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CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

65TH EDITION OF THE NORDIC BRIGADE OF SOLIDARITY WITH CUBA

Dear friends:

The Cuban Institute of Friendship with the Peoples (ICAP) and its Travel Agency Amistur Cuba S.A. have the pleasure to invite you to participate in the 65th Contingent of the Nordic Brigade of Voluntary Work and Solidarity with Cuba, which will take place from **December 18th, 2023 until January 3rd, 2024**. As it is traditional, the main objective of this program is to share with friends who visit us a new anniversary of the triumph of the Cuban Revolution as well as to provide them a greater knowledge of the reality of our people and of the social achievements gotten after 64 victorious years, despite tightening of the economic, financial and commercial blockade policy imposed by USA governments on Cuba.

The program includes visits to places of historical, economic, cultural and social interest, lectures on current national issues and meetings with representatives of organizations of the Cuban society and the people in general, among other activities. It also includes recreational activities, screening of Cuban films, dance classes, productive agricultural work and other solidarity events. This will offer you the possibility of getting closer to the idiosyncrasy of our people and to understand even more the reasons that sustain and strengthen our Revolution.

The program of activities will take place in the provinces Artemisa, Havana and Pinar del Rio; 17 nights of staying, 13 of them in the International Camp "Julio Antonio Mella" (CIJAM), located in the Caimito municipality, 45 km away from Havana and 4 nights in Pinar del Rio, the westernmost province of the island, known as best tobacco's land and famous for its beauty and rich nature.

The whole stay will cost **690.00 Euros** per brigade member. It includes lodging (in shared rooms for up to 4 people at CIJAM), double or triple rooms in Pinar del Rio, three meals daily, transfer in-out from the airport and transportation to all the activities planned in the program. If the total of participants in the brigade is ultimately under 50 persons, the cost of participation will rise to **795.00 Euros**, which will be known appropriately, before doing corresponding payment. Optional activities are not included in the overall cost to be paid and will mean an additional cost. The payment method is through bank transference or online-payment gateway. It is an essential condition to travel with medical insurance that has coverage in Cuba. Brigade members who arrive at CIJAM before December 17th, 2023, must pay an additional supplement of 15.00 Euros per night, for accommodation and meals.

Agricultural work will be carried out in areas surrounding the camp, created in 1972, which has adequate conditions to satisfy collective life as well as needs of people who visit us from

different parts of the world. With the assistance, the brigade member agrees to comply with the indicated program and to properly observe the rules of conduct, discipline and social coexistence, as well as follow hygienic-sanitary measures.

Registration will be open until November 17th, 2023. To confirm your participation, we request that you send to the emails: director.europa@icap.cu euronorte@icap.cu and amiventas@amistur.cu the following information: name and surnames, passport number, age, date of birth, profession, languages spoken, country of origin, organization you represent, date, time and number of the arrival flight to Cuba as well as date, time and number of departure flight. Please, specify if you have any medical, dietary, or other requirement. Participants who are in Havana before beginning of the brigade will be guaranteed transportation to CIJAM, which will leave from ICAP Headquarters on December 17th, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

We would like to have your presence in the 65th edition of the Nordic brigade of voluntary work and solidarity with Cuba, so that all together we may share what it has traditionally been an unforgettable experience in favor of peace and brotherhood among our peoples.

Fraternally,

Claudia Pérez Berlanga
Director of the brigade
Cuban Institute for Friendship with the Peoples



Program for the 65th Contingent of the Nordic Brigade of Voluntary Work and Solidarity with Cuba

From December 18th, 2023 until January 3rd, 2024

Sunday, December 17, 2023

17:00 hrs Bus departure from ICAP headquarters to camp for the brigade members who arrived Cuba earlier
Accommodation and dinner
Pick up at the airport for those who arrive this day and transfer to camp.

Monday, December 18, 2023

07:30 hrs Morning call and breakfast.
09:30 hrs Floral wreath at "Julio A. Mella" monument.
Planting of a tree of friendship in the "Bosque Martiano" at CIJAM.
10:00 hrs Central action in commemoration of the 65th edition of the brigade. Official welcome activity.
11:30 hrs General information meeting on the operation and rules of CIJAM, presentation of the Cuban delegation and camp workers.

