

# itinerary

## brazilian highlights

cities	nights
Rio de Janeiro	3
Iguassu Falls	3
Manaus	1
Amazon	3
Salvador	3



The largest country in Latin America, Brazil covers an area comparable to that of continental USA or Europe, making it a land of diverse landscapes and climates. From tropical beaches to cool mountains, from virgin forest to arid backlands, from ancient colonial settlements to bustling metropolis, Brazil is as diverse as its continental size. This itinerary presents some of Brazil's most spectacular highlights and famous cities in an exhilarating 2 week roundtrip.

### DAY 1 | RIO DE JANEIRO

Arrival at the airport, meet-and-greet with our local bilingual guide and transfer in private air-conditioned vehicle to the hotel. After check-in, free time to relax around the hotel and beachfront following the long journey. Overnight at selected hotel.

### DAY 2 | RIO DE JANEIRO



Half day tour to the Sugarloaf, an imposing natural monument that has made the unmistakable Rio skyline a modern icon. The tour is divided into two parts, the first taking in a number of sites of interest in downtown Rio de Janeiro, namely the contemporary Metropolitan Cathedral, with its vast stained-glass windows and Aterro do Flamengo, a calm, spacious park with lawns and blossoming trees, offering lovely views of Rio and The Sugarloaf.

The second stage of the tour takes visitors through the old Urca neighborhood towards the Sugarloaf. Here tourists board a cable-car which starts the steep, exhilarating 215m climb up Morro da Urca. From here, the cable-car travels high above the rugged, vegetated terrain to the Sugarloaf's 395m summit. Visitors can enjoy wonderful panoramic views over Rio de Janeiro from the top, sunsets being particularly spectacular. Overnight at selected hotel.



### DAY 3 | RIO DE JANEIRO

Half day tour of Corcovado. Perched atop the Corcovado (Hunchback) Mountain at an altitude of 710m, the statue of Christ the Redeemer is certainly one of the world's best-known and most-visited monuments. Clad with a soapstone mosaic, the statue is also one of Rio's finest Art Nouveau monuments and at night becomes a shining landmark visible from all over the city. From the top there are breathtaking views of Copacabana, Ipanema, Leblon, the Botanical Gardens, Jockey Club and Rodrigo Freitas Lagoon. A rack railway takes the visitor up to the foot of the statue, the train leaving the Cosme Velho district and climbing the steep slopes of Tijuca Forest. Located around the base of Corcovado and with many springs and waterfalls, this dense forest was proclaimed a National Park in the early sixties. Overnight at selected hotel.

### DAY 4 | IGUASSU FALLS

In the afternoon, pick-up from hotel and transfer to airport for flight to Iguassu. Arrival at the airport of Iguassu, meet-and-greet with our local, bilingual guide and transfer in private, air conditioned vehicle to selected hotel.

### DAY 5 | IGUASSU FALLS



Half day visit to the Brazilian side of the Iguassu Falls. The excursion begins at the Iguassu National Park Visitors' center, from where tourists board a vehicle for a drive through the park's lush sub-tropical vegetation. Near the falls, visitors leave the vehicle and proceed on foot along a walkway that leads into the canyon and onto spectacular panoramic viewpoints of the falls, among which a glass elevator that climbs the cliff face for a view of the upper falls and The Devil's Throat.

The Iguassu National Park, along with its sister park in Argentina, is the most significant area of remaining rainforest in the southern cone, and, together with the cataracts, has been declared a National Heritage Site by UNESCO. Overnight at selected hotel.

### DAY 6 | IGUASSU FALLS

Half day excursion to the Argentinean side of the Iguassu Falls. The excursion offers lovely views over the Iguassu Canyon, en route to the National Park. The upper walkways are visited, allowing a birds-eye view of the falls and adjoining rainforest.

A highlight of this trip is a visit to a suspended platform at the edge of The Devil's Throat. Overnight at selected hotel.

