



CARNAVAL RIO DE JANEIRO

IGUAZU FALLS – PANTANAL

08.03.2019 – 23.03.2019

16 days / 15 nights

The Carnival in Rio de Janeiro is a world famous festival held before Lent every year and considered the biggest carnival in the world with two million people per day on the streets. The typical Rio carnival parade is filled with revelers, floats and adornments from numerous samba schools, which are located in Rio (more than 200 approximately, divided into 5 leagues/divisions). One of the main purposes of the Rio carnival parade is for samba schools to compete with fellow rival (they are called co-sisters) samba- schools; this competition is the climax of the whole carnival festival in this city, related to the samba-schools environment. Each school chooses a theme and try to portray it in their entry. The samba schools work to build the best floats, costumes, lyrics and aesthetics, to represent their themes and to include the best music they can from their drumming band called the bateria.

There are many parts to each school's entry. Each school begins with the "comissão de frente", which is the first wing and is made up of ten to fifteen people only, who introduce the school and set the mood. Some of the important roles include the porta-bandeira, a very important woman who is in charge of the samba school flag, accompanied by the mestre-sala, who is supposed to draw everyone's attention to "his queen", the porta-bandeira. Floatees, who are also important, are the people who populate the floats, also known as destaques.

The parade takes place in the Sambadrome and the Copacabana Palace and beach hold the balls, although, many of the carnival participants go to other locations. Street festivals are very common during carnival and are highly populated by the locals. Anyone is allowed to participate in the street festivals. Incorporated into every aspect of the Rio carnival are dancing and music. The most famous dance is the samba, a Brazilian dance with African influences. Other dances include the lundu, the polka, and the maxixe.

DAY 1 Friday 08 March INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT TO RIO

Arrival in Rio de Janeiro airport. Reception and transfer to your hotel. Overnight at Mirador Rio Hotel (4****).

DAY 2 Saturday 09 March RIO

Breakfast at hotel. HD Corcovado Tour. Depart from the hotel to visit the Christ Statue, recently elected as one of the seven modern wonders of the world. The statue sits 697 m. above sea level, atop Corcovado Hill. Following a scenic drive along the Rodrigo de Freitas Lagoon, we will arrive at the foot of the hill, where we embark on a small train that climbs the beautiful mountainside. Upon reaching the top, visitors will experience a panoramic view of Rio de Janeiro and discover why Rio is known as the "Marvelous City"! In the evening regular shuttle bus to the Sambadrome where you watch the Winners Parade. Carnival Tickets for Sector 9 included. Overnight at Mirador Rio Hotel. **(B)**

DAY 3 Sunday 10 March RIO

Breakfast at hotel. HD Sugar Loaf Tour. Over a million tourists every year visit the world famous Pão de Açúcar (Sugar Loaf Mountain), which has become an iconic symbol of the city of Rio de Janeiro. Rising up from a small peninsula at the entrance of Guanabara Bay, its name is said to refer to its resemblance to the traditional shape of concentrated refined sugar loaf. The first cable car takes passengers to the top of Urca Hill, which rises 215 meters above sea level and offers spectacular views of the entire bay and its islands. From Urca Hill, passengers continue in a second cable car to the top of Sugar Loaf, which rises 395 meters above sea level and offers a 360-degree view of the entire city including Botafogo and Copacabana Beaches, Corcovado and downtown Rio. Back to the hotel. Overnight in Rio **(B)**

DAY 4 Monday 11 March RIO

Breakfast at hotel. Day at leisure. Overnight at Mirador Rio Hotel **(B)**

PRICE PER PERSON IN DR

EUR 2.820.-

USD 3.315.-

Surplus single room

EUR 708.- USD 832.-

INCLUSIONS

- ✦ 15 nights accommodation in 3*** and 4**** Hotels or similar incl. breakfast
- ✦ Meals as mentioned on the program
- ✦ **Included activities with private english/portuguese speaking guide:**
- ✦ Entrance ticket for the Parade of the Carnaval de Rio at the Sambódromo (sector 9) incl. transfers
- ✦ Private visits to the Iguassu Falls and Pantanal North with program as described.
- ✦ Private transfers IN + OUT

NOT INCLUDED:

- ❖ INTERNATIONAL or NATIONAL Flights
- ❖ Airport taxes
- ❖ Optional Excursions
- ❖ Meals not specified in the program
- ❖ Drinks, tips and personal extras
- ❖ Anything not mentioned as included





DAY 5 Tuesday 12 March RIO

Breakfast at hotel. Day at leisure. Overnight at Mirador Rio Hotel. Enjoy your day at one of the beautiful beaches in Rio, or take an optional tour to the surroundings. We can help you to find the right choice. Overnight at the Mirador Rio Hotel. **(B)**

DAY 6 Wednesday 13 March RIO DE JANEIRO - IGUAZU FALLS Domestic flight

Breakfast at hotel. Check out and transfer to the airport for your flight to Iguazu. Arrival in Iguassu Falls, reception and transfer to your hotel. Overnight at Turrance Green Hotel (3***) or similar **(B)**

