

Cienfuegos, Cuba

Cienfuegos is Cuba's most refined city — a UNESCO-listed neoclassical gem on a stunning bay where French colonial elegance meets Caribbean warmth. Ships dock just blocks from one of the island's most walkable historic centers.

Docked (cruise wharf)

Typical call: 7-9 hrs

Cuban Peso (CUP); EUR/CAD preferred for exchange

Spanish

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____ Arrive: _____ All aboard: _____

Excursion: _____ Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Cruise ships berth at the Cienfuegos wharf; the historic center is about a 10-12 min walk

Best For: Colonial architecture, Cuban culture, day trip to Trinidad (UNESCO)

Walk to center: ~10-12 min on foot to Parque José Martí and the UNESCO historic core

Don't Miss: Teatro Tomás Terry, Palacio de Valle rooftop, and a horse-taxi ride along Paseo del Prado

Getting around: Taxi \$5–15 USD · Rideshare not available

TOP THINGS TO DO

- UNESCO Historic Center Walk** — Parque José Martí is the heart of it — Cathedral de la Purísima Concepción, Teatro Tomás Terry, and the Provincial Government Palace all face the...
- Castillo de Jagua** — This 18th-century Spanish fortress guards the entrance to Cienfuegos Bay.
- Trinidad Day Trip** — Cuba's most photogenic colonial city is just 80 km away.
- El Nicho Waterfalls & Pools** — In the Escambray mountains, El Nicho is a series of turquoise pools and cascades with jungle hiking trails.
- Jardín Botánico de Cienfuegos** — One of Cuba's finest botanical gardens, with over 2,000 tropical plant species including 400+ orchid varieties.

BEST WALKS

- Paseo del Prado & Parque José Martí Loop** 2-3 hrs | Easy | 2-3 km — Start at the pier and follow the waterfront to Parque José Martí.
- Malecón to Punta Gorda** 1-1.5 hrs | Easy | 2 km — Walk the Malecón south from the city center to the Punta Gorda peninsula.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)

	Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr		87°	72°	7d
Jun		89°	76°	19d
Aug		92°	78°	20d
Sep		89°	77°	20d
Oct		87°	75°	16d

DAYLIGHT & MONEY

Apr 7:01AM–7:41PM · Jun 6:38AM–8:06PM · Aug 6:59AM–7:52PM · Sep 7:08AM–7:24PM · Oct 7:18AM–6:56PM

