

Best of South America: Brazil, Argentina & Peru



The sight of Iguassu Falls' majestic falling waters will take your breath away.

DAY 1: FLIGHT OVERNIGHT TO RIO DE JANEIRO

DAY 2: ARRIVAL IN RIO DE JANEIRO & SUGARLOAF MOUNTAIN

Arrive in Rio de Janeiro, the Marvelous City. A Go Ahead representative greets you and escorts you to your hotel. This afternoon, you'll board a cable car for a quick ascent to the peak of Sugarloaf Mountain, the peak that greets entrants to Guanabara Bay. Nearly 1,300 feet above the waves, you'll be able to see for miles—welcome to South America! This evening, you'll enjoy an included Welcome Dinner with your group.

Included meals: breakfast (in flight), dinner

DAY 3: CORCOVADO MOUNTAIN

This morning, board a cog-wheel train to the top of Corcovado Mountain, where you'll stand next to the statue of *Christ the Redeemer*, one of the Modern Wonders of the World. The afternoon is free at leisure. You might consider joining our optional favela tour for a look at how most Cariocas live. You'll visit an open-air market and a samba school before taking a break to watch hang gliders take off from the heights of Pedra de Gávea. Your tour concludes with a stop at a local nursery.

Included meals: breakfast

DAY 4: FLY TO IGUASSU FALLS

Say goodbye to Rio and board your flight for Iguassu. Upon arrival, transfer to your hotel and check in. Tonight, immerse yourself in the rhythms of samba, tango and Paraguayan music during dinner and a show at a local restaurant.

Included meals: breakfast, dinner

DAY 5: IGUASSU FALLS

One of South America's most awe-inspiring natural wonders, Iguassu Falls is like no other cataract in the New World. Drive through Iguassu National Park, a sub-tropical paradise, to the Brazilian side of the falls for an incredible first look at the falls. Then cross the border over the Tancredo Neves Bridge into Argentina for even better views, especially those of Devil's Throat, the most famous section of Iguassu Falls.

Included meals: breakfast

DAY 6: FLY TO BUENOS AIRES

Fly to Buenos Aires, Argentina and begin exploring the city. Known as "the Paris of the South," Buenos Aires is renowned for its elegant culture. A city of immigrants, it weaves multitudes of people, cuisines and cultures into a vibrant and modern tapestry. Tonight's dinner is included.

Included meals: breakfast, dinner

14-DAY TOUR INCLUDES

- Round-trip air transportation with a major airline, airport transfers
- The services of a bilingual Go Ahead Tour Director
- A licensed local guide in Rio de Janeiro, Corcovado Mountain, Iguassu Falls, Buenos Aires, Cuzco and Lima
- 11 nights accommodation in comfortable, well-located hotels with twin beds and private bath or shower
- All hotel service charges and tips, baggage handling and local taxes
- Buffet breakfast daily; 2 lunches; 5 three-course dinners
- Private motorcoach
- Go Ahead travel gift and membership in our World Traveler Club, which includes credit toward your next tour

