LatinDiscover.com
rediscovering the New World

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TRIP DETAILS
8 days / 7 nts - Brazil

Departures Daily
Trip Ref 3197

ITINERARY IN BRIEF

PRICES FROM $915

Celebration of life

Day 1: Arrival in Rio de Janeiro (African heritage tour)

Morning arrival in Rio de Janeiro with accomodation at selected hotel. In the afternoon: African Heritage Tour. This orientation tour of Rio offers a fascinating introduction to the roots of African culture in Brazil. We will visit a temple of Candomble where this uniquely Brazilian religion combining both the Yoruba and Catholic faiths will be explained and used to illustrate how African culture shaped the Brazilian identity of today. Evening free. B

Day 2: Rio de Janeiro (Sugar Loaf)

Today you will enjoy a city tour including Sugar loaf. This exciting tour will take you to Sugar Loaf, Rio de Janeiro's famous mountain set at the mouth of Guanabara Bay, and reached by a series of thrilling cable car rides. After enjoying the view, you will begin an excursion into the Afro-influenced world of samba and Carnival, with your first stop at the Sambadrome, the locale for the city's famous carnival parades. Here, the cultural and historical aspects of this incredible celebration are explained at the Carnival Museum. Next, you will proceed to a nearby barra, or workshop, where you will meet the local artisans designing and creating the fantastic floats and costumes that will appear in the renowned parade (visit to barra available from October to February only). In the evening: Traditional Afro-Brazilian dinner and dance. In this excursion, you will enjoy dinner in a restaurant specializing in feijoada, the native Brazilian dish developed by slaves. Next, you will proceed to downtown Rio and stop by a famous gafieira, or traditional dancehall originally established by emancipated slaves. Overnight in your selected hotel. B, D

Day 3: Rio de Janeiro (Corcovado Mountain)

Corcovado excursion after touring Rio´s beautiful beaches, you will pass through the charming neighborhood of Cosme Velho, home to the base of Corcovado Mountain. From here, take a small gauge railroad through the lush Tijuca Rainforest to the mountain's top, where the fabled Christ the Redeemer statue stands. Enjoy an unsurpassed view of the Cidade Maravilhosa from this worldrenowned landmark. Evening free.

Optional excursion, Rio by Night recommended for those interested in a trip to one of the city's favorite nightspots for a review of Brazilian Carnival, dance and folklore. We also suggest dinner at a churrascaria, a typical all-you-can eat Brazilian barbecue dinner at a fine restaurant. Overnight in your selected hotel. B

Day 4: Rio de Janeiro - Salvador

Transfer to Rio airport for your flight to Salvador. Upon arrival in Salvador de Bahia, meet and transfer to your selected hotel. Evening free. B

Day 5: Salvador (African oriented historical tour)

African-oriented historical city tour. We trace the African roots of Salvador on a city tour which combines the newer, modern section and the older Historical Center of Salvador, the Pelourinho area, so called after the pillory which stood in the main square, in front of the central slave market. We visit the Afro-Brazilian Museum which traces the West African origins of the city and see the superb wooden, sculpted panels of the orixa`s by Salvador`s most celebrated artist, Carybe. We visit the Church of Our Lady of the Rosary, the famous Black church, built with meager resources over a period of almost 100 years. The Casa do Benin (Benin House) nearby further investigates this permeating African influence. The buildings may be European but the rest is African. Evening excursion to a uniquely Bahian event: a rehearsal (show) or Olodum, one of the many Afro-blocos, or musical groups, enjoying great success in the current renaissance of Afro-based rhythms in Salvador. This frenetic, pulsating music is directly derived from the music of West Africa. This visit is particularly interesting, as Olodum is famous for their collaborations with Paul Simon on the Rhythm of the Saints album. Overnight in your selected hotel. B

Day 6: Salvador (visit to a cacao plantation)

