



Hostel MANGO Habana Vieja  
Calle Damas 709 entre Luz y Acosta  
Habana Vieja, CUBA  
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## Getting to Hostel Mango

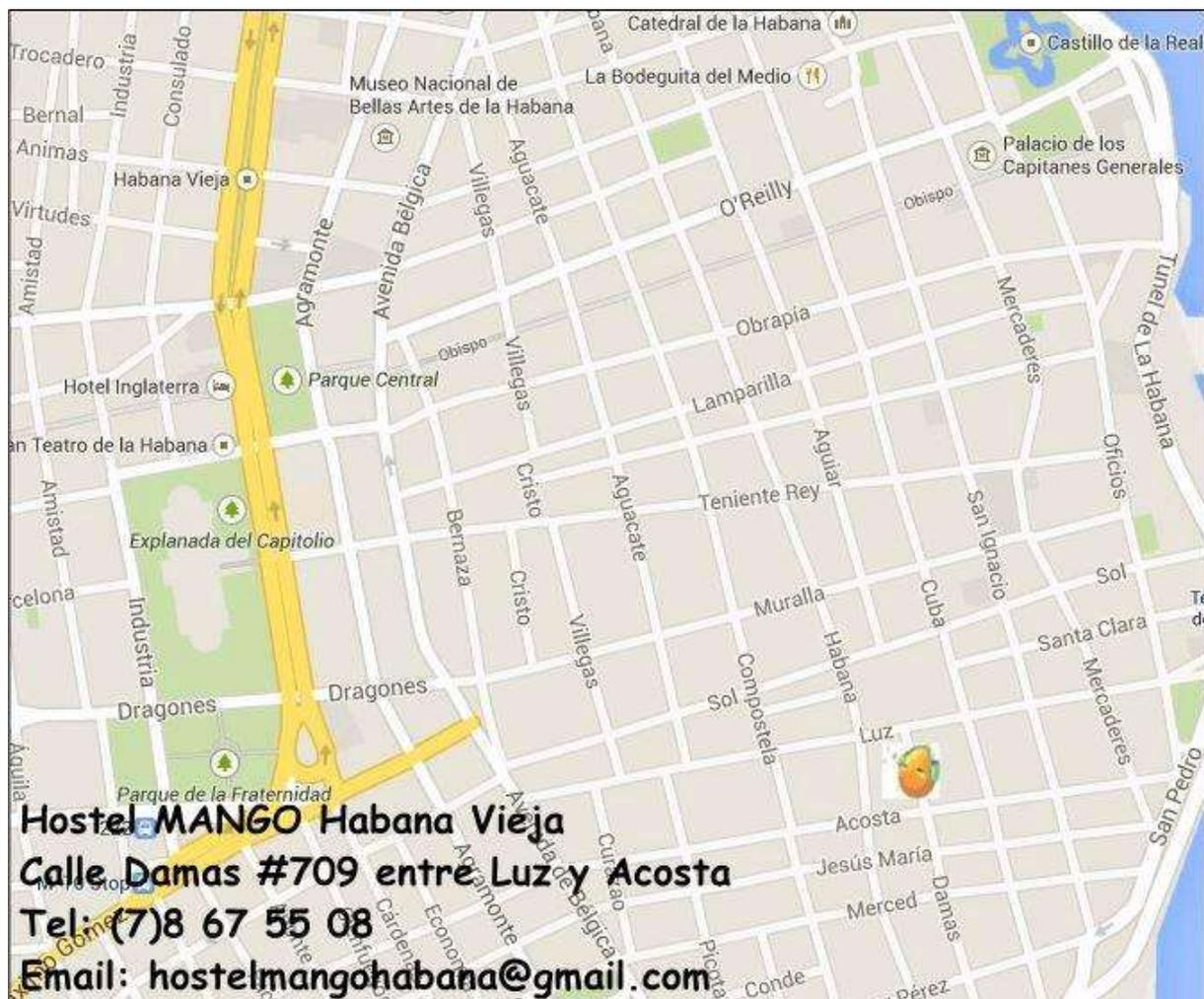
**FYI:** There are two currencies in Cuba. One is CUC or peso convertible in Spanish and the other is CUP or moneda nacional. Some places take both currencies; others just one of them. For most public transportation you can use CUP or moneda nacional.

