

WORLD ART TOURS 2017

Old Bacardi Rum Building, Havana © Sandra Cohen-Rose and Colin Rose/Flickr

Art Deco to Art Now

MIAMI AND CUBA

with Claudia Chan Shaw
21 April – 06 May 2017 (16 days)



Art Deco to Art Now

MIAMI AND CUBA



TOUR LEADER

Claudia Chan Shaw is a vibrant, energetic woman of many talents - fashion designer, television and radio presenter, author, public speaker, collector and artist.

A design graduate from Sydney College of the Arts, Claudia contributes to design and collecting publications and has curated a number of fashion exhibitions. Her solo photography exhibition was held in 2012 and the series continues as part of the 2016 Head On Photo Festival. She is the current curator of the City of Sydney's Chinese New Year Festival.

Claudia was co-host and presenter on ABC TV's popular program, *Collectors*. Her subsequent book *Collectomania: From objects of desire to magnificent obsession*, navigates the world of collectors and celebrates collections both strange and beautiful.

Claudia led the popular Members tour "China: Art Deco to Art Now" in 2015.

Continuing our series *Art Deco to Art Now*, Claudia Chan Shaw embarks on her next adventure. Beginning in Miami to explore its vibrant art deco heritage and contemporary arts scene, Claudia then takes you to Cuba, famous for its rich historical heritage, magnificent beaches, dramatic landscapes and passion for music and art.

For over five hundred years, Cuba was a major gateway between Old and New Worlds. Its exotic cities are graced by a distinctive mixture of architectural styles, from Colonial to Baroque, Neoclassical to Art Deco and Modernism to Post-Modernism. Cuba's love affair with music is legendary and its poetry and writing form part of the unique Latin American literary heritage. Art lovers are also waking up to Cuba's long tradition of visual arts, from pre-revolutionary modernism to contemporary.

'Shabby chic' after half a century of Communism, post-revolutionary Cuba is about to change forever – make sure you see it now!

At a glance...

- Explore Miami's art deco heritage and lively art scene
- Enjoy a week in Havana, the colourful capital of Cuba
- Delve into Cuba's rich architectural, musical and literary traditions
- Visit artists' studios and discover new galleries and contemporary art spaces
- Visit the western province of Pinar del Rio, home to the famous Cuban cigar
- Journey down the length of the island to the Afro-Cuban stronghold of Santiago



Fri 21 April 2017 Depart Australia – Arrive Miami

Suggested departure from Australia on flights to Miami (via Los Angeles or Dallas Fort Worth).

Same day arrival and check-in to your hotel.

Sat 22 Apr Miami

Join Claudia and fellow Art Lovers for a welcome breakfast and briefing. Begin your exploration of Miami's thriving contemporary art scene with a visit to the Wynwood Art District. Enjoy a guided tour of the 'Wynwood Walls', ever-changing murals by some of world's most legendary graffiti artists and iconic street artists.

After lunch, visit the Margulies Collection, featuring the finest contemporary and vintage photography, video, sculptures and installations, all displayed in a retro-fitted warehouse space. Then continue to the Rubell Family Collection and Contemporary Arts Foundation, one of the biggest private contemporary art collections in North America, showcasing established and emerging artists.

Tonight, attend an optional performance at the Adrienne Arsht Centre for the Performing Arts (program to be confirmed, not included in tour cost). **B L**

Sun 23 Apr Miami

This morning enjoy a guided walking tour of the Art Deco District of Miami Beach, boasting one of the largest concentrations of 1920s and 1930s architecture in the world. Explore three distinct styles, Art Deco, Mediterranean Revival and MiMo (Miami modern) as you visit hotel interiors, bars and commercial buildings that capture the spirit of the time.

In the afternoon, tour the sights of the Miami districts including Coconut Grove, Little Havana, Coral Gables and Downtown Miami. Drive along Millionaires' Row and past the Biltmore Hotel, Freedom Tower, the Venetian Pool and Vizcaya Museum. **B**

Mon 24 Apr Miami – Havana

Transfer to Miami Airport for a morning flight to Havana. (NB Flight subject to government approval).



Wynwood Arts District © Jimmy Baikovicius/Flickr

Following hotel check-in, begin your Havana stay with a walking tour of Old Havana, a UNESCO world heritage site and the best-preserved colonial city in the Americas. Visit the city museum housed in a superb baroque palacio (subject to renovations).

