After the initial contacts with Galax Inc. and/or the Cuban Trade Commission regarding visit arrangements, completed visa applications must be submitted to the Cuban Embassy in Ottawa or one of the Cuban Consulates in Canada (see Section VIII). Please allow at least two weeks for the issuing of a visa.

How to Get to Cuba from Canada

During the winter tourist season Air Canada operates three flights per week between Toronto and Aradero and Cubana Airlines, Cuba's national carrier, offers three flights per week between Montreal and Havana. In the summer, Cubana operates one flight per week to Montreal. (Since each airline's flight schedule varies from year to year, you should contact your travel agency when planning a trip to Cuba.)

Cuba is also served by flights that originate in Madrid, Paris, Prague, Moscow, Barbados, Georgetown (Guyana), Lima, Mexico City, Panama City and Managua. For further information, contact your local representatives for Iberia, CSA, Cubana, Aeroflot, Mexicana and Air Canada.

Exit Permit (Salida)

The Cuban empresa sponsoring your visit will arrange to issue you an exit permit (salida). The salida is a stamp put on the reverse side of your landing card, and is necessary before you can make further travel arrangements (ticket confirmations, etc.). You may wish to remind your Cuban counterpart of your requirement for a salida. We also recommend that you take your landing card, passport and airline ticket with you on your first appointment with your host empresa so that arrangements can be made for your exit permit and outgoing reservations. (Your empresa host may take care of these details at the airport on your arrival.) Outgoing reservations must be confirmed at least 72 hours in advance, otherwise your booking will automatically be cancelled. The central reservations office of Cubana Airlines is at Calle 23, No. 64, Vedado, Havana 4. Confirmation of tickets for outgoing flights must be obtained in person if the empresa is unable to assist you. Long lineups can make this a slow and frustrating procedure.

More Travel Tips

 You are free to travel throughout Cuba except for restricted military areas.