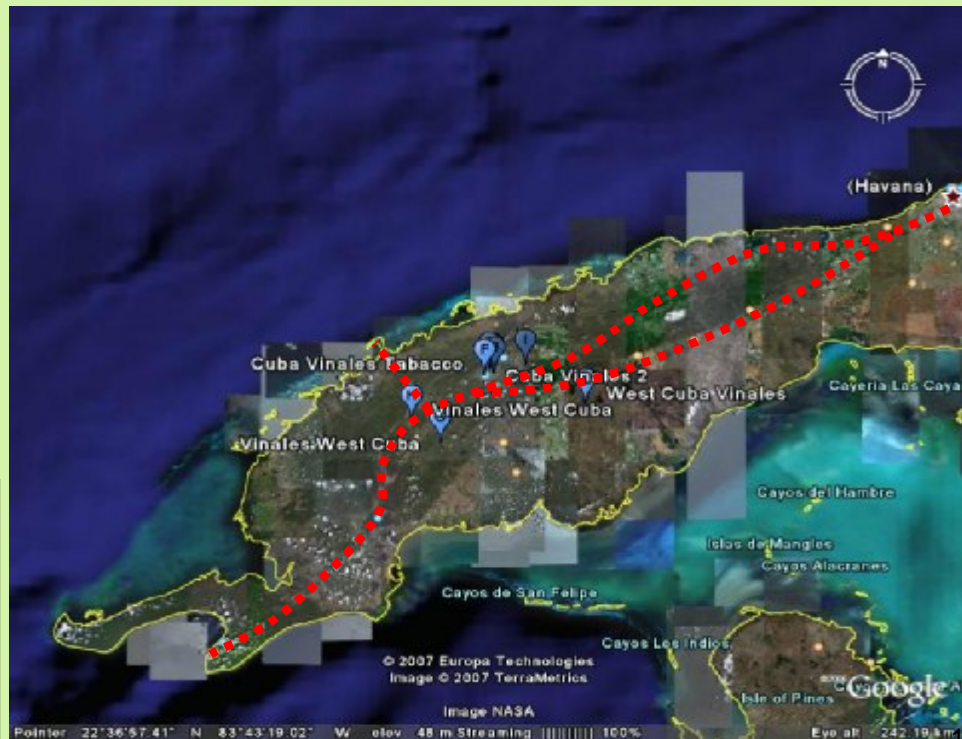


Cuba Travel - Nov / Dec 2007

The purpose of this trip was to experience the first country that has survived the onset of Peak Oil, which all other countries will face within the next 5 to 10 years. When the Iron Curtain came down in the early 90s, the Cuban economy collapsed and shrunk to 33% of its GDP. Cuba only managed to survive by strengthening its bio-regional economy, out of necessity, since the dominant global economy is not capable, nor interested, in supporting or trading with, collapsing economies that have no valuable natural resources to trade.

The Cuban survival story has been recorded in the international award winning documentary, “The Power of Community – How Cuba Survived Peak Oil”. The recovery of the Cuban economy was initially based upon the revival of sustainable organic farming practices in lieu of conventional farming that is dependent on fossil based fuels. The culture, lifestyle and socio-political system, were also important factors that contributed to the resilience of the Cuban people and its ultimate survival.



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Cuba photos – Nov / Dec 2007

Havana

Politics

Organoponico – urban food gardens

Campesinos – small scale farmers

The farmer, the plough & the devil

Old cars

Alternative transport

Casa Particular (B&Bs)

Public Housing

Public & Community Facilities

Towns & Villages

The Countryside

The People



Vinales Valley



HAVANA

**CUBA
NOV/DEC 2007**





CUBAN POLITICS AND SOCIALIST IDEOLOGIES



CUBA
NOV/DEC 2007



ORGANOPONICOS – URBAN FOOD GARDENS – SUPPLY 90% OF VEGETABLES TO CITIES AND TOWNS



CUBA
NOV/DEC 2007



**CAMPESINOS – PRIVATELY OWNED RURAL SMALL SCALE FARMS –
SUPPLY AT LEAST 50% OF CUBA’S AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE**



**CUBA
NOV/DEC 2007**



THE FARMER, THE PLOUGH & THE DEVIL

Land in the Vinales Valley is losing its productivity due to years of excessive ploughing, hence a proposal to enhance organic farming production by establishing keyline rainwater harvesting, limited till, raised ridges, natural soil conditioning, alley cropping and agro-forestry.



CUBA
NOV/DEC 2007





CAR HEAVEN IS IN CUBA, BUT, SOME “RIKIMBILLY CARRE” ARE IN HADES



**CUBA
NOV/DEC 2007**



ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORT



**CUBA
NOV/DEC 2007**



CASA PARTICULAR – LOCAL B&Bs

CUBA
NOV/DEC 2007





PUBLIC HOUSING – 2 TO 5 STOREY WALKUP APPARTMENTS



**CUBA
NOV/DEC 2007**



Primary School



Rural Community Hall with TV

**PUBLIC &
COMMUNITY
FACILITIES**



Pre-School



High School

**CUBA
NOV/DEC 2007**



Las Terrazas

TOWNS & VILLAGES



Vinales

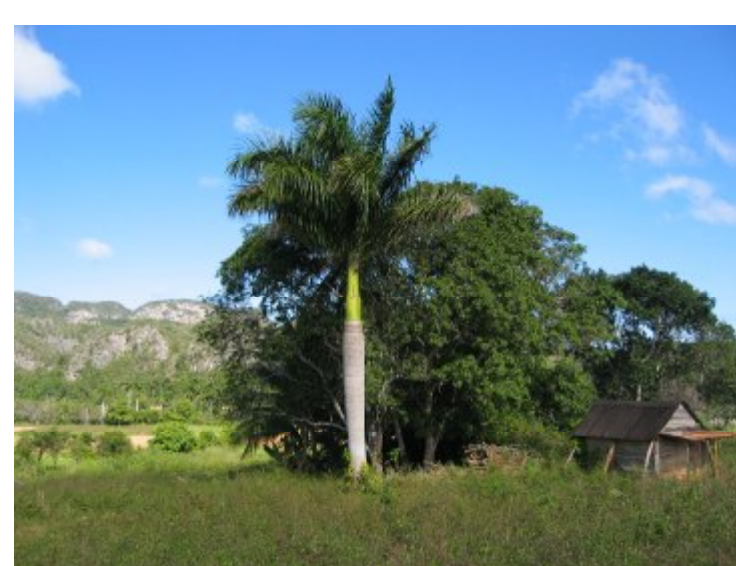


Vinales



Pinar

CUBA
NOV/DEC 2007



THE COUNTRYSIDE

CUBA
NOV/DEC 2007



Vinales "Hidden Valley"

THE PEOPLE



CUBA
NOV/DEC 2007



School mural illustrating Cuban views about Capitalism and Globalisation – Note the Globalisation gravy train driving the screw.