



Rhythms of Brazil

Worldwide Tour | 16 Days | Moderate

Salvador – Manaus – Amazon Rainforest – Iguazu – Rio de Janeiro

Discover historic Salvador before delving deep into the Amazon to spot wonderful wildlife and meet the local tribespeople, finishing with the mighty roar of Iguazu Falls and vibrant Rio to end the tour in style!

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Stroll the streets of Salvador
- Explore the Amazon Jungle
- Cruise to the Meeting of the Waters
- Marvel at the thundering Iguazu Falls
- Discover vibrant Rio de Janeiro



Rhythms of Brazil tour inclusions:

- Return international economy flights, taxes and current fuel surcharges (unless a land only option is selected)
- All accommodation
- Meals as stated
- Touring with English speaking Local Guides and entrance fees
- All transportation and transfers
- Specialist advice from our experienced travel consultants

Personal expenditure e.g. drinks, optional excursions or shows, insurance of any kind, tipping (USD210 per person for the entire trip is customary), early check in or late checkout and other items not specified on the itinerary are at your own expense.

Worldwide Tours

With our selection of Worldwide tours, you can expect exactly the same Wendy Wu Tours experience. You'll get to see the iconic sites and magnificent treasures of South America on an excellent value group tour, whilst enjoying the company of like-minded people. You will be accompanied by our dedicated and professional Local Guides throughout, whose unparalleled knowledge will turn your holiday into an unforgettable experience.

Moderate Tour

'Rhythms of Brazil' is a **moderate** tour. This means that the itinerary requires a good level of fitness.

- A number of destinations on this tour at altitude. San Pedro de Atacama sits at 2,400 metres above sea level. Activity at these altitudes will be at an easy pace.
- You will be required, on several occasions, to climb on and off boats without assistance and spend an extended amount of time on boats in open water.
- There will be several days of sightseeing on foot for a period of time and in some cases for an extended period of time.

Of course, our Local Guides will always endeavour to provide the highest level of service and assistance; however, they cannot be expected to cater for customers who are unfit to complete the itinerary.

Itinerary changes

It is our intention to adhere to the day-to-day itinerary as printed; however, the order of events or sightseeing may change as we look to improve our tours or as local conditions dictate; in these circumstances we will make the best possible arrangements whilst maintaining the integrity of your trip.

Joining Your Tour

Rhythms of Brazil is 16 Days in duration including international flights. Travellers booked on Land Only, the tour price still includes your arrival and departure airport transfers. Please advise your international flight times to reservations. Join the tour on Day Two in Salvador and end the tour on Day 14 in Rio de Janeiro. Please refer to your final itinerary for more detailed information pertaining to the start and conclusion of your tour.

Rhythms of Brazil Itinerary

DAYS 1-2: FLY TO SALVADOR

Fly to the beautiful city of Salvador, arriving the following day. You will be met at the airport and transferred to your hotel. The rest of the day is yours to relax and explore until the welcome dinner held this evening.

Meals Included: Dinner

Please Note: For passengers booked as Flight Inclusive a stopover in Sao Paulo en route to Salvador is included due to flight connection times.

Destination Information

Salvador – The first colonial capital of Brazil, the city is one of the oldest in the country and in the New World. It is notable in Brazil for its cuisine, music and architecture.

DAY 3: SALVADOR

Discover the many faces of Salvador de Bahia; get a glimpse of the city's intriguing cultural mix and take a stroll through the historical center. Today's city tour will showcase Salvador's best sights. This includes Bomfim district to visit the church and Municipal Square where you can see the Lacerda's Elevator that links the upper and lower city and enjoy the view of Baía de Todos os Santos (All Saints Bay). From here you will walk through the historical center (Pelourinho District) and visit the São Francisco church. Back on the coach pass by the Dique do Tororó, where you can see the 'Orixás' Sculptures and on to the Barra district where the 'Farol da Barra' (Lighthouse) is located. Today's touring will last approximately five hours and will be predominantly on foot.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch

Destination Information

Pelourinho District – One of the oldest areas in town, stroll throughout its narrow cobbled streets lined with old buildings which now house art galleries, jewellery and souvenir shops.

DAY 4: DAY AT LEISURE IN SALVADOR

Today is a free day for you to experience Salvador independently. There is plenty to see and do in this incredible city and your guide will be happy to make suggestions.

Meals Included: Breakfast

DAY 5: SALVADOR TO MANAUS

Transfer 30 minutes to the airport and fly north to Manaus, a city in the heart of the Amazon Rainforest. On arrival, you will be transferred about 20 minutes to your hotel. The remainder of the day is at leisure.

Meals Included: Breakfast

Destination Information

Manaus – The capital city of the state of Amazonas in the North of Brazil and the gateway to the jungle.

DAY 6: INTO THE AMAZON

Transfer approximately 40 minutes to the pier to the river and board your boat for a 20 minute cruise into the rainforest to your ecolodge accommodation. This morning visit the beautiful residents of the Monkey Jungle Reserve, a refuge for monkeys rescued from dealers and injured monkeys in need of rehabilitation. After lunch visit a local family and learn about their tradition and customs, the rich history of the Amazon and the rubber cycle.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Destination Information

Amazon Eco Lodge – The lodge is conveniently located on the banks of the Taruma River, a tributary of the Black River, which is in turn the greatest tributary of the Amazon River.