**1 CUC (peso convertible) = 24 CUP (moneda nacional).**

### From El Capitolio

From the Capitolio (the parliament building with the big dome) it takes 12 minutes walking slowly or 5 minutes by rickshaw (bicitaxi) with room for 2 seated passengers. They generally charge 2 CUC for foreigners, but it can be bargained down to 1 CUC for one passenger only. It is necessary to negotiate and make the price clear before getting in the rickshaw (bicitaxi), ask as well to arrive in front of the hostel, take your luggage down and only then pay.

By foot, walk down Brasil/Teniente Rey street (opposite the Capitolio) and turn right onto Habana street. Walk 3 blocks then turn left on Luz then take the first right onto Damas street. Hostel Mango is number 709 on the left.





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## **From the Viazul Bus Station:**

### **Bus/Guagua:**

A) Public bus (Guagua) #27. By exiting the Bus Station walk towards your right, cross the Avenida 26 and on your left hand side is the bus stop. The bus (guagua) costs 0.40 CUP in the national currency (most passengers pay 1 CUP in national currency). The buses come at irregular intervals. It can take from 20 minutes to 40 minutes between 2 buses during the day, and up to 1 hour at night. After 11pm, it is better not to wait for it.

Get off at the last stop, on the Avenida del Puerto. Calle Damas is located behind the bus stop when you get off. Hostel Mango is building number 709, near the end of Damas street on the right (almost 6 blocks from the bus stop).

### **Collective Shared Taxi (Taxi colectivo/Máquina):**

B) Take any bus from the bus stop, explained in point A), for 2 more stops. Get off on the 2<sup>nd</sup> stop and walk to calle 23, where you can take a collective taxi (taxi colectivo, máquina, almendrón, old American car that fits 5 people); ask the taxi driver to take you to Habana before getting in. The price should be 10 CUP in national currency per person. Take the collective taxi until the last stop which is El Capitolio. Get off at El Capitolio and follow the previous instructions from El Capitolio.

### **Taxi:**

C) Take a private taxi from Viazul Bus Station to Hostel Mango. The price for a direct taxi should be about 5 or 6 CUC (per taxi, not per person). If the taxis parked in front of the bus station don't agree, walk to Avenida 26 and stop whatever taxi or car passing by to negotiate the trip.

### **By bike: The ride takes about 30 minutes by bike.**

D) By bike, the best way would be to exit the Viazul Bus Station towards Avenida 26, turn right and continue until Avenida de Puentes Grandes, turn left until Avenida de Boyeros, turn left again and follow that avenue, then turn right on the 3<sup>rd</sup> street after the National Bus Station (Terminal de Ómnibus Nacionales). Continue straight on this avenue until arriving at the Parque de la Fraternidad. There, take Calle Máximo Gómez (better known as its previous name: Monte) and turn right on calle Agramonte (people call it Zulueta), then turn left on the 2<sup>nd</sup> block (calle Acosta) and turn left again on Damas street (which is six blocks away from calle Zulueta). Hostel Mango is building #709.

### **Walking: This scenic stroll would take about 2 hours in total.**

E) If you are travelling light, and aren't carrying too much luggage and want to take a nice scenic stroll on your way to Hostel Mango, you can walk from calle 26 to calle Zapata, then turn right where you will pass the graveyard Necrópolis de Colón. Continue on Zapata and turn right onto calle 23 until you reach Malecón passing by an area called Coppelia where you can buy a refreshing ice cream. When you get to the Malecón turn right and follow the Malecón until you arrive at Hotel Armadores de Santander, turn right onto calle Luz and walk straight ahead until you reach Damas street (6 blocks from Avenida del Puerto).



## **From the Aripport Terminal 2 or Terminal 3:**

### **Bus/Guagua:**

#### **A) Walk to Avenida de Boyeros:**

- From Terminal 2 it is approximately 100 metres, 5 minutes walking.
- From Terminal 3: exit the airport towards your right hand side, after 70 metres you will come to a street outside of the airport. At this point you can offer 1 CUC to any car to take you to Boyeros Avenue if you don't want to walk. If you want to walk turn right onto the street – the distance is appx. 2km or about 40 minutes walking - and keep going until you reach Avenida de Boyeros. Possible disadvantages? Weight of your luggage, no sidewalk and at night there isn't any light.