Tonight, walk to one of Havana's favourite private restaurants *La Guarida*, location of the famous Cuban film *Fresa y Chocolate* (Strawberry and Chocolate), nominated for an Oscar in 1992. **B D**

Tue 25 Apr Havana

Spend this morning exploring Havana's rich array of Art Deco buildings, sculptures and monuments, including the magnificent Bacardi Building and the recently restored Cine-teatro Sierra Maestra.

Lunch at a local restaurant (Paladar). In the afternoon take a classic car sightseeing tour including the Jose Martí house and the Martí monument at the Plaza de la Revolución, to learn about the writer, a national hero who was killed in 1895 during the war of independence against Spain. **B L**

Wed 26 Apr Havana

In the morning, drive out of town to San Francisco de Paula to visit Finca Vigía, Ernest Hemingway's house from 1939 to 1960 and the place where he wrote both *For Whom the Bell Tolls* and *The Old Man and the Sea*, now a museum operated by the Cuban government.

During the afternoon visits artists' studios/galleries (TBC).

Tonight enjoy a dinner at one of the most beautiful Paladares *La Esperanza*. Following dinner visit a performance by the Havana Queens dance ensemble under the direction of Rosario García Rodríguez and Balbina Asprón Chavez – an evening showcasing outstanding movement, from classical ballet to flamenco to modern dance, with characteristic elements of rumba and salsa. **B D**

Thu 27 Apr Havana

Today journey along the 'tobacco route' to Pinar del Rio, the greenest of all Cuban provinces with the best tobacco-growing ground and imposing limestone towers (Mogotes). Enjoy a



Ocean Drive, Miami Beach © Jorge Láscar/Flickr

panoramic tour through the Viñales Valley, where time seems to stand still. Visit a local project 'Patio de Pelegrín' - the huge property of 2,500 sqm owned and converted by the artist Mario Pelegrín, to a place of art and a meeting point for the rural population.

Continue to Las Terrazas, a UNESCO biosphere reserve with an artist colony and nostalgic coffee plantation. Following lunch at a private Paladar, visit Orquideario de Soroa, a sprawling botanical garden park with over 700 different types of orchids.

Return to Havana late afternoon. **B L**

Fri 28 Apr Havana

Following a morning talk, visit the National Museum of Fine Art (*Bellas Artes*), widely considered the best art gallery in the Caribbean, which houses in two superb buildings, an outstanding collection of Cuban and international art. The Cuban collection, displayed over three floors, embraces colonial and contemporary art, while the international collection ranges from classical, including a surprising number of European Old Masters, to modern.

The afternoon is at leisure. You may wish to browse the exceptional arts and crafts market of San José right behind the museum, or take a Cocotaxi ride to visit Callejón de Hamel. This street is the capital's centre of Afro-Cuban culture, with colourful murals, art and craft shops and iconography of Santería. Artist Salvador González Escalona has led its conversion into a major cultural centre.

Following dinner at a local restaurant, head to the world-famous Tropicana cabaret to enjoy Cuban music and dance performed by a cast of more than 200 in a tropical garden setting. **B L D**

Sat 29 Apr Havana

Begin the day with a guided tour of the Wilfredo Lam Centre for Contemporary Art, Cuba's finest contemporary museum, named after the outstanding artist. Visit the Taller Experimental de Grafica, Cuba's leading printmaking workshop established in 1962 by mural artist Orlando Suarez with the support of Che Guevara. You will see printmakers at work and visit the small gallery where prints and etchings are on sale.



Old Havana © Guillaume Baviere/Flickr

Following lunch in a local Paladar, drive to the fishing village of Jaimanitas on the outskirts of the city. Visit the house, gallery and street art project of naïve artist José Fuster, known as 'Gaudí of the Caribbean'. Fusterlandia encompasses 80 houses, a chess park, an artists' wall, as well as a theatre and community swimming pool.

B L

Sun 30 Apr Havana – Cienfuegos – Trinidad

Early in the morning, drive to the "Pearl of the South", Cienfuegos, which has the Caribbean's finest collection of French neo-classical buildings, built by immigrants from Bordeaux and Louisiana. It then benefited from Spanish Enlightenment urban planning, all of which combined for it to gain a UNESCO World Heritage listing. Its 18th century fortress, a cathedral and extensive botanic gardens are renowned.

