



[www.AfroCuba.org](http://www.AfroCuba.org)  
Stage Of The Arts, Inc.

# Proyecto Palo Monte. Religious Syncretism in Cuba



OUR LADY OF REGLA



YEMAYA

FOR RESERVATIONS PLEASE CONTACT:

Cuba Tours and Travel  
3807 Stephen M. White Drive  
San Pedro, CA 90731  
562 439 9097  
[adolfo@cubatoursandtravel.com](mailto:adolfo@cubatoursandtravel.com)

## **Proyecto Palo Monte.** **Religious Syncretism in Cuba**

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Travel back in time into a lost paradise. The call of the drums takes you where dreams and reality merges.

Saturday June 11- 19, 2005

### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

8 days and 7 nights special religious program based on the license requirements for Specific License ~~held by Santa Yemaya Ministries~~. A unique field trip into the heartland of AfroCuba traveling into the Lucumí, Congo, Carabalí and Arará traditions of the Catholic syncretism in the province of Matanzas. Exclusive visits to the oldest house-temples in Matanzas, Perico and Jovellanos. This field trip also includes events at the cities of Varadero and Havana. Sponsored by the AfroCuban Research Institute.

### PROGRAM INCLUDES:

- \*US Treasury Department Religious License.
- \*Cuban Visa.
- \*Motor coach or Van transfer from Los Angeles to Tijuana (and pick up on return).
- \*Airfare Tijuana-Havana-Tijuana "Coach Class".
- \*Accommodations for 7 nights in a hotel by the beautiful Canimar River.
- \*Daily Breakfast.
- \*Daily Lunch.
- \*Daily Dinner.
- \*Motor coach transportation to all program events with bottled water throughout.
- \*A day trip to the Hicacos Peninsula. The manifestations of Yemaya.
- \*An afternoon in the Old Havana: the Cathedral, the Christ of Casablanca and Our Lady of Regla Church.
- \*A full time team of practitioners and scholars to accompany the group while you are in Cuba.
- \*Special local guidance into private parties and ceremonies.
- \*Optional programs in the evenings to explore the cultural live of the City.
- \*Some entrances to Museums and religious sites.
- \*A group orientation meeting for the group in LA prior to the trip.

### PROGRAM DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- \*Some tips.
- \*Airline upgrades.
- \*Single room differential (\$50.00 special price)
- \*Passenger Travel Insurance.
- \*Airport Taxes.

### PROGRAM COSTS

Land/Air arrangements:

\$2,200.00 double occupancy (Airport departure tax extra). Single Room Supplement: \$50.00

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## Special Full-Time Religious Program

**Saturday June 11.** - "The day of the Greetings" Meet at a central location in Los Angeles for transfer to Tijuana International Airport. Depart to Cuba on Aeromexico Flight #AM6171 direct to Havana (with one stop in Monterey Mexico). Arrive Jose Marti International Airport and transfer to the City of Matanzas.

Lodging in the Canimao Hotel.

Celebration and welcome party next to the Canimar River (Late night Optional).

**Sunday June 12:** Enjoy breakfast at Canimao Hotel and take tour bus to Matanzas City.

"Day of the Roads" (Olokum House)

Welcome to the Olokum House.

9:30 a.m. Theoretical class: The Afro-Cuban religions, general aspects. The Santeria: its religious magical system.

11:00 a.m. Class of dance: Orishas I.

12:30 p.m. Lunch.

2:00 p.m. Class of percussion: Bata Drums I.

5:30 p.m. Religious music and dance by the Olokum Group.

7:00 p.m. Return to the Hotel. Dinner.

After dinner you may schedule private consultations or visit the new Tropicana Nightclub by the left bank of the river, or some of Matanzas' exciting cultural venues (Optional).

**Monday June 13:** Enjoy breakfast at Canimao Hotel and transfer to Matanzas City.

"Encounter in History" (Olokum House and Cabildo Santa Teresa)

9:30 a.m. Theoretical class. Santeria: the Cult to the Orishas.

11 a.m. Class of dance. Orishas II.

12:30 p.m. Lunch.

Class of percussion. Batá Drums II.

5 p.m. Visit to the Cabildo Santa Teresa de Jesus, the older standing Ileocha or house-temple of Santeria of Cuba.

7 p.m. Return to the hotel. Dinner.

After dinner you may schedule private consultations or visit the new Tropicana Nightclub by the left bank of the river, or some of Matanzas' exciting cultural venues (Optional).

**Tuesday June 14:** Enjoy breakfast at Canimao Hotel and transfer to Matanzas City.

"Encounter of the Ways" . (Olokum House, towns of Perico and Jovellanos)

9:30 a.m. Theoretical Class. The Rule of Palo Monte and the Rule of Osha.

11 a.m. Class of dance. Orishas. Part III.

12:30 p.m. Lunch.