DAY 7 Thursday 14 March FOZ DE IGUAZU

Breakfast at hotel. HD Brazilian Falls with national park. The trip begins at the Iguazu National Park with a drive through the lush, subtropical vegetation of the park en route to the falls. Take a stroll on the trail that descends the canyon, to offer panoramic views of more than 240 falls. Embark on the glass elevator up the cliff face for an exquisite view from the upper deck. The Iguassu National Park along with its "sister" park in Argentina form the most significant remaining rainforest in the southern cone of South America, which along with the waterfalls, have been declared a National Heritage Site by UNESCO. We will end the tour with a visit a handicrafts market. Duration: approximately 3 hours. Overnight **(B)**

DAY 8 Friday 15 March FOZ DE IGUAZU

Breakfast. HD Argentinean Falls with national park entrance fee included. We will cross the Tancredo Neves Bridge, heading towards the Iguazu National Park in Argentina. At the entrance, a small train takes visitors on a tour through the park, making two stops. Follow the pathways to the top of the waterfalls that provide spectacularly unique views of the 'Cataratas', amidst the abundant nature filled with orchids, colorful birds and other wildlife. The highlight of the tour is a visit to the suspended platform at the very brink of the 'Garganta do Diablo' waterfall (Devil's Throat), the largest fall in the park. This tour highlights the Argentinean side of Foz do Iguazu. Duration: approximately 4 hours. Overnight at Turrance Green Hotel **(B)**

DAY 9 Saturday 16 March FOZ DE IGUAZU - PANTANAL NORTH Domestic flight

Breakfast at hotel. Check out and transfer to the airport. Arrival in Cuiabá airport, reception and transfer to your hotel. Overnight at Pousada Rio Mutum. Reception upon arrival at the Cuiabá airport by a bilingual guide. Transfer to Pousada do Rio Mutum passing through the small village of Mimoso, where Marshall Candido Rondon was born, a Brazilian military officer who is most famous for his exploration of Mato Grosso and the Western Amazon Basin, and his lifelong support of Brazilian indigenous populations. On the way, observation of many kind of birds, small mammals and typical landscapes. The transfer takes about three and a half hours. After check-in, introduction to the lodge and area around it. In the evening, a delicious piranha soup is served just before dinner. After dinner, introduction to the activities of the following days. Overnight. **(B) (D)**

DAY 10 Sunday 17 March PANTANAL NORTH

Breakfast at hotel. After breakfast, ecological walk through the jungle and open fields to observe animals and birds. Having the largest diversity of bird species in the world, the Pantanal is especially interesting for bird watching. Return to the lodge for lunch. In the afternoon, boat ride for a photographic safari in Mutum River. In its clear water, it is possible to see giant otters, stingrays and shoals of small fish. At the Mutum riverbanks, a large variety of birds can be observed. Return to the lodge for dinner, then nocturnal animal spotting by jeep in the area surrounding the lodge. Overnight. **(B)(L) (D)**

DAY 11 Monday 18 March PANTANAL NORTH

Breakfast at hotel. At 4:30am, canoeing in the Mutum River to observe the sunrise and the beauty of wildlife at the break of dawn in the Pantanal. Return for breakfast, then boat ride to Cuiabá Mirim, a small village of fishers located at the Cuiabá riverbanks. Return for lunch. In the afternoon, jeep ride through a road to observe birds and animals, where there is a great chance to observe many macaws. On the way back, spotting of animals. Dinner and overnight. **(B) (L) (D)**

DAY 12 Tuesday 19 March PANTANAL NORTH

Breakfast at hotel. After breakfast, horseback trail riding in the jungle, up to the edge of the Siá Mariana bay. During the whole year, a big variety of birds, animals and reptiles can be observed. Return to the lodge for lunch. In the afternoon, boat trip down the Mutum riverbanks, Siá Mariana bay and Chacororé bay. Return by boat to the lodge, stopping to see the sunset at the Siá Mariana bay and do piranha fishing. In the evening, cayman feeding with the piranhas fished from Siá Mariana bay and nocturnal animals spotting. Dinner and overnight. **(B) (L) (D)**

DAY 13 Wednesday 20 March PANTANAL NORTH - RIO DE JANEIRO

Breakfast at hotel. Walking through the area around the lodge at the sunrise, then breakfast and checkout. Transfer to Cuiabá airport. Arrival in Rio de Janeiro airport, reception and transfer to your hotel. Overnight at Mirador Rio Hotel. **(B)**

DAY 14 Thursday 21 March RIO DE JANEIRO

Breakfast at hotel. You have deserved it!! After a hard journey through the jungle, you can now enjoy a few days of sun and water, doing what you always dreamed of: RELAXING! Enjoy the beach or the facilities at the hotel, or just go for a walk through the always-busy streets of Rio. **(B)**

DAY 15 Friday 22 March RIO DE JANEIRO

Breakfast at the hotel. Day at leisure. Enjoy one more day of your peace and quiet, swim, walk around and enjoy Rio, the "cidade maravilhosa" (magnificent city) **(B)**

DAY 16 Saturday 23 March RIO DE JANEIRO - RETURN FLIGHT

We will take you to the airport of Rio de Janeiro for your connecting flight back home. End of our services. **(B)**

(B) Breakfast **(L)** Lunch **(D)** Dinner