

Ståle Wig

Havana Taxi. Life and Lies in the New Cuba

Havanna Taxi. Liv og løgn på det nye Cuba

Genre: Non-Fiction

Category: Narrative non-fiction / Current affairs

Publisher: Kagge forlag

Year: 2022

Pages: 350

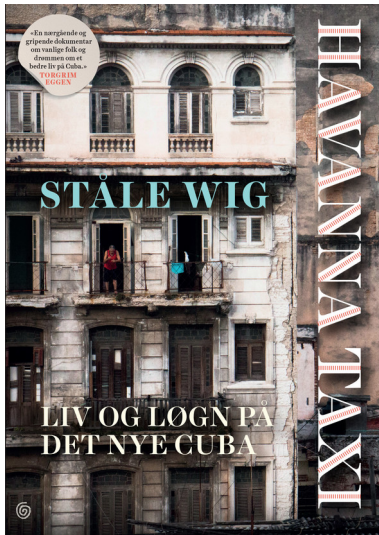
ISBN: 9788248928478

English sample translation available

«Go to Cuba», the tourists say, «before it's too late». «The island is changing», the experts say.

When Norwegian anthropologist Ståle Wig moves to Havana and starts driving a taxi, he discovers a different story. *Havana Taxi* is the true story of three individuals and a taxi, set in the shadow of the recent changes in Cuba – the connection to the internet, the opening to the United States, and the death of Fidel Castro.

Norjes, Linet, and Catalina seize the new opportunities. Norjes starts a blog criticizing the authorities. Linet opens a private rental business. Catalina, once a child of the revolution and now an inspector for one of Havana's largest hotels, sets up a taxi service together with the author. But soon, they notice how their dreams and initiatives collide with old, ingrained structures. Cuba's great transformation is not what it seems.



'Wig writes excitingly, almost fictionally. (...) He tells the life story of his friends openly and closely (...) so that they become a living, human contrast to a faceless system.'

Stavanger Aftenblad, 5 out of 6 stars

'Highly readable (...) The author has collected and put together episodes and events that give a credible picture of life in Cuba. In my opinion he has done an outstanding job (...) Highly recommended!'

Nettavisen, 5 out of 6 stars



Photo: Elisa Bates

Ståle Wig has a PhD in social anthropology. He wrote his doctoral thesis on Cuba's market reforms after living in Havana for almost two years.

Seven years in the making, *Havana Taxi* came out to rave reviews this spring. Wig's first book, *The Victor: An unauthorized biography of Jonas Gahr Støre*, was published by Kagge Forlag in 2014.

Foreign sales

Brazil (Buzz Editora)

Previous titles

The Victor, 2014

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Interview

[Read our interview with the author here](#)