

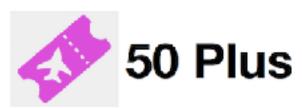


Rum, Geology & the Craic!





Just Retired



Facts about Cuba

Population c.11 Million

Size 114,524 sq.km. (Ireland =27, 155sq.km)

Language Spanish (French, Italian, English)

Religion Roman Catholic 85%, Santeria 2-5%

Etnic mix Mulatto 51%, Spanish 37%, African 11%, Chinese 1%

Government Socialist Republic

Currency Peso (= 100 Centavos)

Cuban Peso (CUP), however Cuban Convertible Peso (CUC) is the new "tourist" currency

Literacy 94%

Industries Sugar, Tourism, Mining (Nickel, Cobalt), Medicines

History of Cuba

1492	Columbus
1511	Spanish Colony (Hatuey killed)
1756-63	British Colony – Sugar Plantations
1763	Spanish Control
1898	US control (Spanish American War)
1902	US controlled "independence"
1959	Cuban Revolution & Nationalisation (Fidel Castro)
1961	"Bay of Pigs", CIA backed invasion
1962	Missile Crisis
1990	Withdrawal of USSR Aid
1994	Liberalisation of Economy
1995	Helms Burton Act (US Embargo)

Things to do in Cuba

- 1. Get away from the beach
- 2. Drink rum cocktails in La Floridita (Hemingway's local)
- 3. Eat "Moros Y Christianos"
- 4. Buy Blackmarket cigars
- 5. Travel in a 1950's US Taxi
- 6. Go to a Santeria Mass
- 7. Drink in Hotel Sevilla (Leg's Diamond's Hotel)
- 8. See a live Cuban mambo band





Geology of Cuba

Mesozoic Dominantly Jurassic & Cretaceous

Complex Tectonic History – Reversal of Subduction

Mixture of Fore Arc and Island Arc Basin Complexes Obducted ophiolites and melange Tertiary Granites

Mineralisation:

Ultramafic Nickel, Cobalt Laterites Sedex to VMS Copper & Zinc (Gold & Barite) Cyprus Style Cu Mesothermal & Epithermal Gold (Barite)

