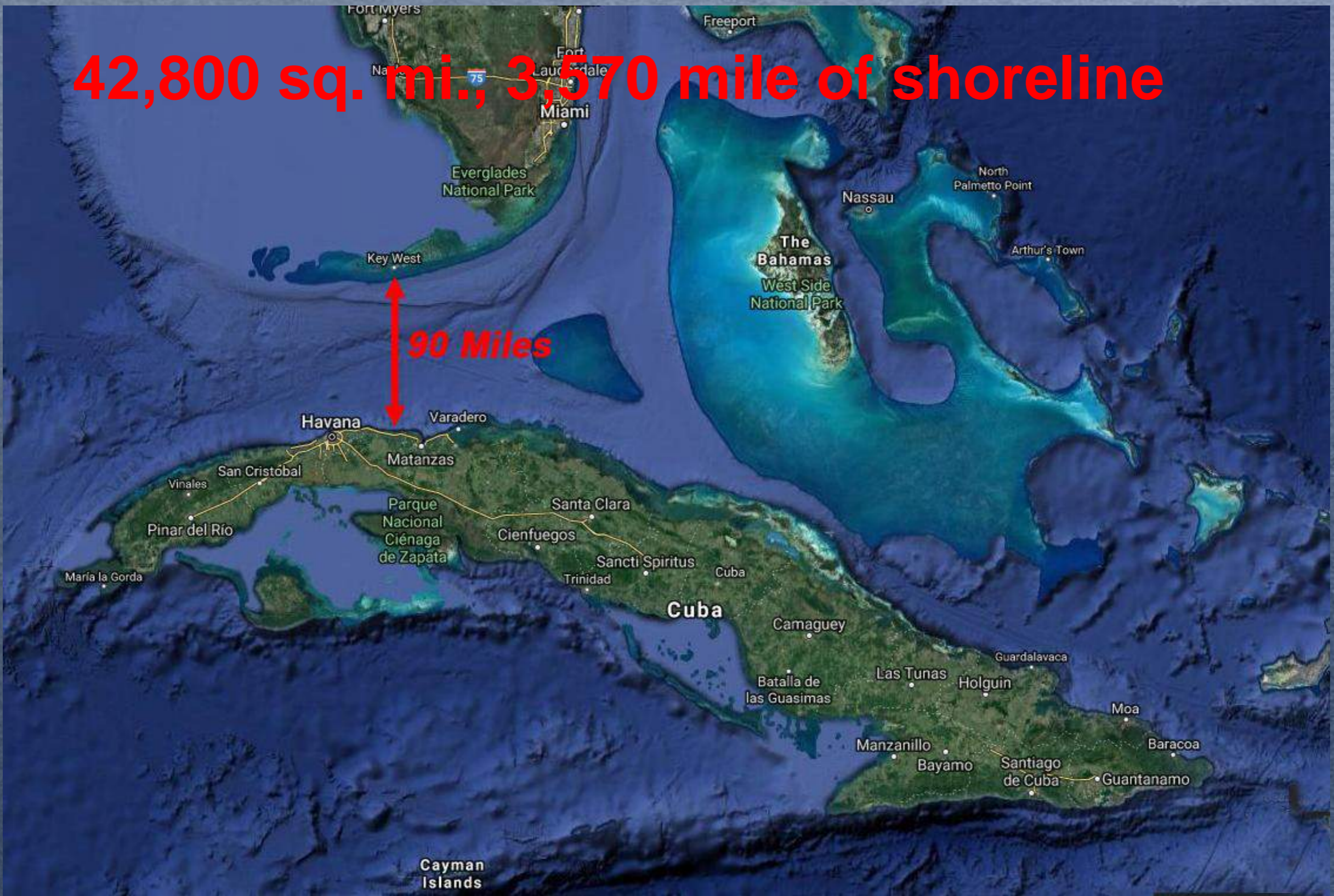


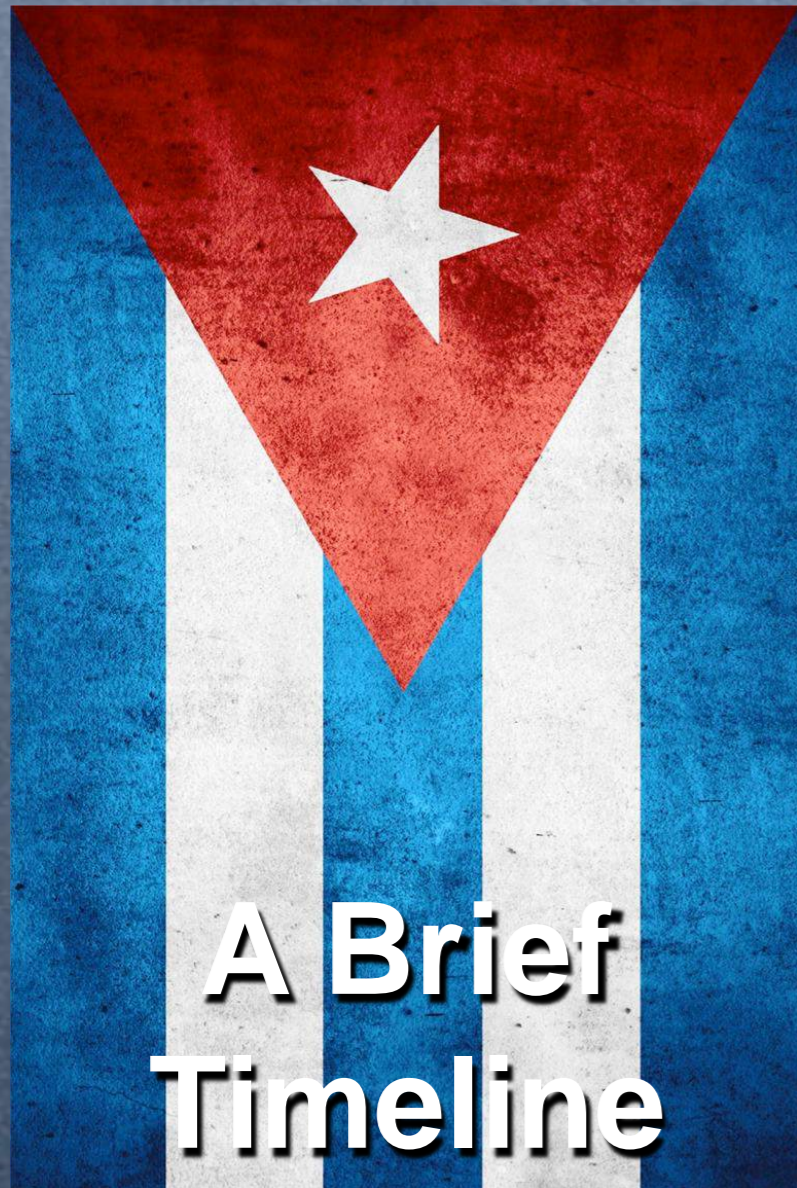


# Cuba 2017

**42,800 sq. mi., 3,570 mile of shoreline**

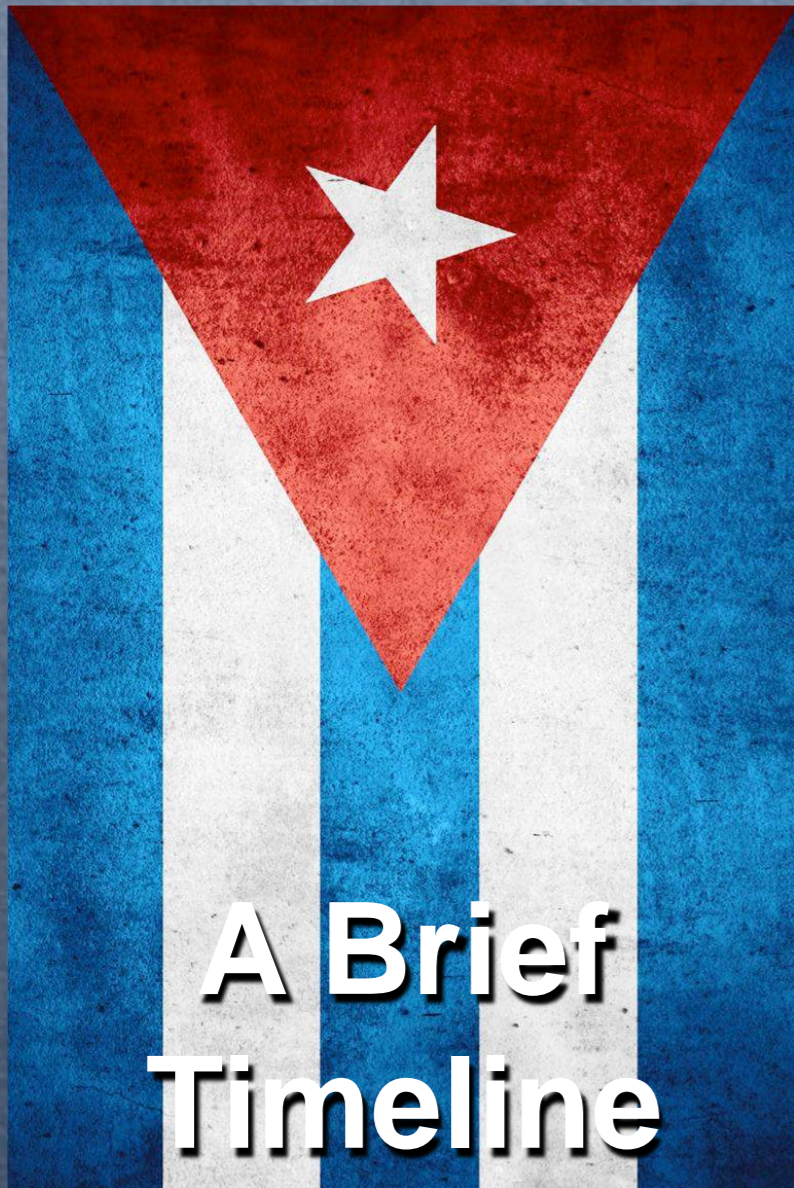
**90 Miles**





## Early Years

- 1492 - Christopher Columbus arrives in Cuba and claims the island for Spain.
- 1510 - Spanish set out from Hispaniola. The conquest of Cuba begins.
- 1514 - Havana founded as San Cristóbal de la Habana.
- 1553 - The Governor of Cuba relocates to Havana.
- 1728 - The University of Havana is founded.
- 1868-The first war of Cuban independence, also known as the Ten Years' War, begins. It lasts until 1878.
- 1898 -The battleship USS Maine explodes and sinks while anchored in Havana harbor.
- 1898 - The Treaty of Paris between Spain and the U.S. ends the Spanish–American War. Spain relinquishes sovereignty over Cuba.

