

"Tarjeta Clásica": Cuba introduces new prepaid foreign currency card



Logo of the new Classic Card (Quelle: [Cubadebate](#))

The Cuban financial services provider Financiera CIMEX. S.A. announced the introduction of a new card for foreign currency payments on Tuesday. As the company [announced](#) in a press release, the magnetic card called "Tarjeta Clásica" ("classic card") can be purchased in all exchange offices (CADECA) throughout the country from today (January 24) at a price of four US dollars.

Once purchased, the card can be loaded with an amount of the customer's choice and is valid for five years. It can be topped up in cash at CADECA exchange offices with all accepted foreign currencies or online via the financial services provider [tocopay.com](#). The card is not personalized and has a PIN code. The card can be used to withdraw Cuban pesos from ATMs at the official exchange rate of 120:1 and can be used at all Cuban card terminals.

Tourists who do not have an international credit card can use the offer to pay for all products and services that are sold in foreign currency. This includes, for example, hotels, excursions offered by state travel agencies, products in foreign currency stores, long-distance bus and flight tickets and, from February 1, also petrol for rental cars.

The purchase of the "Tarjeta Clásica" is open to all natural and legal persons. In addition to tourists, the offer is explicitly aimed at Cuban citizens and private companies, who can use the card to pay bills from state import companies and purchase fuel at foreign currency filling stations, which will not be possible with the previous MLC cards. On the Island of Youth, the

card will be sold at the local branch of Banco Popular de Ahorro due to the lack of a CADECA office.

It is still unclear to what extent the amounts on the card can be refunded. Fincimex writes that deposits are generally non-refundable, while the Banco de Crédito y Comercio explains that the remaining balance on the prepaid card issued by them can be paid out "on leaving the country on presentation of the boarding pass up to a maximum amount of 100 US dollars or the equivalent in other currencies".

→ [List of places](#) where the Tarjeta Clásica can be purchased and recharged (graphics at the end of the external article). ([Cubaheute](#))