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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friendly Planet Travel Receives 2-Year People-to-People License Renewal for Cuba Programs

JENKINTOWN, Pa.—October 9, 2012—Friendly Planet Travel, a leading group tour operator, has received a two-year renewal of its people-to-people license for legal travel to Cuba, valid through September 30, 2014. Friendly Planet is among a select handful of tour operators with a valid people-to-people license, and in the first year of its license validity, has sent over 1,000 travelers to Cuba through its programs, which are designed to promote meaningful and rewarding interactions with Cubans through educational exchanges concerning art, music, culture, and more.

"Despite much of the recent news about delays in license renewals, we are overjoyed to announce that our people-to-people license to Cuba has been renewed for *two* years," says Peggy Goldman, President of Friendly Planet Travel. "We feel very fortunate that our Cuba program can continue uninterrupted, and we are about to unveil a full range of tours and departures throughout 2013. The popularity of our Cuba programs over the past year has been truly gratifying, and we are delighted to continue providing trips through these unique educational exchanges. For those who travel because they love to explore new places for the purpose of meeting people in other lands, understanding how they live, what's important to them, and being able to share the same about themselves, our people-to-people tours provide a perfect opportunity."

Friendly Planet Travel is currently offering two educational trips to Cuba, with more programs to be announced in the coming months.

The five-day <u>Discover Havana</u> program, priced from \$2,299, visits the vibrant city of Havana, a <u>UNESCO World Heritage Site</u>, as well as Cojimar and Las Terrazas. The eight-day <u>Colors of Cuba</u> program, priced from \$2,999, offers a more in-depth program throughout the diverse nation, including Havana, Cienfuegos, Santa Clara, and Trinidad, also a designated UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Both programs include round-trip airfare from Miami via U.S Government-licensed charter service and letter of authorization, as well as a Cuba entrance visa. The programs also includes one pre-night in Miami with a pre-tour briefing; all land transportation; superior hotel accommodations; meals; a full time schedule of educational exchanges, escorted throughout by a professional, English-speaking guide who will facilitate these exchanges; and a Friendly Planet representative who will lead travelers throughout the trip.

For more information about Friendly Planet Travel, please visit the company's website at www.FriendlyPlanet.com or its blog at blog.FriendlyPlanet.com.

ABOUT FRIENDLY PLANET TRAVEL

Friendly Planet Travel makes high-quality exotic travel affordable for everyone. Since 1981, Friendly Planet Travel has been arranging all-inclusive escorted discount vacation packages and cruises to the most exciting destinations in the world at the lowest possible prices.

Each year, Friendly Planet Travel offers more than 30 different group travel packages to Asia, the Middle East, Africa, Europe, and South America—at discounts of hundreds of dollars off similar vacations. With no hidden charges, add-ons, or surprises, Friendly Planet Travel vacations include convenient flights and airfare; carefully selected, first-class and superior hotels; knowledgeable, English-speaking guides; many meals; planned itineraries; as well as friendships and memories that last a lifetime.

Friendly Planet Travel offers its extensive, economical travel services to private groups, including universities, religious institutions, alumni associations, and families. Groups who wish

to travel together can count on Friendly Planet Travel's three decades of experience to operate their group travel program expertly and always at the very best possible prices. Visit it at www.FriendlyPlanetTravel.com. You can also follow Friendly Planet Travel on Twitter and Facebook.