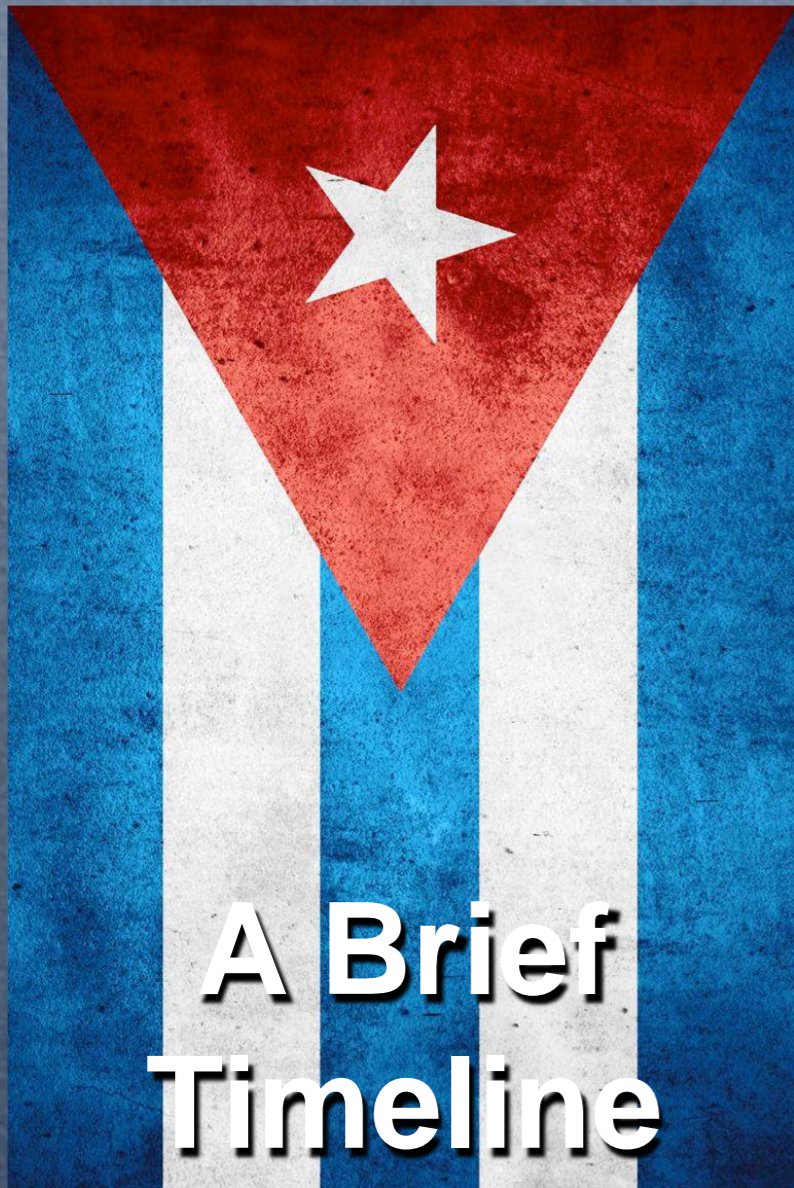


## Later Years

- 1902 - The Cuban Republic is established under the 1901 Constitution. Tomás Estrada Palma takes office as president.
- 1926 - Fidel Castro is born in the province of Holguín.
- 1933 - A group of military officers that includes Fulgencio Batista launches the Sergeants' Revolt and topples the provisional government.
- 1952 - Former president Batista, supported by the army, seizes power once more.
- 1959 - President Batista resigns and flees the country. Fidel Castro's column enters Santiago de Cuba.
- 1959 - Fidel Castro becomes Premier of Cuba.
- 1960 - U.S. imposes embargo prohibiting all exports to Cuba except foodstuffs and medical supplies.
- 1961 - US Trade embargo on Cuba begins.

## Recent Presidents of the Council of State

- **Fidel Castro: 2 December 1976 – 24 February 2008. Passes in 2016 at age 90.**
- **Raul Castro: 31 July 2008 – 24 February 2018.**
- **Miguel Diaz-Canel: 19 April 2018 – Incumbent.**





## Current Economy

- Cubans can buy electronic appliances and cell phones.
- They can stay in hotels.
- They can buy and sell used cars.
- The government has cut state sector jobs as part of the reform process.
- It has opened up some retail services to "self-employment," leading to the rise of entrepreneurs.
- More than 500,000 Cuban workers are currently registered as self-employed.
- The Cuban regime has updated its economic model to include permitting the private ownership and sale of real estate and new vehicles.
- Private farmers are allowed to sell agricultural goods directly to hotels, allowing the creation of non-agricultural cooperatives.
- The government is adopting a new foreign investment law, launching a "Special Development Zone" around the Mariel port.



