

Vibrant Cuba

A Cinematic Journey: Exploring the Coastlines,
Countryside, and Colonial Cities





1. The Pristine Coast

Varadero shores and crystal-clear lagoons.

2. The Living Heartland

Lush valleys and rural rhythms.

3. Echoes of History

Havana's plazas and neoclassical majesty.

Where the land meets the Caribbean Sea, the geography offers a stark, beautiful contrast between sharp stone and fluid water.

Horizon: The line where the vibrant blue sky meets the ocean.

Rugged Shoreline: Rough, uneven stone meeting the sea.

Crystal-Clear: Water so transparent the bottom is visible.

The Lagoon (Inland Water)

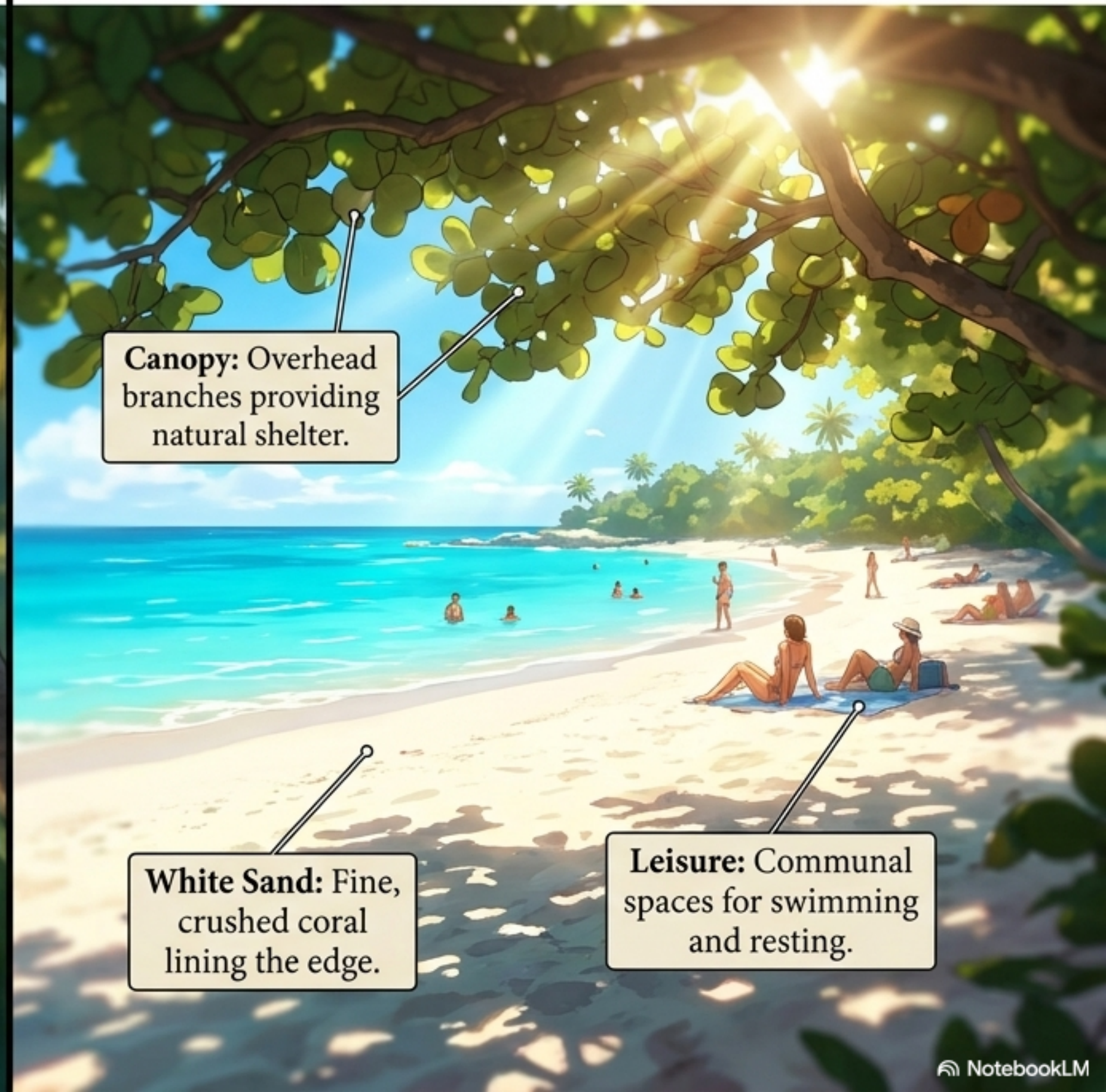


Lush Vegetation:
Dense, green plant life framing the water.

Gazebo: A small, open-sided structure for shade.

Lush Vegetation:
Dense, green plant life framing the water.

The Beach (Open Shore)



Canopy: Overhead branches providing natural shelter.

White Sand: Fine, crushed coral lining the edge.

Leisure: Communal spaces for swimming and resting.