Cuban Peso (CUP); EUR/CAD preferred for exchange

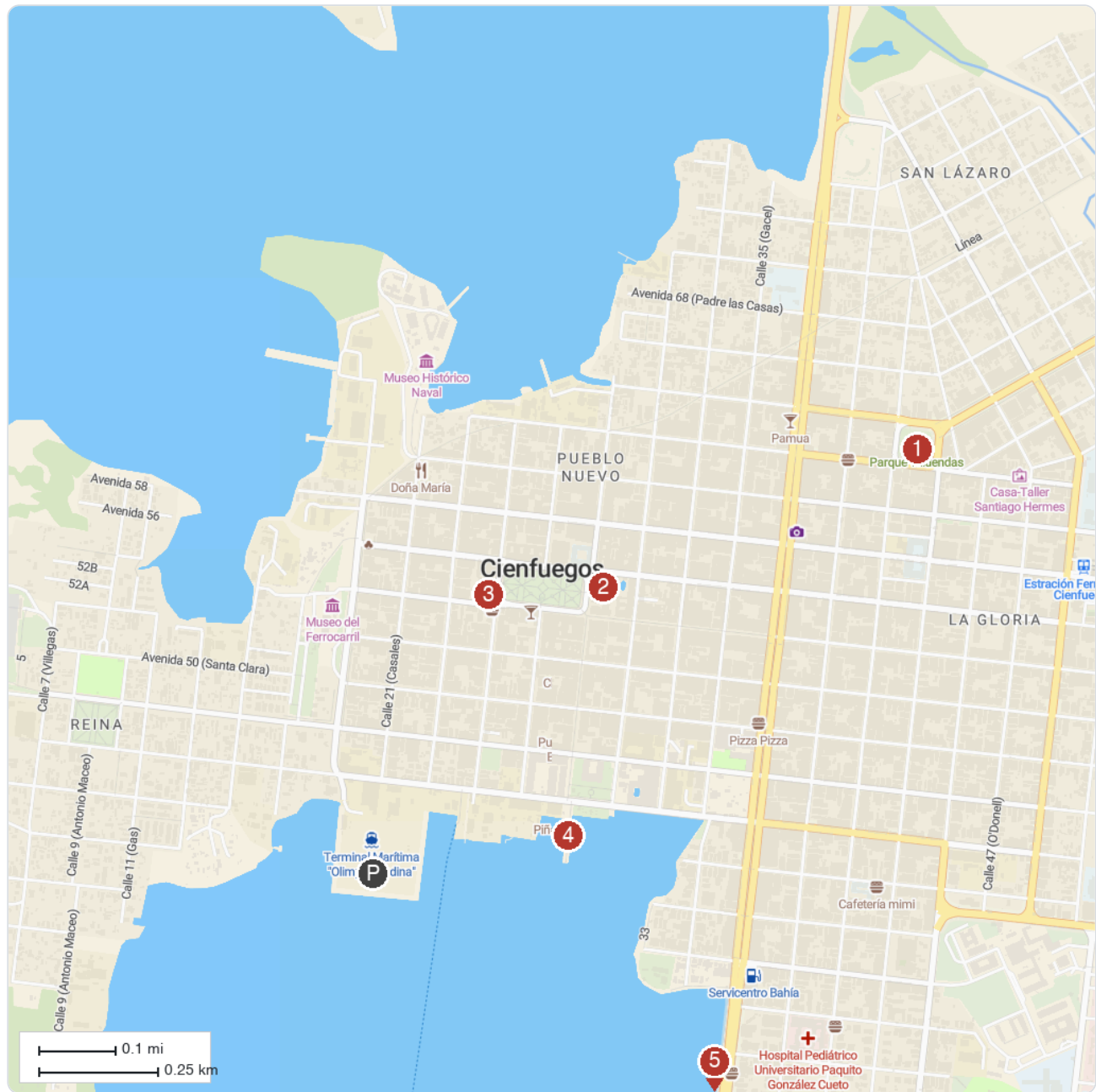
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Currency: Cuba now primarily uses the Cuban Peso (CUP). Bring Euros or Canadian dollars for exchange — US dollars face an extra tax. ATMs are unreliable; bring cash.
- Negotiate taxis upfront: Classic car taxis are iconic and fun, but agree on the price before you get in. For the botanical garden, expect ~\$10-15 CUC equivalent per car.
- US citizens: American-flagged cruise lines have not called Cuba since June 2019. If you're on a non-US line, verify your trip license category before booking excursions.
- Heat: Cienfuegos is hot and humid. Wear light clothing, bring sunscreen, and carry water — shade on the Paseo del Prado is welcome but sporadic.
- Teatro Tomás Terry: Entry to the ornate 1895 theater interior costs a few dollars and is well worth it — the ceiling murals and Italian marble are stunning.
- Trinidad takes a full day: The drive is 80 km each way. Only attempt it if you have 8+ hours in port and a reliable driver who knows your ship's departure time.

Cienfuegos, Cuba — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



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| <p>1 Parque Villuendas</p> <p>3 Museo de las Artes
Palacio Ferrer</p> <p>5 Malecón de Cienfuegos</p> | <p>A tranquil park with lush greenery and a central fountain.</p> <p>An art museum housed in the ornate Ferrer Palace.</p> <p>Cienfuegos' scenic waterfront promenade, perfect for sunset strolls.</p> | <p>2 Cathedral of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception</p> <p>4 Muelle Real</p> <p>P Cruise port / terminal</p> <p>A beautiful cathedral with twin towers and stained glass.</p> <p>The historic Royal Pier, offering bay views and strolls.</p> |
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