Stroll over the Plaza Mayor with the nostalgic Terry Theatre where Caruso used to sing, and visit the most famous building in Cienfuegos, the 1917 Palacio de Valle, with its Gothic, Venetian and Moorish elements.

Continue along the panoramic coastal road to Trinidad. Take an early evening stroll through town before dinner followed by a visit to the local music bar, Casa de la Trova. **B L D**

Mon 1 May Trinidad

Trinidad, another UNESCO World Heritage site, is one of the most beautiful towns on the island. Founded in 1514, it is effectively one big open-air museum, with well-preserved Spanish colonial architecture, and cobbled streets where transport is still mainly by horse or bicycle.

Starting in the Plaza Mayor in the heart of Trinidad, visit some of its fascinating museums and galleries, beginning with the pre-Columbian archaeological collection housed in the 18th century Casa Padrón. Take in the Romantic Museum housed in the Palacio Brunet, with its collection of 18th and 19th century fine and decorative art, as well as the Museum of Colonial Architecture.



Teatro America © Sandra Cohen-Rose and Colin Rose/Flickr

After lunch, visit the Art Gallery with its fine collection of local work, and also visit the pottery studio Taller Alfarero to see ceramicists at work. **B L D**

Tue 2 May Trinidad – (Sanctí Spiritus) – Camagüey

Drive through Sugar Cane Valley, off the beaten track of tourism, to the unspoilt colonial town of Sanctí Spiritus, now home to Cuba's Medical University.

Slavery in Cuba was at its height in the sugar industry in the early 19th century, when the many thousands of African slaves, whose influence has contributed so much to the nation's culture, were kept in subjugation. From the Iznaga Tower in the Valley their movements were closely watched. You will have the opportunity to ascend the Iznaga Tower to behold its panoramic views over the canefields.

Continue to Camagüey. The nation's third largest city, its centre is built like a maze to foil invaders after it was raided and burned by the Welsh pirate Henry Morgan in the 17th century.

Visit the house of Nicolás Guillén, the national poet born here in 1902. **B L**

Wed 3 May Camagüey – (Bayamo) – El Cobre – Santiago de Cuba

Depart Camagüey and drive south towards Santiago de Cuba. Lunch stop at the town of Bayamo, capital of Granma province, and the place where Manuel Céspedes declared the war of independence from Spain in 1868, freeing his slaves to join the fight.

Continue to El Cobre in the foothills of the Sierra Maestra. Visit the basilica of El Cobre, Cuba's principal place of pilgrimage, named after the copper mines that formerly dominated the region's economy, and the place to which Ernest Hemingway donated his Nobel Prize, later stolen. **B L D**

Thu 4 May Santiago de Cuba

Begin the day visiting the 16th century Diego Velázquez house, built by the city's founder, the Santiago cathedral, the birthplace of the poet José María Heredia and the Santa Ifigenia cemetery where Jose Martí is buried.

Transfer by boat to Cayo Granma for lunch.

After lunch, visit the 17th century fortress of San Pedro at the entrance to the bay, where Spain lost the key naval battle of the independence war in 1898, then view the Moncada barracks attacked by Fidel Castro in 1953 at the start of the revolutionary war. **B L**

Fri 5 May Santiago de Cuba

Following a morning talk, visit the Centro Cultural Africano, named after the writer Fernando Ortíz who pioneered the analysis of Afro-Cuban traditions, to examine its collection of African art and objects. Then progress to the House of Popular Religions to learn more about Santería, the Cuban belief system that unites West African and Caribbean traditions.

Afternoon free to stroll through the city centre.

In the evening enjoy a farewell dinner at the private Paladar *Compay Gallo*. **B D**

Sat 6 May Depart Santiago de Cuba

Tour arrangements conclude after breakfast.

If returning to Australia today, depart Santiago International Airport, on suggested return flights, via Miami, Los Angeles or Dallas Fort Worth. **B**

Sun 7 May In-flight

Mon 8 May Arrive Australia

Early morning arrival in Australia.





