



**Excelsior Travel & Tours**

**1-888-777-4481**

1808-B Antoine Dr.  
(713) 686.4848

8335-A Howard Dr.  
(713) 947.9001

6200 Bellaire (Fiesta)  
(713) 272.8686

**Brazil | Suggested Itineraries | Rio De Janeiro, Iguazu Falls & Salvador**



**Destinations: Rio, Iguazu & Salvador**

**Length: 9 Days / 8 Nights**

**Detailed Itinerary:**

**Day 1**

Arrival in Rio de Janeiro (-)

Upon arrival, our collaborators offer a welcoming reception and will transfer you to the hotel. A documentation kit, detailed program explanation plus luggage and hotel registration assistance is offered.

Overnight in Rio de Janeiro.

**Day 2**

Half day Sugar Loaf & downtown (B)

This tour begins with a city panoramic view through downtown Rio, passing by Sambodrome, and the Metropolitan Cathedral. Get to know the traditional Cinelândia square with the historical buildings, the Municipal Theatre, the national Library and the National Museum of Fine Arts. The tour continues followed to the Urca's district and specifically to the Praia Vermelha, where is located the Sugar Loaf's cable ferry station, the initial spot to ascend to it. The cable car rolls over strong iron cables, tracked by a cog-wheel system, and has a 70 pax capacity. There are two stages, the first from Praia Vermelha to the Urca's Station, and the second from Urca to the Sugar Loaf's top (at 396 meters). At the top,



the view of the center downtown, beaches and the meeting of Guanabara's bay and the ocean waters are simply superb.

Overnight in Rio de Janeiro

Day 3

Half day Corcovado & Tijuca Forest by jeep (B)

At the Corcovado Hill, located in the Tijuca Atlantic Forest, the largest urban forest in the world is the statue of Christ the Redeemer, one of Rio's most famous postcards. The Corcovado Hill, together with D.Marta belvedere, is a mandatory tour in Rio for the beauty of the sightseeing from both locations. From the Corcovado, we can see the beaches of Copacabana, Ipanema and Leblon, the Rodrigo de Freitas Lagoon and the Botanical Garden. From the D. Marta belvedere, the main views are the Maracanã stadium, the Guanabara Bay and the Sugar Loaf. This tour includes a small walk in a forest trail up to the Cascatinha Fall.

Overnight in Rio de Janeiro

Day 4

Iguazu: Brazilian Falls tour / Macuco Waterfall & Boat ride tour (B)

At schedule time, transfer to the airport to take your flight to Iguazu. Upon arrival, reception and transfer to your hotel. Departure from hotel and enter the Iguazu National Park, the largest in southern Brazil. Visit the Park's Visitors Center with its exhibit on the local eco-system. We then continue down the Cataratas Highway through the rain forest of the National Park to the falls. The Iguazu Falls are on the border of Brazil and Argentina where the Iguazu River drops into a gigantic horseshoe canyon. We descend a walkway, contemplating the lovely waterfalls in all of nature's exuberance, with panoramic view of both the Argentine and Brazilian sides. The walk ends at the elevator (one does not come back by the same route).

In the afternoon we head to the picturesque Macuco Falls, hidden in the forested canyon. The trail brings us to the banks of the Iguassu River, to board a twin-engine inflatable boat with capacity of 25 passengers each, specially designed for the local river conditions. Then cruise up into the Iguazu Canyon, shoot several rapids, and arrive to the very base of the majestic waterfalls. As the experienced pilot maneuvers in the midst of the falls themselves, the passenger will have a completely different view and experience a thrill never forgotten.

Overnight in Iguazu.



Day 5

Argentinean Falls Tour (B)

Departure from hotels ahead to Argentina side with a quick stop at custom check out. After that, the tour continues to the Tancredo Neves Bridge over the Iguassu River, which separates the border between Argentina and Brazil. Once in Argentina, a scenic highway up to the Argentine Iguassu Park is taken from where the visit of the visit of the Argentinean Falls at Porto Canoas, which gives the access to the very brink of the awe-inspiring Devil's Throat, largest of the Argentinean Falls, including the San Martin Falls. On the way back from the falls a stop at the "Three Borders" Brazil, Argentina and Paraguay meet. Afternoon at leisure for personal activities.

Overnight in Iguazu.

Day 6

Salvador da Bahia (B)

At schedule time, transfer to the airport to take your flight to Salvador da Bahia. At arrival, meet at airport & transfer to your hotel. Check in and accommodation.

Overnight in Salvador da Bahia.

Day 7

Half Day Salvador da Bahia city tour (B)

Morning departure from hotels to get to know the streets of the historical center of Salvador to be taken to Brazil's early History. Starting at Farol da Barra (Barra lighthouse), the tour continues heading to the Teatro Castro Alves (Castro Alves Theater), Forte São Pedro and Castro Alves Square, all the way to the Pelourinho, the most famous square on city center. There, one can find more than a thousand old houses, churches and monuments built on the XVI century. This is the greatest baroque architectonic inheritance in Latin America. Afternoon at leisure for personal activities.

Overnight in Salvador.



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**Day 8**

**Bahia by Night Tour (B/D)**

This evening will bring to light why Salvador is described as the most African city in the Western Hemisphere. The influences of African traditions in Salvador can be best seen and appreciated in two areas: Food and Music. Night has fallen over the capital of Brazil's most historic state and presents the city in a new dress. After a dinner-buffet featuring a wide variety of snacks from the Bahian cuisine we will have the opportunity to "look into the soul" of Brazil by experiencing its music and dances. Brazilian music draws heavily on its African roots, a fusion with pulsating African rhythms and its dance forms incorporate features that have been brought to Brazil by African slaves. Most of Bahia's traditional dances are art forms not found in any other geographic region outside Brazil, like Dança dos Orixás, Dança de Xangô, Maculêlê, Puxada-de-Rede, Capoeira, Samba-de-Roda and Carnival Axé.

**Day 9**

**International Departure (B)**

At scheduled time, transfer to the airport to board your international departure flight.

**End Of Our Services.**