12:00 hrs Lunch.
14:30 hrs Lecture: "Cuba: a vision from its political, economic and social reality".
16:30 hrs First meeting of the Coordinating Committee for country heads.
18:30 hrs Dinner.
20:00 hrs Welcome cultural activity. Cuban night.

Tuesday, December 19, 2023

06:30 hrs Morning call and breakfast.
07:00 hrs Morning news session.
08:00 hrs Visit to the agro-ecological farm "La Burgambilia". Explanation about agro-ecological systems in Cuba, sustainable circular economy and its social-community approach. Tour around the farm.
09:30 hrs Productive work at the farm.
12:00 hrs Return to CIJAM
13:00 hrs Lunch
14:30 hrs Lecture: "The development of revolutionary science at the service of the people"
17:00 hrs Meeting to explain the program in Pinar del Río.
18.30 hrs Dinner and free night

Wednesday, December 20, 2023

06:00 hrs Morning call and breakfast.
07:30 hrs Departure to Pinar del Río
10:00 hrs Welcome activity at Hermanos Saiz monument. Exchange with local authorities.
11.30 hrs Visit to the City Model. Exchange with the Historian of the Pinar del Río city.
13:30 hrs Check in at hotel and lunch.
15:00 hrs Visit to the Beverage Factory "Casa Garay" (where "Guayabita del Pinar" rum is produced). Explanation about the center and meeting with representatives of the CTC (Confederation of Cuban Workers) about the role of trade unions in Cuba and in the entity.
20:00 hrs Dinner and free night

Thursday, December 21, 2023

07.00 hrs Morning call and breakfast
09:00 hrs Visit to the University of Pinar del Río Hermanos Saíz Montes de Oca. Tour and general information about the study plans and territorial projects promoted by the university to contribute to the socioeconomic development of the province. Exchange with Cuban and foreign students who study in the province.
13.00 hrs Lunch
14.00 hrs Visit to a MSME (micro, small or medium-sized company) to learn about the role of new actors in the country's economic development process.
19.30 hrs Dinner.
21.00 hrs. Exchange with members of the National Union of Writers and Artists of Cuba and the Hermanos Saiz Association to learn about the artistic work of the territory.

Friday, December 22, 2023

07.00 hrs Morning call and breakfast
09:00 hrs Visit to the Community Cultural Project "Love and Hope"
11.00 hrs Visit to the Electronic Components Company of Pinar del Río "Ernesto Che Guevara". Explanation about the effects of the blockade on the center and the functioning of the socialist state company.
12:30 hrs Lunch

- 14.30 hrs Visit to the General-Teaching Hospital Abel Santamaria Cuadrado. Explanation about the health system in Cuba, the work of the center and the impact of the blockade on the sector.
- 19:00 hrs Dinner
- 20.30 hrs Recreational activity at La Sitiera cultural center

Saturday, December 23, 2023

- 07.00 hrs Morning call and breakfast
- 08.00 hrs Visit to a community recovering from Hurricane Ian. Volunteer work with representatives of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution, youth and local population.
- 12.30 hrs Lunch
- 14.00 hrs Visit to the Cigar Factory "Francisco Donatien".
Free time in the city
- 19.00 hrs Dinner
- 20.00 hrs Farewell recreational activity at the hotel.

