

NYJA Jazz Ambassadors Travel Tours

presents

Panama 2017



**Panama City, Panama
January 7-15, 2017
9 days, 8 nights**



**NYJA Jazz Ambassadors is the travel
division of NEW YORK JAZZ ACADEMY®.**

Tour Highlights

- Panama Jazz Festival, all-access passes
- Panama Canal Tour
- Day Trips
- Evenings Out
- Traditional folkloric show and dinner
- Late Night Jazz Jam Sessions
- Jazz Workshops with local musicians
- Performances and concerts for NYJA musicians
- Explore Panama with professional guides
- Learn about jazz in Panama from professional jazz musicians
- 5-star hotel accommodations in Panama City
- Air travel from NYC airport
- Much much more



Discover the NYJA Difference

Traveling with NYJA Jazz Ambassadors Travel Tours provides culturally immersive, once-in-a-lifetime experiences that lead to a vacation unlike any other.

Pro Guides

With NYJA, you are traveling with members of the NYJA community, including jazz professionals who help elevate your experience in every setting, sharing with you their knowledge of specific musical traditions of each locale, in addition to performing and coaching musicians throughout the tour.

Fun For All

Each tour offers unique blend itinerary items—from sophisticated and enriching experiences and cultural activities to special musical moments meant for both the musician and the jazz fan.

Authenticity

Thanks to our pro guides and our relationships with local cultural and musical experts, you'll engage with people, cultures and traditions in ways that show you more than just the sights.

Insider Access

Our guided tours provide access to extraordinary opportunities that aren't available to the general public—providing you a “backstage pass” to music worldwide.



ACCOMMODATIONS

Hyatt Place Panama City/Downtown (3 nights)
Panama Jazz Festival Housing at the City of Knowledge (5 nights)

MEALS

8 Breakfasts
4 Lunches
3 Dinners

AGES

Minimum Age: 11
Suggested Age: 14-adult

RATES

EARLY BOOKING RATE before September 1, 2016

\$3,650 includes round-trip airfare from NYC airports

REGULAR RATE after September 1, 2016

\$3,850 includes round-trip airfare from NYC airports

NYJA MEMBER RATE

additional 10% discount (save up to \$385!)

RATES INCLUDE:

- round-trip airfare from NYC area airport
- deluxe hotel accommodations
- sightseeing tours
- ground transportation for tours and airport transfers
- 8 breakfasts
- 4 lunches
- 3 dinners
- all-access Panama Jazz Festival passes

RATES DO NOT INCLUDE:

- spending money for shopping
- additional meal purchases
- additional touring needs and expenses
- travel insurance

Trip At-A-Glance

All-Access pass to the Panama International Jazz Festival

Enjoy up to 4 full days and 5 nights of performances by jazz artists from all over the world, in addition to workshops and clinics presented by local and international artists, including John Pattitucci, Danilo Pérez, and Brian Blade with Children of the Light.

NYJA Performances, including concerts, workshops with Local Musicians, and late-night jam sessions

Enjoy up to 4 full days and 5 nights of performances by jazz artists from all over the world, including workshops with NYJA, NEC, Berklee, and special workshops hosted by the Latin American Music Therapy Symposium.

Panama Canal Tour and guided bus tour of Panama City

Enjoy a guided sightseeing tour and visit the most important sites and landmarks of Panama, including the Casco Antiguo District built in 1673, the France Plaza, the San Jose Church, the Flat Arch, the President of Panama's official office, the Panama Canal Administration Building, and the Panama Canal Locks.

Panama City Folkloric Show and Dinner

Enjoy traditional Panamanian dancers and musicians in their brilliantly hued costumes as they entertain you with vibrant dancing, in addition to feasting on traditional Panamanian cuisine. Transportation is provided by coach to and from the show and dinner.

Day Trip and Guided Tour of Embera Indian Village

This day trip and guided tour of an Embera Indian Village will include canoeing the Chagres River in a traditional Embera canoe, watching traditional musical dance, and an insight into Embera culture and lifestyle.

OR

Day Trip and Guided Tour of Monkey Island

This day trip and guided tour of Monkey Island will start by traveling along the Panama Canal in a high-speed motorboat. Once arriving on Monkey Island you will be able to see a wide array of wildlife including capuchin monkeys, three-toed sloths, howler monkeys, and various kinds of toucans. Besides the wildlife, you will also have the opportunity to relax on the island or explore on your own while kayaking, fishing, or swimming.

Walking Tour and Shopping at Casco Viejo

Enjoy the sights and sounds of Casco Viejo, the historic district of Panama City, as your guides take you on an extended tour of the city, leaving plenty of time to shop and enjoy.

Complimentary lunches and dinners at classic restaurants in the heart of Panama City

Eat at landmark restaurants throughout your stay in Panama City, including the famed Azahar Restaurant.

Expert tour guides and NYJA jazz professionals

NYJA faculty are among the best in the world, and your trip will be elevated as they share the musical expertise and broad knowledge of genres and history with you throughout the tour.