DAY 7: MEETING OF THE WATERS

Boarding a double decker local boat take to the waters of the Rio Negro. Cruise along the riverfront of Manaus to view the locals going about daily life and the stilt houses risen over the water. Continue downriver to reach the 'Encontro das Aguas' (Meeting of Waters) before lunch. Although the rivers meet, their waters don't mix, so dark water and light water flow side by side for nearly six kilometres before they blend. You will be given lunch at a local restaurant, today's excursion will be a full day, predominately on the boat.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Destination Information

Meeting of the Waters – This is where the dark waters of the Rio Negro and the sandy coloured water of the Rio Solimões converge to form the mighty Amazon. The phenomenon happens due to differences in temperature, density and speed of the waters of each river.

DAY 8: AMAZON RAINFOREST

Spend the morning walking through virgin rainforest with a nature guide who will educate you on your surroundings as you go. You'll learn about the local flora and fauna and come away with rainforest survival skills such as how to find food and water, first aid and navigation. Return to the lodge for lunch and this afternoon you'll have an opportunity to go alligator spotting and to try some amateur fishing; you might even catch a piranha!

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Destination Information

Nature Walk – Biodiversity is the main characteristic of the eco park. This includes uncatalogued species in the virgin rainforest, natural savannahs and creeks. Several streams of crystal clear warm water also run through the land.

DAY 9: MANAUS TO FOZ DO IGUAÇU

Transfer by boat back to Manaus and take a tour of the city. Stroll along the charming boardwalk of Ponta Negra, the most exclusive neighborhood in the city, then head downtown to visit the Amazon Opera House; from there you will see the Amazon Courthouse and the charming 'Largo de São Sebastião'. Next you will visit the Adolpho Lisboa Municipal Market in ArtNoveau. The tour will last approximately four hours and will end at the airport in time for your flight. Fly to the city of Foz do Iguaçu, on the border with Argentina, the gateway to the spectacular Iguaçu Falls. On arrival you will be transferred approximately one hour to your hotel.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch

Destination Information

Amazon Opera House – Opened in 1896, the opera house is one of the main attractions of Manaus, a symbol of the rubber period where all the wealth and grandeur of this time is revealed in its corridors, halls and artwork.

Lisboa Municipal Market – An important centre for marketing of regional products, which captures the culture and traditions of the Amazonian people.

DAY 10: IGUAÇU FALLS

On the border of Argentina and Brazil, Iguaçu is the largest waterfall system in the world, with hundreds of cascades pouring off the edge of the Parana Plateau. You are able to see the falls from both sides of the border, each giving a wholly different view. Start on the Brazil side where you can wander paths and catwalks that lead to some of the numerous small cascades that dance their way along gullies and through lush greenery. After lunch cross to the Argentinian side for a fantastic overview of the whole falls, with a ride by electric train to the most impressive sight, the Garganta del Diablo. Today's sightseeing is predominantly on foot, the paths around the falls are well maintained and there are a significant number of steps depending on how close to the river you choose to approach.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch

Destination Information

Iguaçu Falls – The incredible Iguaçu Falls spans the border of Argentina and Brazil and features hundreds of rushing cascades, set in a lush rainforest scene. The region has been declared a world heritage site and received the status of one of the New Seven Wonders of Nature in 2011.

DAY 11: IGUAÇU TO RIO DE JANEIRO

Transfer approximately one hour to the airport to fly to Brazil's most exuberant city, Rio de Janeiro. On arrival you will transfer approximately one hour to your hotel to enjoy the rest of your day will be at leisure.

Meals Included: Breakfast

Destination Information

Rio de Janeiro – Famous for its beaches, lush scenery and samba-fuelled nightlife, the captivating city of Rio is home to Christ the Redeemer and the impressive Sugar Loaf Mountain.

DAY 12: CHRIST THE REDEEMER

Today will be a full day of touring, you'll start at the Corcovado, travelling up to the peak by cog train to the spot where the iconic Christ the Redeemer watches over

the city. Enjoy lunch at a local Barbeque restaurant before taking a tour of downtown Rio. See the Sambodromo, stop at the Metropolitan Cathedral and discover the Cinelandia Square and its wealth of historical buildings. The Municipal Theater, National Library, and National Museum of Fine Arts are all on your way as you head toward the Urca neighborhood, home of Sugar Loaf Mountain. You will ride the iconic cable car all the way up the mountain, stopping at Urca Hill and its vantage point overlooking Guanabara Bay, the Rio-Niteroi bridge and Corcovado mountain. Finish your ascent at the top of Sugar Loaf, enjoying gorgeous views of the Copacabana beach and Santa Cruz Fortress.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch

Destination Information

Corcovado – Meaning hunch back in Portuguese is a 710m granite peak in the centre of Rio, surrounded by the Tijuca Forest, and is home to Christ the Redeemer.

Sugar Loaf Mountain – An iconic peak in Rio reached by cable car and offering stunning views from its summit.

