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# Havana Before Castro: When Cuba Was A Tropical Playground



## Synopsis

Featuring hundreds of vintage photographs, postcards, brochures, and other materials evocative of time and place, *Havana Before Castro: When Cuba Was a Tropical Playground* documents how the city of Havana evolved from Prohibition haven and rich man's playground to a heady blend of glittering nightclubs, outrageous cabarets, all-night bars, and backstreet brothels. Here, captured in one amazing book, is the drama, passion, intrigue, and opulence of a legendary city during its heyday-before the Castro dictatorship re-imagined the country and Americans were banned from travel to this tropical paradise. An architectural historian by profession, Peter Moruzzi is an acknowledged expert on midcentury modern architecture and design. He is the founder of the Palm Springs Modern Committee, an internationally recognized historic preservation organization, and the writer/director of *Desert Holiday*, a documentary film chronicling the history of Palm Springs as seen through vintage postcards. He resides in the Silver Lake district of Los Angeles and in Palm Springs.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The pictures in the Havana Before Castro: WhenCuba was a Tropical....reading it, I couldn't put it down. I kept running to my husband showing him all the neat pictures I was looking at. I finally gave up and sat next to him and we read together. It's a beautiful book, with beautiful pictures in in and the people are so colorful. I loved the book right away and I plan to purchase more of them. It's such a thrilling book, I love it! Thank you, !

I've always been fascinated with my Cuban heritage and have read several books on Cuba, but mainly autobiographies, some non-fiction stories but mostly post-revolution. This was an excellent read on what Cuba was pre-revolution and its excesses and the role America played.

Fascinating look at pre-revolutionary Havana. Very attractive and interesting book, love the photos and graphics. A lost world of sex, glamour, cocktails, fabulous shows, great cars and partying. Makes me wish I could have been a young man in Cuba pre-1959! I would have been there as much as I could.

Fabulous look at Havana before the revolution with great photos and easy to read info. Photos from 2007 of many of the buildings show their slow deterioration under Castro but still wonderful architecture. Highly recommend

A must have for anyone intersted in Cuban history of the 20th Centruy. It is filled with great photos, postcards and clippings as well as informative articles on various aspects of Cuban life in Havana.

Great book about Cuba before Castro and what things were like. It was a super quick read in one day

I bought this for my father in law, who immigrated from Cuba in the 50's. He can't stop RAVING about this book, and has even recognized several people in the photos throughout! I was skeptical on gifting this, but it turned out to be a huge hit.

Having read many Pre Castro books, Havana Before Castro: When Cuba was a Tropical Playground reveals all the details that made this beautiful island one of enchantment, progress, fun and mischivousness!This book is replete with beautiful photographs and excellent explanations of what life was like before the Castro brothers took, it over.This book is a MUST BUY for all Cuba

history lovers!

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