Cobblestone paths of Trinidad © Bud Ellison/Flickr



José Fuster, Jaimanitas © Joe Ross/Flickr

Your hotels

Miami – Hotel Blue Moon South Beach ★★★★★

Havana – Hotel Saratoga ★★★★★

Important itinerary note

Cuba Hotels – 3 and 4 star hotels

Intending travellers need to understand that the high tourism boom Cuba is experiencing is placing hotels and tour operators under immense pressure. For most of the year they are now working to capacity. Renaissance Tours works with an experienced and established Cuban tour operator that has been leading groups in Cuba for more than 15 years. They have advised us that every effort is being made to adhere to our requested hotels and itinerary, but given the current situation and high demand we may incur hotel or itinerary changes.

Tour prices

Per person, twin-share	AUD 11,250
Single supplement*	AUD 3,250
Deposit per person	AUD 500
Final payment due	21 February 2017

*Single travellers may request to share. Please advise at time of booking.

Tour code AG1704

ESTA and Visas

All Australian Passport holders require an **ESTA** Pre-Authourisation application to visit the USA (completed on-line) and a **Visa** for Cuba. Renaissance Tours will arrange your visa for Cuba approximately 2-3 months prior to the tour – and processing takes approximately three weeks. (NB: express processing will incur additional charges).

Fitness level Above Average
Please see booking conditions for fitness level definitions.

Suggested airline

American Airlines /Qantas and Virgin Australia / Delta have connections from Australia to Miami via Los Angeles or Dallas Fort Worth.

Please contact Renaissance Tours for assistance with airfares and flight reservations.

Tour price includes

- Accommodation in centrally located best available hotels with daily breakfast (B)
- Meals as per itinerary (L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- Drinks with welcome and farewell dinners
- International flight Miami to Havana - economy class. (NB Subject to government approval, American Airlines and Delta will commence flights Miami to Havana in late 2016)
- Transfers on departure in Miami
- Transfers on arrival and departure in Cuba
- Comprehensive sightseeing including entrance fees as per itinerary
- Lectures and talks with your tour leader throughout
- Gratuities for local guides and drivers
- Cuban Visa
- Hotel portorage (one piece per person)

Tour price does not include

- International airfares (except Miami – Havana flight)
- Transfer on arrival in Miami
- ESTA Pre-Authourisation application to visit/transit the USA
- Items of a personal nature, including telephone, laundry, mini-bar etc.
- Drinks with meals
- Airport portorage
- Travel insurance

Terms & Conditions

HOW TO BOOK

Complete, sign and return the Booking Form available from Renaissance Tours with your deposit and page one of your passport.

DEPOSIT / FINAL PAYMENTS

Your deposit is due at the time of booking and is used to pay hotel, airline, performance tickets and/or other deposits. It is non-refundable in the event of your cancellation.

Final payment is due 60 days before departure. Failure to make the final payment by the due date may result in cancellation of your booking and loss of deposit.

Payment by cash, cheque, direct deposit, American Express, MasterCard and Visa is accepted. 1.5% service charge applies to payment made by MasterCard and Visa. 3% service charge applies to payment made by American Express.

Payments for some international airfares can be made by credit card without a service fee. Please check for details.

CANCELLATION & REFUNDS

a) Cancellation by You – Cancellation charges will be applied as shown below, calculated from the day written notification is received by Renaissance Tours. In addition to cancellation fees for tours operated by Renaissance Tours as shown below, airlines, hotels and other third parties may impose up to 100% cancellation charges.

60 days or more	Forfeit of deposit
59 – 45 days	25% of tour cost
44 – 31 days	50% of tour cost
30 – 15 days	75% of tour cost
Less than 15 days	100% of tour cost

The above cancellation charges include applicable GST.

In addition to the above, cancellation charges may apply for additional arrangements booked by Renaissance Tours, such as air tickets, hotels and travel insurance premium. If the reason for cancellation is covered by the insurance policy, you may be able to reclaim these charges.

b) Cancellation by Us – We reserve the right to cancel a tour for any reason (such as failure to reach minimum tour participant numbers). Except for

force majeure, we will not cancel a tour less than 60 days before departure. No further compensation will be paid in the event of cancellation by Renaissance Tours. A full refund of monies paid for tour costs will be the full extent of our liability.

Cancellation and/or amendment fees may apply for additional travel arrangements booked by Renaissance Tours.

