



## FLAVOURS & RHYTHMS OF BRAZIL

Welcome to Brazil, a vast nation overflowing with vibrant cultures, unstoppable rhythms and infectious energy.

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Tailor-Made Journeys, Suggested Itineraries



Latin America, Brazil



9 days from AU\$12,465 pp



Private

## Journey Overview

Welcome to Brazil, a vast nation overflowing with vibrant cultures, unstoppable rhythms and infectious energy. Discover a city where music and dance are as vital to life as air and water. Seek out the country's pulsing epicentre of Afro-Brazilian culture. And let endless thunderous waterfalls take your breath away.

### Journey Highlights

- Drink in Rio's magical twilight on the summit of Sugar Loaf Mountain
- Witness an explosion of dance and Afro-Brazilian culture, Salvador
- Stand amongst the thundering, steaming cauldron of 275 waterfalls at Iguassu Falls
- Participate in a cooking demonstration learning how to make Bahia's best-known dish, moqueca



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## Itinerary

### **Day 1: Arrive Rio de Janeiro**

Touchdown in Rio de Janeiro, known as *cidade maravilhosa* (the marvellous city), steamy, sensuous, ever-surprising. Rio is full of contrasts of colour, customs and dazzling scenery. A city of sea and mountains, samba and Carnival. Witness the people of Rio who enjoy a truly relaxed and unique way of life. On arrival, meet your A&K representative who will assist you with your private transfer to your beachfront accommodation. Spend time relaxing in the hotel or head out on your own and explore. Get your bearings in this impossibly fabulous city, with its curving white beaches and city neighbourhoods studded with green-shrouded mountains.

***Copacabana Palace, A Belmond Hotel***

### **Day 2: Rio de Janeiro**

Witness one of the Seven Wonders of the Modern World, Corcovado's Christ the Redeemer. Gaze skywards at the sandstone figure towering 38 metres into the air, with arms pointing north and south, and breathe in sweeping views of the city rightly considered a UNESCO World Heritage site. Drive back to your hotel via the Maracanã stadium and famous Sambadrome, home to the annual Carnival parade. Your afternoon is at leisure to simply soak up the atmosphere from your beachfront home. Or continue to discover why this is truly one of the world's most vibrant cities. Navigate the streets by bicycle, taking in the hotspots of Copacabana, Ipanema, Leblon and Rodrigo de Freitas lagoon (additional charge), or visit the Botanical Gardens, one of the world's most important ecological sanctuaries, at the foot of Corcovado Mountain (additional charge). Alternatively, head to the bohemian Santa Teresa neighbourhood on Morro do Desterro (Exile Hill) for a taste of Old Rio. Take to the hills in a charming street car, seek out art studios and bars, and stop at the "Little Castle" (additional charge).

***Copacabana Palace, A Belmond Hotel | Meals: B***

**Day 3: Rio de Janeiro**

Begin your day hovering over Sugar Loaf Mountain, Christ the Redeemer and the golden beaches of Ipanema and Copacabana on a helicopter flight over the city (additional charge). Then, step backstage into the captivating world of Rio's Carnival, witnessing the artistry and creation of the elaborate costumes and imaginative floats that culminate in the world's most vibrant street party. You will also have the chance to try on one of the carnival costumes. Afterwards take a driving tour through local neighbourhoods to the base of the mountain. Enjoy the cable car ride to the summit for the best sunset views in the city and sundowners with a backdrop of the city lights twinkling through the sea mist.

***Copacabana Palace, A Belmond Hotel | Meals: B***

**Day 4: Rio de Janeiro - Iguassu Falls**

Proceed to the airport for your flight to Foz do Iguazu on the Brazilian side of the mighty Iguassu Falls. Your local A&K representative will meet you at the airport and assist with your private transfer. Drop your bags at the only hotel located within Brazil's Iguassu National Park, just a short stroll from one of the New Seven Wonders of the World. Descend into the canyon and soak up the vista of some 275 falls, before taking a glass elevator back to the top. Later appreciate your exclusive access to this magnificent wonder when the park is closed to non-hotel guests. Witness rainbows of colour over this incredible force of nature or perhaps enjoy a champagne overlooking the falls in near solitude.

***Hotel Das Cataratas, A Belmond Hotel | Meals: B***

**Day 5: Iguassu Falls**

No visit to the Iguassu is complete without experiencing the falls from the Argentinian perspective, as today's adventure will prove. Cross the bridge to Argentina and wander along the network of pathways around the endless sheath of water. Venture by train to the suspended platform at the very brink of the roaring 'Garganta del Diablo' waterfall (Devil's Throat). Here, a motorboat awaits to take you up the Lower Iguassu River, through rapids into the roaring Garganta del Diablo canyon in the heart of the falls. Return to your accommodation or perhaps you may like to experience a helicopter flight (additional charge) over the Iguassu National Park for an unrivalled view of the waterfalls, Três Fronteiras (the meeting point of Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay).

