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CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

50TH JOSE MARTI EUROPEAN BRIGADE VOLUNTARY WORK AND SOLIDARITY WITH CUBA

Dear Friends of Cuba:

The Cuban Institute for Friendship with the Peoples (ICAP) and its travel agency Amistur have the pleasure of inviting European friends of Cuba to participate in the 50th Jose Marti European brigade. The program of activities is devoted to mark 170 anniversaries of the birth of Cuban Independence Apostle José Martí, 64 of the triumph of Cuban Revolution and 70 of the National Rebellion Day. Brigade members will visit places of historic, economic, cultural and social significance, undertake voluntary work, be briefed on current affairs in Cuba, and engage with representatives from different organizations across our society, among other activities.

Your stay in Cuba will allow you to get to know our people and to gain a deeper knowledge of the main achievements gotten, which make us to be proud of and at the same time more committed to continue working for defending Cuban Revolution. This is a time of reforms that are being carried out as part of the updating of our socialist project in the face of adverse circumstances caused by the tightening of the economic, trade and financial blockade imposed on us by successive USA governments for over six decades. You will also enjoy a socio-political activities agenda, know our history and culture, streets citizenships safety, natural landscapes and ecological destinations, along with Cuban people's cheerful and human nature will come true an unforgettable experience.

The programme of activities will take place from **July 17th to 30th, 2023**, over 14 days in Havana, Artemisa, and Matanzas. This includes 10 nights in the International Camp Julio Antonio Mella (CIJAM) located in the Caimito municipality, 45 kilometres from Havana. Four nights will be spent in Matanzas. The overall cost of your stay will be **580.00 Euros**. This includes accommodation in shared rooms (of up to four persons in CIJAM and double or triple rooms in Matanzas); full board and airport transfers. Transport to all of the programmed activities will also be provided.

If the total of participants in the Brigade is ultimately under 50 persons, the cost of participation will rise to **670.00 Euros**, rather than 580.00 Euros, which will be known appropriately, before doing corresponding payment. Due to the restrictions imposed by the USA blockade, payment cannot be made in USA dollars.

Optional activities are not included in the overall price to be paid. They will mean an extra cost. Sum can be made by bank transfer or online payment. It is obligatory to travel with travel insurance that covers any medical costs in Cuba. For brigade members who stay at the CIJAM before the 16 July 2023 start date, there will be an additional supplement of 15.00 Euros per night, covering accommodation and meals. The voluntary work will be within agriculture in the vicinity of the CIJAM. The CIJAM was established in 1972 and is set up to cater for communal life and the needs of persons who visit us from different parts of the world. With your collaboration brigade members are expected to participate in all of the activities scheduled in the programme; abide by the CIJAM rules; and abide by the norms of good conduct; discipline and communal living, as well as public health measures.

Registration for participants will be open until the 18 June 2023. To confirm your participation, please send to email addresses: <u>euroeste@icap.cu</u> <u>director.europa@icap.cu</u> and <u>amiventas@amistur.cu</u> following information: full name, passport number, date of birth, profession, languages spoken, country, organization represented as well as details of arrival and departure from Cuba (including dates, times and flight numbers). For Brigade members who come to Havana before the formal start date of the Brigade, we will put on a transfer bus to get you to the CIJAM. This will leave the ICAP main office on the 16 July 2023 at 17.00 hrs.

It will give us great pleasure if you are able to join us for these friendship and solidarity activities, as part of the 50th Jose Marti European brigade of voluntary work and solidarity with Cuba, where friendship between Cuban and European peoples will rule, allowing us to march on towards consolidation of a better, peaceful and brotherhood future.

Fraternally,

Barbara Sarabia Martinez Director of the brigade Officer of the Europe Divission Cuban Institute for Friendship with the Peoples (ICAP)



Programme:

Sunday, 16 July 2023

Arrival of Delegations

17.00 hrs Departure of transfer bus from the Cuban Institute of Friendship with the Peoples (ICAP) to the International Camp Julio Antonio Mella (CIJAM) in Caimito (for brigade members who arrive before this date) Accommodation and Evening Meal.

Monday, 17 July 2023

- 06:00 hrs Morning call and breakfast
- 07.30 am Departure to Habana
- 09:00 hrs Visit to Fidel Castro Center
- 12.00 hrs lunch at local restaurant
- 14.00 hrs Political cultural activity in recognition to 50 José Martí European brigade and act of inauguration at José Martí Memorial.
- 15.00 hrs Talk on solidarity and antiimperialist ideals of José Marti reflected in thought and actions of Fidel.
- 17.00 hrs Departure for CIJAM
- 19.00 hrs Dinner
- 20.30 hrs Free time/music

Tuesday, 18 July 2023

- 05:45 hrs Call and breakfast
- 06:45 hrs Morning news
- 07:00 hrs Departure for voluntary work
- 11:00 hrs Return to CIJAM
- 12:00 hrs Lunch
- 14.00 hrs Information and orientation meeting on CIJAM, introduction of Cuban delegation and camp staff.
- 14:30 hrs Talk on Cuba: A vision from its political, economic and social reality. Relations with USA and European Union.
- 18:30 hrs Dinner
- 20:00 hrs Cuban night

