

BASE GUIDE

DREAM YACHT  CHARTER

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO ENJOY YOUR NEXT DREAM DESTINATION!



THE CARIBBEAN | CUBA

DREAM YACHT CHARTER



BASE ADDRESS

Marina Marlin Cienfuegos
12 Ave, 35 street.
Punta Gorda
Cienfuegos
Cuba

GPS POSITION: 22°07'36.26"N - 80°27'04.42"W

OPENING HOURS: 9am – 6pm

BASE MAP





BASE CONTACTS

If you need support while on your charter, contact the base immediately using the contact details in this guide. Please contact your booking agent for all requests prior to your charter.

BASE MANAGER & CUSTOMER SERVICE:

Alain Muñoz Suarez

Phone: +53 53914274

Email: manager.cuba@dreamyachtcharter.com

CUSTOMER SERVICE:

Omitza Hernández Chong

Phone: +53 58074523

Email: base.cuba@dreamyachtcharter.com

BASE FACILITIES

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Electricity | <input type="checkbox"/> Luggage storage |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restaurant |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Toilets | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bar |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Showers | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supermarket / Grocery store |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Laundry | <input type="checkbox"/> ATM |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Swimming pool | <input type="checkbox"/> Post Office |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wi-Fi | |

BASE INFORMATION

LICENSE

Sailing license required: ☒ Yes ☐ No

You will need a sailing licence for recreational boats issued by your country of origin to sail Cuba. It may be requested by the port authorities.

PAYMENT

The base can accept: ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Amex ☒ Cash

Credit cards are only accepted for the security deposits.

EMBARKATION TIME

Embarkation time is at 5pm.

YACHT BRIEFING

All briefings are conducted on the chartered yacht and will take one hour, depending on yacht size and crew experience. The team will give a detailed walk-through of your yacht's technical equipment, information about safe and accurate navigation, including the yacht's navigational instruments, as well as mooring, anchorage and itinerary help. The safety briefing introduces the



safety equipment and your yacht's general inventory.

STOP OVERS

On the first night you will sleep at the marina as night sailing is not permitted and departure time will be early the next morning, after check out.

DISEMBARKATION TIME

The boat must be back at the marina the day before the end of the charter, before nightfall. Disembarkation is at 10am. Diesel must be refilled before you disembark. The team will inspect your yacht's equipment and a general visual check of its interior and exterior. A diver will check its hull, keel, rudder(s) propeller(s) and /or bow thruster. General inspection will take approximately one hour.

BAGGAGE

Please only take soft bags and not suitcases, as they would be too cumbersome onboard.