#### DAY 7 | IGUASSU FALLS - MANAUS

Pick-up at hotel and transfer to airport for flight to Manaus. Arrival at the airport of Manaus, meet-and-greet with our local, bilingual guide and transfer in private, air conditioned vehicle to the hotel. Rest of the afternoon free and overnight at selected Hotel.



#### DAY 8 -10 | AMAZON

(here two examples: Amazon Lodge and Anavilhas Lodge)

Transfer to either Amazon Village Lodge or the Anavilhanas Jungle Lodge. Amazon Village is located 30 km from Manaus, on the banks of Puraquequara Lake, upstream Puraquequara River. The trip on board a local river boat takes about 2 1/2 hours and passes by the "Meeting of the Waters" and continues through a side arm of the Rio Negro to the Lodge. The transfer is in itself already a rather enjoyable experience.

About 150 km northwest of Manaus, the Rio Negro river system widens out to a staggering 20km's from bank to bank, striated with over 400 islands. Each of these islands is adorned with a thick rainforest canopy fringed by seasonal river beaches. Together they form the Anavilhanas Archipelago, one of the Amazon's richest biodiversity hotspots, which provides shelter for countless numbers of birds, tree-dwelling animals and aquatic wildlife, the most remarkable of which is the pink River Dolphin. Located in the heart of this spectacular region, the alluring riverside Anavilhanas Jungle Lodge provides tourists with a unique opportunity to explore this vast protected area in comfort and style.

Daily activities in both lodge include forest walks, exploration of flooded forests by canoe, visit to a local village, cayman spotting amongst others.

Overnights on full board basis at selected lodge.

#### DAY 11 | MANAUS - SALVADOR

Transfer to airport for flight to Salvador. Arrival, meet-and-greet and transfer to hotel in Pelourinho, the historic heart of Salvador. Overnight at selected hotel.

## DAY 12 | SALVADOR

Half day historic city tour during which the tourist gets to know the characteristics of the earliest streets and architectural structures of Bahia. This fascinating tour, starts with a walk along the historical center of Salvador and a true World Heritage site, considered by UNESCO as a highlight of XVII and XVIII century colonial architecture.

Clinging to steep terrain, the picturesque colonial houses and churches (such as the Igreja do São Francisco) of the Pelourinho, artistically decorated in a myriad of colors, make this enchanting part of town a must for anyone visiting Bahia.

As Pelourinho is situated on an elevated point of the city, tourists are rewarded with stunning views over the surrounding city and harbor. The tour subsequently proceeds through other the traditional neighborhoods such as Vitoria and Campo Grande (the square where Bahian carnivals begin and end) with a brief stop at the park and fountain of Piedade. Overnight at selected hotel.



## DAY 13 | SALVADOR

Day at leisure in Salvador. Overnight at selected hotel.

## DAY 14 | SALVADOR - BACK TO HOME

Time permitting, morning at leisure in Salvador. Transfer to airport for onwards connections.

**INCLUDED:**

- Rio de Janeiro 3 nights at selected hotel.
- Iguassu Falls 3 nights at selected hotel
- Manaus 1 night at selected hotel
- Amazon 3 nights at selected lodge
- Salvador 3 nights at selected hotel
- Transfers as specified in air-conditioned vehicles
- All excursions and packages listed above with English-speaking guides
- Breakfast plus all meals as specified.
- Hotel taxes and service charges.

**NOT INCLUDED:**

- All domestic and long-haul flights, airport taxes etc.
- All meals and excursions not listed above

The itinerary is available with different categories of hotel selected on the basis of customer preference.

Due to the vastness of the country, the best way to visit Brazil is by using a "Visit Brazil Air Pass" which allows you to fly between cities.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The destinations, hotels and excursions presented in this itinerary may be altered according to customer preference. All tours are presented as **LAND ONLY** (no airfare is included). All tour programs are subject to your acceptance of our Terms and Conditions on reservation. Please review Terms & Conditions.