

## VISA INFORMATION FOR US CITIZENS (March 2019)

(American regulations, with **Caribbean à la Carte additions in red**)

### **Professional research and professional meetings**

According to US law, US citizens are authorized to attend or to organize professional meetings or conferences in Cuba, provided that:

- For a traveler attending a professional meeting or conference, the purpose of the meeting or conference directly relates to the traveler's profession, professional background, or area of expertise, including area of graduate-level full-time study;
- For a traveler organizing a professional meeting or conference on behalf of an entity, either the traveler's profession must be related to the organization of professional meetings or conferences or the traveler must be an employee or contractor of an entity that is organizing the professional meeting or conference; and
- The traveler's schedule of activities does not include free time or recreation in excess of that consistent with a full-time schedule of attendance at, or organization of, professional meetings or conferences. The US government forbids its citizens from traveling as "tourists" to Cuba.

**NOTE: So US citizens who wish to purchase Caribbean à la Carte programs and to spend more time in Cuba than the days allotted to the Scientific Instrument Commission Symposium (23-27 September 2019) should ask us about the full schedule program we can prepare for him/her.**

Transactions incident to the organization of professional meetings or conferences include marketing related to such meetings or conferences in Cuba.

Each person relying on the general authorization must retain, for possible examination by US government officials, specific records related to the authorized travel transactions relating to Cuba.

**NOTE: Caribbean à la Carte is NOT a Cuban company. The company has its bank account in Spain and we will provide all official invoices you may need as a US citizen.**

(b) An entire group does not qualify for the general license merely because some members of the group qualify individually. Example: A musicologist travels to Cuba to research Cuban music pursuant to the general license for professional research. Others who are simply interested in music may not engage in travel-related transactions with the musicologist in reliance on this general license. For example, an art historian who plays in the same band with the musicologist would not qualify for the general license.

(c) Certain direct financial transactions are restricted.<sup>1</sup>

### **Procedure**

1. Affidavit required to be saved for at least five years:

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<sup>1</sup> §515.209. PART 515—CUBAN ASSETS CONTROL REGULATIONS <https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/retrieveECFR?gp=&SID=9e3b16fb4a0e98494c1e0384ef4f064d&mc=true&n=pt31.3.515&r=PART&ty=HTML>

American airlines flying to Cuba today generally will give you at the airport the affidavit for traveling to Cuba. You can also download this form from US travel agencies who support travel to Cuba. In the case of a congress, the traveler should report the motive of the trip as “professional research and professional meetings”.

## 2. Cuba Tourist Cards:

The airlines also can provide the Tourist Card for American citizens that function as a visa to enter Cuba for up to 30 days.

Or, to secure your flight ticket, affidavit and tourist card you may use the services of one of our partners in USA. We especially recommend Transeair Travel LLC (Washington DC), a company with many years of expertise with Cuba as destination for US citizens.

Please, contact our partner:

Benita Lubic CTC  
President  
Transeair Travel LLC  
2813 McKinley Place NW  
Washington, DC 20015  
ph: 202 362 6100  
fax: 202: 362 7411  
email: BLUBIC@aol.com

**Caribbean à la Carte Team**