

U.S. airline opens first office in Havana

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American Airlines (AA) opened its first office in Havana, capital of Cuba this week, the Cuban government announced Thursday.

Writing on Twitter, Josefina Vidal, director for U.S. Affairs at the Cuban Foreign Ministry, said that "American Airlines opened its first office in Havana, Cuba on February 1."

Until Nov. 28, when AA restored regular flights from the U.S. to Cuba, the American company only operated to and from Cuba through charter flights.

From its major hub in Miami, American Airlines sends 345 flights daily to 129 destinations in 44 countries and territories. Its office in Havana comes after the U.S. Department of Transportation made it one of the airlines authorized to offer flights to Cuba.

In June 2016, the U.S. government approved six companies to restore regular flights to Cuba, after an interruption of over 50 years.

However, due to the ongoing embargo placed by Washington on Cuba, American citizens may only visit the island if they qualify as one of 12 approved categories,

and not as tourists.

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