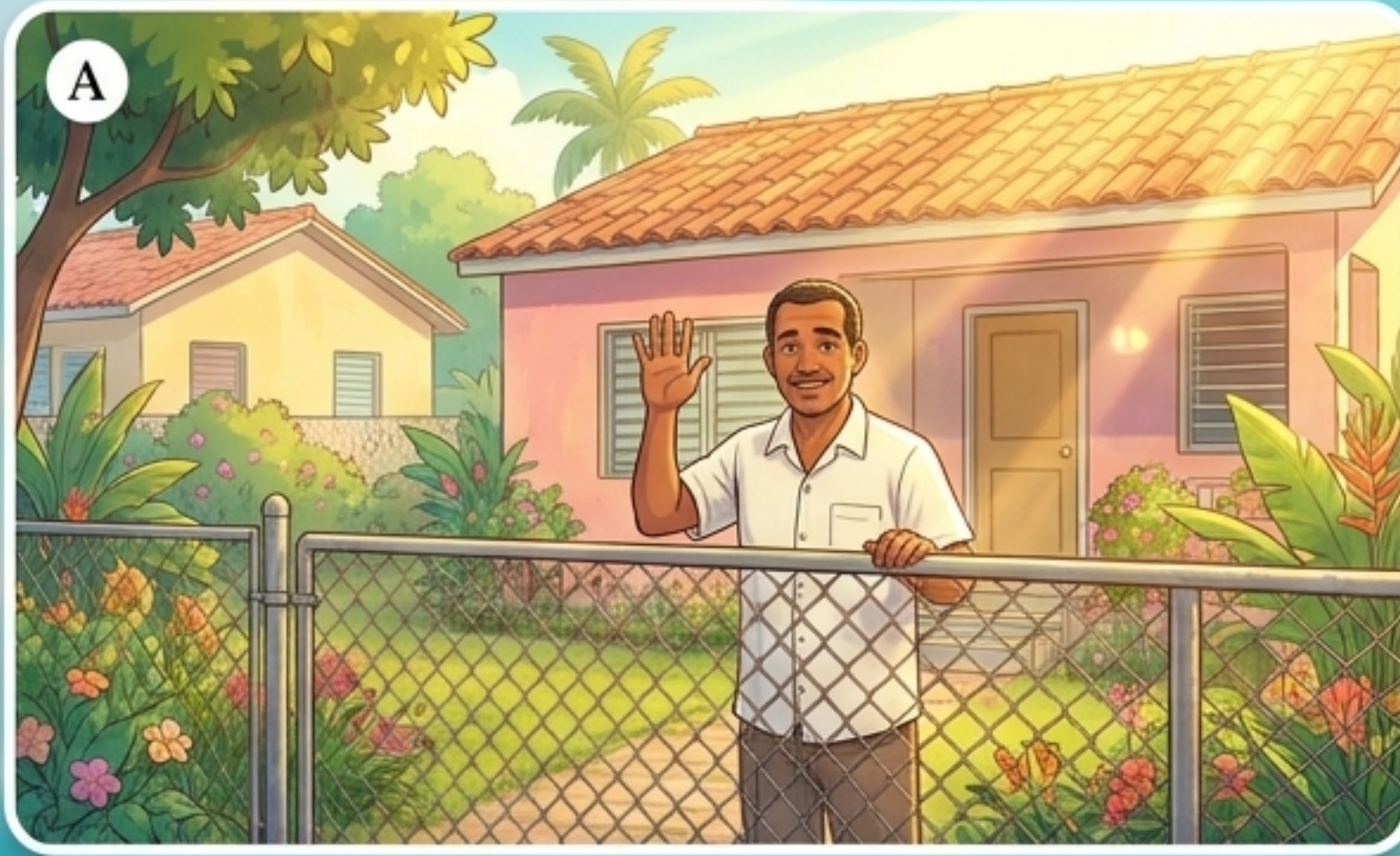


Into the Green Heart

Key Concept: Viaduct

A long bridge-like structure carrying a road across a valley.

Connecting the serene coastlines to the bustling urban centers requires crossing untamed, densely forested valleys. These massive concrete arteries serve as the vital lifelines of the island.



Pace

Slower, highly community-focused.

Architecture

Modest, single-story homes with vibrant paint, surrounded by open yards and chain-link fences.

Public Spaces

Open-air concrete structures, painted in bright tropical colors, serving as communal waiting areas.



Agricultural: The heavy-duty, weathered workhorse tractor navigating dirt paths.



Iconic: The mid-century vintage taxi, meticulously maintained for city tourism.



Practical: The human-powered cargo bicycle navigating narrow, densely packed streets.

Synthesis Insight:

Resourcefulness defines Cuban movement. Across all regions, machines are maintained, continuously repurposed, and painted in bright colors to celebrate their ongoing utility.



Monuments to the Past

**Translation: "Hasta la victoria siempre"
(Until victory, always).**

History in Cuba is not confined to textbooks; it is carved directly into the massive stone monuments that tower over daily life, preserving political and cultural legacies in the public square.

Architectural Vocabulary: Spanish Colonial Plaza

Bougainvillea: Vibrant, blooming climbing vines that soften the rigid stone architecture.

Archways: Curved structural openings typical of 16th-century Spanish design.



Cobblestone: Uneven, historic stone paving designed for foot traffic.

Colonnade: A sequence of columns covered by a roof, providing essential shade from the tropical sun.