BASE AND EMERGENCY CONTACTS

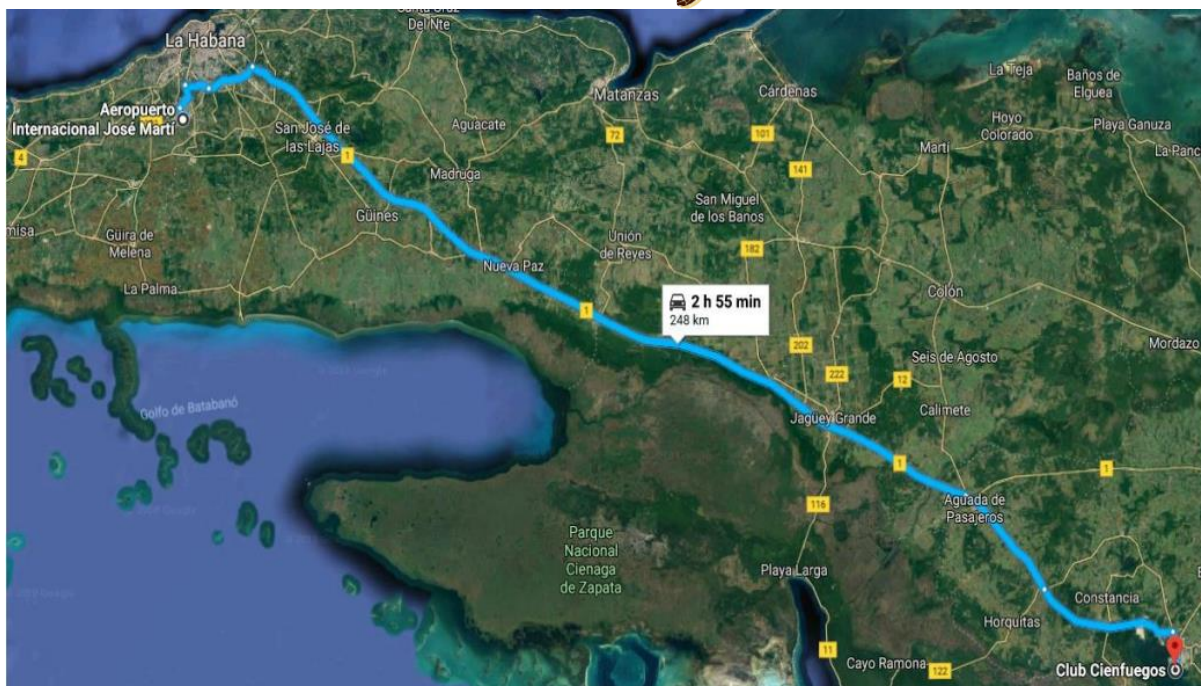
- Base emergency telephone number: +53 5391 4274
- Marina emergency telephone number: +53 5391 4274
- Coastguard emergency telephone number: 107
- VHF base channel: 16 or 19A
- VHF marina channel: 16 or 19A
- VHF emergency channel: 16

HOW TO GET THERE?

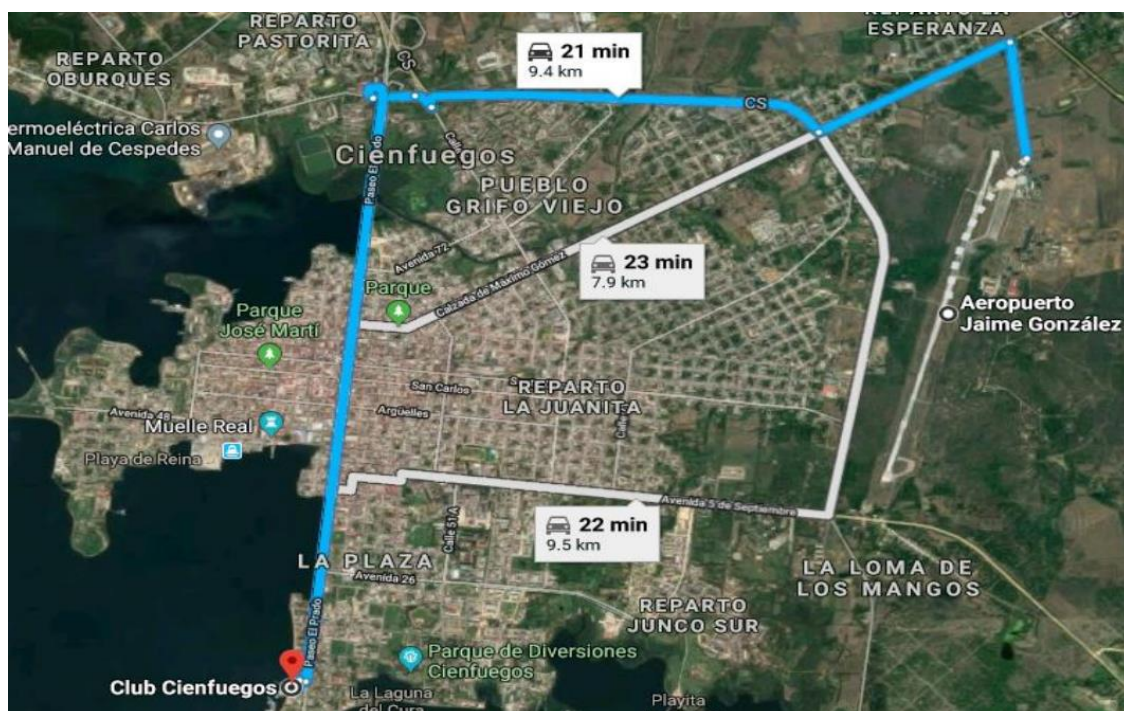
ACCESS BY PLANE

Jose Marti International Airport (HAV): The airport is 250km from the base, which is a 3 hour and 30 minute journey by car/shuttle. Please check the schedule on the [airport website](#).

