

# BLACK BUTTERFLY TRAVELS

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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### CAN AMERICANS STILL TRAVEL TO CUBA?

Yes! Americans are allowed to travel to Cuba under 11 different travel categories of authorized travel that reflect the activities travelers will do while in Cuba. There's no "tourism" category, but there are categories that will allow you to have an incredible trip and enjoy the activities you love.

Americans can travel to Cuba with any of the 11 categories listed below:

- 1) Family Visits
- 2) Journalistic Activity
- 3) Professional Research and Meetings
- 4) Religious Activities
- 5) Public Performances, Clinics, Workshops, Exhibitions, Athletic and Other Competitions
- 6) Support for the Cuban People
- 7) Humanitarian Projects
- 8) Activities of Private Foundations, or Research or Educational Institutes
- 9) Official Business of the U.s. Government, Foreign Governments, and Certain Intergovernmental Organizations
- 10) Exportation, Importation, or Transmission of Information
- 11) Authorized Export Transactions

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### WHAT IS A GENERAL LICENSE?

The General License is not something physical you need to apply for or carry around. Having a General License to travel to Cuba simply means that you're traveling to Cuba under one of the 11 Categories of Authorized Travel as defined by the US government!

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### DO I NEED A VISA AND A PASSPORT TO TRAVEL THERE?

Yes and yes. Everyone needs a passport and visa. The visa is a Cuban government requirement, and has nothing to do with the 11 Legal Categories of Travel required by the US government. Luckily, it's very easy to get one. It's just a card that you purchase and fill out. The cost of a visa ranges from \$50-\$100. There are three different ways to obtain a visa: 1) From an official online vendor 2) From an airline (at the airport or online) and 3) From Cuban Embassies in the U.S.

**More info here**



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## IS CUBA SAFE?

It sure is! Actually, Cuba has the lowest crime rate in the Western Hemisphere! It's totally safe to walk around at night. Just use your street smarts and be aware of your belongings in the really touristy areas.

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## WHAT ABOUT MONEY?

Unfortunately, because of the U.S. embargo restrictions on Cuba, Americans cannot make atm withdrawals from Cuban banks. This means Americans must pull out the full amount of the cash they intend to use over the course of their trip prior to landing on Cuban soil. No US travelers cheques can be used either.

All payments in the establishments operating in foreign exchange in Cuba must be made with convertible pesos.

Convertible pesos will remain at par with the US dollar at an exchange rate of one for one. You may exchange Euros, Canadian dollars, Pounds Sterling or Swiss Francs for Convertible Pesos (CUC). The exchange rates for those currencies are set in accord with the exchange rates on the international market.

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## IS THERE WIFI AND INTERNET?

Yes! The best way to access wifi is through purchasing a wifi card. Most tourist hotels in Havana sell them. They cost one to two CUC for an hour of wifi access. You typically have to use the card in the hotel you purchase it from, or at a designated wifi hotspot. Also, in the touristic areas there also are internet "cafés" from Etecsa the Cuban telephone/internet provider.

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## HERE ARE A FEW HELPFUL ARTICLES ON TRAVEL TO CUBA:

["8 Things You Need to Know About Going to Cuba"](#)

[Money in Cuba](#)

[Traveling Black blog](#)

[Essence: "Black Travel Vibes"](#)

