

INTRODUCTION

Choose this Tailor-Made itinerary or customise to create your own unique journey. Departs daily to suit your travel plans. Price based on Standard accommodation.

Discover some of Brazil's highlights on this 20-day tour of some of the country's most famous cities, sites and wildlife refuges. You'll start the journey in one of the world's liveliest cities, Rio de Janeiro, before visiting the wildlife havens of the Amazon Jungle and Pantanal Wetlands. You'll then continue on to the vibrant cities of Salvador and Sao Paulo, before taking in the cascading beauty of Iguazu Falls.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Arrival Transfer in Rio de Janeiro

On arrival, please make your way through to the Arrivals Hall where our representative will be waiting for you to transfer you to your hotel. He/she will be holding a sign with your name on it. Please note this service is with a driver only. Please note, once you arrival at your hotel you will receive a welcome pack, which will provide you with all the useful information you will need about your trip in Brazil.



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DAY 1: Rio de Janeiro

Known as the "Cidade Maravilhosa", or Marvellous City, Rio never fails to amaze with its sandy beaches, carefree lifestyle and unparalleled natural beauty. As the capital of Brazil until 1960, Rio is today one of the most culturally and economically prominent cities in the country, receiving more tourists than any other part of Brazil.

DAY 2: Corcovado & Sugarloaf with Lunch

After departing from the hotel, the tour takes a scenic drive from Copacabana beach, continuing along Botafogo beach and passing the Palácio Guanabara, official residence of the State's Governor, on the way to Corcovado Hill (704m), and the greatest national icon - The Christ Redeemer of Rio de Janeiro. Here, you will have time to enjoy panoramic views of Rio and appreciate the giant statue, which was recently named as one of the seven new wonders of the world. From here, the tour continues to the district of Urca and the world-famous Sugar Loaf. where you will board the first cable car to the top of Urca Hill (215m), which offers spectacular views of Guanabara Bay. A second cable car will take you on to the Sugar Loaf (395m), giving you a chance to take in the spectacular 360-degree views of the city and surrounds. Upon descending from the Sugarloaf, we pass through the famous beaches of Copacabana and Ipanema en route to a traditional Brazilian BBQ lunch at a local Churrascaria (lunch is included - all beverages are at your own expense). Following lunch, the tour continues with a visit to the Maracanã Stadium (Bellini's statue and Hall of Fame. Entry into the stadium is not included) and a stop at the Sambadrome. While in the city's historic downtown area, you will have a chance to see the Duque de Caxias Palace, Itamaraty Palace, Tiradentes Square and Lapa Arches, followed by a visit to the Metropolitan Cathedral. From here the tour will also make a quick stop to visit the Selaron Stairs, an amazing urban work of art by the late Jorge Selaron. Returning to the hotel along Aterro do Flamengo, we pass by the Monument to the Fallen in World War II and the beaches of Flamengo and Botafogo. Lunch and all entrance fees (for Corcovado & Sugarloaf) are included.



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DAY 3: Rio de Janeiro - Free Day

Famed for its breathtaking setting, Rio is undoubtedly one of the most attractive cities in the world. Enjoy your day at leisure by exploring some of its remarkable sites or take the opportunity to relax on one of Rio's famous beaches such as Ipanema or Copacabana.

DAY 4: Transfer to the airport for onward destination

You will be collected from your hotel at the appropriate time and transferred to the airport for your onward flight.

DAY 4: Amazon Ecopark Lodge - Arrival

On arrival into Manaus you will be met and transferred from Manaus airport to the Amazon Ecopark Lodge, a 30 minute boat ride away, on the banks of the Rio Taruma. After settling in to your comfortable room, we visit the Monkey Jungle Reserve and marvel at the many different species of very playful and friendly monkeys. The Monkey Jungle is a centre for the rehabilitation of primates that were rescued from illegal traders or from areas of Brazil that have been flooded or burned. Many of the monkeys are orphans. On arrival the animals receive any necessary veterinary treatment and time to acclimatize to their new home, before being released into the wild. Species of monkeys at the Monkey Jungle include the Spider monkey, Woolly monkey, Squirrel monkey and Capuchin monkey. Later in the evening, a delicious dinner will be followed by a trip by canoe to spot alligators.