Video from 2016


# Current Economy



[WWW.CCTV-AMERICA.COM](http://WWW.CCTV-AMERICA.COM)

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 CCTV America



## Society: Education/Health Care

- Education: K-12 and college is free, including medical school.
- If they go to med school, they must commit to working for 2 years in the countryside.
- Military service is mandatory for boys.
- 1 year if they have a career track (college.)
- 2 years if they do not have a career track (no college.)
- Unemployment is unknown.
- Average salary (gov. stipend) is \$30-35/mo. tax free.
- Doctors make approx. \$70/mo.
- They can earn money above the stipend, but that money is subject to income tax.
- Each person receives a ration book good for 5-6 eggs per person per household, cooking oil, flour and several other staples. This is per month.





## Society: Education/Health Care

- Housing is free, although the average apartment/house is much smaller than we are used to.
- Utilities are free.
- Medical care, including hospital stays are free.
- There are more divorces than marriages.
  - Alcoholism is the primary reason given. Alcohol is the drug of choice. It is almost impossible to smuggle any drugs into the country. Penalties are very severe.
- The average family consists of no more than 1-2 children. This compares to 10-12 in years past due to it being more of an agricultural society back then.



## OFAC

### Office of Foreign Assets Control

- OFAC regulates travel to Cuba pursuant to the Helms-Burton Act and other pertinent regulations. Currently there are 12 categories of authorized travel to Cuba.
- People-to-People travel is one of the ways for Americans to visit Cuba and provides an opportunity to discover Cuba through its people from a local perspective.
- You must retain records of your activities for a period of 5 years.
- Cuba operates on a dual currency system. The first is the CUP\$ (moneda nacional) which is used only by Cuban citizens. The second is the Cuban convertible peso or CUC\$. It comes in both a coin and paper configuration and is used by non-citizens.



# Travel By Private Yacht

- USCG CG3300 approved permit (2 copies).
- USCG Documentation Form if you're running a documented vessel.
- State registration.
- US Customs Decal number and sticker.
- Copy of insurance policy with Cuban coverage.
- All persons onboard must have a valid passport with at least 6 months remaining.
- Proof of payment to any official Cuban event, such as a fishing tournament with registration.
- Proof of payment to a hotel (if applicable).
- An issued Cuban visa for each crew member.
- A completed Cuban "Declaracion" (General Statement of Foreign Vessel.)
- Cuban listing of crews visa number, last name, first name, date of birth, citizenship, sex and passport number.
- Small Vessel Reporting System (SVRS) Approval or Local Boater Option Card for US Customs.
- A confirmation of your exemption from OFAC permits.



## Doing Business in Cuba

Doing business in Cuba is still illegal, however, if you could, these would be some good reasons:

- The country has more than 11 million consumers with nearly 60 years of pent-up demand for U.S. goods and services.
- The Port of Havana is less than 200 nautical miles from the Port of Miami, making trade relatively easy.
- Millions of U.S. tourists will need travel-related services to vacation in Cuba.
- European companies have already paved the way for foreign investment and business on the island.
- Internet penetration.
- Infrastructure development.
- New port.
- Vintage cars.
- Easing up of travel restrictions.



