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THE COMPLETE BRAZIL TRAIN TOUR



A Brazil Train Journey from Ouro Preto to the Atlantic Rainforest

14 DAYS / 13 NIGHTS

This 14-day Brazil train tour takes you from Vitoria, Belo Horizonte, Ouro Preto, and Rio de Janeiro to Salvador da Bahia. This is the most complete Brazil train tour, perfect for train enthusiasts who want to see Brazil's landscapes and landmarks aboard meter gauge rails and steam engines. Starting in the port city of Vitoria, travel to Belo Horizonte and the Minas Gerais region where Brazil's gold rush took off during the 17th century. Then lounge on the world-famous beaches of Rio de Janeiro before continuing on into southern Brazil's Atlantic Rainforest. Ride on the Serra Verde Express on the way to Iguassu Falls. Finish this rail journey in Salvador da Bahia, the original Brazilian capital and the heart and soul of Brazil's African culture.

FROM
**CONTACT
US!**
per person

THIS TOUR INCLUDES:

- 13 nights in hotels or pousadas
- All breakfasts and other meals as mentioned in the itinerary
- All tours, transfers, and entrance fees
- All train rides
- English-speaking guides

HIGHLIGHTS

- City tours of Vitória, Ouro Preto, Rio de Janeiro, Curitiba, & Salvador
- Train ride Vitória to Belo Horizonte
- Steam train from Ouro Preto to Mariana
- Steam train from Tiradentes to São João del Rey
- Train through the Atlantic Rainforest
- Iguassu Falls Tour

ITINERARY



Day 1

ARRIVE IN VITORIA & CITY TOUR

Arrive today at the Vitoria airport and check in to the hotel. Due to its white sandy beaches and beautiful coastline, Vitoria is often called the sister city of Rio de Janeiro. In the afternoon, take a city tour of Vitoria and nearby Vila Velha. In the evening, relax in the hotel or stroll along the beach.



Day 2

TRAIN FROM VITORIA TO BELO HORIZONTE

After breakfast, transfer to the train station for the ride from Vitoria to Belo Horizonte, riding in executive class. Once you arrive in Belo Horizonte, check in to the hotel and relax for the rest of the day.



Day 3

ARRIVE IN OURO PRETO

Breakfast in your hotel in Belo Horizonte. Transfer Belo Horizonte to Ouro Preto by car, van or bus (Belo Horizonte - Ouro Preto: 104 km). Once in Ouro Preto, check in to the pousada and relax. Ouro Preto, which means "Black Gold" in Portuguese, was at the heart of Brazil's 17th century gold rush. Gold from this region was sent overland to Paraty, where it was then shipped to the Old World, and financed Europe's Industrial Revolution. During the 1800s, Ouro Preto was one of Brazil's wealthiest cities.



Day 4

STEAM TRAIN OURO PRETO TO MARIANA

After breakfast, enjoy city tour of UNESCO World Heritage Site of Ouro Preto with its opulence from the gold mining era, and then take the 3-hour steam train from Ouro Preto to Mariana.



Day 5

TIRADENTES & SÃO JOÃO DEL REY

Transfer today from Ouro Preto to Tiradentes, with a stop at the UNESCO World Heritage Site, the Sanctuary of Bom Jesus do Congonhas. Then travel from Tiradentes to Sao Joao Del Rey aboard a steam train. Spend the night in Tiradentes, in a pousada near the central square.



Day 6

SÃO JOÃO DEL REY TO PETROPOLIS TO RIO DE JANEIRO

Breakfast in the Pousada. Transfer from São João Del Rey to Petropolis. In Petropolis, visit the Imperial Museum. From Petropolis, transfer to the nearby "Marvelous City" of Rio de Janeiro. Check into one of the high-quality hotels on Copacabana Beach.



Day 7

RIO DE JANEIRO CITY TOUR

After breakfast, enjoy a 4-hour scenic city tour of Rio de Janeiro, including historic landmarks and the Sugar Loaf Mountain cable car ride. Sugar Loaf is a mountain overlooking the bay, right in the midst of the city. Once you reach the top from a cable car gondola, you can walk around the summit and see beaches, the city, the forest, islands, and the bay - possibly the most scenic viewpoint in Brazil.



Day 8

CORCOVADO & BEACHES TOUR, TRANSFER TO ATLANTIC RAINFOREST

Today you will enjoy Corcovado By Train & Rio's Beaches (4h). Christ the Redeemer keeps an eye on Rio from an elevation of 710m (2340ft). Board the trenzinho (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. Then get a close-up look at Rio's world famous beaches.