1:30 p.m. Travel to the wildness of Perico and Jovellanos. Visit to the Gangá Longowa House of Perico and the Cabildo Congo Luanda of Jovellanos, the oldest standing Palo house.

6 p.m. Return to the hotel Canimao. Dinner.

After dinner you may schedule private consultations or visit the new Tropicana Nightclub by the left bank of the river, or some of Matanzas' exciting cultural venues (Optional).

**Wednesday June 15:** Enjoy breakfast at Canimao Hotel and transfer to Matanzas City.

"The Day of the Time" (Olokum House)

9:30 a.m. Theoretical Class. The Abakuá, the Arará and the Iyessá.

11 a.m. Class of dance. Cuban religious and secular dances.

12:30 p.m. Lunch.

2:00 p.m. Class of Percussion. Batá Drums and tumbadoras.

5:30 p.m. Religious dances and music with the Olokum group.

6 p.m. Return to the hotel Canimao. Dinner.

After dinner you may schedule private consultations or visit the new Tropicana Nightclub by the left bank of the river, or some of Matanzas' exciting cultural venues (Optional).

**Thursday June 16:** Enjoy breakfast at Canimao Hotel and transfer to Matanzas City.

"A Day at the City" (Matanzas' Downtown)

9:30 a.m. Visit to *Plaza del Vigía* where the Matanzas City was founded October 12, 1693.

(The Sauto Theater, Palace of Junco, demolished gun battery of San Jose de la Vigia...)

The historical downtown of Matanzas:

Walk on *Calle del Medio* to San Carlos Cathedral build 1730.

Walk on *Calle Milanés* to La Libertad Park and Olokum House.

12:30 p.m. Lunch.

2:00 p.m. Class of Percussion. Batá Drums and tumbadoras.

5:30 p.m. Visit to *El Morrillo* fortress build in 1720.

6 p.m. Return to the hotel Canimao. Dinner.

After dinner you may schedule private consultations or visit the new Tropicana Nightclub by the left bank of the river, or some of Matanzas' exciting cultural venues (Optional).

**Friday June 17:** Enjoy breakfast at Canimao Hotel and depart to Varadero Beach.

"Encounter with Olokum" (Bay of Matanzas and Hicacos Peninsula)

10:00 a.m. Exploring the Hicacos Peninsula Tribute to Yemayá Olokum in the bay.

12:30 p.m. Lunch.

Gathering on the See and the AfroCuban spirituality.

6 p.m. Return to the hotel Canimao. Dinner.

After dinner you may schedule private consultations or visit the new Tropicana Nightclub by the left bank of the river, or some of Matanzas' exciting cultural venues (Optional).

**Saturday June 18:** Enjoy breakfast at Canimao Hotel and transfer to Matanzas City.

"Day of the health and the nature" (Olokum House and Triolet Pharmaceutical Museum)

10:00 a.m. Visit to the French Pharmaceutical Museum Triolet founded January 1882, the only one still preserved in the World.

11 a.m. Final Ceremony for Peace.

12:30 p.m. Lunch.

2 p.m.. Travel to Havana. Take ferry across the Havana Bay to visit the Sanctuary of Regla, a church built for the Black Virgin. Yemaya ( the Orisha of the See), works in religious syncretism to the Black Madonna of Regla (Patron Saint of the Sailors).

Long walk to Havana Cathedral and the Historical downtown. Farewell Dinner-party.

**Sunday June 19:**

Transfer to Jose Marti Airport.

Depart for Tijuana on Aeromexico Flight # AM6172.

Arrival at Tijuana International Airport in Mexico. Transfer to Los Angeles, California.

**Your Hosts in Cuba is the AfroCuban Research Institute:**

*Gladys Felicia Gutiérrez Rodríguez poet and professor of dance.*

*Hebert Poll Gutiérrez, musician, writer and translator.*

*Professor Israel Moliner Castañeda.*

*Professor Jorge Luis Rodriguez.*

**Proyecto Palo Monte** is an opportunity for you to learn the origins of the Cuban nation firsthand from some of the island's most respected cultural and spiritual leaders.

[www.afrocuba.org](http://www.afrocuba.org) (Stage Of The Arts, Inc. [PaloMonte@afrocuba.org](mailto:PaloMonte@afrocuba.org))

**PROGRAM COSTS** ~~Santa Yemaya Ministries~~, *Proyecto Palo Monte Religious Syncretism in Cuba*

**Land/Air Arrangements:**

**\$2,200 - double occupancy** (Airport departure taxes extra) **Single Room Supplement: \$50.00**

As a deposit and to reserve space, I/we have enclosed a check in the total amount for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$500.00 per person), payable to ~~Adventure Tours & Travel~~

Name (s) 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
2 \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Business Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Date (s)                    1 \_\_\_\_\_                    2 \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Maiden Name:        1 \_\_\_\_\_                    2 \_\_\_\_\_

