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# StreetSmart Havana Map By VanDam - City Street Map Of Havana - Laminated Folding Pocket Size City Travel Map (English And Spanish Edition), July 2017 Edition





## Synopsis

VanDam's best-selling Havana StreetSmart maps all of the capital's cultural attractions, neighborhoods, beaches, hotels, resorts and more at an immensely legible scale. The map features the latest restaurants, hotels, bars and supper clubs all clearly marked. This is the smartest and easiest to use map of Havana. Remember web access in Cuba is limited to hotels, excruciatingly slow and up-to-date information simply unavailable. So, let Havana StreetSmart be your key to understanding the new world's oldest city. This sexy laminated city map package refolds easily to 4 x 9 inches (24 x 9 inches open) and snugly fits into your pocket. Buy this map to become an instant StreetSmart Habanero.

## Book Information

Series: Streetsmart

Map: 2 pages

Publisher: VanDam, Inc; 8th Revised ed. edition (July 16, 2017)

Language: English, Spanish

ISBN-10: 193439548X

ISBN-13: 978-1934395486

Product Dimensions: 3.8 x 0.1 x 8.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 0.3 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 119 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #21,891 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #1 in Books > Travel > Caribbean > Cuba > Havana #4 in Books > Travel > Caribbean > General #159 in Books > Libros en español

## Customer Reviews

"A New Look at Cuba" by Rachel Lee Harris You've booked a flight from Miami and have your approved travel visa in hand. You're ready to see Cuba. Now what? Cue Stephan VanDam, a cartographer, graphic designer and president of the map company that bears his name. Though practical, his witty, origami-like physical maps and sleek 4-D interactive digital maps can also carve a historic or cultural path through a city (like his History Mapped presidential series). The company has now turned its attention to Cuba. Using his signature StreetSmart series design for printed maps (Internet connections are still scant in Cuba), Mr. VanDam points out Havana's restaurants, hotels, resorts and the home-based restaurants known as paladares and offers five self-guided tours that wind through the city's many plazas to contemporary galleries, music venues and

gardens, along the Malecón coastal road and as far as the beaches of Playas de Este. As an amateur mambo dancer and Latin Jazz aficionado, Mr. VanDam has always had a fascination with Cuba and its connection to the Latin jazz scene in New York, he said on the phone from his office there. Musically, it's a world power. I remember my parents doing the mambo in the 1950s and their parents in the 30s. So the maps focus a lot on those aspects of Cuba's culture. It's also a treasure trove of architecture, he said. Cuba is totally cohesive in its urban fabric since there was no money after the revolution to replace buildings with modern structures. The company also has produced StreetSmart Cuba, which maps out the network of Spanish Colonial towns and Unesco World Heritage sites on country roads from west to east, and guides travelers through beach towns along the shores both north and south. The Havana map is \$8.95, the Cuba map \$9.95 --The New York Times, Travel "In Cuba, Maps Make a Comeback" by Steve Heller Old-fashioned navigation is enjoying a renaissance on the island, where Internet access is still scant. When Stephan Van Dam began designing two detailed tourist maps of Cuba in 2014, he couldn't have known that one year later, the prospect of renewed relations between the country and the U.S. could effectively create a whole new market for them. At the time Van Dam, the founder of VanDam's StreetSmart maps, was catering to a smaller audience: the Americans who could only visit the country if they were Cuban-American or embarking on a people-to-people tour run by a licensed guide, and the 1.1 million Canadians and hundreds of thousands of European travelers who visited last year. In 2015, the country offers jaded American travelers something different from the usual tourist trappings. According to Van Dam, the country is experiencing a brief moment free of advertising before global corporate luxe flattens the island. With highly legible cartography and engaging photographic covers, his StreetSmart Cuba and StreetSmart Havana maps highlight local business colorfully. They're guides to the latest hotels, resorts, restaurants and paladares (private family-run restaurants) that appeal to the pioneering tourist eager to experience the country before the inevitable onslaught of development. Van Dam's Cuban maps culled their information from both federal data and his team's personal experience. The relief and terrain data come courtesy of the CIA; the cultural and urban information was provided by Havana's Office of the City Historian; the restaurant and paladares recommendations from his team's ground trothing and testing, as well as recommendations by Cubans and American friends. Walking Havana from one end to the other gave Van Dam a sense of the urban fabric, which is, by his description, frozen in time and brimming with period-specific architectural jewels buildings that reflect Plateresque, Cuban baroque, Neoclassical, Art Nouveau, Art Deco, Streamline Moderne, Mid-century modern, and Soviet Brutalist architectures. Cuba, he says, "avoided the 1960s Corbusian redevelopment schemes that