Sunday, December 24, 2023

- 06:30 hrs Morning call and breakfast. Check out
- 07:30 hrs Departure to Viñales
- 09:00 hrs Visit to mausoleum of martyrs who fell down in fight against bandits. Monument to Los Malagones. Community El Moncada.
- 10.30 hrs Panoramic tour along the municipality
- 12.00 hrs Visit to the Mural of Prehistory. Lunch
- 14:30 hrs Visit to the Indian Cave
- 17:00 hrs Departure to CIJAM
- 19:30 hrs Dinner and free night

Monday, December 25, 2023

- 06:00 hrs Morning call and breakfast.
- 07:00 hrs Departure to productive work
- 11:00 hrs Return to camp.
- 12:00 hrs Lunch
Preparation of the European night.
- 18:00 hrs Dinner. European night

Tuesday, December 26, 2023

- 06:30 hrs Morning call and breakfast
- 07:30 hrs Voluntary work
- 11:30 hrs Return to CIJAM.
- 12:00 hrs Lunch
- 14.30 hrs Exchange on the political system in Cuba, democracy, human rights and popular participation.
- 17.00 hrs Meeting of the Coordinating Committee for country heads
- 18.30 hrs Dinner
- 20:00 hrs Cuban film screening. Debate

Wednesday, December 27, 2023

- 06:30 hrs Morning call and breakfast
- 07:30 hrs Voluntary work
- 11:30 hrs Return to CIJAM.
- 12:00 hrs Lunch

- 14.30 hrs Exchange about the Family Code, social programs related to gender equality and the rights of the LGTBQ+ community.
- 18.30 hrs Dinner
- 20:00 hrs Dance classes

Thursday, December 28, 2023

- 06:30 hrs Morning call and breakfast.
- 09:00 hrs Visit to the Nursing Home San Rafael Clinic.
- 11.00 hrs Exchange on the environmental policy of the Cuban Revolution, including the "Life Task" program at ICAP.
- 13.00 hrs Lunch at the House of Friendship
- 15.00 hrs Visit to Fidel Castro Center
- 17.00 hrs Return to CIJAM
- 19.00 hrs Dinner and free night.

Friday, December 29, 2023

- 06:30 hrs Morning call and breakfast.
- 07:00 hrs Morning news session
- 07:30 hrs Voluntary work at the camp
- 12:00 hrs Lunch
- 14:00 hrs Visit to the Memorial to the Martyrs of Artemisa. Exchange with local authorities about the development of the province.
At the end, free time in Artemisa.
- 18:00 hrs Return to CIJAM
- 19.00 hrs Dinner
- 20:00 hrs Dance classes

Saturday, December 30, 2023

- 07:00 hrs Morning call and breakfast
- 09:00 hrs Visit to Sierra del Rosario Ecological Station. Ecovida-Center for Environmental Research and Services in Las Terrazas. Community Sharing Tour.
Enjoyment of the place.
- 12:30 hrs Lunch at a local restaurant
- 14:00 hrs Visit to the San Juan River. Bath time.
- 16:30 hrs Return to CIJAM.
- 18.30 hrs Dinner and free night

Sunday, December 31, 2023

- 07:30 hrs Breakfast.
- 09.30 hrs Race for Friendship and Peace with CIJAM workers and members of the Southern Cross Brigade
At the end, music, table games, sports activities, casino wheel, etc.
- 12.00 hrs Lunch
- 20:00 hrs Dinner and recreational activity to celebrate the 65th anniversary of the triumph of the Revolution and the new year with the members of the Southern Cross Brigade

Monday, January 1st, 2024

- 08:00 hrs Breakfast. Free morning.
- 12:00 hrs Lunch
- 13:00 hrs Departure to Havana.
- 17:00 hrs Attendance at the Gala of the National Ballet of Cuba dedicated to the 65th anniversary of the triumph of the Revolution.

20:00 hrs Return to CIJAM.
21.00 hrs Dinner.

Tuesday, January 2nd, 2024

07:30 hrs Morning call and breakfast
08:30 hrs Voluntary work at the camp
11:30 hrs Meeting to evaluate the results of the productive activity.
12:30 hrs Lunch
14.00 hrs Experience exchange workshop on solidarity work with Cuba. Official closing activity of the brigade.
16:00 hrs Cultural activity: "Joining and overcome". Exchange with local artists.
19.00 hrs Dinner and free night.

Wednesday, January 3rd, 2024

07:00 hrs Breakfast
10:00 hrs Transfer to Havana of the brigade members who will continue their stay in Cuba.
Afternoon: Transfer to the airport of the brigade members who return to their countries of origin