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DAY 5: Amazon Ecopark Lodge - Nature Hike

We awake to the fresh morning mist and the magical sounds of the jungle coming alive. After breakfast we set off on a Nature Hike: with over two million species of flora and fauna the thick, impenetrable jungle will have you in awe of its immensity! There are around 10kms of jungle trails in the Ecopark area, which includes virgin rainforest, natural savannahs, creeks and crystal clear steams. The guide teaches you how to find potable water, how to improvise a shelter from natural resources found in the jungle, what plants can be eaten as well as basic orientation and first aid. We return to the lodge for lunch and time to relax. after which we visit the homes of caboclos or local Amazonian residents. Learn about their traditions and customs, the history of the Amazon. how cassava meal is prepared and the rubber cycle including how they smoke the extracted rubber sap. There is also the opportunity for piranha fishing. The notorious piranha is perhaps the most feared freshwater fish in the world. However, it is a common misconception that they are vicious man-eaters and the majority of species are not carnivorous. They make a delicious meal, if you manage to catch them ... with the help of our experts!

DAY 6: Amazon Ecopark Lodge - Meeting of the Waters

This morning we depart on a full day tour to the "Meeting of the Waters", a remarkable phenomenon where the black water of the Rio Negro converges with the lighter muddy brown water of the Rio Solimões before they finally merge to form the mighty Amazon River. The two rivers are different temperatures and run at different speeds alongside each other without mixing for several kilometres, in what is known as the "Meeting of the Waters". Following this excursion we have the option of more piranha fishing from canoes. We return to the lodge in the early evening for dinner and another atmospheric night in the jungle.



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DAY 7: Depart from Manaus

After breakfast, you will be collected from your hotel and transferred to Manaus airport for your onward flight.



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DAY 7: Salvador

Salvador, in Brazil's north eastern state of Bahia, was once the magnificent capital of Portugal's New World colony. It is known for its vibrant Afro-Brazilian culture, 17th and 18th century Portuguese colonial architecture and tropical coastline. The historic heart of the city is the Pelourinho neighbourhood where cobblestone alleys open onto large squares lined with ornate churches and colourful buildings. Most nights you will hear Olodum drummers pounding out powerful rhythms on the streets. The heritage of the descendants of African slaves is well preserved here, from music and religion to food and dance.





DAY 8: Salvador - Panoramic City Tour

The Lower City Tour offers another perspective of the sprawling city, taking us to the quiet waters of the Itapagipe Peninsula where life moves at a slower pace than the bustling upper city. Fishermen fish from dugout canoes, locals collect shellfish at low tide, schooners lie at anchor, all protected by the famous Bonfim church, one of the most important churches of pilgrimage in Brazil and deeply syncretised with the Candomblé. We continue to the Monserrat district with its panoramic view of the city and on to the Mercado Modelo, a thriving market for local goods and souvenirs. This is also a great place to test your bargaining skills!



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DAY 9: Salvador - Free day

Today is a free day for you to explore Salvador de Bahía at your leisure.



DAY 10: Transfer to the airport for onward destination

You will be collected from your hotel at the appropriate time and transferred to the airport for your onward flight.

DAY 10: Arrival into Fernando do Noronha

On arrival into Fernando do Noronha's airport you will be met and transferred to your hotel. The remainder of the day is free for you to relax and enjoy on your own.







