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## BRAZIL'S HISTORIC GOLD ROUTE RAIL TOUR



Route of Gold Special Train Tour

### 13 DAYS / 12 NIGHTS

The trip is a mixture of natural and cultural beauties of the fifth largest country in the world, combined with train rides, which will stir the blood of every railway friend. The trip takes you from the port city of Vitoria into the region of the gold rush to Ouro Preto, to the metropolis of Rio de Janeiro.

Discover where the gold originated to build Europe's great palaces and churches. And discover a few treasures along the way. The Route of Gold rambles along rugged mountains from the beautifully preserved colonial gold mining towns of Ouro Preto and São João del Rei to the ancient seaport of Paraty. This bounty of gold provided the wealth to build the royal colonial seat of Rio de Janeiro as well as the Old World capital, Lisbon.

FROM

**\$9,495**

per person

#### THIS TOUR INCLUDES:

- 12 Nights Accommodations in 4\* & 5\* category hotels
- All Breakfasts
- 3 Dinners, 1 Lunch
- All Transfers
- English-speaking Tour Guides

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Iguassu Falls
- Curitiba and the Atlantic Rainforest
- São Paulo & Rio de Janeiro
- São João Del Rey & Ouro Preto
- Belo Horizonte

## ITINERARY



## Day 1

### IGUASSU FALLS TOUR

Transfer from the airport to your hotel in Foz Do Iguassu. Today's excursion pass through the Brazilian countryside and enter the Iguassu National Park, the largest in southern Brazil. Visit the park's visitor's center with its exhibit of the local ecosystem. Continue down the Cataratas Highway through the rainforest of the park to the falls. Iguassu Falls are on the border of Brazil and Argentina where the Iguassu river drops into a gigantic horseshoe canyon. Descending a walkway, you can contemplate the lovely waterfalls in all of nature's exuberance, with panoramic views of both sides of the falls - Brazil and Argentina. Reaching the elevator, you can ascend to have a bird's eye view over the falls from the lookout. Check in to the Hotel Carumã. Located in the middle of a natural tropical environment, Carimã Hotel provides its guests with all the comfort, structure and services of a city: cinema, theatre, gardens, lake, sports court, shops etc. The dinner this night will be with a great variety of salads, noble meats, hot plates and buffet of desserts. Rafain Cataratas is a great barbecue restaurant option in Iguacu Falls. Besides feeding with quality, you attend during dinner a show of music and American Latin dances.



## Day 2

### IGUAZU FALLS TOUR

After a short drive and a quick customs check, cross the Tancredo Neves Bridge over the Iguassu River, which forms the border between Argentina and Brazil. Once in Argentina, follow a scenic highway up to the Argentine Iguazu Park. The visit starts with ample time to visit the upper Argentine falls, including the San Martin Falls and the Devil's Throat.



### Day 3

## CURITIBA & INCLUDED DINNER

The rolling landscape on today's journey is interrupted only by mountain chains, rich farmland and patches of original subtropical forest, with the unique Araucária trees. Arrive in Curitiba, named best-organized city in South America, now a model for many Western industrialized nations! The city has grown 10-fold in the past 20 years, using innovative ideas to manage its substantial growth. Check in to your Hotel. Tonight's included dinner will give you a taste of the region's mix of cultures.



### Day 4

## TRAIN RIDE FROM MORRETES TO CURITIBA

This Morning the bus will pick you up at the hotel and take you to Porto de Paranaguá. Then you will have a transfer to Antonina and Morretes, where you will be able to taste the very typical meal known as Barreado. After lunch, board the scenic historic railway as it winds its way from sea level up 1200m (3/4 of a mile high!) over the Serra do Mar chain back to Curitiba.



### Day 5

## TRANSFER TO SAO PAULO

Transfer from your hotel in Curitiba to São Paulo. The city of São Paulo is full of surprises. There was a time when it was just considered a rainy city full of work and concrete. São Paulo, the capital, has indeed a rainy season, but just in the first three months of the year. It is the right place to work, run helter-skelter, and have busy days. Its concrete is attractive and can be seen in monumental buildings, shopping centers and residential neighborhoods. Later you will check in to your hotel.



Day 6

## SAO PAULO CITY TOUR BY TRAIN

City Tour By Train Sao Paulo. Transfer by Bus to Taubaté. Check in to your hotel.



Day 7

## TRANSFER TO RIO DE JANEIRO

Pindamonhangaba - Campos do Jordao by train then transfer by bus from Campos de Jordão to Rio de Janeiro. Check in to your hotel in Copacabana. Brazilian BBQ Dinner at the famous Marius Restaurant. Dine in a unique atmosphere on a buffet of vegetables, fish and sushi, and feast on the 15 different types of meat brought to your table by the roaming waiters. Your selection will be carved off of the skewered filet. A dessert of Cream of Mango finishes the bounty.



Day 8

## RIO DE JANEIRO CITY TOUR

The panoramic view from the top of the Sugar Loaf Mountain, at 1,296 ft (395m) above sea-level, is breathtaking. Two sets of cable cars elevate you to the top of Sugar Loaf. The first brings passengers to the top of Urca Mountain. From Urca Mountain a second set of cable cars brings passengers to the summit with its 360° spectrum of golden beaches, green forests and a thriving metropolis that has earned Rio de Janeiro the title of the world's most beautiful city. Sightseeing continues with a tour of Rio's historical past. Learn how Portugal's prince scandalously broke all family ties and declared himself Emperor of Brazil



Day 9

## RIO DE JANEIRO & CHRIST THE REDEEMER

Christ the Redeemer keeps an eye on Rio from an elevation of 710m (2340ft). Board the tremzinho (cogwheel railway) up to the top of Corcovado Mountain for a bird's eye view of the center of the city from the center of the city! The 38-meter statue is the image of the faith and friendliness of cariocas. The monument was inaugurated on the day of Our Lady of Aparecida, 12 October, 1931 by then President Getúlio Vargas and cardinal Dom Sebastião Leme.



Day 10

## SAO JOAO DEL REY - TIRADENTES - OURO PRETO

Early morning transfer to São João Del Rey. This day enjoy a steam train ride over to the historic town of Tiradentes (Subject to train schedule). Upon arrival at the station, a few minute drive brings us to the most charming of colonial cities. Named after the martyr of the Inconfidência who was known for his dental skills, Tiradentes ( lit. tooth puller) exudes a sense of another age. Check in the Hotel. In this same day you will take a bus to Ouro Preto with a short stop in Congonhas. Arriving in the historical city, you will be transferred to your hotel in Ouro Preto.



Day 11

## OURO PRETO - MARIANA - BELO HORIZONTE

Train from Ouro Preto to Mariana. Transfer return from Mariana to Ouro preto by bus. Free time and lunch in Ouro Preto. Transfer to Belo Horizonte, and accomodation in your hotel.



Day 12

## **TRANSFER BELO HORIZONTE - VITORIA BY TRAIN**

Transfer from the Hotel to the train station. We take the train from Belo Horizonte to Vitoria. Transfer to the Hotel.



Day 13

## **FREE TIME IN VITORIA**

Free Time to enjoy the beaches of Vitoria before your flight back home or to your next destination in South America.