Gender (s)                        1 \_\_\_\_\_                        2 \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

(Can we inform you of future programs? \_\_\_\_Y \_\_\_\_N)

**Passport Information:**

1 \_\_\_\_\_  
Passport Number                    Place of Issue                    Date of Issue                    Expiration Date

2 \_\_\_\_\_  
Passport Number                    Place of Issue                    Date of Issue                    Expiration Date

( ) I will be sharing a room with: \_\_\_\_\_

( ) I request a single supplement (additional cost of \$50)

( ) I would like a roommate if possible, but am willing to pay the single supplement if one can not be found

- By filling out this form and mailing in the deposit, I/we accept the following terms and conditions

**FOLLOW UP MATERIALS WILL BE MAILED AFTER RECEIPT OF DEPOSIT**  
**California Seller of Travel #2053349-40**

## **GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

This full-time Proyecto Palo Monte Religious Syncretism program to Cuba ~~is conducted by Santa Yemaya Ministries,~~ is a fully registered and licensed religious organization with religious programs in Cuba. Cuba Tours and Travel LLC is a fully licensed Travel Service Provider working exclusively ~~for Santa Yemaya Ministries~~ on the travel arrangements for this program. Stage of the Arts Inc, and AfroCuba.org are assisting in marketing this tour and will be leading the tour in Cuba. Price is based on 15 travelers minimum taking the complete program. Price further based on tariffs and exchange rates effective at the time of issue. While we will do everything possible to maintain the listed price, it is subject to change. If group flights are not used, airport transfers are at personal expense.

### **YOUR TOUR PRICE INCLUDES:**

Airport Transfer from a central location in LA to Tijuana International airport with return, round-trip airfare from Tijuana, Mexico to Havana, visas, accommodations in hotels, meals and other program elements as indicated in the itinerary, domestic alcoholic beverages with some dinners as available, transportation in Cuba as outlined in the itinerary by air-conditioned coach, admissions, baggage handling for 1-2 normal size pieces, guides and tour manager. Gratuities and taxes to the extent of services included in itinerary are included.

### **YOUR TOUR PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE:**

U.S. transportation to and from departure city (LA), airport facility charges other than indicated, airport departure taxes, passport, insurance fees, transfers to and from airports for persons not using group flights, individual transportation for optional activities, handling and transport of extra baggage and/or excess baggage charges, meals except as outlined in itinerary, tips for beverages and special services, personal items such as alcoholic beverages, a-la-carte orders, room service, valet/laundry charges, telephone charges, after-the-tour gratuities, expenses incurred by the Universal Life Church of North County or Cuba Tours and Travel for making individual travel arrangements in conjunction with items not specifically mentioned in itinerary.

### **DEPOSITS AND PAYMENTS**

A \$500 per person deposit, \$250 of which is non-refundable, is due with the reservation form. Full payment of the balance owed by each Passenger will be required by May 06,2005.. Changes and cancellations after 5/06/05 will be refunded or billed according to actual costs and refund policies of our vendors. All arrangements are based on timely payments by passengers and will not be confirmed until payments are due and paid. Please note that we only accept Checks or bank transfers only. If your reservation is made less than 30 days before departure, the entire cost of the Full-time Proyecto Palo Monte Religious Syncretism in Cuba program must be paid at the time of confirmation. If your reservation is made less than 30 days before departure, surcharges may apply.

### **CANCELLATIONS**

All cancellations must be received in writing by Cuba Tours and Travel and or Stage of the Arts Inc, and AfroCuba.org. All charges are calculated as of day of written notification. There is a non-refundable administrative fee of \$250. If a participant cancels, the following refunds will be available upon written notice to Cuba Tours and Travel: more than 5 weeks prior to departure, 50% of total price; up to 3 weeks prior to departure, 25% of total price; up to 2 weeks prior to departure, 10% of total price. No refund shall be issued if cancellation is received less than 2 weeks prior to departure. Note: Cuba Tours and Travel or ~~Santa Yemaya Ministries, or~~ Stage of the Arts Inc, and AfroCuba.org do not accept liability for any airline cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a non-refundable ticket. Tour Cancellation Insurance is strongly recommended. Insurance information will be forwarded upon receipt of your deposit.