Accommodations at the Hyatt Hotel Panama City & City of Knowledge

The Hyatt Panama City Panama Hotel is located in a prime location in Panama City. The hotel's features include, free wifi, free breakfast, 24 hour food service, 24/7 gym, laundry, and an open air pool.

City of Knowledge housing features a prime location, letting you bypass the city transportation system, putting you at the center of the Panama Jazz Festival activities. Apartment amenities include free breakfast, A/C, wifi, gym, laundry, private bathrooms, and much more. As an added bonus, the location is within 1km of the Panama Canal itself.



DAY 1 - Arrival

Meal(s) Included: Dinner

ARRIVE IN PANAMA CITY

Upon arrival at the Tocumen International Airport in Panama City, relax as your NYJA guides and driver assist you with your luggage and drive you to the Hyatt hotel, in the heart of Panama City.

HYATT HOTEL

Sit back and relax in 5-star luxury while your NYJA guides check you in.

OPTIONAL JAM SESSION

If you are itching to play in Panama, then wait no further, as we head to a jazz jam session during our first few hours in Panama City. Alternatively, feel free to relax and settle in to your hotel room.

WELCOME RECEPTION AND DINNER

Enjoy your first meal together in Panama City at Azahar Restaurant, near your hotel.



Pool and city view: Hyatt Place Panama City/Downtown

DAY 2 - Panama Canal

Meal(s) Included: Breakfast, Lunch

BREAKFAST AT THE HOTEL

Have a quick breakfast at the hotel before you head out for the day.

PANAMA CANAL AND PANAMA CITY TOUR

On a privately guided tour, visit the quintessential landmarks of Panama:

Panama Canal, including:

- Panama Miraflores Locks
- Canal Museum

Panama City, including:

- Casco Viejo bus tour

DINNER ON YOUR OWN

Enjoy a dinner on your own in the hotel. Or ask your NYJA Guide to recommend restaurants in the area that would fit your needs.



Panama Canal, Miraflores Locks; Casco Viejo

DAY 3 - Concerts, Folkloric Show

Meal(s) Included: Breakfast, Dinner

BREAKFAST AT THE HOTEL

Have a leisurely breakfast at the hotel before you head out for the day.

JAZZ WORKSHOP AND OPEN REHEARSAL

NYJA musicians will meet with local musicians in a creative jazz workshop and open rehearsal, a cultural exchange to be enjoyed both by players and jazz fans alike.

LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

Enjoy lunch at one of many small cafés and restaurants in Panama City.

NYJA PERFORMANCE

NYJA musicians will perform a concert at a local Panama City venue, open to the public.

FOLKLORIC SHOW AND DINNER

Thrill to traditional Panamanian dancers and musicians in their brilliantly hued costumes as they entertain you with vibrant dancing, in addition to feasting on traditional Panamanian cuisine. Transportation is provided by coach to and from the show and dinner.



Traditional Panamanian dancers and dress

DAY 4 - Walking Tour, Jazz Fest Opening Night

Meal(s) Included: Breakfast, Lunch

BREAKFAST AT THE HOTEL

Have a leisurely breakfast at the hotel before you transfer to housing at the City of Knowledge and head out for the day.

WALKING TOUR AND SHOPPING

Enjoy the sights and sounds of Casco Viejo, the historic district of Panama City, as your guides take you on an extended tour of the city, leaving plenty of time to shop and enjoy.

LUNCH AT A LOCAL RESTAURANT

Savor a traditional lunch in a delightful, local restaurant.

AFTERNOON ON YOUR OWN

Take time for yourself to enjoy the hotel amenities and surrounding area.

DINNER ON YOUR OWN

Enjoy a dinner on your own in the hotel. Or ask your NYJA Guide to recommend restaurants in the area that would fit your needs.

OPENING NIGHT - PANAMA JAZZ FESTIVAL

Greet pianist Danilo Perez and other jazz giants and celebrate opening night of the Panama International Jazz Festival.

LATE-NIGHT JAM SESSION (OPTIONAL)

Take in the nightlife of Panama City in creative fashion by attending a jam session at a local jazz club. (Those would prefer to head to bed at a more reasonable hour may feel free to retreat to the hotel instead.)



Danilo Pérez, pianist and founder of the Panama Jazz Festival

DAY 5 - Jazz Fest Workshops and Concerts

Meal(s) Included: Breakfast

BREAKFAST AT THE CITY OF KNOWLEDGE

Have a leisurely breakfast at the hotel before you head out for the day.

JAZZ FESTIVAL WORKSHOPS

Participate in jazz workshops hosted by NYJA, New England Conservatory, Berklee, and other programs.

LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

Enjoy lunch at one of many small cafés and restaurants in Panama City.

JAZZ FESTIVAL CONCERTS

Enjoy the many concerts that are offered at the Panama Jazz Fest, including top bands and performers from Panama, the U.S.A., South America, and Europe.