GUIDED SIGHTSEEING

DAY 2: Rio de Janeiro

DAY 3: Corcovado Mountain

DAY 5: Iguassu Falls

DAY 7: Buenos Aires

DAY 10: Cuzco

DAY 12: Machu Picchu

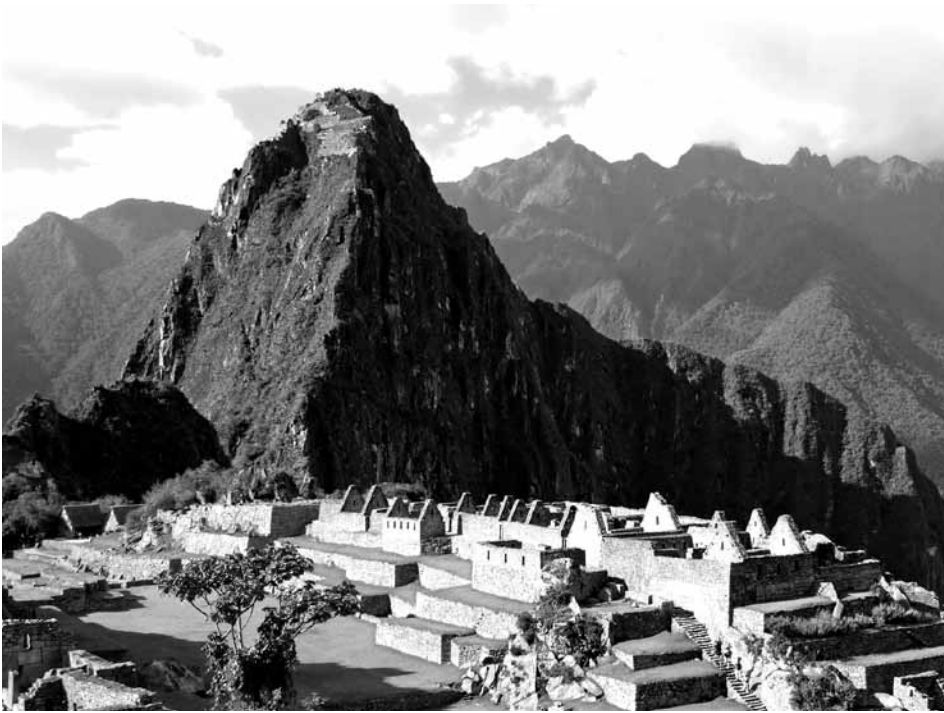
DAY 13: Lima

Tour Highlight

Shrouded in mystery since its "discovery" by Hiram Bingham in 1911, Machu Picchu is a marvel of architecture. Although now believed to be a religious center, the full details behind Machu Picchu's rapid construction and equally swift abandonment remain a matter of debate.

Insider's Tip

When in Rio, you must find and try Brazilian feijoada, a strong and delicious pork and black bean dish thought to have been introduced to the region by the Africans who were originally imported as slaves. Don't forget to wash it down with a caipirinha!



One of the highlights of your tour, Machu Picchu is a world unto itself.

DAY 7: BUENOS AIRES SIGHTSEEING

Embark on a guided tour of Buenos Aires and get to know the city where the tango was born. Begin at Plaza de Mayo, continue on to the colorful streets of La Boca and end your tour in Recoleta, where you'll visit the grave of Eva Perón. Tonight, joining our optional Tango Show & Dinner. Included meals: breakfast

DAY 8: FREE DAY IN BUENOS AIRES

Enjoy a free day to discover the many wonders of Buenos Aires. Consider our full-day optional excursion to the Estancia Santa Susana, where the *gauchos*, or cowboys, introduce you to their rustic way of life. Included meals: breakfast

DAY 9: FLY TO CUZCO

Board a flight to Cuzco this morning; you'll make a layover in Lima en route. You'll have the balance of the day to explore or acclimate to the altitude. Dinner is included this evening. Included meals: breakfast, dinner

DAY 10: CUZCO SIGHTSEEING

On a guided tour of Cuzco, you'll visit the Cathedral of Santo Domingo, the city's colonial-era Plaza de Armas, the Incan Korikancha temple, the fortress of Sacsayhuaman, the temple of Kenko and the ancient Incan baths at Tambomachay. This evening, consider joining our optional Dinner & Peruvian Folkshow. Included meals: breakfast

DAY 11: MACHU PICCHU

Board a train bound for Machu Picchu, passing through spectacular mountain scenery and the dramatic Urubamba River valley. Explore Machu Picchu, including the Temple of the Sun, the Temple of the Three Windows, the cave of the Temple of the Condor and the mysterious calendar of Intihuatana. Lunch is included today. Included meals: breakfast, lunch
Included entrances: Machu Picchu

DAY 12: THE SACRED VALLEY OF THE INCAS

An expert local guide leads you on a full-day sightseeing tour of the Sacred Valley of the Incas. You'll see the famous ruins of Pisac and Ollantaytambo and visit several local market towns. Lunch is included today. Gather tonight for a Farewell Dinner. Included meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner
Included entrances: Ollantaytambo Ruins

DAY 13: LIMA SIGHTSEEING

Arrive this morning in Lima, Peru's diverse capital. After hotel check-in, a professional local city guide leads you on an extensive tour of both modern and colonial Lima. This evening, transfer to the airport for your flight home. Included meals: breakfast

DAY 14: ARRIVE HOME

Arrive home this morning.



