

Pinar del Río and Havana reconnected by train



Trains have been running again between the western Cuban provincial capital of Pinar del Río and Havana since Monday. As the party newspaper "Granma" [reports](#), the connection was resumed after an interruption of more than four years, meaning that around 20 villages and smaller towns along the route are once again connected to the rail network.

The revitalization of the line was made possible after the repair of a locomotive with passenger carriages was completed. A lack of funds for maintenance and repairs has decimated the bus and rail fleet in Cuba in recent years.

In addition, new sills have been laid on the line, tracks have been leveled, signals have been painted, and other repair work has been carried out.

As Antonio Alberto Miranda, deputy director of the state railroad company Unión de Ferrocarriles (UFC) in Pinar del Río, explained, four recently repaired wagons will be used for each journey, carrying a total of around 320 passengers. Initially, the train will run four times a week. Departure from Pinar del Río will be at 9 a.m. on Mondays and Thursdays. The terminus is the "19 de Noviembre" station in Havana-Tulipán, from where the return journey in the opposite direction takes place on Tuesdays and Fridays at 11 am. The price for the entire route is 100 pesos (approx. 24 cents), while the minimum price for each individual section is ten pesos. Children, students and pensioners pay half price.

Tren Pinar del Río - Habana



Stops on the Havana-Pinar del Río line (Source: [X](#))

Although the train takes more than twice as long as the long-distance bus to cover the route, the train connection is in great demand due to the connection to numerous small towns, including in the provinces of Artemisa and Mayabeque, explained Miranda.

There is also good news for the main Havana-Santiago de Cuba/Guantánamo route, which is currently also served four times a week (twice in each direction): By the end of the year, the wagons on the route are to be equipped with WiFi as a corresponding project by the UFC together with the IT company Solintel has begun after a year's delay. ([Cubaheute](#))