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12 July 2010

Dear Friend

Public Service and Health Care Study Tour 02-10 March 2011

Thank you for your recent enquiry about Cuba Solidarity Campaign's **Public Service and Health Care Study Tour**.

The 7-night study tour provides a unique opportunity for practitioners in the field and interested individuals to gain first hand experience of a broad spectrum of public service and health care development issues facing Cuba today. Visits will include housing project, community and social work projects, rural and urban health care centres, childrens' hospital and a community mental health unit. The study tour will visit Havana and Pinar del Río province.

- In depth insight into Cuba's public service provision, including housing, transport and social service programmes.
- Focus on Cuba's excellent health care provision at local and national level in rural and urban environments. Witness first hand the preventative and health promotion work of Cuba's hospitals and local health care centres.
- Meet with service providers and patients in public health and health care facilities through a series of related professional visits to workplaces and neighbourhoods to gain a valuable and unique insight into the continuing achievements of the Cuban Revolution and present day Cuban society
- Strengthen links with Cuban public service and health care workers
- Examine the challenges facing the revolutionary island as well as the problems caused by the illegal US trade blockade of Cuba.
- Experience the captivating capital city of Havana and vibrant Cuban culture at first hand. This is a wonderful opportunity to see the real revolutionary Cuba away from the usual tourist trail and experience Cuba's rich and diverse cultural heritage.

Bob Oram, UNISON NEC member, CSC Executive member and specialist in Cuba's health services, will lead the Study Tour. Bob, who led our very popular 2007 Health Study Tour, has an extensive knowledge of the Cuban health care system and is widely regarded as a leading expert on health service issues in Cuba.



The full cost of this unique Study Tour is £1,099.00 per person.

In addition, if you are currently not a member of CSC, we are delighted to offer you a year's free CSC membership as part of your participation in a CSC Study Tour. A form is enclosed and we look forward to receiving your application for membership.

Flights

Virgin Airlines.

Outbound: Wednesday 02 March. Virgin Airlines VS063 departs London Gatwick South Terminal at 11:45. Check in at 08:45. Arrives Havana 16:40 local time.

Inbound: Wednesday 09 March. Virgin Airlines VS064 departs Havana at 20:10. Arrives London Gatwick 08:45 on Thursday 10 March 2011.

Flight times are subject to final confirmation by the airline. Joining instructions, flight tickets and Cuban tourist cards will be issued approximately 14 days before departure.

Accommodation & Meal Plan

Hotel St John's, Havana. 2 star hotel. 7-nights from 02-10 March 2011.

Meal Plan: Bed and breakfast.

Transport

Air-conditioned transportation with driver and English speaking AMISTUR guide as per itinerary.

Itinerary

| DAY | PROGRAMME/VISITS | | |
|------------|---|---|--|
| Wed | | | Arrive Havana. |
| Thurs | <u>Housing Services:</u> Housing provision and planning. Havana. | <u>Lunch at Casa de la Amistad</u> <u>Transport Services:</u> Public transport provision. Havana. | |
| Fri | <u>Health Services:</u> Mental Health community project. Havana. | <u>Health Services:</u> Policlinico, local health care centre. Havana. | Committee for the Defence of the Revolution (CDR) neighbourhood meeting. Havana. |
| Sat | Old Havana walking tour. La Maqueta scale model, Old Havana. | Plaza de la Revolución. José Martí monument. | |
| Sun | Free Day. | | |
| Mon | Visit to Pinar del Rio. <u>Health Services:</u> Family doctor. <u>Social Services:</u> Social work project with young people. | Lunch in Viñales at Rancho San Vicente Late afternoon return to Havana. | |
| Tues | <u>Health Services:</u> Childrens' cardiology unit. William Soler Hospital, Havana. | Bellas Artes museum. | |
| Wed | Free morning. | Afternoon departure to Havana Airport. | |
| Thurs | Arrive London Gatwick. | | |

What is included: return flights with Virgin Airlines from London Gatwick to Havana, UK Departure Tax, 7-night's accommodation (as detailed in itinerary) based on two people sharing twin rooms with en suite facilities, all meals listed in the meal plan arrangements, services of an English speaking AMISTUR guide and the Cuba Solidarity Campaign's Tour Leader, air conditioned transport as

per itinerary in Cuba and entrance to all visits and excursions, other than those marked as optional, listed in the itinerary.

What is not included: Cuban Tourist Card (visa), currently £15.00, travel insurance, transfers to and from the departure airport (Gatwick), Havana airport departure tax (CUC25 as at July 2010), single room supplement (£70.00 per person) if required and any services not listed as included. All drinks are excluded.

To ensure that we are able to keep our prices as low as possible, we would like to inform you that if there are any further increases in UK airport departure taxes we would have to pass these additional costs on to our clients.

Please note that new regulations from the Cuban Ministry of Tourism require all visitors to Cuba to have a valid travel insurance policy, including comprehensive medical cover. You must check with the insurance provider that the policy is recognised and valid in Cuba. An insurance cover note must be carried to Cuba and presented to immigration authorities if requested.

The flights will be protected by Havanatour, the UK's leading Cuba specialist, (ATOL 4636) and Havanatour Booking conditions will apply.

To confirm your participation please complete and send the enclosed Registration Form and Havanatour Booking Form with your deposit of £150 per person, made payable to 'CSC' to Trish Meehan, Office Manager, Cuba Solidarity Campaign, c/o UNITE Woodberry, 218 Green Lanes, London, N4 2HB. The deposit is used to secure your flight booking.

All flights are subject to availability at the time of booking. Please ensure that you have fully read and understood the Havanatour booking conditions. Full payment will be required by 21 January 2011. Minimum group numbers of 12 are required for this tour. In the unlikely event of minimum numbers not being obtained your deposit will be returned in full.

If you would like to discuss the **Public Service and Health Care Study Tour** in more detail, please do not hesitate to contact me at the Cuba Solidarity Campaign offices on 020 8800 0155 or e-mail me at tours@cuba-solidarity.org.uk

With very best wishes

Simon Bull
Tours Manager

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