In the evening or late afternoon, fly from Rio de Janeiro to Curitiba, the central city in Brazil's southern Atlantic Rainforest region. Check in to the hotel and rest.



Day 9

ATLANTIC RAINFOREST TRAIN RIDE

Breakfast in the Hotel. City Tour + Serra do Mar by train including lunch (9h) After the early city sightseeing, take a scenic drive down the old Graciosa Road, through the Atlantic Rainforest, to the oldest port of Parana, dating back to the early 16th century to view the Dom Pedro II port. Then a short drive takes us to Morretes, a quaint little town founded in 1714 when it became important as a major plantation of mate (a tea) and for its lovely architecture of Portuguese origin, the São Benedito church and the historical center with the old water fountain, municipal market, Itiberê river, the Nossa Senhora do Rocio sanctuary, and the popular art and Archaeological Museum dated 1755. After the city tour, lunch will be in a restaurant on the waterfront - experience the local dish of "barreado" (included).

After lunch, transfer to the train station to board the train back to Curitiba. The tour will ascend through the centennial and fantastic railroad that links Curitiba to Paranaguá, the state of Paraná's main port and the 3rd in importance in Brazil. Enjoy the wonderful mountain scenery with rivers, waterfalls, tropical plants, flowers and birds. Ride over bridges that span precipices and gorges as far as Curitiba.



Day 10

ARRIVE IN FOZ DO IGUASSU & TOUR OF THE FALLS

After breakfast in the hotel, transfer to the airport for the flight to Foz do Iguassu, Brazil's closest city to the Iguassu Falls. After you check in to your hotel and rest for a little while, your guide will take you on an afternoon tour of the Brazilian side of the Iguassu Waterfalls. This impressive set of waterfalls forms the border between Argentina and Brazil, and from the Brazilian side, you can walk out over catwalks and above the falls as well. There are also walking trails surrounding the falls.



Day 11

IGUASSU FALLS TOUR FROM ARGENTINE SIDE & ITAIPU DAM

After a short drive and a quick customs check, cross the 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 tour starts with ample time to visit the upper Argentine falls, including the San Martin Falls and the Devil's Throat. On the way back from the falls, stop at the Argentine shopping district, and if weather and time allows, a brief stop at the 3 Borders point, where the Paraná and Iguassu Rivers as well as the borders of Brazil, Argentina and Paraguay intersect. Also visit the Itaipu Dam, one of the world's largest hydroelectric dams, stretching across the Parana River from Paraguay to Brazil, with a huge generating capacity. Return to your hotel in Foz do Iguassu in the late afternoon.



Day 12

ARRIVE IN SALVADOR BAHIA

Transfer from your hotel to the Foz do Iguacu Airport, for the flight to Salvador, the capital of the Bahia region. Once in Salvador, your guide will take you to your centrally-located hotel in downtown Salvador. Rest and relax tonight - you may want to walk along the beach.



Day 13

SALVADOR HISTORIC TOUR

After breakfast, explore historic Salvador, including the Pelourinho neighborhood. This 6 hour guided tour also includes lunch. Pelourinho was described by UNESCO as the most important collection of baroque colonial architecture in the Americas and has been recently restored to its sixteenth, seventeenth, and eighteenth century splendor. It retains a traditional atmosphere rarely found in old cities, because in Bahia, tradition lives on, intermingling with its present.

Visit the House of Jorge Amado Foundation, the City Museum, the Udo Knopf Museum, and the gilded São Francisco Church.



Day 14

PRAIA DO FORTE & TAMAR TURTLE PROJECT TOUR

Known as the "Brazilian Polynesia", Praia do Forte has so many leisure options that it is hard to know where to start. There are 12 kilometers of beaches surrounded by dunes, coconut groves and tidal pools. Among the attractions there are: Garcia D'Ávila Castle Historic District, Sapiranga reserve, Pojuca river rapids and a fishermen village that welcomes the tourists with open arms. Besides all that, Praia do Forte also offers an excellent infrastructure. An old fisherman's village originated what today is known as Praia do Forte Village, where the rustic meets the sophisticated. A few streets, from the coconut plantation to the village which has several natural attractions and where preservation is a strong characteristic of the place.

Also visit the Tamar Turtle Project, a refuge for sea turtles. See infant and adult turtles, listen to lectures from professional researchers, and learn about the project's ongoing research.

In the late afternoon or evening, transfer to the airport for your flight home or to your next destination in South America.