

# FORTALEZA, JERICOACOARA, LENCOIS MARANHENSES, AND SAO LUIS TOUR

Coastal Deserts & Northern Beaches of Brazil

#### 9 DAYS / 8 NIGHTS

Explore the northern coast of Brazil, where the warm Caribbean waters give way to unusual coastal deserts of remarkable beauty. Spend one night Fortaleza, 2 nights in Jericoacoara, 1 night at the Delta of the Americas, and 2 in Barreirinhas. Finish in São Luís, with a day excursion to Alcântara. From Jericoacoara, explore the Lençois Maranhenses coastal deserts, where you can go swimming and walk along the sand dunes for an unforgettable, dreamlike experience of Brazil.

# \$CALL per person

#### THIS TOUR INCLUDES:

- All hotel accommodations
- All breakfasts in hotels
- All tours and excursions
- All transfers, taxes, and entrance fees
- English-speaking guides

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Fortaleza
- Jericoacoara
- Lençois Maranhenses
- Delta of the Americas
- Barreirinhas
- Alcântara
- São Luís

### **ITINERARY**



## Day 1 ARRIVE IN FORTALEZA

Arrive in Fortaleza and transfer from the airport to your beachfront hotel. Enjoy a walk along the beautiful white sands of Iracema beach or visit nearby museums and shops. Your hotel has excellent amenities including a rooftop pool with poolside bar.



Day 2
FORTALEZA CITY TOUR & TRANSFER TO
JERICOACOARA

This 3.5-hour Fortaleza city tour will introduce you to Fortaleza's rich history, important landmarks, and best beaches. Learn about how the Portuguese struggled against the Dutch to gain control of the fort located near the northeastern tip of Brazil. View landmarks such as the Metropolitan Cathedral, Central Market, the President Castelo Branco Mausoleum, the Martyr?s Square, the Statue of Iracema, the Museum of Ceara, and the Jose de Alencar Theater (entrance to the theatre is extra). Also visit the beaches of Meireles, Mucuripe, and Praia do Futuro. Then transfer to Jericoacoara and check in to a comfortable beach bungalow, also known as a pousada. Nestled amid sand dunes and virgin Atlantic Rainforest, the pousada overlooks the beach. Stroll along the beach to the lighthouse this evening, or go shopping in the beachfront shops.



### Day 3 FREE DAY IN JERICOACOARA

Spend the day enjoying fun in the sun in Jericoacoara, a unique fishing village with crystal clear warm waters. Grab a hammock in the shallow waters and relax in paradise. Or visit Lagoa Azul, a freshwater lagoon perfect for swimming (an optional day trip). Now a national park, the beaches and coves of Jericoacoara are worth exploring over the span of at least a day or two - but don't be surprised if you end up wanting to spend more days here! In the evening, head to the Por-do-Sol sand dune to watch the sunset over the ocean. Sunsets over the Brazilian coast are a rare sight, since most of the Brazilian coastline faces east. Watch capoeira dancers on the beach as you stroll back to your pousada.



Day 4
TRANSFER FROM JERICOACOARA TO
BARREIRINHAS

After breakfast, hop into 4x4 off-road vehicles for the ride along sand dunes from Jericoacoara to Barreirinhas.



Days 5-6 **LENÇOIS MARANHENSES EXCURSION** 

Have breakfast and then transfer to Lençois Maranhenses, the coastal desert wonderland. Spend a few nights exploring the dunes and the Delta of the Americas.

The Lençóis Maranhenses National Park is home to unique landscapes of bright white sand dunes interspersed with bluegreen lagoons. Starting in Barreirinhas, the town just inland from the coast, your guide will take you on the walking paths through the park or take you on a short 4x4 excursion to the trailhead. Explore the dunes and go swimming in the freshwater lagoons of Lagoa Bonita, Lagoa Azul, and Lagoa Paraiso.



#### Day 7 SÃO LUÍS CITY TOUR

Arrive in São Luís and take a half-day city tour. Visit Sao Luis's beaches (Ponta d'areia, Marcela beach, Sao Marcos beach and Calhau beach), and after that, go to the historical center to visit museums, churches, crafts shops, theaters, the Reviver Projects. Then check into a pousada in the historic plaza of São Luís, and spend the rest of the day at your leisure.



### Day 8 ALCANTARA SIGHTSEEING TOUR

Founded in the 16th century, Alcantara is a city near São Luis with lots of history. The French pioneered it, but the Portuguese soon took over. Today it is declared a city of National Historical Patrimony. Enjoy a 5-hour private tour exploring this city as a day excursion from São Luis.



## Day 9 **DEPARTURE FROM SAO LUIS**

The following morning, transfer to the airport for the flight out of São Luís. Or if you prefer, you can <u>customize this tour</u> any way you like!

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