PASSPORTS, VISAS AND VACCINATIONS

All travellers must be in a possession of a valid passport – most countries require a 6-month validity from your date of entry or exit. For some countries (e.g. China, Vietnam, India, Russia), visas are included in the tour cost and will be arranged by Renaissance Tours prior to travel. For other countries, it is your responsibility to ensure you have the appropriate visa(s).

You are also responsible for obtaining all necessary inoculations and preventative medicines as may be required for the duration of the tour.

TOUR PRICES

Prices quoted in our tour information are based on exchange rates, cost of services and applicable taxes at the time of publication. Prices may be subject to change in the event of significant currency fluctuations or the introduction of new taxes, up until final payment is received.

In the event of a price increase, whether because of a currency fluctuation, increase in taxes or a correction in advertised prices, we will advise you and you have the option of accepting the amended prices, inclusions and booking conditions or withdrawing from the tour and receiving a full refund of all monies paid.

Once final payment is received, all prices will be guaranteed and no surcharges will apply.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

It is a condition of travel that you are covered by comprehensive travel insurance for international tours. Your travel insurance can be arranged by Renaissance Tours.

FITNESS AND PARTICIPATION

Most of our tours require a MODERATE level of fitness.

However, in certain destinations (e.g. Silk Road, Central Asia, Outback Australia, tropical destinations) or in certain seasons (e.g. mid-winter, mid-summer) or because of the nature of travel (e.g. remote rail), certain tours will require an ABOVE AVERAGE or CHALLENGING level of fitness.

If you (or we) have any doubts about your level of fitness, you may be required to have a doctor's appraisal. This would require your doctor to read the itinerary of your chosen tour, including the fitness level, and provide you (and us) with a written confirmation of your ability to participate.

MODERATE

For the overall benefit of the group, all tour members must possess a moderate level of mobility, including the ability to:

- negotiate airports and railway stations without wheelchair assistance
- use combined shower/bath facilities (it is impossible to guarantee walk-in shower facilities)
- undertake walking tour of 1–2 hours duration, including using stairs, walking over cobblestones and other uneven surfaces
- stand for long periods in museums and other sites
- embark / disembark coaches, trains and other methods of transportation without assistance
- handle your own luggage

ABOVE AVERAGE

In addition to the above, tour members must also be able to:

- undertake walking tours of 2–3 hours
- climb staircases of 100 or more steps

CHALLENGING

In addition to the above, tour members must also be able to:

- handle extremes of temperature (e.g. below 0 or above 35 degrees)
- handle extremes of altitudes (e.g. 4000 metres and above).

You can find the full terms & conditions at www.renaissance-tours.com.au/booking-conditions or we would be happy to post you a copy on request.





South Beach, Miami © Harshil Shah



Renaissance Tours

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0800 403 621 (NZ)

call (+61 2) 9299 5801

fax (+61 2) 9299 5805

email info@renaissancetours.com.au

visit www.renaissancetours.com.au

Level 4, 47 York Street, Sydney NSW 2000

GPO Box 5068, Sydney NSW 2001

ABN 14 069 591 448

Travel agent

Booking form

Page 1 of 3



Renaissance
Tours

www.renaissancetours.com.au

Please return pages 1 and 2 to:

GPO Box 5068, Sydney NSW 2001, Australia or info@renaissancetours.com.au

Toll free AU 1300 727 095 or NZ 0800 403 621 | Tel: +61 2 9299 5801 | Fax: +61 2 9299 5805

- Please complete, sign and return this Booking Form, along with a copy of page one of your passport (international tours only and deposit).
NOTE: Flight bookings cannot proceed without passport copy. This is an airline security requirement.
- Complete credit card authority (if paying by credit card) OR forward a (deposit) cheque (made payable to Renaissance Tours).
- Upon receipt of your Booking Form and deposit, you will receive confirmation of your place on the tour(s) from Renaissance Tours.

Tour name

Tour code

Personal details – Passenger 1

Title (Ms, Mrs, Mr, Dr or Other)

Hon

Family name (as in passport)

Given names (as in passport)

Preferred name

DOB

Email

Mobile

Phone

Address

State

Postcode

Country

SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS / ALLERGIES

Yes

No

MEDICAL DECLARATION

What medical conditions do you currently have and/or have you received treatment for in the past three years? (e.g. stroke, heart, respiratory and psychiatric conditions). **Attach extra pages, if necessary.**

The purpose of seeking this information is to assist Renaissance Tours in determining the suitability of a tour participant for a particular tour. The information will be treated in the strictest confidence.

