







## RIO DE JANEIRO



**Time:** Official time of the country

**Average Annual Temperature:** 23°C

**Climate:** Tropical

**Rainfall:** November to April

**Airports:**

International Airport of Tom Jobim (Know as Galeão) - 20 Km from downtown

Santos Dumont - 1 Km from downtown

Rio de Janeiro is located in the Southeastern zone, in the Atlantic Ocean coast. The city is privileged with a great geographical position with wide beaches and impressive mountains. Known as "Cidade Maravilhosa" – the marvelous city – Rio is a perfect combination of warm weather, beautiful sceneries, friendly people, music and happiness. A beauty that comes from its natural tropical environment where mountains, forests, beaches, lagoons, and vegetation form a dramatic back-drop.

The wonders of Rio can be admired from the top of the Sugar Loaf: impressive in its own height, it guards the entrance of the Guanabara Bay; and also by the feet of the Corcovado Statue that blesses the entire city with his open arms and dominates most of the Carioca skyline.

There are other equally inspiring mountains such as "Dois Irmãos" and the "Pedra da Gávea" to appreciate. There is also the Tijuca Forest, the largest urban forest in the world. Rio's other natural attractions include the beaches; the Botanical Garden; the Bay of Guanabara and Paquetaí island; and the city's many parks and gardens. Man has also produced his own attractions which include the city's many museums and galleries that cover a wide range of topics and styles.

For all its natural beauty, Rio de Janeiro – with a population of around 6 million – is still one of the world's biggest and most populated cities. Therefore, Rio offers its visitors the infrastructure its status merits. It offers a wide selection of hotels, restaurants, bars; it has numerous exhibition and conference centers; the cultural and sporting scene is justifiably famous; the shops and stores are world class; the city has well developed telecommunications, banking, financial and medical services and an extensive transport system which allows visitors and residents to move around the city easily be it by car, taxi, bus, bicycle or on foot.

The city's 90 kilometers of beaches are an integral part of the Rio lifestyle. Rio has beaches that run through its very heart and they are a center of entertainment and relaxation for the residents and visiting population. Participant sports abound on the beaches. Soccer, volleyball, gymnastics, and more traditional Brazilian sports like "peteca" and "futevolei", are played out on the sands of Rio while out to sea, it is the surfers and windsurfers who rule the waves.

The pavements and paths that run along the top of the beaches are a playground for the city's cyclists, roller skaters and the people who simply want to walk, jog or sit and enjoy the scenery from a bench or the comfort of a small beach kiosk while having coconut water.

Discovered in 1502, Rio de Janeiro still has many vestiges of its historic past on show. Buildings which date from the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> centuries reflect the history and growth of Rio.

Nightlife and entertainment in Rio are great! In Lapa and Santa Teresa we can find the most typical bars playing old sambas in a setting that still preserves houses and old mansions. More sophisticated nightclubs can be found in Ipanema, Leblon, Barra and Gávea. Visitors who want to experience a little more of Brazil's own culture in its many shapes and forms, can enjoy spectacular shows aimed specifically at the tourist. Visitors are encouraged to pay a visit to one of the city's samba schools (when they start the rehearsals before carnival) or to one of the "gafieiras" with their steamy dancing.

Soccer is Rio's main spectator sports with crowds of 100,000 or more for the major games at the Maracanã Stadium, the world's largest stadium.

Besides all that, Rio has a great variety of food: tropical fruits, juices, the traditional barbecue and the delicious Feijoada (traditionally served for Saturday lunch by restaurants and hotels) and the Caipirinha – not easily forgotten after a trip to Brazil. Eating out ranges from the most sophisticated restaurants, all the way to the humblest of corner bars serving local snacks and delicacies, which are washed down by an ice cold draught beer or one of a variety of natural juices.



## DAY 01 –Rio de Janeiro



Meet and greet at São Paulo airport, by our local team, assistance with check in to domestic flight to Rio de Janeiro.

### Arrival Rio Airport transfer to the Hotel



Our uniformed, bi-lingual guides at the International airport of Rio de Janeiro will meet participants of the group, right after customs clearance. The transfer time with our deluxe air-conditioned motor coaches to the hotel will take approximately 45 minutes max., depending on the traffic conditions of this arrival day. En route, our guides will welcome all participants on behalf of 'the sponsor of the group' and shall give some basic briefs about the city and their respective hotel.