Christ the Redeemer looks over the people of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

POST-TOUR EXTENSION

Amazon

2 nights

DAY 14: Board your flight from Lima to Iquitos. This afternoon, you'll enjoy a rainforest hike before tonight's included dinner. Included meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner

DAY 15: Take a morning boat ride to the Yagua Indian Village where you'll visit with the citizens of this community. This afternoon, take a walking tour of Indiana, a former Franciscan mission town. Enjoy tonight's Farewell Dinner. Included meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner

DAY 16: Enjoy a free morning in the Amazon and an included lunch followed by an afternoon flight back to Lima, where you'll connect for your international flight home. Included meals: breakfast, lunch

DAY 17: Arrive home.

Please note: in some cases, flights will depart Lima on the morning of Day 17. In these cases, an overnight in Lima will be provided.

Extension available on select departure dates. Space is limited. Call early to hold your spot. Extension requires a minimum of 10 travelers.



Travel Pace: 4

Travel pace levels are based on criteria such as length of tour, number of cities visited, number of included activities, as well as length of flights and land transfers.

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|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1 - leisurely | 3 - active |
| 2 - comfortable | 4 - challenging |

Walking on Tour

While sightseeing will never involve strenuous hikes, some walks and climbs over very old ruins and uneven, rocky or jungle terrain will occur. Travelers should be comfortable with climbing steps and small hills.

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Climate

The following guide provides the average temperatures for a sampling of the regions on your itinerary.

RIO DE JANEIRO

Nov-May	74°-86°F / 20°-30°C
Jun-Oct	65°-79°F / 19°-25°C

IGUASSU FALLS

Nov-May	55°-91°F / 13°-33°C
Jun-Oct	49°-84°F / 9°-29°C

BUENOS AIRES

Nov-May	46°-86°F / 8°-30°C
Jun-Oct	41°-71°F / 5°-22°C

CUZCO

Nov-May	41°-69°F / 5°-21°C
Jun-Oct	32°-66°F / 0°-19°C

Pre-departure information for your tour

PASSPORT AND VISA REQUIREMENTS

In order to enter Brazil, Argentina and Peru, U.S. and Canadian citizens need a valid passport with an expiration date extending at least six months beyond the date of your return. If you're not a U.S. or Canadian citizen, you must contact the Brazilian, Argentine and Peruvian consulates for your specific entry requirements. U.S. and Canadian citizens traveling within Brazil are required to carry a visa. We recommend that U.S. citizens use the application that arrives with your confirmation letter to obtain a visa through Zierer Visa Service (1-866-788-1100; www.zvs.com). Canadian citizens can contact Visa Connections (www.visaconnections.biz) to obtain a visa. If you opt to apply for your visa directly and require additional assistance and/or documentation from Go Ahead Tours, a special arrangements fee of \$95 may be charged. In accordance with Argentine law a reciprocity fee must be paid upon entering the country. For US citizens the charge is approximately \$140. For Canadian citizens the charge is \$70 per person. Upon arrival in Peru, you will be given an Andean immigration card. Please keep this with you. You will need it for your trip to Machu Picchu.

AIRPORT AND DEPARTURE TAXES

All airport and departure taxes for this tour are included in the total trip cost printed on your invoice.

BAGGAGE ALLOWANCE

Airlines have varying weight restrictions on luggage. Some airlines may impose additional charges if you choose to check any baggage. Please contact your airline or refer to its website for detailed information regarding your airline's checked baggage policies. Bear in mind that your luggage will probably weigh more on your return trip due to souvenir shopping. We allow only one suitcase per person. One carry-on bag is also permitted, provided that it does not exceed 45 inches (length + width + height). There may be times when you will have to handle your own bags, and you'll find that lightweight luggage provides a distinct advantage. Make sure you label your baggage and carry valuables, medication and documents in your carry-on luggage.

CLOTHING AND PACKING TIPS

Light, loose-fitting, comfortable clothing is essential for your tour. A sun hat, sunglasses and a sturdy pair of walking shoes or sneakers are recommended for sightseeing. Binoculars may be handy for a closer look at wildlife and views from Iguassu Falls and the Peruvian highlands. Insect repellent is strongly recommended on excursions to Iguassu Falls, Iguassu National Park, the Incan ruins and the Sacred Valley of the Incas. Bring a lightweight sports jacket and emergency rainwear. If you plan to visit an elegant restaurant or attend the opera or theater, remember to bring something more formal to wear. Also, it is preferable not to visit churches or other religious sites with bare legs and shoulders (entrance may be denied on this basis).