FITNESS TO PARTICIPATE DECLARATION (Please tick)

I have read, understood and confirm that I meet the:

MODERATE

ABOVE AVERAGE

CHALLENGING

fitness level to participate on this tour.

Booking conditions

- I have read, understood and accept the **Booking Conditions** on page 3. I have enclosed the deposit and understand that the balance of the tour cost must be paid at least 60 days prior to departure (45 days prior for domestic tours) or my reservation may be cancelled.

Sign here

Personal details – Passenger 2

Title (Ms, Mrs, Mr, Dr or Other)

Hon

Family name (as in passport)

Given names (as in passport)

Preferred name

DOB

Email

Mobile

Phone

Address

State

Postcode

Country

SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS / ALLERGIES

Yes

No

MEDICAL DECLARATION

What medical conditions do you currently have and/or have you received treatment for in the past three years? (e.g. stroke, heart, respiratory and psychiatric conditions). **Attach extra pages, if necessary.**

The purpose of seeking this information is to assist Renaissance Tours in determining the suitability of a tour participant for a particular tour. The information will be treated in the strictest confidence.

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Sign here

Booking form

Page 2 of 3



Renaissance
Tours

Travel details – Passenger 1

AIRFARE – WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE A QUOTE FROM US?

Yes No

Economy Premium Economy Business Class First Class

CITY OF DEPARTURE

Sydney Melbourne Brisbane Perth Other

FREQUENT FLYER NUMBER

AIRLINE SEAT PREFERENCE

ACCOMMODATION

Double Twin Single If single, would you like us to arrange twin-share?

TRAVEL INSURANCE – WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE A BROCHURE?

Yes No

PRE/POST TOUR ARRANGEMENTS

Please advise if you would like Renaissance Tours to organise any pre/post tour arrangements (e.g. earlier departure, later return, additional accommodation/flights, etc)

NEXT OF KIN (Emergency contact only)

Name

Relationship

Daytime contact ()

After hours contact

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THIS TOUR?

DO YOU WANT TO RECEIVE OUR E-NEWSLETTER? Yes No

Travel details – Passenger 2 (only fill if different from Pax 1)

AIRFARE – WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE A QUOTE FROM US?

Yes No

Economy Premium Economy Business Class First Class

CITY OF DEPARTURE

Sydney Melbourne Brisbane Perth Other

FREQUENT FLYER NUMBER

AIRLINE SEAT PREFERENCE

ACCOMMODATION

Double Twin Single If single, would you like us to arrange twin-share?

TRAVEL INSURANCE – WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE A BROCHURE?

Yes No

PRE/POST TOUR ARRANGEMENTS

Please advise if you would like Renaissance Tours to organise any pre/post tour arrangements (e.g. earlier departure, later return, additional accommodation/flights, etc)

NEXT OF KIN (Emergency contact only)

Name

Relationship

Daytime contact ()

After hours contact

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THIS TOUR?

DO YOU WANT TO RECEIVE OUR E-NEWSLETTER? Yes No

Payment

Payment by cash, cheque, direct deposit, American Express, MasterCard and Visa is accepted. 1.5% service charge applies to payment made by MasterCard and Visa. 3% service charge applies to payment made by American Express. Payments for some international airfares can be made by credit card without a service fee. Please check for details.

AMOUNT CREDIT CARD CHEQUE CASH EFT

CREDIT CARD AUTHORITY

Cardholder's name

American Express MasterCard Visa

Cardholder's number

SIGN

Commonwealth Bank of Australia

Account name: Renaissance Tours

BSB: 062-032 / Account: 2800 4163

Swift code: CTBAAU2S (use for transfers from overseas)

Expiry (month/year)

DATE

Travel agent

Booking form

Page 3 of 3

FITNESS TO PARTICIPATE

Most of our tours require a **MODERATE** level of fitness.

However, in certain destinations (e.g. Silk Road, Central Asia, Outback Australia, tropical destinations) or in certain seasons (e.g. mid-winter, mid-summer) or because of the nature of travel (eg. remote rail), certain tours will require an **ABOVE AVERAGE** or **CHALLENGING** level of fitness.