Wednesday, 19 July 2023

- 05:45 hrs Call and breakfast
- 06:45 hrs Morning news
- 07:00 hrs Departure for voluntary work
- 11:00 hrs Return to CIJAM
- 12:00 hrs Lunch
- 14:30 hrs Talk on: "Electoral system, democracy and human rights in Cuba
- 18:00 hrs Dinner
- 20:00 hrs Dance lessons/music

Thursday, 20 July 2023

- 05:45 hrs Call and breakfast
- 06:45 hrs Morning news
- 07:00 hrs Departure for voluntary work
- 11:00 hrs Return to CIJAM
- 12:00 hrs Lunch
- 14.30 hrs Visit to memorial of Martyrs, Artemisa. Exchange with members of the Association of Combatants of the Cuban Revolution and local authorities and local authorities. Explanation on the province characteristics.
- 17.00 hrs Visit to neighborhoods in transformation in Artemisa
- 19.00 hrs Return to CIJAM
- 20.00 hrs Dinner. Free night.

Friday, 21 July 2023

06:30 hrs Call and breakfast

- 08:00 hrs Visit to a cooperative farm on agricultural production. Explanation and voluntary work in Caimito.
- 11.30 hrs Return to CIJAM
- 12.30 hrs Lunch
- 14.30 hrs Visits to 'MIPYMES' (micro, small or medium enterprises) to know the labor of new economic actors in the program of modernization of the Cuban economic model.
- 17:30 hrs Return to CIJAM
- 19:00 hrs Dinner
- 20.00 hrs Dance lessons/music

Saturday, 22 July 2023

- 06:30 hrs Call and breakfast
- 08:00 hrs Voluntary Work in a socio-economic center in Caimito in tribute to July 26th, along with camp staff.
- 12.00 hrs Return to CIJAM
- 13.00 hrs Lunch
- Afternoon: Preparation of European night
- 19.00 hrs European night. Dinner and cultural activity.

Sunday, 23 July 2023

- 05.45 hrs Call and breakfast
- 07:00 hrs Departure for Bay of Pigs
- 10.30 hrs Visit to Korimacao community artistic Project. Exchange with young artists and cultural performance as welcome.
- 12.00 hrs Visit and lunch at Punta Perdiz tour center
- 15:00 hrs Visit to Bay of Pigs museum
- 16:00 hrs Check in at Villa Girón Hotel
- 20: 00 hrs Dinner.

Free night. Recreational activities at hotel.

Monday, 24 July 2023

- 07:30 hrs Breakfast
- 09.00 hrs Visit to Playa Larga medical center to know about health system and management of Covid 19 pandemic in the area
- 11.00 hrs Return to hotel. Check out.
- 12:00 hrs Lunch
- 13:30 hrs Departure for Cárdenas
- 15.30 hrs Visit to Battle of Ideas Museum
- 16.30 hrs Departure for Varadero
- 17:00 hrs City tour along Varadero
- 18.00 hrs Check in at hotel.
- 19:30 hrs Dinner

Free night. Recreational activities at hotel.

Tuesday, 25 July 2023

- 07.00 hrs Breakfast
- 08.00 hrs Departure for Matanzas
- 09.00 hrs Arrival to Matanzas city.
 - ✓ Floral wreath at José Martí at Parque de la Libertad.
 - ✓ Exchange with provincial authorities.

- ✓ Visit to San Severino Castle Museum. Slave rout.
- 12:00 hrs Lunch in a local restaurant
- 14:30 hrs Visit to Sauto theater, National Monument.
- 15.00 hrs Exchange with National Organization of Artists and Writers to know about artistic and cultural development in Matanzas.
- 16.30 hrs Return to Varadero.
- 19.00 hrs Dinner
- 21:00 hrs Exchange with the CDR (Committees for the Defense of the Revolution) and local population waiting the July 26th.

Wednesday, 26 July 2023

07:00 hrs Breakfast Free day, lunch and dinner at hotel. Optional activities offered by Amistur travel agency. Ex. Visit to Dolphins show, tour in Catamaran, etc.

<u>Thursday, 27 July 2023</u>

- 8.00 hrs Breakfast
- 09:00 hrs Explanation on tourist development in Cuba, Varadero and protection to environment, including Life Task at hotel.
- 12:30 hrs Lunch. Check out.
- 14.30 hrs Departure for CIJAM
- 17.30 hrs Arrival to CIJAM
- 19:00 hrs Dinner. Free night.

Friday, 28 July 2023

- 05:45 hrs Call and breakfast
- 06:45 hrs Morning news
- 07:00 hrs Departure for voluntary work
- 11:00 hrs Return to CIJAM
- 11.30 hrs Summary of the productive Work
- 12.30 hrs Lunch
- 15.00 hrs Exchange with members of the political and mass organizations (Young Communist League, Federation of University Students, Federation of Cuban Women, National Association of Small Farmers and Confederation of Trade Unions)
- 18.30 hrs Dinner
- 20:00 hrs Cuban film screening and debate.

Saturday, 29 July 2023

- 08:00 hrs Breakfast
- 10:00 hrs Race for friendship. Exchange with outstanding Cuban sport men and women.
- 12:00 hrs Lunch
- 14.00 hrs Exchange: 62 years of ICAP, world solidarity with Cuba, against blockade, for peace and friendship. End of brigade.
- 18.30 hrs Dinner
- 20.00 hrs Final cultural activity.

Sunday, 30 July 2023

08:00 hrs Breakfast10.00 hrs Transfer to Havana and airport. Return of brigade members to their countries.