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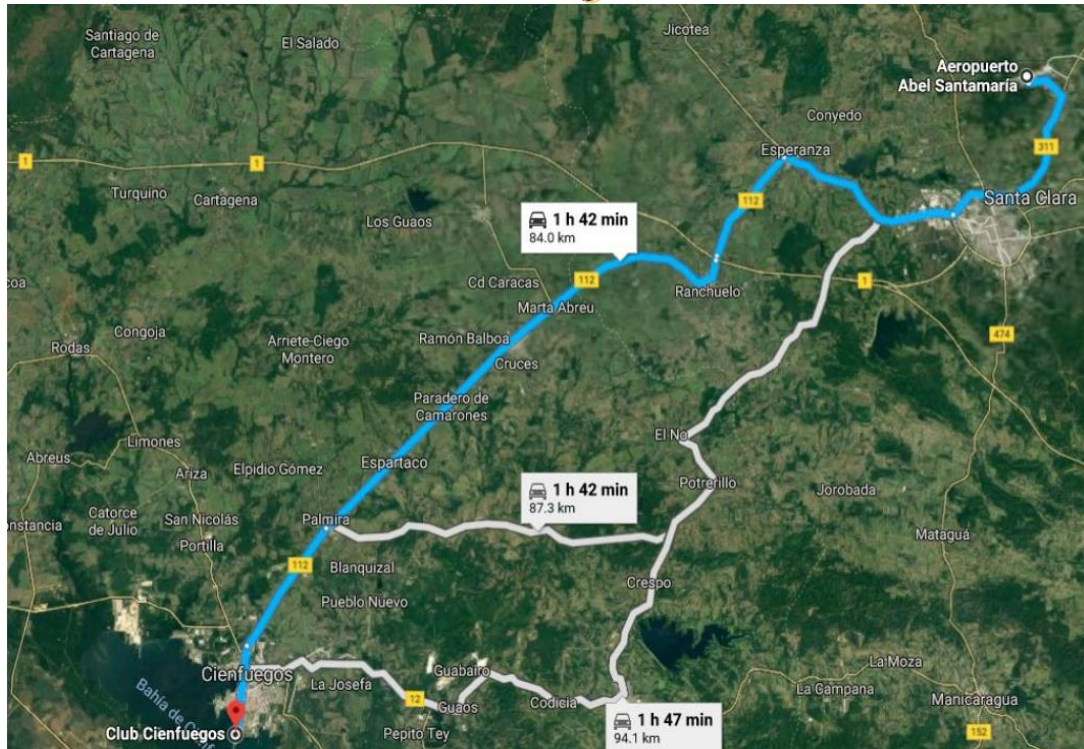


Jaime González Airport (Cienfuegos): Please check schedule at the [airport website](#).



Abel Santamaría International Airport (Santa Clara): Please check schedule at the [airport website](#).

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TRANSFERS FROM THE AIRPORT TO OUR BASE

If you need an organized transfer from the airport, please contact your booking agent. Transfers from La Havana airport can be organized until 5pm. If you arrive later, please plan to spend a night in a hotel at La Havana.

Major car rental companies operate from all airports, please refer to airport website for info, working hours and contacts. Renting a car is expensive and difficult so book ahead.

Taxis are regularly available in front of the airport buildings. Cuba's car fleet is known for its vintage gems and you can hail a vintage taxi, which is an experience in itself.