If you (or we) have any doubts about your level of fitness, you may be required to have a doctor's appraisal. This would require your doctor to read the itinerary of your chosen tour, including the fitness level, and provide you (and us) with a written confirmation of your ability to participate.

MODERATE

for the overall benefit of the group, all tour members must possess a moderate level of mobility, including the ability to:

- negotiate airports and railway stations without wheelchair assistance
- use combined shower/bath facilities (it is impossible to guarantee walk-in shower facilities)
- undertake walking tour of 1–2 hours duration, including using stairs, walking over cobblestones and other uneven surfaces
- stand for long periods in museums and other sites
- embark / disembark coaches, trains and other methods of transportation without assistance
- handle your own luggage

ABOVE AVERAGE

In addition to the above, tour members must also be able to:

- Undertake walking tours of 2–3 hours
- climb staircases of 100 or more steps

CHALLENGING

In addition to the above, tour members must also be able to:

- Handle extremes of temperature (e.g. below 0 or above 35 degrees)
- handle extremes of altitudes (e.g. 4000 m and above).

TRAVEL INSURANCE

It is highly recommended that you are covered by travel insurance for domestic tours.

However, it is a condition of travel that you are covered by comprehensive travel insurance for international tours. You can make your own arrangements or your travel insurance can be arranged by Renaissance Tours. In either case all participants must provide the following information no later than 60 days prior to commencement of travel:

- a copy of your travel insurance policy (or details of master policy)
- the emergency telephone number of your insurance company
- next of kin emergency contact.

1. TOUR PRICES

Prices quoted in our tour information are based on exchange rates, cost of services and applicable taxes at the time of publication. Prices may be subject to change in the event of significant currency fluctuations or the introduction of new taxes, up until final payment is received. In the event of a price increase, whether because of a currency fluctuation, increase in taxes or a correction in advertised prices, we will advise you and you have the option of accepting the amended prices, inclusions and booking conditions or withdrawing from the tour and receiving a full refund of all monies paid. Once final payment is received, all prices (excluding air taxes) will be guaranteed and no surcharges will apply.

2. PAYMENT

Your final payment is due 60 days before departure (45 days prior for domestic tours). Failure to make your final payment by the due date may result in cancellation of your booking and loss of deposit. We reserve the right to charge a late payment fee in the event of late booking and/or payment to cover additional communication and other expenses.

3. FLIGHT BOOKINGS AND FARES

Renaissance Tours will use its best endeavours to ensure that all flight prices are correct at the time that they are quoted. However, once a deposit is paid on an air fare, it guarantees that a booking is being held for you, it does not guarantee the fare and applicable taxes.

The fare and taxes can only be guaranteed when the flight booking has been paid in full and a ticket has been issued. Flight bookings cannot be transferred.

4. CHANGES

a) Changes by You – Because of additional communication and other expenses, we reserve the right to charge an appropriate administration fee per amendment to your original booking. While every reasonable effort will be made to accommodate changes and additional requests their availability cannot be guaranteed.

b) Changes by Us – While we will use our best endeavours to operate all tours as advertised, by entering into this contract the Client accepts that it may prove necessary or advisable to vary or modify a tour or its contents due to prevailing local conditions. We reserve the right at any time to cancel or change any of the facilities, services or prices described in the brochure (including flights, transport, accommodation or other arrangements) and to substitute alternative arrangements of comparable monetary value without compensation.

If a service or facility becomes unavailable due to circumstances beyond our control ('force majeure') and no alternative arrangement of comparable monetary value is available, we will substitute the best alternative available and will refund the Client for any cost saving or charge the Client for any additional costs incurred. 'Force majeure' includes any event which Renaissance Tours or its suppliers could not, even with all due care, foresee or avoid (e.g. advice against travel from the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), war, threat of war, riot, civil strife, industrial dispute, epidemics, health risks, terrorist activity, natural or nuclear disaster, fire or adverse weather conditions, technical or maintenance problems with transport, changes imposed by cancellation or rescheduling of flights by an airline or main charterer, the alteration of airline or aircraft type). Renaissance Tours is not liable for any penalty charges associated with 'supersaver' type connecting rail or air fares, in the event of a change to a holiday departure time, date or airport.