# Cuba *Don'ts*

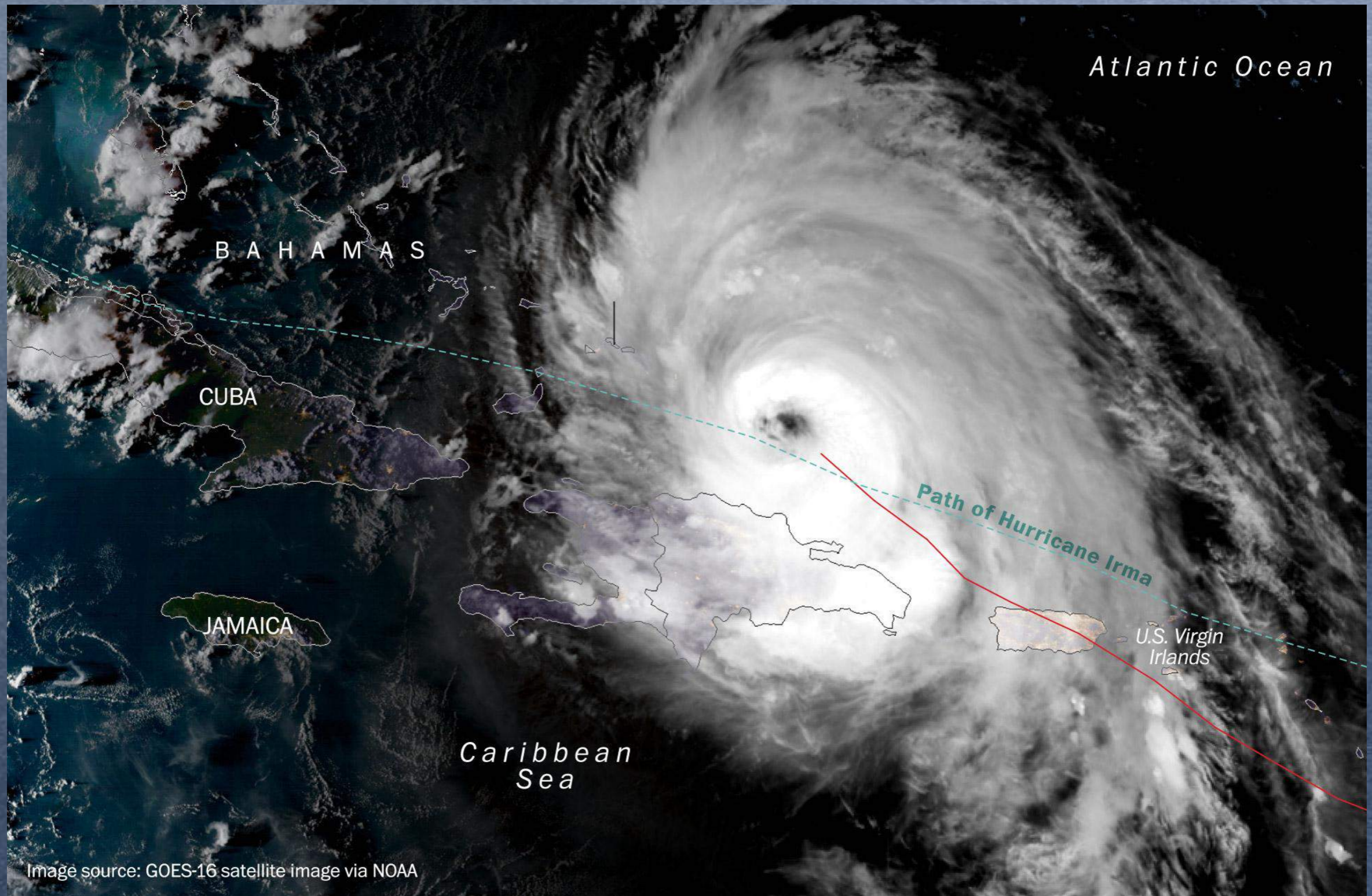
- Don't wear Bling.
- Don't take pictures of policemen or soldiers.
- Don't "Dis" Castro.
- Don't blow your nose or spit in public
- Don't drink the water.
- Don't forget to count your change.
- Don't take unlicensed taxis.
- Don't forget cigars.
- Don't fall for Jineteros (male) or Jineteras (female) – Hustlers.
- Don't order papaya daiquiris.



