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## Cuba reaches the four million foreign visitors

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Cuba reached the four million foreign visitors last Wednesday, despite the continued restrictions imposed by the government of Donald Trump, which directly affects that line of the national economy, as was announced in Twitter by Manuel Marrero Cruz, Cuban Minister of Tourism.

The intensification of the hostility of the economic, commercial and financial blockade of the United States has been reflected in the elimination of the Cuban hotel facilities from the online search systems, the prohibition of the entry of cruise ships to the Cuban bays, as well as the reduction of the direct flights from US territory to Cuba.

However, last November, Marrero Cruz declared that, despite these difficulties, the tourism will not stop, because our government has maintained it as a priority for the investment projects, we will continue repairing hotels and building others, in order to finish about four thousand rooms this year, and another 4,200 will be operational by the 2020, he said.

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Even though the application of the this policy prevents hundreds of people from that country from getting to know Cuba, it is appropriate to point out that there are several nations where there is a growing interest in Cuba.

This is the case of the Russian Federation, a country that contributed with 82 thousand 655 visitors in the first half of last year, however until August of the 2019, the figure amounts to 92 thousand 467; or Portugal, with an increase of 110% of the arrivals, and Argentina whose number of visitors amounts to eight thousand 939, refers the National Office of Statistics and Information (ONEI).

In that sense, the appointment of a counselor for tourism in the early 2020 at the Cuban Embassy in Beijing and the declaration of the 2021, as the year of tourism exchange between China and Cuba, are part of the most important initiatives proposed to stimulate the visit of the Chinese people to the Island.

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