HEALTH

Travelers should be aware of high-altitude conditions in Peru. The altitude of Cuzco is 11,000 feet. Travelers (especially those with heart or lung conditions) are encouraged to take precautions and consult with their personal health-care providers before undertaking high-altitude travel. The best way to prevent "altitude sickness," which sometimes results in headaches and nausea, is to make sure that you are well hydrated throughout your stay. Sightseeing of Machu Picchu and the Incan ruins also involves walking on some uneven terrain (see "Walking on Tour"), and travelers should be in reasonable shape. While no vaccinations are required, it's always advisable to check with your doctor at least eight weeks prior to departure.

ELECTRICITY

Brazil uses 110 volts. Peru and Argentina use 220 volts; an adapter is necessary.

IMPORTANT HEALTH TIPS

In order for you to stay healthy throughout your tour, we recommend the following:

- Drink bottled water. Refrain from drinking tap water, including when brushing teeth.
- Avoid eating fresh fruits and vegetables unless they are cooked or washed in clean water and peeled.
- Bring a small first-aid kit, including antacids, anti-diarrhea medication and any prescription medications.

CUISINE

Since Brazil is the largest country in South America, its cuisine varies from region to region. The cuisine of Argentina, on the other hand, is distinctive in South America because it is closer in style and flavor to Italian, Spanish, French and other European cuisines rather than the other Latin American cuisines. Peruvian cuisine features a blend of indigenous and European (mainly Spanish) tastes. Typical dishes on the coast include shellfish, sea bass and scallops, often marinated in lemon juice, chili peppers and onion and served with potato or corn. Highland dishes are heartier, also featuring corn and potatoes usually with roasted meat.

TRANSPORTATION

Round-trip flights arrive in Rio de Janeiro and depart from Lima. Flights from Rio to Iguassu Falls, from Iguassu Falls to Buenos Aires, and from Buenos Aires to Cuzco are also included in your trip cost. Most other transportation is by private motorcoach. Rio de Janeiro is a large, busy city; local buses are the best way to travel around town. Buenos Aires is a large city set up on a grid, much like New York City. While most of the city is pedestrian-friendly, you can always hop on the metro or bus to get around town.

TIME ZONES

Brazil and Argentina are both one hour ahead of New York from October to April, and are the same

time as New York from April to October. Peru lies in a similar time zone but does not observe daylight-savings time. Therefore, Peru has the same time as New York from October to April, and is one hour behind New York from April to October.

CURRENCY

The Brazilian real, the Argentinian peso and the Peruvian sol are the currencies you will use on your tour. ATMs, which are widely available in major cities (mostly on the Visa and Plus international networks), are the most cost-effective way to get cash. We also recommend that you take credit cards. We suggest informing your bank and credit card company of your travel plans, so they don't confuse your international purchases for fraudulent charges. Please note: It's been increasingly difficult to exchange traveler's checks outside of major cities as they often attract higher fees.

TIPPING

At the conclusion of your tour, it is customary to offer your Go Ahead Tour Director and driver a gratuity. We recommend tipping in your tour country's currency, the equivalent of \$3USD/CAD per person per day for your driver and \$6USD/CAD to \$9USD/CAD per person per day for your Tour Director. If applicable, we also recommend the equivalent of \$2USD/CAD per local guide. Tips can only be paid in cash. Please keep current local currency exchange rates in mind when tipping.

PURCHASING OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS ON TOUR

If you have not yet purchased your optional excursions, you may be able to do so while on your tour. Your Tour Director will only accept cash (in U.S. dollars only), Visa, MasterCard or American Express as payment. Please be advised that if you pay for an excursion by credit card while on tour, it may take up to three months for your card to be charged. Some optional excursions may only be purchased in advance. See the separate "Optional Excursions" sheet for details. International travel is, by its very nature, unpredictable. We must therefore reserve the right to change this itinerary without advanced notice to meet with local conditions at the time of travel. We appreciate your understanding. Please refer to the current catalog for terms & conditions, dates and prices. International flight times are subject to change and may effect number or location of overnights.



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