The "Cuba!" exhibition is organized by the American Museum of Natural History, New York (amnh.org) in collaboration with the Cuban National Museum of Natural History.
About the Exhibition

Cuba is a place of exceptional biodiversity and cultural richness, and for a limited time, a new bilingual exhibition at Discovery Place Science offers visitors fresh insights into this island nation just 94 miles from Florida’s shores. With a close look at Cuba’s unique natural history, including its native species, highly diverse ecosystems and geology, ¡Cuba! also explores Cuba’s history, traditions and contemporary Cuban voices to inspire novel perspectives on this dynamic country.

Organized by the American Museum of Natural History (AMNH) in New York, ¡Cuba! is on view at Discovery Place Science for just 54 days, beginning November 9.

Also Featuring CUBA in IMAX

Filmed exclusively for IMAX® and giant screen formats, CUBA immerses audiences in the electrifying culture of the island and reveals why Cuba continues to stir the imagination of the world. The film tells the powerful story of a land preserved in time yet poised on the cusp of dramatic change. The nation’s lively culture, its meticulously maintained colonial architecture and the pristine ecosystems provide a colorful window into the island’s history and heart.

CUBA is produced by Golden Gate 3D, in association with BBC Earth, Giant Screen Films and the Giant Dome Theater Consortium. The film is distributed worldwide to museum cinemas by Chicago-based Giant Screen Films & D3D Cinema.

Admission

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<th>Adults</th>
<th>Children</th>
<th>Seniors</th>
<th>Members</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Full Cuba Experience</strong></td>
<td>$26</td>
<td>$22</td>
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<tr>
<td>¡Cuba! the exhibit PLUS CUBA in IMAX (includes Museum admission)</td>
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<td>¡Cuba! THE EXHIBIT (includes Museum admission)</td>
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¡Cuba! visitors will take a virtual trip to the country to understand what it’s like to call Cuba home and how its history has shaped the diversity and daily life. Spectacular dioramas, lifelike models, fossil casts, digital interactive displays and hands-on games showcase some of Cuba’s most extraordinary highlights. Featuring works by Cuban artists (musicians, dancers, designers and photographers) and explorations of the country’s varied geography, visitors are prompted to consider questions like who are the Cuban people and how are they conserving their country’s unique biodiversity?

CUBA: AN INTRODUCTION

• Get a glimpse of the people who call Cuba home through photographs and quotes.

• Use the maps to geographically orient yourself to Cuba’s location, types of environments and basic statistics.

• Watch a 10-minute video to get a brief overview of Cuba’s history.

ECONOMY

• Peek inside the old American car as you learn about Cuban restrictions on automobile imports and the decades-long U.S. trade embargo that created shortages and requires creativity to keep these vehicles on the road.

• Check out the bicitaxi, part bike and part taxi, as an example of the small-scale businesses that Cubans have opened in recent years.

• Learn about the sugar industry that has transformed the island by visiting the guarapo stand that sells the iced drink freshly pressed from the stems of the sugarcane plant.

• Step inside a tobacco shed and learn about the nation’s leading export.
CULTURE

- Learn about the wide variety of religious traditions that coexist in Cuba.
- Check out a carnival costume representing one of the country’s most elaborate festivals, the Carnival of Santiago de Cuba.
- Observe the café tables representing various Cuban traditions, including drinking coffee, cooking and playing dominoes.
- Visit the interactive Artists at Work area to see work by Cuban artists, from musicians and dancers to designers and photographers.

BIODIVERSITY

- Explore the caves of Cuba to learn about its geologic history and the animals who live there.
- Learn about the species who call Humboldt National Park their home.
- Dive into the world of coral reefs through an immersive diorama.
- Understand the Zapata wetlands, which covering 1.5 million acres, are the largest wetlands in the Caribbean.