We leave the city behind and drive through the oldest farmland in Brazil. This is the land of sugar cane and tobacco plantations, peaceful colonial towns and busy country markets. We visit an experimental cacao plantation. Nearby we stop at a small but self-sufficient farmstead with it's own manioc flour mill and have a great insight into rural life in Brazil. We also visit the Sisterhood of the Boa Morte, a sorority which

traces it's origins back to the time of slavery. Overnight in your selected hotel. B

Day 7: Salvador (Visit to the Children of Brazil street)
Morning visit "The Street Children of Brazil". These are the children who spend their days on the streets and their nights in the alleyways and doorways of Salvador. The Axe project was set up to help these children find their way in society by offering them real opportunities for education and training as well as involving them in creative and cultural activities. We will visit one of their training centres where we will

see the positive work of the Axe Project and given an explanation of the aims, hopes, challenges and success stories of the project. Afterwards we will visit a traditional capoeira school to see these kids at leisure, learning this martial art of Angolan origin. Tonight features Bahia by night, an excursion that takes us to Solar do Unhao, one of Salvador`s oldest and most eerily atmospheric buildings, originally used as a loading station for the importation of slaves. We begin here with a full buffet of the best in the exotic cuisine of Bahia. Soon after, a dazzling folklore show of Bahian music, dance and pageantry follows, illustrating all that is unique in the Afro-Brazilian culture. Overnight in your selected hotel. B

Day 8: Salvador - departure
Check out and transfer to Salvador International airport for flight back home. B Key: B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner

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Price includes:
Transfers, tours, daily breakfast, ground transportation as indicated on itinerary, excursions with English speaking local guides. Other meals as specified each day.

Price does not include:
Airfares, airport departure taxes Hotel taxes, meals not mentioned in the itinerary, personal expenses (laundry, beverages, telephone, etc).

Notes:
- Prices in USDollars, minimum 2 passenger/s.
- A supplement will apply for solo travellers.
- Official English / Spanish speaking local guide on tours.
- Triple rooms with 2 beds only, hotels don´t guarantee 3 beds.
- Specific properties may be replaced for others of same quality.
- Check in at hotels is normally at 3pm. Check out at 12.00 (noon)
- The order of the itinerary may be altered according to flight schedules.
- All prices may vary on special holidays, Easter week and/or long Weekends.
- Services in shared basis (SIB) only available from 7 am to 8 pm. Arrivals and departures out of this schedule will require private services.
- The itineraries are planned with great care, although, for operational and/or weather reasons, it may be necessary to change the sequence of activities in the itinerary or the specified route and visits, and though such cases are exceptional, in general the itinerary should be treated only as a basic guideline.
- Category of hotels is based on standards of the country (only to be used as a guide). One star being the most limited of services and, five stars having superior amenities and closer to international standards.
- Domestic flights are not included in the package price because their prices vary unpredictably and can only be fixed at the time of reservation.
- Please note that availability for the suggested properties have been consulted; however, no holds have been placed, therefore this option is still subject to availability, which can change at any time and without notice.
- Upgrades are available such as superior room types (at some hotels), different hotels, additional activities during free time, transfers in SUV or 4x4 vehicles, charter flights, helicopter transfers and additional tours for a supplemental cost.
- Remember to contact directly the embassy or nearest consulate to reconfirm this and if there is any other special requirement to enter the country (ies).
- We strongly recommend that prior to travel you purchase an appropriate travel insurance policy to cover delays, cancellation charges, cancellation of services, loss or theft of luggage or personal effects, medical expenses, accident and others. One option to try: http://www.columbusdirect.com/index.cfm?sourcecode=latdis
- Also please note: In some cities like Rio de Janeiro, Salvador, São Paulo etc the hotels charge a Tourism City Tax (per room and per night), on behalf of the Conventions Bureau. Prices vary depending on hotel category, from USD$1.50 to $6). These taxes are not included on hotel rates and may change without previous notice. (Hotels charge this tax directly).

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