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TRAVEL AND HOSPITALITY

## Seabourn sets sail for Cuba in 2019

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Seabourn is now traveling to Cuba. Image courtesy of Seabourn

By STAFF REPORTS

Cruise line Seabourn is adding Cuba to its list of destinations, responding to growing demand for luxury travel to the island nation.



Seabourn will travel to Cuba from Miami and San Juan, Puerto Rico beginning in November 2019 with a 12-day journey on Seabourn Sojourn. The cruise line has become Carnival Corporation's third brand to receive approval for Cuba travel, allowing the company to deliver experiences to the sought-after travel spot.

## Cruises to Cuba

Since the travel embargo between the United States and Cuba was lifted, Cuba has been a hot spot for affluent vacationers.

President Trump's threats to end the embargo only created more incentive for American tourists. A 2017 report from Travel Leaders Group found that it Cuba was one of the top destinations for the year (see story).

Seabourn will be offering four different itineraries, which will depart on five different dates from Nov. 4 to Dec. 21, 2019. These will range from 11 to 14 days, with stops at three to four Cuban ports.



Seabourn Sojourn. Image courtesy of Seabourn

Among the five ports that Seabourn will journey to are Antilla, Cienfuegos, Havana, Punta Francs on Isla de Juventud and Santiago de Cuba. These will offer opportunities to explore both Cuba's history and nature as well as its cities.

Travelers will have a chance to see UNESCO World Heritage sites and take in local music and dancing. The itineraries will also coincide with Havana's 500th anniversary, allowing guests to take in the city as it celebrates a milestone.

"For many luxury travelers, they aim to find new places to explore and discover meaningful new cultural opportunities, and Cuba is one of the most sought-after emerging destinations for many of our guests," said Richard Meadows, president of Seabourn, in a statement. "We are excited to finally be able to include Cuba in our itineraries, and our guests and travel partners have been anxiously awaiting an ultra-luxury travel experience with a wider selection of destinations in this relatively undiscovered Caribbean treasure."

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