### Arrival at the Hotel

Upon arrival at hotel, check in will take place at a separate area and while check in formalities take place. A **welcome Cocktail** will be served and the room keys are handed out. If we receive the participants personal data, such as full name, address, passport number, nationality and birth dates, we can provide the pre-registration and participants are only requested to sign upon check in.

### Overnight at selected hotel in Rio de Janeiro

## DAY 02 – Rio de Janeiro

### Brazilian Breakfast at Hotel Restaurant

## **FD Corcovado, Sambadrome and Sugar Loaf**



The Corcovado mountain has been Rio's top attraction widely sung by famous Brazilian composers. Tour will leave the hotel riding along the beaches of Rio and taking the Lagoa Rodrigo de Freitas (lagoon) will reach the Rebouças tunnel, a 2.6 km long complex that links the southern and northern parts of the city cut in half by the Tijuca ridge that makes Rio the only city in the world to have a National Park 5 minutes downtown. Reaching the Cosme Velho district, tour members will take a cogwheel train of Swiss manufacture that climbs the mountain its base at 15 mts to almost its

summit at 670 mts. The very top is reached by climbing a flight of steps reaching the base of Christ the Redeemer statue. This statue covered with a mosaic of soapstone is one of Rio's finest Art Nouveau monuments. The view, this vantage point, with the surrounding Tijuca National Forest spreading below and a circle of mountains closing the horizon at the very back of the Guanabara bay.

Closing the tour a visit to the Sambódromo / Sambadrome, where the Carnival Parade takes place every year in February.

### **Lunch at Confeitaria Colombo**

A living portrait of the Belle Époque in Rio, and one of the city's gourmet landmarks, the Confeitaria Colombo still retains much of its Art Nouveau charm dating back to the beginning of the century. Its famous Belgian mirrors in their hardwood frames and rosewood showcases, Italian marble benches, ornate light fixtures, glossy floor and period furniture have been preserved intact, just as they were admired by many famous individuals who helped write the history of Brazil, while also making the Confeitaria Colombo a major downtown attraction.



### **Sunset at Sugar Loaf**

We will follow to the Sugar Loaf, known world over as Rio's postcard and a must to visit. Since the best time of the day to go up the cable car is later in the day tour will close at the Sugar Loaf. Sugar Loaf is reached on a two-stage cable car ride. This cable car, in operation is of Italian manufacture and takes 80 persons per trip on a 2-minute ride, each stage. The first stage, Morro da Urca - barely 170 mts high, has a restaurant, amphitheater, a heliport for scenic rides and a privileged view of the Yacht Club and Botafogo Bay. The second stage takes one up to the Sugar Loaf - thus named because of the loaves of sugar that were commonly used by the Portuguese at the time of the discovery of the city. The all-encompassing view of this privileged 270-meter high lookout is unrivaled.



### **Dinner at Brazilian Barbecue Fogo de Chão**

Fogo de Chão is how the gaúcho cowboys prepare their meal, digging a pit on the ground, lighting a wood fire, skewering the beef and placing it to slowly barbecue while cooking the carreteiro rice and boiling the water for the chimarrão. While waiting for the meat to barbecue, they would sit around the pit piping hot herb tea - "mate" (chimarrão). Fogo de Chão today brings to mind a chain of successful restaurants, 8 in Brazil and 17 in the United States, serving a selection of prime cut beef: shoulder and ancho among others that are a delight to meat connoisseurs. The additional attraction is the superb view of Rio's bay and Sugar Loaf from its salon and veranda, a treat by itself!

Overnight at selected Hotel



### DAY 03 –Rio de Janeiro /Iguassu Falls

Brazilian Breakfast Buffet at the hotel.

Transfer to the airport, for domestic flight to Iguazu falls ( flight time approx. : 1:50 )

Flight to Iguacu

Arrival at Iguazu falls, meet and greet with our local team, transfer to hotel and check in.

Overnight at selected Hotel

### DAY 04 –Iguassu Falls

Brazilian Breakfast Buffet at the hotel.