Cross Avenida de Boyeros and walk to the right. The #P12 bus stop is about 100 metres away. The public bus (guagua) P12 costs 0.40 CUP (moneda nacional) (most passengers pay 1 CUP, easier than trying to find exact change). The buses come at irregular intervals and sometimes it can take 20 to 40 minutes between buses or up to 1 hour after 8pm. Generally they are quite full. After 8pm, it is better not to wait for them.

Get off at the last stop (about 1 hour trip), at the Parque de la Fraternidad and follow our previous instructions from el Capitolio.

### **Collective Shared Taxi (Taxi colectivo/Máquina):**

B) Go to Avenida de Boyeros (see above - anywhere on the avenue will do, you don't need to go all the way to the bus stop), cross Avenida de Boyeros and put out your hand to stop a collective taxi (taxi colectivo also known as máquina, almendrón, old American car that fits 5 persons). Make sure to ask Havana? before climbing in, to make sure that the car is going in your direction. If the answer is affirmative, then take that collective taxi until the last stop in El Capitolio (about 40 minutes). The price is 20 CUP (moneda nacional) per person. Get off at the Capitolio and follow the previous instructions from el Capitolio.

### **By bike: The ride takes around 1 ½ hour.**

C) By bike, exit the airport to your right until Avenida de Boyeros, turn left on Avenida de Boyeros then turn right on the 3<sup>rd</sup> street after the National Bus Station (Terminal de Ómnibus Nacionales). There should be a rent-a-car office on the corner where you need to turn. Continue straight ahead on this avenue until you arrive at the Parque de la Fraternidad. From there take Calle Máximo Gómez (better known under its former name: Monte) and turn right on calle Agramonte (formerly known as Zulueta), then turn left two streets down on calle Acosta and then left on calle Damas (sixth block from calle Acosta). Hostel Mango is located at Damas #709, on the right hand side.

### **Taxi:**

D) The official price of the yellow taxis is 25 CUC from the airport to Hostel Mango (per taxi. Up to 4 persons can share a taxi.). It is necessary to negotiate and make the price clear before getting in the taxi, ask as well to arrive in front of the hostel.



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### **From the Train Station:**

#### Walking:

A) You can easily walk from the train station to the hostel. With your back to the station, go to the left on Egido until you reach Acosta. Turn right on Acosta and go straight until calle Damas. Turn left on calle Damas. Hostel Mango is on Damas street between Luz and Acosta, #709.

#### By Rickshaw (bicitaxi):

B) If your luggage is heavy or you are exhausted, offer 1 CUC and take a rickshaw (bicitaxi). It is necessary to negotiate and make the price clear before getting in the rickshaw (bicitaxi), ask as well to arrive in front of the hostel, take your luggage down and only then pay.

### **From the National Bus Station (Terminal de Ómnibus Nacionales):**

#### Bus/Guagua:

A) Take the bus #P12 until Parque de la Fraternidad. Get off at the last stop (about 15 minute trip) at Parque de la Fraternidad and follow our previous instructions from el Capitolio.

#### Collective Shared Taxi (Taxi colectivo/Máquina):

B) Put out your hand to stop a collective taxi (taxi colectivo also known as máquina, almendrón, old American car that fits 5 persons). Make sure to ask Havana? before climbing in to make sure that the car is going in your direction. If the answer is affirmative, then take that collective taxi until the last stop in El Capitolio (about 15 minutes). The price is 10 CUP (moneda nacional) per person. Get off at the Capitolio and follow the previous instructions from el Capitolio.

C) Private Taxi: Offer 3 CUC to a collective taxi (taxi colectivo, máquina, almendrón, old American car that fits 5 persons) to go directly to Hostel Mango.

### **From Varadero Airport:**

At the time of writing this, the bus/guagua Viazul runs 3 times per day from Varadero Airport to Havana City. It costs 10 CUC and takes about 2 hours and 40 minutes.

<http://www.viazul.com/ruta/21/Varadero-Habana>

Get off at the Viazul Bus Station and follow the previous instructions from Viazul Bus Station.

You can also ask to be dropped off after crossing the tunnel of the bay (tunel de la bahía) and then take a rickshaw (bicitaxi). The price should be 2 or 3 CUC.

It is necessary to negotiate and make the price clear before getting in the rickshaw (bicitaxi), ask as well to arrive in front of the hostel, take your luggage down and only then pay.