Neoclassical Majesty

- **Golden Dome:** A soaring, ornate roof structure visible across the city skyline.
- **Classical Columns:** Tall, fluted pillars denoting civic importance.
- **Limestone Stonework:** Bright, heat-reflecting facades.

Context: A symbol of Havana's rich architectural tapestry, standing proudly among palm trees and vintage street lamps.

Layers of Time

Dilapidated Beauty. Ornate ironwork balconies and tall, louvered doors showing decades of peeling paint and weathered stone.



Living Movement

The streets function as active arteries of labor, transport, and community gathering, breathing energy into the decaying historic shells.

Preserved in Time

- **Natural Ventilation:** Tall open doorways allowing cross-breezes.
- **Curated History:** Extensive bookshelves, vinyl records, and historic art perfectly maintained.

Insight: The chaotic, vibrant energy of the street is perfectly balanced by the quiet, meticulously curated history kept alive inside the private home.



The Three Faces of Cuba



Coast



Heartland



City

Dominant Colors

Crystal Turquoises & Cyan

Deep Jungle Greens & Earth Tones

Pastel Pinks & Weathered Limestone

Rhythm & Pace

Leisurely and Isolated

Steady and Agricultural

Bustling and Dynamic

Defining Structures

Natural Canopies & Gazebos

Open Yards & Concrete Viaducts

Cobblestone Plazas & Neoclassical Domes

A Living Storybook

Cuba is not simply a geographic location, but a collision of eras. From untouched crystalline shores to mid-century machines and centuries-old stone, every corner tells a vibrant, enduring story of resilience and beauty.



End of Journey. Questions & Discussion?