5. SUBSTITUTION OF CLIENT

If any member of the party is prevented from travelling because of the death, injury or serious illness of the passenger, close relative or friend, redundancy or jury service, it may be possible to transfer the booking to another suitable person (acceptable to Renaissance Tours) provided that written notice is given at least one calendar month prior to departure. An administration fee of \$100 + GST per person will be levied plus any costs imposed by our suppliers. Airlines may impose up to 100% cancellation charges.

6. CANCELLATION

a) Cancellation by You – Cancellation charges will be applied as shown below, calculated from the day written notification is received by Renaissance Tours. In addition to the charges shown below airlines may impose up to 100% cancellation charges.

International Tours

60 days or more	Forfeit of deposit*
59 – 45 days	25% of tour cost
44 – 31 days	50% of tour cost
30 – 15 days	75% of tour cost
Less than 15 days	100% of tour cost

Domestic Tours

45 days or more	Forfeit of deposit*
44 – 31 days	50% of tour cost
30 – 15 days	75% of tour cost
Less than 15 days	100% of tour cost

* Includes any flight deposit paid.

The above cancellation charges include applicable GST.

In addition to the above cancellation charges, the full insurance premium together with any existing administration fees is also payable in the event of a cancellation by the Client. If the reason for cancellation is covered by the insurance policy, you may be able to reclaim these charges.

b) Cancellation by Us – We reserve the right to cancel a tour for any reason (such as failure to reach minimum tour participant numbers). Except for *force majeure* (as outlined in clause 4b) or the Client's failure to pay the final balance, we will not cancel a tour less than 60 days before departure for international tours and 45 days before departure for domestic tours. Unless the Client fails to pay the final balance, we will return all monies paid, excluding payment for travel insurance and administration fees. No compensation will be paid in the event of cancellation by Renaissance Tours. A full refund of monies paid for tour costs will be the full extent of our liability. Airlines may impose up to 100% cancellation charges.

7. PASSPORTS, VISAS AND VACCINATIONS

It is your responsibility to be in possession of a passport valid for 6 months after the date of your return to Australia. You are also responsible for obtaining all necessary visas, inoculations and preventative medicines as may be required for the duration of the tour. Information about these matters or related items is given in good faith but without responsibility on the part of Renaissance Tours.

8. ILLNESS OR DISABILITY

Anyone suffering from illness or disability or undergoing treatment for any physical or medical condition must declare the true nature of such condition at the time of booking and make arrangements for the provision of any medication or other treatment which may be required during the tour. Failure to make such disclosure will constitute a breach of these booking conditions and result in such persons being excluded from the tour in which case all monies paid will be forfeit.

9. LOCAL LAWS

All participants of the tours we operate are expected to obey the laws and regulations of the countries visited and any failure to do so will relieve Renaissance Tours of all obligations that they may otherwise have under these booking conditions.

10. IF YOU HAVE A COMPLAINT

If you have a complaint about any of the tour arrangements, you must bring it to the attention of the tour leader or other representative of Renaissance Tours at the time so that they may use their best endeavours to rectify the situation. It is only if we are made aware of any problems that there will be the opportunity to put things right. Any complaints must be made in writing to Renaissance Tours within 28 days of the completion of the tour.

11. OUR RESPONSIBILITIES

All bookings are accepted on the understanding that the Client appreciates that travel does involve some risk and that they undertake all tours of their own volition.

i) Renaissance Tours accepts liability should any part of the tour arrangements booked with us not be supplied as described in the brochure(s) and not be of reasonable standard. In such a case, we will pay reasonable compensation if the Client's enjoyment of the tour has been adversely affected but will pay no compensation if there has been no fault on the part of Renaissance Tours or our suppliers and the reason for the failure in the tour arrangements was the Client's fault, the actions of someone unconnected with the tour arrangements or could not have been foreseen or avoided by Renaissance Tours or its suppliers even if all due care had been exercised.

ii) Our acceptance of liability to pay compensation pursuant to clause 11(i) is limited, in the case of air travel, rail travel, sea travel or hotel accommodation, to the amount set out in the provisions of, respectively, the Warsaw Convention as amended by the Hague Protocol 1955, the 1961 Berne Convention, the 1974 Athens Convention and the 1962 Paris Convention.

iii) Our acceptance of liability in clauses 11(i) and 11(ii) above is subject to assignment by the Client to Renaissance Tours of the Client's rights against any agent, supplier or sub-contractor of Renaissance Tours which is in any way responsible for the unsatisfactory tour arrangements.



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