DAY 13: SANTA TERESA

Today enjoy a jeep tour of the city including the 19th-century hillside neighbourhood of Santa Teresa, your tour will last approximately five hours including lunch, the rest of the day will be yours to explore the delights of the city further or simply relax.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch

Destination Information

Santa Teresa – An area of Rio with a wonderfully bohemian atmosphere known as the arts centre of the city where many artisanship galleries can be found.

DAYS 14-16: DEPART RIO DE JANEIRO

This morning after breakfast you will be transferred to the airport for your flight back to Australia, arriving home in two days due to crossing the International Date Line.

Meals Included: Breakfast (on Day 14)

RHYTHMS OF BRAZIL TRAVEL INFORMATION

Visas

Australian passport holders currently require a visa to enter Brazil. Your passport needs to be valid for at least six months beyond your intended return date to Australia. Wendy Wu Tours does not provide a visa service for Worldwide tours. To stay up to date with the latest visa requirements, visit www.smarttraveller.gov.au.

Insurance

It is a condition of booking with us that you take out suitable travel insurance. You must provide us with the name of your insurer, policy number and their 24-hour emergency contact number when you book with us or as soon as possible thereafter. These details will be available to your Local Guide should they be required. Wendy Wu Tours will not be liable for any costs incurred by you due to your failure to take out suitable travel insurance.

Eating in Brazil

Brazilian food is strongly influenced by European and African cuisines, whilst there is not a single national cuisine there is an assortment of regional traditional dishes. In Rio and Sao Paulo the Brazilian Feijoada is the traditional dish, a stew made from meat and black beans. In Northern Brazil Cassava (a root vegetable) features heavily in meals. Popular dishes throughout the country include rice and beans, served with meat and salad, fresh tropical fruit is a common dessert. Typical snacks include Pao

de queijo (cheese bread), Coxinha which is a chicken croquette, and Kibe which is a bulgar wheat and beef croquette. Whilst we strongly recommend trying as many local dishes as possible, Brazil also has a wide range of international foods available, pizza is widely known as a favourite amongst many Brazilians.

Accommodation

Your accommodation is selected for convenience of location, comfort or character, and can range from business hotels to rainforest lodges. Hotels are generally rated as local three to four-star standard, but please note that there is no international classification system for hotels and differences in facilities and quality may exist between Australia and South America. All group tour hotels have private bathroom facilities and air conditioning where needed. If you experience any difficulty, please speak to your Local Guide. Rest assured that all hotels used by Wendy Wu Tours are regularly inspected by our staff and our partners to ensure that standards meet your needs.

Transport

Coaches: Coaches with air conditioning are used on our group tours for city short excursions to the countryside and longer transfers between destinations. Roads in Chile have generally been improved over recent years, but please be aware traffic and/or weather conditions may extend driving times. There may be sections of road where the surface may be comparatively bumpy but our drivers will do their utmost to lessen the impact.

Planes: Internal flights are based on economy class, with reputable airlines.

Clothing

On this tour, you will be travelling through various regions of Chile with quite diverse climates especially in the Atacama Desert and in the Torres del Paine National Park where all four seasons can be experienced in one trip. It is recommended to bring lots of layers including the following: T Shirts made of breathable materials, hiking pants, with the option to turn into a short pant (rain pants optional), a fleece jacket for colder parts and the evenings and a waterproof Jacket as shell layer or a light rain jacket, a scarf and hat, warm socks. Sensible walking shoes and small backpack that fits into your main hand luggage to carry your daily essentials.

Souvenirs

There are plenty of interesting items to buy as souvenirs in Brazil, such as indigenous textiles, handicrafts and artworks. There will be some opportunities during your tour to pick up souvenirs.

Group Size

Most of our groups consist of 10 travellers or more and will be accompanied by Local Guides. There will usually be no more than 29 travellers in each group. However, at our discretion we may operate departures with a smaller group size as we try to operate advertised departures wherever it is viable to do so.

Tipping Policy

Local tipping is customary in South & Central America. However, this can often lead to awkwardness in knowing when it is appropriate to tip and how much. For your convenience, with years of experience in providing the best customer service, Wendy Wu Tours operates a kitty system on your Group Tour so your Local Guide will look after this aspect of the trip for you. This ensures the amounts paid are reasonable for you and still fair to the local people. The suggested total amount is specified for each Group Tour and will be advised again on your final documentation. Tipping is paid in USD or other local currencies if specified. Any additional tipping you feel is appropriate is welcomed at your discretion.

After booking

Once you have booked with Wendy Wu Tours, you will receive a confirmation invoice followed by deposit documentation, which includes a visa application form (if applicable), and a help sheet. Your final documentation pack will be sent to you approximately two weeks prior to departure.

Before You Leave

We recommend that you contact either your GP or Travelvax (1300 360 164) for advice on vaccinations and travel health. Travelvax has a comprehensive website that you may also find useful www.travelvax.com.au.

We strongly recommend registering your travel plans with www.smartraveller.gov.au as in the event of an emergency, Australian Consular assistance will be more readily available. You can also access the Australian Government's travel advisory service for up to date information about your destination on the same website.

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