# Hurricane Irma – Sept. 8, 2017



# Hurricane Maria – Sept. 18, 2017



# Hurricane Irma – Sept. 8, 2017





# Hurricane Irma – Sept. 8, 2017



# Hurricane Irma – Sept. 8, 2017



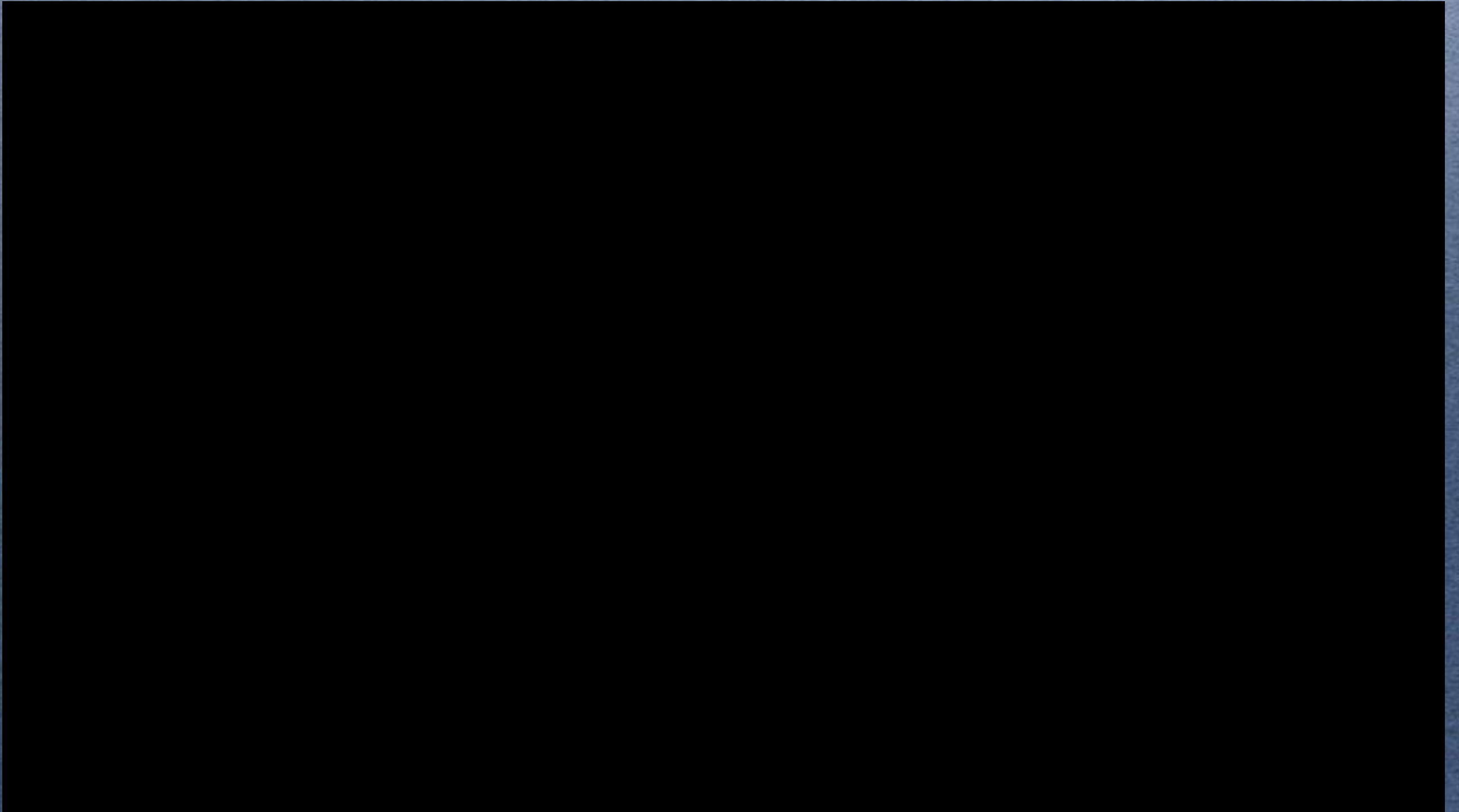
# Hurricane Irma – Sept. 8, 2017

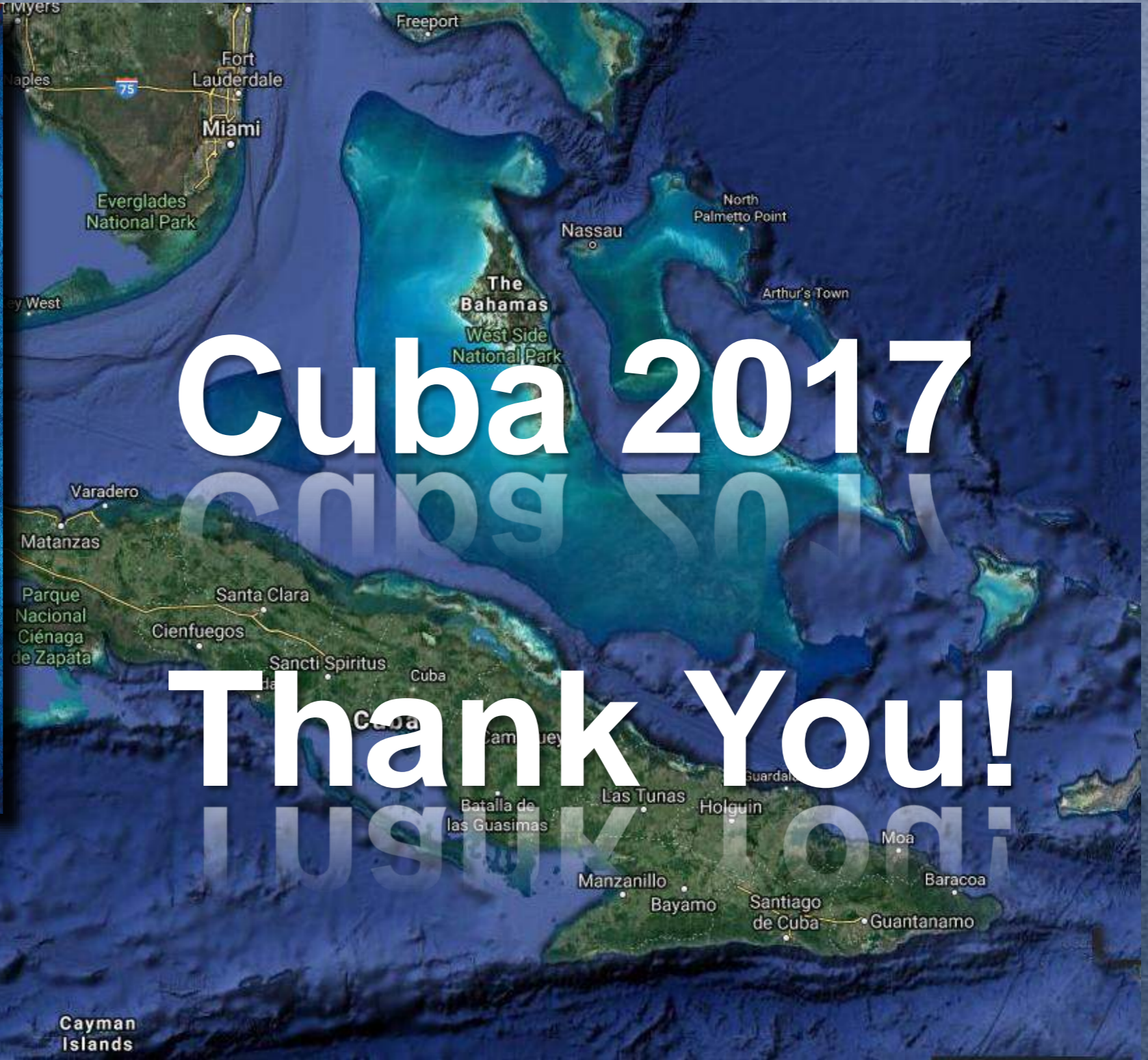


# Hurricane Irma – Sept. 8, 2017



# Cuba Trip 2017





Cuba 2017

Thank You!