

CONNECTION

This English Section appears bi-weekly Edited by : Wendy Y.C. Yeh

Profile

Seeking New Frontiers : Cuba (5)



Our guided tour of Havana in Cuba took us through the Revolution Square. It is a municipality (or borough) in

Havana, Cuba. The Plaza de la Revolution (Plaza of Revolution) is so famous from all the world news reports about the many political rallies took place here over the years. Fidel Castro and other political leaders addressed Cubans here on numerous important occasions.

Pope John Paul II, during his 1998 first visit by a Pope, and Popo Francis in 2015, held large masses there during papal visits to Cuba.

The National Library, many government ministries, and other buildings are situated in or around the Plaza. The Plaza is also an important landmark in Havana where national celebrations take place.

The Museo de la Revolucion (Museum of the Revolution) is located in the Old Havana section of Havana, Cuba. The museum is housed in what was the Presidential Palace. It became the Museum of the Revolution during the years following the Cuban Revolution. It is also considered a national monument for its architectural and historical values.

This former Presidential Palace is beautiful, iconic, and massive. The design of the building has Neo-classical elements. It was designed by the Cuban architect Rodolfo Maruri and was inaugurated in 1920 by President Mario Garcia Menocal. It remained the Presidential Palace until 1959.

From looking at the locals passing through the Revolution Square, I could feel their reverence for this place and its history.

Havana's Carlos III Avenue is one of the busiest avenues of the city. This street was

built in 1836. It was originally named Paseo de Tacon. Later, in honor of King Carlos III of Spain, Paseo de Tacon was renamed to Carlos III Avenue and a statue of the Spanish king was placed here. The Carlos III Shopping Center is one of the pioneer shopping centers to deal in foreign currency transactions in Cuba.

The basilica and the monastery of San Francisco de Asis were built in Havana, Cuba, at the end of sixteenth century (1580 - 1591) as the home of the Franciscan community. It took eleven years to complete this prominent church. During its for remodeling, it was altered in the baroque style in 1730. It is now used as a concert hall.

The cloister of the adjacent monastery which dates back to 1739 now houses a museum of sacred art. Today a statue of Fray Junipero

Serra with a Juaneno boy stands next to the basilica.

Traveling can be exhausting. Sometimes I wonder why do people leave the comfort of their homes and travel to unfamiliar places. I believe that the reasons are personal.

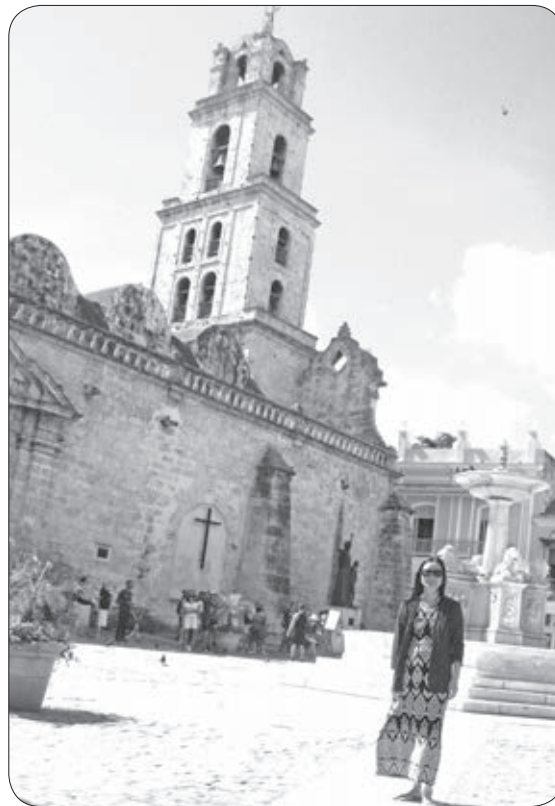
I love traveling. The excitement starts the minute I arrive in a new destination. On the other hand, traveling helps me open my eyes to really appreciate what is so special about my family, friends, and my home. There is truly no place like home.



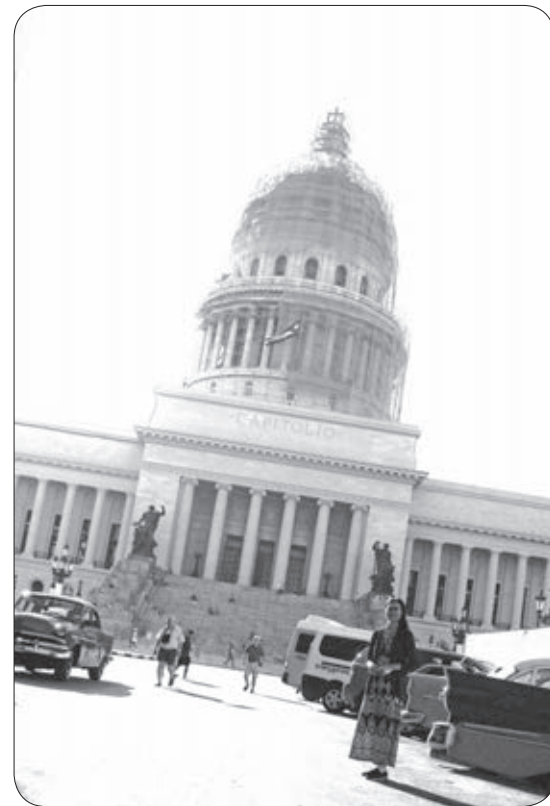
▲this antique classical train engine 1181 carries a lot of Cuban history



▲Havana's Carlos III Avenue is one of the busiest avenues in the city



▲the basilica and the monastery of San Francisco de Asis were built in 1580



▲this former Presidential Palace in Cuba is beautiful, iconic, and massive

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