CUBA FAST FACTS

- Cuba, an archipelago of more than 4,000 islands, is the largest of the Caribbean island nations.
- Cuba is located just 94 miles from Florida.
- Cuba’s capital, Havana, is one of the largest cities in the Caribbean, with a population of more than two million.
- The literacy rate in Cuba is over 99 percent.
- Cuba has about one passenger car for every 50 people.
- Cuba is honeycombed with caves, created over millions of years as water dissolved underground limestone.
- Stretching from the mountains to the sea and now carefully protected, Alexander von Humboldt National Park is among the most biologically diverse island sites on the planet.
- In Cuba, great efforts are being developed for the conservation of biodiversity. Cuba is home to 211 identified protected areas, which together comprise 20 percent of Cuba’s territory.
OPENING DAY OF ¡CUBA!  
SPECIAL PROGRAMMING  
Saturday, November 9, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Celebrate the opening of our new exhibition and learn more about the amazing island country. We will have a performance from Rumbao Dance Company and activities around coffee, common Cuban plants, screen printing, geography and a drum MAKE in the Thinker Space lab.

TASTE OF CUBA: FIESTA  
Saturday, November 9, 6:30-9:30 p.m.  
SPECIAL TICKETED EVENT

Celebrate the opening of our new exhibit ¡Cuba! with the second installment of our four-part Taste of Cuba series. Treat your senses to food, music and performances from local Cuban and Latin companies, including Johnny Conga, Rumbao, Messina Dance Company and more! Adults-only event.

TASTE OF CUBA: SIP  
Thursday, November 21, 6:30-9:30 p.m.  
SPECIAL TICKETED EVENT

Enjoy a night out at the Museum exploring the leisurely aspects of Cuba’s rich culture. The evening will feature coffee tastings, drink-mixing demonstrations and an opportunity to explore ¡Cuba! the exhibition. Each ticket includes one classic mojito. Adults-only event.

TASTE OF CUBA: LIVE  
Wednesday, December 4, 6:30-9:30 p.m.  
SPECIAL TICKETED EVENT

Holidays bring Cuban traditions to life. Celebrate the Cuban holiday traditions of Noche Buena and New Year’s Eve. The evening will feature live performances, Cuban food and cocktails and an opportunity to explore ¡Cuba! the exhibition. Adults-only event.
ABOUT DISCOVERY PLACE SCIENCE

One of the top hands-on science museums in the nation, Discovery Place Science provides ever-changing, entertaining facilities that engage people in the active exploration of science, technology and nature. The museum brings relevant, contemporary science to life through groundbreaking exhibitions, interactive educational programming and hands-on activities. Discovery Place Science is located in Uptown Charlotte at 301 N. Tryon St. Convenient parking is available in the Museum’s parking deck—the Carol Grotnes Belk Complex—at the corner of Sixth and Church streets. For more information about Discovery Place Science, call 704-372-6261, visit discoveryplace.org, or connect with Discovery Place Science on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube. Discovery Place is a 501c3 nonprofit that provides STEM education to the Carolinas through four distinct museum experiences at Discovery Place Science, Discovery Place Nature and Discovery Place Kids, interactive educational programming, professional development training and community outreach initiatives. Discovery Place is supported, in part, with funding from the Arts & Science Council.

ABOUT THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY (AMNH)

The American Museum of Natural History, founded in 1869 and currently celebrating its 150th anniversary, is one of the world’s preeminent scientific, educational, and cultural institutions. The Museum encompasses 45 permanent exhibition halls, including those in the Rose Center for Earth and Space plus the Hayden Planetarium, as well as galleries for temporary exhibitions. It is home to New York State’s official memorial to Theodore Roosevelt, a tribute to Roosevelt’s enduring legacy of environmental conservation. The Museum’s approximately 200 scientists draw on a world-class research collection of more than 34 million artifacts and specimens, some of which are billions of years old, and on one of the largest natural history libraries in the world. Through its Richard Gilder Graduate School, the Museum grants the Ph.D. degree in Comparative Biology and the Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) degree, the only such free-standing, degree-granting programs at any museum in the United States. Annual onsite attendance has grown to approximately 5 million, and the Museum’s exhibitions and Space Shows are seen by millions in venues on six continents. The Museum’s website, digital videos, and apps for mobile devices bring its collections, exhibitions, and educational programs to millions more around the world. Visit amnh.org for more information.