE 23**  
Calle 23 entre M y N  
Vedado ③
- Small craft market selling imported clothes, handmade leather items and wood carvings. Also check the Feria de Artesanía at Malecón entre D y E, Vedado.

- 144 **CAFÉ EL ESCORIAL**  
Plaza Vieja  
Mercaderes no 317  
Habana Vieja ①  
+53 7868 3545

Freshly roasted coffee beans, grown in Escambray, a mountainous area in central Cuba, are available for purchase here. Buy them to take that excellent Cuban coffee flavor home with you. Since there's always a lot of people in line to buy coffee, sit down, put in your request and order a coffee on the terrace. Besides the usual latte, cappuccino or espresso, part of the menu also includes coffees mixed with all kind of rums and other liquors.

- 145 **CASA DEL HABANO HOTEL NACIONAL**  
Calle O esq 21  
Vedado ③  
+53 7836 3564

Make sure to stop here and buy tons of coffee before leaving Havana. Go to the basement to buy the best and most addictive there is. A bit expensive but worth it: 'Montecristo Delegend', a mountain coffee from the Sierra Maestra. Do also try 'Cohiba Atmosphere', a coffee from El Nicho. Upstairs you can stock up on Arriero and Serrano coffee. Bags of one kilo for yourself and small bags as gifts for your coffee-loving friends.



CASA DE LA AMISTAD

## 25 BUILDINGS TO ADMIRE

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*The 5 most stunning* ART DECO BUILDINGS — 84

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ARCHITECTURE — 90

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*5 must-visit* LIBRARIES, THEATERS *and*  
*a* BOOKSHOP — 94

## 5 of the best places to admire STREET ART

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### 241 JUAN FORMELL

Calle 46 y 21  
Playa ⑤

This captivating portrait of Juan Formell is the result of a community project. Once a year the community gathers to commemorate him. Juan Formell is a Cuban bassist, composer and arranger. He is a real national hero and is best known as the director of the country's favourite band Los Van Van.

### 242 WRINKLES OF THE CITY

ONELIA LÓPEZ RUIZ  
BY JR & JOSÉ PARLA  
Calle 17 y G  
Vedado ③

This is one of the few works that are still left of the marvellous mural project for the 11th Biennial. It is a portrait of Onelia López Ruiz. She wears the headscarf because of her religion. Her message to the world is about beautiful things, good things, all we need to be able is to live in peace with serenity and love.

### 243 BOYS

Calle 60 y Avenida 21  
Playa ⑤

A charming mural of a sweet little boy. There's another one of yet another boy two blocks further. These boys could be living in this neighborhood.

### 244 WRINKLES OF THE CITY

RAFAEL LORENZO  
Y OBDULIA MANZANO  
Condesa  
y Campanario  
Centro Habana ②

Another mural of the 'Wrinkles of the city' project. Hurry up and see it because part of the mural is vanishing. Rafael Lorenzo was a musician so he travelled a lot, his wife never wanted to travel. When he was away from Cuba, he started to miss his wife and Cuba so much that he did not want to travel any longer.

### 245 LICEO ARTÍSTICO Y LITERARIO

BY ANDRÉS CARRILLO  
Mercaderes  
Habana Vieja ①

The mural depicts 67 human figures. Andrés Carrillo used unusual techniques and mixed materials to obtain new colors and textures. The mural is located opposite the home of the Marquise de Arcos. In 1844, her house was a salon for art and culture. The wall portrays the people that visited her art room.



5 places  
**YOU WOULDN'T EXPECT**  
to find in Havana

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**311 JOHN LENNON PARK** Against all expectations, people in Cuba also like the Beatles. This park owes its name to the sculpture of John Lennon. It was unveiled by Castro himself in 2000. Obviously the bronze sculpture was wearing glasses but they were frequently stolen. As a result, a security guard is now responsible for the sculpture.

Calle 15, 17 y 6, 8  
Vedado ③

**312 CEMENTERIO CHINO** At one time Cuba had the biggest Chinese community in the Americas. So it will come as no surprise that they decided to build a Chinese cemetery in 1892. This eternal resting place is subdivided into four quadrants, which represent heaven, earth, the world of the living and the world of the dead.

Calle 26 y Zapata  
entre 28 y 33  
Nuevo Vedado ④  
+53 7830 4517

**313 CASA VICTOR HUGO** This cultural center hosts French language classes, screens French films and also has a library with French books. In addition to this, there is also an exhibition space and a space dedicated to Victor Hugo.

O'Reilly no 311  
entre Aguiar y Habana  
Habana Vieja ①  
+53 7866 7590

**314 JARDÍN DIANA DE GALES**  
Baratillo  
esq Carpinetti  
Habana Vieja ①

Take a look at the beautiful inscription above the garden entrance and step into this tiny zen oasis. Artworks by Alfredo Sosabravo and Juan Quintanilla and an engraved plaque from Princess Diana's home of Althorp, which was donated by the British embassy, also grace the garden.