ACCESS BY ROAD

Getting around Cuba is easy, if you use the government-run bus routes. The local buses are cheap but popular so buy your tickets the day before. Viazul bus company has routes throughout the country. There are frequent daily regular bus services with departures approximately every 30 minutes. For more information please check their [website](#).

PROVISIONING & RECOMMENDATIONS

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BASE PROVISIONING SERVICE

This base provides a provisioning service: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Advance order of provisioning and beverages are highly recommended in Cuba as availability of food is not guaranteed. There are no supermarkets on the islands and you will find a ship chandler only in Cayo Largo Marina with short supplies.

LOCAL SUPERMARKET

Shipchandler Marina
35th Street, between 6 and 8 Avenues, Punta
Gorda, Cienfuegos
55100

Day	Time
Monday -Sunday	9am– 5.30pm

Opening hours may differ during public holidays and are subject to change without notice.

FUEL AND WATER

Fuel and water are conveniently available at Marina Cienfuegos and Marina Cayo Lago. Only water is available at Marina Casilda (Trinidad).

HOTEL SUGGESTIONS:

- [Palacio Azul Hotel](#)
- Calle 37 no. 1201, Cienfuegos 55100
- [Jagua Hotel](#)
- Calle 37 1 | Between 0 & 2, Punta Gorda, Cienfuegos 55100
- [La Union Hotel](#)
- Calle 31, Cienfuegos 55100

RESTAURANT SUGGESTIONS:

- [Finca del Mar](#)
- [Casa Prado](#)
- [Las Mamparas](#)
- [Doña Nora](#)
- [Café Cienfuegos \(Club Cienfuegos\)](#)

AREA GUIDE

LOCAL AREA INTRODUCTION

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Cuba is the largest country in the Caribbean, sitting between the Caribbean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean. If island hopping is your dream vacation, then sailing around Cuba is perfect as the archipelago has 4,000 cays and islets. Your backdrop includes mountains, agricultural valleys with tobacco fields, colorful city architecture and coral atolls. Cuba's atolls boast white stretches of sand, clear water for snorkeling and a bounty of marine life living among healthy reefs. On land, monkeys and iguanas are waiting to greet you.

It's popular with sailors for its favorably warm climate, steady winds, natural beauty, joyful atmosphere and friendly people. When Christopher Columbus discovered the island in 1492, he said: "This is the most beautiful land one has ever seen."

To sail in Cuba, you will need a sailing license that is recognized by the local port authorities, or you can hire a skipper. Read our guide to sailing qualifications for more information.

TOP THINGS TO DO IN CUBA:

1. **Explore Cuba's capital city:** Havana is the capital and soul of Cuba, so make sure you put a visit at the top of your list of things to do in Cuba. Wander cobblestone streets of Old Havana and admire the unique blend of baroque and Spanish colonial architecture. See the old vintage fleets of cars, enjoy the night-life and visit the hippest district of Vedado.
2. **Taste an authentic mojito:** This well-known cocktail was invented at La Bodeguita del Medio, a small bar in Old Havana where the walls feature handwriting and photographs of famous celebrities with their mojitos. This will taste a world away from other mojitos you've had before.
3. **Try Cuban salsa dancing:** The Cuban beat is infectious, and you can't leave Cuba without learning a few expressive salsa steps, a dance originating from Cuban folk dances. There are plenty of schools, or you can just join in the dancing at a local bar.
4. **Tour the city of Trinidad:** Wander this beautiful colonial city and get lost in its narrow streets, listen to street musicians in the main square and taste the local Canchánchara rum cocktail.
5. **Drop in on the Sea Turtle Hatchery:** One of our favorite things to do in Cuba is paying a visit to the Sea Turtle Hatchery in Cayo Largo, which makes for an unforgettable experience. At certain times of the year you may even witness the release of baby turtles first-hand. Then head to Sirena and Paraiso beaches afterwards for wonderful sands and turquoise water.
6. **Enjoy the wildlife:** Visit Cayo Rico where the iguanas will take center stage while sailing Cuba, or sail to Hijos de los Ballenatos' mooring buoys where you can snorkel and explore a rich, underwater world.

