

Interesting Cuba Facts

- President: Miguel Díaz-Canel
- Capital: Havana
- Christopher Columbus discovered Cuba in 1492, and claimed it for Spain.
- Cubans call their island el Cocodrilo, which in Spanish means crocodile.
- Cuba is roughly the size (in total area) of the U.S. states of Tennessee or Virginia (11.5 million people)
- Cuba's main exports are sugar, tobacco and nickel.
- Cuban people earn approximately \$29.60 a month on average.
- Cuban life expectancy is 79.72. In the United States its 78.69.

Cuba Facts Cont'd

- The literacy rate in Cuba is 99.8%, which is one of the highest in the world.
- The game of dominoes is the national game of Cuba (but baseball is huge)
- Until 1997, Cuba did not cite Christmas as an official holiday.
- In Cuba, there is a dual monetary system since two currencies circulate: the CUP (Cuban peso) and the CUC (convertible peso).
- Since 1965, the country has been governed by the Communist Party of Cuba.
- Since the communists took power in 1959, the United States was hostile towards Cuba. However, after the stepping down of Fidel Castro, the relationship between the two countries improved. On August 14, 2015, the U.S. Embassy reopened in Havana.