DINNER ON YOUR OWN

In between shows, catch a bite to eat at one of many recommended eateries nearby the concert venues.

JAZZ FESTIVAL IN THE EVENING

Continue to enjoy jazz concerts at one of many venues, from concert halls to small clubs.



Panama Jazz Festival audience

DAY 6 - Sightseeing, Jazz Fest Concerts

Meal(s) Included: Breakfast, Lunch

BREAKFAST AT THE CITY OF KNOWLEDGE

Grab a quick breakfast at the hotel before you head out for the day.

SIGHTSEEING

Take a magnificent trip outside of Panama City, to one of two destinations:

MONKEY ISLAND

This day trip and guided tour of Monkey Island will start by traveling along the Panama Canal in a high-speed motorboat. Once arriving on Monkey Island you will be able to see a wide array of wildlife including capuchin monkeys, three-toed sloths, howler monkeys, and various kinds of toucans. Besides the wildlife, you will also have the opportunity to relax on the island or explore on your own while kayaking, fishing, or swimming.

EMBERA INDIAN VILLAGE

This day trip and guided tour of an Embera Indian Village will include canoeing the Chagres River in a traditional Embera canoe, watching traditional musical dance, and an insight into Embera culture and lifestyle.

LUNCH ON THE TOUR

Enjoy sandwiches, light snacks, and drinks on the tour.

RETURN TO THE HOTEL AND RELAX

Spend some time after your tour relaxing at the hotel.

DINNER ON YOUR OWN

Enjoy a leisurely dinner at one of many recommended eateries nearby the jazz festival.

JAZZ FESTIVAL EVENING CONCERTS

Continue to enjoy concerts by legendary artists at the Panama Jazz Festival.



Monkey Island Boat Tour with a surprise guest

DAY 7 - NYJA Concerts, Jazz Fest

Meal(s) Included: Breakfast, Lunch

BREAKFAST AT THE CITY OF KNOWLEDGE

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast at the hotel before you head out for the day.

JAZZ FESTIVAL WORKSHOPS

Participate in jazz workshops hosted by NYJA, New England Conservatory, Berklee, and other programs.

LUNCH AT A LOCAL RESTAURANT

Savor a wonderful lunch at the acclaimed Tantaló Kitchen.

TRADITIONAL MUSIC WORKSHOP

Attend a cultural exchange workshop with local musicians and learn about traditional Panamanian music and its influence on jazz music. Musicians will be invited to participate.

NYJA PERFORMANCE

NYJA musicians will perform a concert at a local Panama City venue, open to the public.

DINNER ON YOUR OWN

Enjoy a leisurely dinner at one of many recommended eateries nearby the jazz festival.

JAZZ FESTIVAL EVENING CONCERTS

Continue to enjoy concerts by legendary artists at the Panama Jazz Festival.

OR

EVENING ON YOUR OWN

Need a break from concerts? Take the night off! Ask our guides for suggestions for alternative evening plans, or take some down time at the hotel.



LATE-NIGHT JAM SESSION (OPTIONAL)

Take in the nightlife of Panama City in creative fashion by attending a jam session at a local jazz club. (Those who would prefer to head to bed at a more reasonable hour may feel free to retreat to the hotel instead.)

DAY 8 - Jazz Fest

Meal(s) Included: Breakfast, Dinner

BREAKFAST AT THE CITY OF KNOWLEDGE

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast at the hotel before you head out for the day.

MORNING ON YOUR OWN

Take the morning off and relax or explore on your own.

LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

Enjoy lunch at one of many small cafés and restaurants in Panama City.

JAZZ FESTIVAL CONCERTS

Enjoy the many concerts that are offered at the Panama Jazz Fest, including top bands and performers from Panama, the U.S.A., South America, and Europe.

FAREWELL DINNER AND RECEPTION

Dine with your fellow jazz ambassadors at this final feast in Panama. Relive together the highlights of your wonderful trip.

CLOSING NIGHT - PANAMA JAZZ FESTIVAL

Enjoy the closing night gala of the Panama International Jazz Festival.



Farewell Dinner and Reception at Madrigal Restaurant

DAY 9 - Return Home

Meal(s) Included: Breakfast

BREAKFAST AT THE CITY OF KNOWLEDGE

Grab a quick breakfast at the hotel before you check out and head to the airport.

TRANSFER TO THE TOCUMEN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Board your pre-arranged transportation to Tocumen International Airport and say adiós to Panama—until you return again!

FLIGHT BACK TO NYC

Enjoy your non-stop flight back to the NYC area.



The party has already started!
Here's the Panama Jazz Festival's Joshue Ashby and C3 Project
celebrating with NYJA this summer at NYC's Club Bonafide.

Disclaimer: Trip itinerary details are subject to change. Should itinerary details change, and any items are removed from the itinerary, every best effort will be made to provide excellent alternative replacements.

QUESTIONS?

If you have questions, or if you are ready to take the trip with NYJA, please contact us:

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