



Trinidad & Sancti Spíritus Province

41 / POP 465,500

Includes ➔

Trinidad	277
Playa Ancón & Around	288
Valle de los Ingenios	289
Topes de Collantes	290
Sancti Spíritus	293
Northern Sancti Spíritus	299

Best Places to Eat

- ➔ La Redaccion Cuba (p285)
- ➔ Vista Gourmet (p284)
- ➔ Esquerra (p285)
- ➔ Restaurante San José (p284)

Best Places to Sleep

- ➔ Iberostar Grand Hotel (p282)
- ➔ Casa Muñoz – Julio & Rosa (p281)
- ➔ Hostal del Rijo (p296)
- ➔ Casa El Suizo (p281)
- ➔ El Capitan (p289)

Why Go?

This small but well-endowed province is Cuba at its loveliest, also guarding a precious chunk of the country's fantastical historical legacy. Sancti Spíritus Province boasts nature worth exploring. The best on Cuba's underwhelming south coast, Playa Ancón is a stunner. And then there are mountains. Outside Trinidad, the haunting Escambray offers outstanding hiking on a network of picturesque trails.

A postcard come alive, Trinidad is one of the most intact colonial towns in the Americas, with red-tile roofs, cobblestone streets and pastel houses with castle-sized colonial doors. Its underdog rival, the city of Sancti Spíritus offers a more intangible, crumbling allure. In 2014, both celebrated their 500th anniversaries to much fanfare and an invigorated shine on their finest architecture.

But there's even more: a surprisingly varied cache of oft-overlooked curiosities, including lightly trodden eco-parks, a seminal museum dedicated to guerrilla icon Camilo Cienfuegos, and the Unesco-protected Bahía de Buenavista.

When to Go

- ➔ Trinidadians don't wait long after Christmas to rediscover their celebratory style. The popular Semana de la Cultura Trinitaria (Trinidad Culture Week) takes place during the second week of January and coincides with the city's feted anniversary.
- ➔ The quiet month of May is a good time to visit this province, as you can avoid both the crowds and bad weather during the quiet off-season.
- ➔ Stick around until June and you'll witness Trinidad's second big annual shindig, the Fiestas Sanjuaneras, a local carnival where rum-fueled horsemen gallop through the streets. Take cover!

Trinidad & Sancti Spiritus Province Highlights

- Trinidad** (p277) Visiting museums and basking in the colonial comfort of gorgeous casas particulares and well-heeled restaurants.
- Valle de los Ingenios**

around this city's recently renovated colonial streets.

4 Jobo Rosado Reserve (p299) Exploring the woodlands, waterfalls and war history in this rich reserve.

5 Playa Ancón (p288) Renting a house in La Boca to enjoy the sunset hours on the sands of this popular beach.

6 Salto del Caburní (p291) Hiking to a frigid natural bathing pool and diving in!

7 Horseback Riding (p280) Visiting the cowboy-cool countryside around Trinidad.