***Hotel Das Cataratas, A Belmond Hotel | Meals: B***

**Day 6: Iguassu Falls - Salvador de Bahia**

Head to the Iguassu Bird Park, an internationally recognised rescue and conservation centre, for a behind-the-scenes experience where you get up close to rare birdlife. Continue to the airport for your flight to Salvador, once the magnificent capital of Portugal's New World colony and today the country's Afro-Brazilian jewel. Meet your A&K representative and transfer to the historic centre where you can unwind in your boutique accommodation. Spend your first evening immersed in Bahian heritage at the intimate Miguel Santana Theatre. In an explosion of drums, music and energy, the world-renowned Bahia Folklore Company will enact the dances of the gods in the Candomblé pantheon and the rhythmic martial art, the capoeira.

***Hotel Fasano | Meals: B***

**Day 7: Salvador de Bahia**

To peel back the layers of this Brazilian enigma, start in Pelourinho, a UNESCO World Heritage site and the largest complex of colonial architecture in South America. During a walking tour wander the cobbled, hilly streets and stop awhile in the municipal square to soak up the city vibe. Take the Elevador Lacerda, a concrete-encased elevator, down to the lower, more modern Salvador where the air is filled with the aroma of acarajé, an African-inspired street food of sizzling shrimp-filled dumplings. Learn to drink like a local with a curated tasting of cachaça, the Brazilian sugar cane liquor followed by lunch inspired by a creative mix of Mediterranean and North Eastern cuisine. Discover more of Salvador your way during an afternoon at leisure or simply relax in your hotel.

***Hotel Fasano | Meals: BL***

**Day 8: Salvador de Bahia**

Spend a morning soaking up the local culture in São Joaquim market, the largest market in Salvador. Wander the labyrinth of passageways filled with everything from fresh meat and fish to shoes and statues. Look out for coriander, limes, garlic, coconut milk and dendê palm oil – the ingredients of Bahia's best-known dish, moqueca. Then, head to a local eatery where you discover how to prepare this rich seafood stew. Fuelled by Bahian inspiration, find your rhythm in an intriguing percussion demonstration and workshop. Pick up the cuica or berimbau drums and follow the local percussionist through a cacophony of beats and techniques.

***Hotel Fasano | Meals: BL***

**Day 9: Depart Salvador de Bahia**

Set off on a final stroll around this enchanting destination before your private transfer to the airport for your onward journey.

***Meals: B***

# Map





## Accommodation

### Copacabana Palace, A Belmond Hotel, Rio de Janeiro



One of the best hotels in Rio de Janeiro we simply adore the old school opulence of the famous Copacabana Palace. Superbly positioned with its grand edifice overlooking the sea, this glamorous Belmond landmark in Rio has been welcoming the rich and famous since its Art Deco doors swung open in 1923. Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers danced here and the Rolling Stones tuned up in its grand salon before their concert on the beach.

The Copacabana Palace has 239 rooms and suites in total, 147 are found in the main building, of which 71 are suites. In addition, there are 58 suites and 40 bedrooms with city views in the brand new Tower Wing. Every room and suite is individually designed with fine period furniture and original works of art, creating an elegant, yet relaxed ambiance. To quote Conde Nast 'Stepping through the doors of the Copacabana always feels like the start of an adventure' and we're certain this will be an adventure that will make you feel fabulous!

#### Why we like it

- Select rooms and suites have views of the world-famous Copacabana beach or the city
- As the name suggests, Copacabana Palace is located on the famous Copacabana Beach
- Copacabana Palace is home to three of Rio de Janeiro's finest restaurants, The Hotel



Cipriani, The Pégula and MEE - awarded with a Michelin Star

- The magnificent swimming pool at the Copacabana Palace has long drawn stars and royalty alike to sunbathe, swim and socialise
- Other facilities include a fitness centre, tennis court, exclusive beach service and the classically styled Piano Bar

## Hotel das Cataratas, A Belmond Hotel, Iguassu Falls



The Hotel das Cataratas, A Belmond Hotel, is a Portuguese-colonial residence and a classic Belmond hotel, redolent with the atmosphere of lazy days lounging on a veranda or beneath sub-tropical palms.

The rooms are decorated in a Portuguese style and feature paintings of the local flora and fauna by the Brazilian artist Ludmilla de Montes, alongside traditional Azulejos "painted tiles" designed exclusively for Hotel das Cataratas, A Belmond Hotel. The suites follow a similar decorative style, with the addition of outdoor spaces in many cases. All have lovely, marble-lined bathrooms.

This charming hotel is a fantastic location from which to experience the magnificence of the Iguassu Falls, or to explore the paths leading to the mighty Devil's Throat.

### Why we like it

- Some of the suites have private balconies. All rooms are air-conditioned
- The Hotel das Cataratas, A Belmond Hotel is the only hotel within the Iguassu National Park (on the Brazilian side), and is surrounded by tropical nature alongside the Iguassu Falls
- Dining options include Ipê Grill alongside the pool and the Restaurant Itaipu - both serve international cuisine and local dishes

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