destroyed so many world cities throughout the Americas." To develop the maps, Van Dam and his team visited Cuba in 2013 under a U.S. self-certification program administered by the Office of Foreign Assets Control that permits U.S. citizens to travel to Cuba independently to conduct research. With the prospect of sanctions being lifted in the near future, Van Dam is already planning more Cuba projects across new media, starting with a website mapping the influence of the clave, an instrument that figures widely in Cuban music, around the world. The paper map may be old-fashioned, but when it comes to Cuba, Van Dam is ahead of the curve. Havana is currently a dark spot on Google Street Maps, and Google hasn't yet released a statement saying when the company will upgrade its coverage. Even if Street Maps did work there, though, there are no guarantees it would have very many users in the near future. With Internet coverage at a scant 5 percent across the country and download speeds reminiscent of the pre-dial-up era, Cuba doesn't yet have the digital infrastructure to support cell phone cartography. Which leaves room for a handy paper copy renaissance: This is a fleeting moment, Van Damm notes, when the trusty laminated map trumps Google views. --The Atlantic Magazine

Top 10 what to take to Cuba 1\_USB Flash Drives 2\_Kleenex 3\_VanDam Havana StreetSmart Maps. Unlike most other cities you visit in the world, Cuba does not operate with GPS. You'll have to get accustomed to good, old fashioned laminated paper maps and just pen your fav spots. A map we recommend is VanDam StreetSmartHavana. 4\_Cash 6\_Toothpaste 10\_Nutella --Meet The New Cuba Blog

Stephan Van Dam, AIGA is an award-winning cartographer, graphic designer, and information architect. He is the president, principal and creative director of New York-based VanDam Publishing. Twenty-seven of his maps are in the MoMA Collection. The universal power of maps has been his guiding passion for the past 25 years and fuels his desire to tell stories and construct new realities through maps in all media. He's has mapped over 85 world cities, and holds several patents in the field of paper engineering and origami map folding. His work has been honored by the Industrial Design Society of America (IDSA), the American Institute of Graphic Arts (AIGA), the editors of ID magazine and has been featured on national television and been sighted in numerous feature films.

I was in Havana the last week in March. This map was useful but frankly I found the individual maps in Baker's 2015 Moon guide to Cuba more helpful as I printed them out before I went so had only individual pages to consult rather than this large map. Still, the map is accurate and if you like the StreetSmart series you will find this quite useful.

This map was great for my time in Havana. The laminating concept was great for using dry erase markers to help research and plan my trip. I will definitely be looking to purchase similar maps for future travels. My only complaint is that I wish it had a little more detail as it appears to miss a lot of smaller restaurants and focuses more on the most popular ones that every bellhop, taxi driver, store owner, bartender and tourism guide suggests. Also, if it were to point out some of the larger supermarkets, that would've been very helpful.

I loved that I could fold this map up and keep it in my back pocket. It came in handy since I didn't have internet service while I was in Cuba. True, you could have a map downloaded on your phone, but with this map no need to worry about recharging batteries, and I could quickly find points of interest.

Love this map! Yes, it did rain on our recent trip to Havana - but no problem for our handy, laminated map! Held up well to the in/out from the backpack - and in fact I've lent it to friends who are leaving for their own Cuba vacation tomorrow morning!

great little map. Its fairly thick but small and folded fits in a pocket. It was useful a few times getting around with the terrible internet there.

This worked pretty well. The map has the majority of the places you'r probably going to check out, and for the few that weren't on there it's easy enough to drop a mark with a sharpie. The map is laminated and heavy duty so it can put up with inclement weather and rum spills.

Used it all over Havana, very useful and nice museum suggestions. Got lots of compliments on it! Best thing I brought.

Nothing special just a decent street map of Havana that gives you a good over view of what the city is laid out like.

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