DAY 10: Fernando de Noronha

Fernando de Noronha is an archipelago of 21 islands and islets in the Atlantic Ocean, 354 km off the Brazilian coast. It was designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2001 and is one of the most stunning places in Brazil with its crystalline water, rich marine life and spectacular tropical landscapes. Please note all visitors to Fernando de Noronha must pay the following tax and entrance fee in local currency in cash: Environmental Preservation Tax must be paid on arrival at Fernando de Noronha Airport. The rate is currently BRL70.66 per person per day. It is not possible to leave the airport without paying for this tax. Marine Park Entry Fee is compulsory and payable at any of the Marine Park Kiosks located at public beaches on the island. The current fee is BRL195 per person as a one off fee. Please note these amounts are subject to change without prior notice.



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DAY 11: Fernando do Noronha - Free Day

Today is at leisure to enjoy the tropical islands of Fernando do Noronha and their multitude of possible activities including scuba diving, snorkelling, surfing, hiking and horse riding. Or you could just relax on one of the many beautiful beaches. Activities not included.

DAY 12: Fernando do Noronha - Free Day

Today is at leisure to enjoy the tropical islands of Fernando do Noronha and their multitude of possible activities including scuba diving, snorkelling, surfing, hiking and horse riding. Or you could just relax on one of the many beautiful beaches. Activities not included.







DAY 13: Departure

At the appropriate time you will be collected from your hotel and transferred to the airport for your onward flight.



On arrival, please make your way through to the Arrivals Hall where our representative will be waiting for you to transfer you to your hotel. He/she will be holding a sign with your name on it. Please note this service is with a driver only.



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DAY 13: Sao Paulo

Sao Paulo is the cosmopolitan capital of the state of Sao Paulo and with a population of over 20 million it is one of the most populous cities in the world. It is a melting pot of nationalities with large communities of Italians, Arabs and Japanese. Residents of Sao Paulo city are known as "paulistanos". The city is Brazil's financial centre and it has a rich cultural scene and interesting architecture. Iconic buildings include the 1929 Edifício Martinelli skyscraper and the neo-Gothic Metropolitan Cathedral. The colonialstyle Pátio do Colégio church marks where Jesuit priests founded the city in 1554.



DAY 14: Transfer to the airport for onward destination

You will be collected from your hotel at the appropriate time and transferred to the airport for your onward flight.

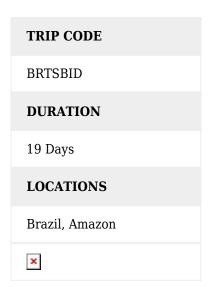




DAY 14: Pousada Piuval: Arrival

Welcome to the Pantanal, a UK-sized montage of seasonally flooded savannahs and tropical forests, which expand across millions of hectares of central-western Brazil, eastern Bolivia and eastern Paraguay. With its extraordinarily concentrated and varied flora and fauna and diverse ecological sub-regions, the Pantanal stands as one of the world's great natural wonders. Today we meet you at Cuiaba airport, and travel to the lodge around 110km away. Built on a 7,000-hectare cattle farm, Pioval is surrounded by some of the most beautiful landscape in the Pantanal. On arrival you will have a chance to settle in before we set off on foot with our expert guides in search of wildlife. We return to the lodge to enjoy dinner.





DAY 15: Pousada Piuval: Horseback riding

The lodge's surrounding waterways, grasslands and forests makes it ideal for wildlife spotting and this morning we set off on horseback to explore this vast terrain. We return to the lodge for lunch before boarding motorized boat for a river safari and a spot of piranha fishing. The pousada's pool bordered by lounges and hammocks hung invitingly under the trees provide you with the perfect place to relax in between each adventure. Dinner is served at the lodge.

DAY 16: Pousada Piuval: Photographic Safari

This morning chose between a horse riding safari or boat trip before lunching at the lodge. This afternoon we head off in the jeeps for a photographic safari and after dinner this evening we set off for some alligator spotting.







DAY 17: Pousada Piuval: Departure

We rise early and set off on foot to see the Pantanal at sunrise, one of the best times of day for wildlife spotting. We return to Cuiaba in time for your outgoing flight.

