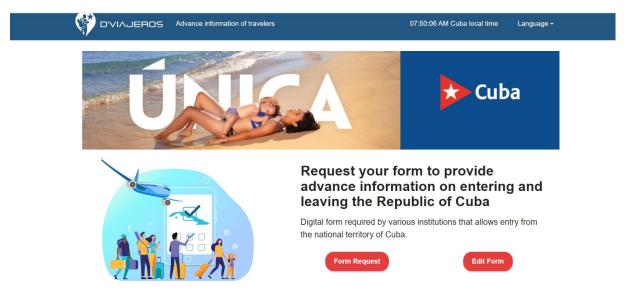
Digital entry registration becomes mandatory as of 23 January

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From 23 January, a digital form must be carried to enter Cuba (Source: <u>D'Viajeros</u>)

From 23 January, travellers to Cuba, regardless of the type of visa, must carry a digital entry form. The online entry registration via the portal "<u>D'Viajeros</u>" was first introduced in January 2022. After a one-year test phase, the form is now mandatory for visitors.

With the digital entry form, the customs declaration previously made in paper form is no longer required. Instead, all required information must now be deposited in the portal no earlier than 48 hours before the start of the flight. According to the director of air transport at the Institute of Civil Aviation of Cuba (IACC), Rita María García González, airlines are required to check that the form is carried before boarding as of the deadline. As the party newspaper "Granma" reports, "the measure is part of the country's efforts towards digital transformation and common international practice of pre-boarding information to speed up processes at terminals". Currently, more than 30 countries use similar systems, IACC representatives explained.

The test period has apparently gone fairly smoothly. Since the launch of the D'Viajeros portal in November 2021, more than four million hits have been recorded on the website. 1.7 million travellers have arrived with forms. After the portal was initially only translated into Spanish and English, the site is now also available in French, German, Russian and Italian.

As the website states, it is sufficient to carry the form digitally as a PDF. When entering the country, all information is recorded via a scan of the QR code from a mobile device; a printout is not necessary. If there are technical problems, a quick solution will be found on site, IACC President Armando Daniel López announced.

For entry into Cuba, the same regulations apply today as before the pandemic: In addition to the passport, a visa ("tourist card") and proof of foreign health insurance in English or Spanish must be carried. Information on vaccination status is optional. Cash amounts over 5000 US dollars or their equivalent in other foreign currencies may be imported, but must be declared.