

# *Cienfuegos has a Malecon and Prado like Havana*

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The good folks of Cienfuegos, both city and province, like their cousins in Havana, characteristically enjoy their own boardwalk or Malecon, they also proudly stroll through their own Prado, the longest of its kind in Cuba. Events such as the snapper run are immensely popular, as is their typical dish, floured crab, All part of their most entrenched customs.

For instance, the municipality of Palmira, due to its strong African roots, contributes drumming and Afro-Cuban dances to the wide range of Cienfuegos traditions.

The figure of Benny Moré undoubtedly dominates the music scene of Cienfuegos. A lajero from Lajas of root by heart and root, this natural exponent of son marked a milestone in Cuban culture. Another big name was Innocente Iznaga, known as El Jilguero, an outstanding writer and poet and interpreter not only Guajiro point but also the peasant music of the countryside.

Another of the most prominent exponents of music in Cienfuegos is the Septeto de son Los Naranjos, who have been promoting boleros and traditional sounds for the longest while. Similarly the Aragón Orchestra, the violinist and composer Rafael Lay are part of the large number of virtuosos cienfuegueros.

Currently, the music of Cienfuegos includes a provincial choir, instrumental bands in the different municipalities, and dance orchestras. Some important music festivals in Cienfuegos such as that of Benny

Moré and that of Alternative Music are held every year, with the participation of artists from different latitudes. Key to it all is the Provincial Center of Music, with its creative overview of the music scene in all of its aspects.

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