#### **Argentina falls tour and Eco Train**

This tour is one of those experiences difficult to forget. Leaving the hotel to visit the Parque Nacional de Iguazu we take a scenic highway up to the park entrance. The visit of the Argentinean Falls starts at the central station of the ecologic tourist train. From there, the little train brings the visitors to the closest point of the famous Devil's Throat, where the visitors walk the last 1200 meters on a gangway to look right into a deafening road of plunging waters, the mist and unsurpassable beauty of it all. Taking the train again return to the central station, and starting a visit of what is called the upper and lower circuits. These circuits were built along the cliff and strategically located belvederes allow one to see the waterfalls right by one's side. The upper circuit takes approximately



Return to the Brazil side

Overnight at the hotel selected

### DAY 05 – Iguassu Falls Rio de Janeiro

Buffet Breakfast at the hotel

Meet in the lobby for walking tour of the **Brazilian falls**. From the Iguassu National Park main gate to the top of the trail leading to the falls - a 25km drive through pristine Atlantic Forest lush

vegetation. The trail going down the Iguassu river canyon is pleasant as it opens, here and there, to the spectacle of more than 240 falls that form the horseshoe-shaped Iguassu Falls. Reaching the bottom, a lookout takes you to the edge with waters circling around. A glass elevator moves you slowly up the cliff face for an exquisite view at the upper deck.

The water volume is staggering and when the waters are high - sheer emotion! Brazil shares Iguassu Falls with Argentina and on both sides a National park protects the rainforest that surrounds this marvel! UNESCO has declared Iguassu Falls and both parks a National Heritage



Transfer Out to Airport to take flight to Rio de Janeiro

Flight To Rio

Transfer to Hotel

Overnight at selected hotel

#### **DAY 06 – Rio de Janeiro**

Buffet Breakfast at the hotel

Check out and departure transfer to the airport.

Time to say good-bye

**END OF OUR SERVICES**



## HOTEL RIO DE JANEIRO

### **Belmond Copacabana Palace 5\***



Opened in 1923 this stucco-fashioned building is one of the most luxurious hotels in Rio de Janeiro. The Copacabana Palace has undergone extensive renovations and refurbishments to enhance its position as South America's premiere hotel. The Copacabana Palace has two restaurants available for the guests, The Pergula, situated by the pool the guests can enjoy breakfast, buffet lunch, dinner, and refreshments, and the Cipriani which offers a touch of Northern Italian cuisine. The hotel's convention center is comprised of 10 rooms each able to accommodate banquets, seminars, meetings, and social events.

Also available for the guests use are tennis courts, a swimming pool, fitness center, laundry service, and a beauty saloon.

The Copacabana Palace has 243 rooms and suites in total, 147 are found in the Main Building and 96 in the Tower Wing Building, which was added to the hotel in 1948. Each of them are individually designed with fine period furniture and original works of art, giving a elegant yet relaxed ambiance. Views are either of the world-famous Copacabana beach, or towards the city.

### **PortoBay Rio de Janeiro 4\***



Located in the heart of Copacabana the Porto Bay Rio boasts stylish accommodations, a beautiful waterfront setting, gorgeous views, and easy access to the world famous Copacabana Beach. All rooms include balconies with a view of the sea, cable TV, central air conditioning, mini-bar, bath-tub, and a personal safe. Also available for the guests enjoyment is a sauna, swimming pool, fitness center, laundry room, massage room, concierge service, a business center, and beach service. Also, for the guests convenience, the hotel employs a multi-lingual staff and state of the art security.

## HOTEL IGUASSU FALLS



### **Belmond Hotel das Cataratas 5\***

Belmond Hotel das Cataratas is the only hotel located within the Iguazu National Park, with the world famous Iguazu Falls just a two minute stroll away. As the only hotel within the national park, guests are able to enjoy exclusive access to the falls each morning before the park opens. The Iguazu Falls are a breathtaking collection of 275 waterfalls, extending over almost 3km in an enormous canyon on the Iguazu River and offers a range of experiences within this spectacular region including helicopter flights, rafting, nature walks, jeep safaris and a visit to the bird park.

## **Recanto Park Cataratas Hotel**



Recanto Park is an option for those who look for comfort and good hotel services with good rate. Entertainment options are swimming pool a fitness center and sauna. The restaurant offers the most delicious international dishes and buffets. The 158 rooms offer mini-bars, air-conditioning, cable TV, telephone, safe box.