**315 MUSEO NAPOLEÓNICO**  
San Miguel no 1159  
esq Ronda  
Vedado ③  
+53 7879 1412

This museum is dedicated to the huge Napoleon Bonaparte collection of sugar magnate Julio Lobo and the politician Orestes Ferrara. The most interesting attractions during your visit are the sketches of Voltaire, a recreation of Napoleon's study and bedroom and one of the seven death masques that were cast two days after Napoleon's death by his personal physician.



# The 5 most charming INDEPENDENT APARTMENTS

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## 391 BOHEMIA BOUTIQUE APARTMENTS

Plaza Vieja  
Habana Vieja ①  
+53 5403 1568  
[www.havana-bohemia.com](http://www.havana-bohemia.com)

Gorgeous and beautifully decorated apartments. There are three apartments available, the Bohemia Red, the Bohemia Blue and the Bohemia White. Enter through the cool patio of Café Bohemia where breakfast is served. They also have one room to rent, called Bohemia Estancia.

## 392 SUITE HAVANA

Lamparilla no 62  
entre Mercaderes  
y San Ignacio  
Habana Vieja ①  
+53 5829 6524  
[www.suitehavana.com](http://www.suitehavana.com)

Suite Havana consists in an elegant two-bedroom apartment in a restored colonial house in one of the nicest streets of the historic center. A quality loft style décor will make your stay more than pleasant. The jacuzzi will offer you a perfect way to relax.

## 393 CASA CONCORDIA

Concordia no 151 ap 8  
esq San Nicolas  
Centro Habana ②  
+53 5413 4724  
[www.casaconcordia.net](http://www.casaconcordia.net)

Beautifully designed and spacious three-bedroom apartment. Spanish colonial interiors with cheerful, arty accents.

## 394 CASA ARTE HABANA

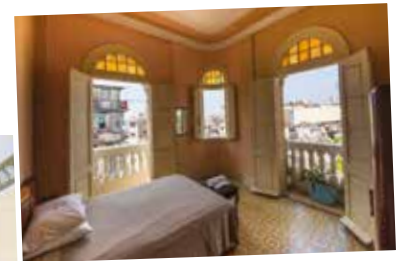
San Miguel no 101  
apt 7 entre Industria  
y Amistad  
Centro Habana ②  
[www.casa-arte-habana.com](http://www.casa-arte-habana.com)

Casa Arte Habana is a perfect example of Spanish colonial architecture. This four bedroom apartment has the most splendid view of the Capitolio. People of the neighborhood tell Fidel Castro lived in one of them while studying for his law degree. A warm welcome is given by María Elena. You'll want to spend the rest of your life in this gigantic, stunning apartment.

## 395 TROPICANA PENTHOUSE

Galiano no 60 entre  
San Lázaro y Trocadero  
Centro Habana ②  
+53 5413 4724  
[www.tropicana-penthouse.com](http://www.tropicana-penthouse.com)

This luxurious penthouse is precious for its huge rooftop and breath-taking 360-degree views of Havana and the ocean. The bedrooms with a touch of green and red are spacious and really comfortable. It's nice staying here.



## The 5 best CINEMAS

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### 446 CINE CHAPLIN

Calle 23 no 1157  
entre 10 y 12  
Vedado ③  
+53 7831 1101

This is the Cinemateca of Havana. An art house cinema that screens Cuban and international movies. The venue has 1200 seats and the lobby features a poster gallery of great Cuban classic films. In 2015, this was one of the first cinemas in Cuba to be fitted with digital projection facilities.

### 447 LA RAMPA

Calle 23 no 111  
entre O y P  
Vedado ③  
+53 7878 6146

La Rampa was initially a bowling alley but now it is used as a cinema. They also have a film archive. This cinema screens films throughout the day. Various festivals are organized at La Rampa, including the European film festival.

### 448 CINE RIVIERA

Calle 23 no 507  
entre G y H  
Vedado ③  
+53 7832 9564

In the evening, the white letters on top of this blue cinema turn a bright blue. It screens a wide range of films, including action movies from North America, the UK and Cuba. Also lots of Spanish-language movies from Latin America. And it hosts good live concerts of pop, rock and rap groups.

### 449 CINE ACAPULCO

Avenida 26  
entre 35 y 37  
Nuevo Vedado ④  
+53 7830 9564

The Acapulco was a luxury cinema that opened in 1958. It had a beautiful modern interior. Now a little run down, it still screens premieres of Cuban movies and a variety of other films.

### 450 CINE INFANTA

Infanta entre  
Neptuno y San Miguel  
Centro Habana ②  
+53 7878 9323

This multiplex has four modern cinemas. An important venue during the international film festival in December. In Cuba going to the cinema is a real experience, because Cubans express their emotions during the film. They laugh, are frightened, tell the characters what they should do, reflect on what's not done. In short, they comment on every bit of the film without being disruptive. It's like interactive cinema, but more fun.



448 CINE RIVIERA