### **LIMITS ON RESPONSIBILITY**

Cuba Tours and Travel and ~~Santa Yemaya Ministries and~~ Stage of the Arts Inc, and AfroCuba.org act only as agents for the passenger with respect to transportation and hotels and exercise all care possible. However, we cannot assume liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity in connection with the services of any ship, airplane, train, automobile, motor-coach,

carriage or any other conveyance used in carrying out these exchanges or for the acts or defaults of any company or persons engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the Full-time Proyecto Palo Monte Religious Syncretism in Cuba program. We cannot accept any responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, acts of God or other causes beyond our control. All such losses or expenses must be borne by the passenger as the Full-time Proyecto Palo Monte Religious Syncretism in Cuba program rates provide for arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to make alterations to the itinerary as may be deemed necessary for carrying out the full-time Proyecto Palo Monte Religious Syncretism in Cuba program. The right is reserved to cancel any full-time Proyecto Palo Monte Religious Syncretism in Cuba program prior to departure, in which case the entire payment will be refunded, without further obligation on our part. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the full-time Proyecto Palo Monte Religious Syncretism in Cuba program. No refund will be made for the unused portion of any Full-time Proyecto Palo Monte Religious Syncretism in Cuba program. Baggage is at the owner's risk entirely. It is understood that the air ticket when issued shall constitute the sole contract between the passenger and the Air Company concerned. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act or event during the time the passengers are not on board their plane or conveyance. Cuba Tours and Travel's responsibilities on this trip do not include any ground services in Cuba including transportation, hotel accommodations, meals, guide service, or other services. Stage of the Arts Inc. and AfroCub.org warrants responsibility for providing all of those services in Cuba.

#### **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

This full-time Proyecto Palo Monte Religious Syncretism in Cuba program is planned with your comfort in mind. Group members assume responsibility for their physical abilities to travel. Cuba Tours and Travel and ~~Santa Yemaya Ministries~~ and Stage of the Arts Inc, and AfroCuba.org and/or its agents reserve the right to decline to accept, or require to withdraw, any person as a group member should such person's health or physical condition or general deportment impede the operation of the full-time Proyecto Palo Monte Religious Syncretism in Cuba program. In such case, no refund will be given once the exchange commences.

#### **OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES**

At some locales, optional activities are furnished by other independent suppliers who are not affiliated in any way with Cuba Tours and Travel ~~or Santa Yemaya Ministries~~ or Stage of the Arts Inc, or AfroCuba.org. Some of these activities carry with them various inherent risks, which can cause serious personal injury. You should be aware that although precautions are taken by the suppliers to guard against such dangers, your safety can't be guaranteed. Should you elect to participate in such activities while on the Full-time Proyecto Palo Monte Religious Syncretism in Cuba program, you are, of course, free to do so. However, you must understand that such participation will be at your own risk, and that Cuba Tours and Travel ~~and Santa Yemaya Ministries~~ and Stage of the Arts Inc, and AfroCuba.org assume no responsibility for your safety.

#### **ACTS OF GOD AND THE LIKE**

Cuba Tours and Travel ~~and Santa Yemaya Ministries~~ and Stage of the Arts Inc, and AfroCuba.org are not liable for acts of God, fire, acts of governments or other authorities, wars, civil disturbances, riots, terrorist acts, strikes, thefts, pilferage, epidemics, quarantines, dangers incident to sea, land and air travel and other similar acts or incidents beyond their ability to control.

#### **TRAVELERS REPRESENTATIONS**

Acceptance of the Confirmation/ Invoice covering this Full-time Proyecto Palo Monte Religious Syncretism in Cuba program and payments thereof certify that you have not recently been treated for, nor are you aware of, any physical or other condition or disability that would create a hazard to yourself or other members of this exchange and is also an acceptance of the terms, conditions and limits on responsibility applicable to the Full-time Proyecto Palo Monte Religious Syncretism in Cuba program and that you have read and understand those conditions and limits.

Cuba Tours and Travel ~~and Santa Yemaya Ministries~~ and Stage of the Arts Inc, and AfroCuba.org reserve the right to cancel the itinerary or any part of it and to make such alterations in the itinerary, as they deem necessary for health and safety or other extenuating circumstance.

**CUBAN AMERICAN VISA**

This quote does not include the cost of processing visas for any Cuban Americans traveling. Those travelers may apply directly to the Cuban Interest Section in Washington, D.C. Please note that these transactions take at least 5 weeks. Please inform us immediately if you are Cuban American so that we may inform you on how to make separate arrangements for your Cuban Visas or passports.

**ADHERANCE TO US TREASURY DEPT REGULATIONS.**

Our offer strictly adheres to all US and Cuban Law governing licensed travel by US Citizens. For more information on the law please visit: [www.treas.gov](http://www.treas.gov)

**U.S SPECIFIC LICENSING REQUIREMENT**

US Law governing travel to Cuba requires a "full time program" related to the particular license obtained for travel. The Religious License requires visits to various religious institutions and communities consistent with the Licensee's requirements. This program is set by the license provider. ~~In this case it is Santa Yemaya Ministries of Miami, Fla.~~

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**PLEASE MAIL DEPOSIT AND  
RESERVATION FORM TO:**

**Cuba Tours & Travel**  
3807 Stephen M. White Drive  
San Pedro, CA. 90731  
562 439-9097