DAY 17: Arrival transfer in Iguazu

On arrival, please make your way through to the Arrivals Hall where our representative will be waiting for you to transfer you to your hotel. He/she will be holding a sign with your name on it. Should you not be able to locate them, please refer to the front of your itinerary for emergency contact details of our representative office. Please note this service includes driver and local English speaking guide.

DAY 17: Iguazu

The spectacular Iguazu Falls that straddle the Argentine-Brazil border, are made up of 275 individual waterfalls lining a 2.7km wide horseshoe-shaped gorge. The Falls are located where the Iguazu River cascades over the edge of the Paraná Plateau. The Falls can be viewed from both the Argentinian and the Brazilian sides, the Brazilian side offering a broader, panoramic view, with the Argentinian side offering a series of catwalks that allow you to experience the Falls from close range.

DAY 18: Iguazu Falls - Argentinean Side

After an early morning pick up from your hotel, we travel to the Argentinean side of the Iguazu Falls. Beginning at the visitor's centre, we take a ride on the Rainforest Ecological train before exploring the upper and lower circuit footbridges. The footbridges, which are raised off the jungle floor, provide panoramic views from above and below the falls. A visit to Devil's Gorge arguably the most spectacular falls, is one of the day's highlights.













DAY 19: Half Day Tour - Iguazu Falls - Brazilian side

Today we see the falls from the Brazilian side of the border. After arriving at the visitor centre, we board buses for a tour of the park. Equipped with panoramic windows, the buses are designed to maximize your views of the falls, while the walkways and steps allow you to get up close to the spray. Views of the Floriana Falls, the Devil's Gorge Canyon and the Iguazu River are spectacular and are guaranteed to impress.

DAY 19: Transfer to the airport for onward destination

You will be collected from your hotel at the appropriate time and transferred to the airport for your onward flight.

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Accommodation	Hotel
Inclusions	Private airport transfers Accommodation with breakfast daily Sightseeing with local English-speaking guide Other meals where stated Internal flights as indicated on itinerary Exclusions International flights Visa and reciprocity fees (if applicable) Travel insurance Beverages Personal expenses Gratuities for guides/drivers Any items not mentioned as included Airport taxes
Difficulty Rating	2 (average fitness required)
Single Surcharge	Available upon request, contact us for more details.

INCLUSIONS & DETAILS



Notes	All entrance fees are subject to change without prior notice. This is a Tailor-Made itinerary which can be customised to create your own unique journey. Contact us to discuss your travel plans.	
Price Dependent upon	Season and availability	

SUSTAINABILITY

Being environmentally accountable is a crucial part of our organisation. Chimu is currently striving towards using less paper, taking several initiatives to do so and tracking our progress along the way. Our goal: A paperless organisation. For this reason, all information given to you will be sent electronically. We encourage those who choose to travel with us to support our aspirations and actions and ask that you reconsider printing out documentation. To view these documents, you can download them to your iPad or portable computer before and during your trip.

Chimu is passionate and dedicated to sustainability measures and understands the crucial part sustainability plays within the tourism industry.

We use local guides and office staff to both maximise local employment opportunities and minimise carbon footprint. Local guides also ensure you benefit from the intimate knowledge, passion and culture of the country you're visiting. Our guides are all highly qualified (most with university degrees) or equip with many years of experience and are paid above the standard wage. Whether it be our knowledgeable local guides, locally produced meals or the transport on tour, we do not use imported goods when local products are available. We aim to minimise our impact on the environment and give as much back as possible to the communities we work in.

While visiting the many national parks, heritage sites, museums and landmarks our travellers are encouraged to explore remain culturally aware and sensitive. We further encourage you to buy appropriate souvenirs and discourage the buying of anything wrongfully made or taken from the environment i.e. shells and endangered species products. Information on how you can be environmentally conscious, and travel responsibly will be made available in our Travellers Guides and provided during your travels by guides and staff.

For more information on our sustainability policies, including how we are striving towards being a paperless organisation, click <u>HERE</u>

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