CURRENCY:

Cuba has a dual currency system where locals use the Cuban Peso and visitors use the Cuban Convertible Peso (CUC). American Express and credit and debit cards belonging to US banks are not accepted, so bring enough cash to cover your stay.

VOLTAGE: 220V

DIALING CODE: +53

INTERNET

Wi-Fi is not available on board our yachts or in our marina. There is internet access via Wi-Fi hotspots, but you need a pre-paid NAUTA internet Wi-Fi card. All international marinas in Cuba have Wi-Fi hotspots. Verizon has a roaming agreement in Cuba, but don't forget the roaming fees!

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CUSTOMS CLEARANCE

You need to clear with the authorities when you enter and exit a port. The boat's papers must be shown along with the passports and visas of all crew. Clearance is free of charge and mandatory.

MEDICAL INSURANCE – TOURISM TAX

It is compulsory that you have active medical insurance while visiting Cuba and that you bring proof you have one. Tourist taxes are mandatory and payable in cash on the spot.

ENVIRONMENT

- Respect your surroundings and leave only footprints in the sand
- Only use the engine or genset when needed (fill up your tanks for the water maker at the docks when you can)
- Recycle your garbage in the correct containers at the marina
- Respect regulations around marine reserves and private islands where disembarking is not permitted

REGULATIONS

Night sailing is absolutely forbidden by Cuban authorities due to the difficulty of navigating coral reefs, floating objects, private fishing boats, etc. Fishing with a harpoon and lobster fishing are also forbidden.

Navigation is only permitted in national waters. After leaving our marina, anchoring is prohibited all along the coast near Cienfuegos and within the bay. You can anchor to the east, from Casilda area and westward from Cayo Guano del Este. You must respect the forbidden zone, Bay of Pigs, that is SW of Cienfuegos.

There are strict regulations prohibiting bringing satellite phones, drones, GPS or DVD players into Cuba. Make sure you are fully aware of all of these restrictions ahead of your Cuba charter vacation.

Information subject to change without notice.

SAILING CONDITIONS

SAILING AREA

The gorgeous Cuban coast and off-lying islands are ready for you to discover and Archipelago de los Canarreos is within easy reach of our base at Cienfuegos. UNESCO World Heritage protects Cuban cities such as Trinidad and the capital, Havana, renowned for their bright architectural richness and scenic beauty - you'll get the opportunity to visit both on a Cuba yacht charter.

You can learn to dance the rumba or salsa or take a ride in a retro classic American car from a bygone era. The famous Havana Club rum can't go without a mention too!

The island has a reliable marine infrastructure and about 20 marinas and nautical centers all around Cuba gladly welcome yachts under all flags and offer a range of services.

WEATHER

The best time to visit Cuba is when the climate is relatively dry and cooler, from late November to mid-April.

The year-round climate is subtropical to tropical and fairly uniform from one area to the other. The average temperature in Cuba is around 77°F between November and May, reaching 82°F between

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December and February in the south. Short bursts of rain can bring temperature lows, particularly in the NW.

The rainy season is from late April to early November when temperatures are warmer (around 91°F) and the humidity is high.

TEMPERATURE

Climate in Cuba:

- Summer high: The July high is around 91°F
- Winter low: The December low is 77°F

WIND SYSTEMS

The sailing conditions in Cuba feature winds predominantly from the northeast ranging from 5 to 35 knots, depending on the time of year. Typically, winds are northeasterly between 15 to 25 knots but can be highly variable depending on the tropical depressions in the Gulf of Mexico and the Bahamas.

LOCAL FORECAST

You can find Cuba weather forecasts on the [Weather.com](https://www.weather.com) ahead of your vacation sailing in Cuba. The Cuban Institute of Meteorology and the [Windfinder](https://www.windfinder.com) website issues a detailed marine forecasts four times per day from the Caribbean Sea. Most marinas will also post a printout of the daily Windfinder forecast at the dock master's office. It is important for a boat in Cuban waters to have a cellphone that has service in Cuba and is equipped to download weather products.