



ABSOLUTE TRAVEL

PRIVATE | LUXURY | JOURNEYS



ABSOLUTE IGUAZU & RIO

Iguazu Falls, Rio de Janeiro

A private, customized post-trip proposal for the Yale Alumni Service Corps

Trip Length: 6 Days

September 29, 2015

PRICE PER PERSON, DOUBLE OCCUPANCY: \$2,035

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: \$715

- **INCLUDING FIGHTS ILHEUS/ FOZ DO IGUAZU/RIO
(AND ON TO SAO PAULO IF REQUIRED)**

MARCH 20

ARRIVE IGUAZU FALLS

Transfer to the airport to board the TAM flight to Iguazu Falls. A brilliant range of waterfalls with a power and beauty unmatched anywhere else in the world, Iguazu Falls is 2.7 kilometers long and is comprised of 275 falls, some over 70 meters high. Visitors quickly discover why UNESCO declared this unforgettable natural wonder a World Heritage Area in 1984. Argentina and Brazil are divided by Iguazu Falls, and Paraguay is nearby. Upon arrival, you will be transferred to the Wish Iguazu Resort for one night. (B)

MARCH 21

IGUAZU FALLS - RIO

After breakfast, we will take a descending trail in the canyon, from where we can enjoy panoramic views of more than 240 falls. We will board a glass elevator which takes us to a platform where more exquisite views will be revealed. Along with its "sister" park in Argentina, The Iguazu National Park forms the most significant remaining rainforest in the southern cone of South America. After lunch we will continue inside the Iguazu National Park embarking on open jeep-towed wagons for a view of the scenery along the trail. During the three kilometers stretch through the jungle, multi-lingual guides point out and explain the flora and fauna of the Park. Then there is an optional hike of 600 meters, which leads us to the waterfall baptized Macuco Falls. The Macuco Falls, perfect for a refreshing dip on days of intense heat, spill down from a height of approximately 20 meters. Access is via a stairway carved into an ancient rock. The last stop is the Macuco dock on the Brazilian side of the Iguazu River. In the water the inflatable bi-motor boats are secure and efficient vessels, especially constructed to withstand the rigors of the excursion. Before embarking, passengers receive life-vests and plastic containers to protect photographic equipment. The boat travels up-river, passing the canyon, facing the rapids, at a speed permitting the appreciation of the scenery. Rocks, animals and a spectacular green landscape complete the scenery until we reach the great horseshoe known as the Devil's Throat. To top the tour off,

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the pilot will give everyone a splash by navigating through the spray of one of the falls! *We recommend that passengers bring a change of clothes, due to the constant spray from the falls, and to not bring anything that can get wet - lockers are available at the pier before boarding.*

Late today you will fly to Rio. Upon arrival you will be met and transferred to Pestana Rio Atlantica for a 4 night stay. Known as the cidade maravilhosa (marvelous city), Rio de Janeiro is a city of sun, mountains, world-famous beaches and friendly people. The capital of Brazil from 1763 to 1960, this city of 7 million is now the center of Brazilian style and is the most popular tourist destination in the country. The cariocas (the name for the residents of Rio) are always glad to give you a taste of their rich culture. (B,L)

MARCH 22
RIO DE JANEIRO

After breakfast today, set out with your guide for a half day tour of Rio de Janeiro, beginning with a visit to 'Pão de Açúcar' or Sugar Loaf mountain, an iconic symbol of the city. Rising up from a small peninsula at the entrance of Guanabara Bay, Sugar Loaf Mountain is so named for its supposed resemblance to the traditional shape of a refined sugar loaf. Board a glass cable-car to Urca Hill, then a second cable-car to the nearly 1300 foot high summit of Sugar Loaf to take in the view of the entire city including Copacabana Beaches, Corcovado Mountain, and downtown Rio. Return to the city to visit the Municipal Theater and the Cathedral before returning to your hotel. The remainder of the afternoon is at leisure.

This evening our driver will take you to visit Rio Scenarium for an introduction to Rio nightlife; famous as much for the quality of its jazz and samba dancers as for the eclectic décor and diverse audience that never misses the opportunity to move to the music! (B)

MARCH 23
RIO DE JANEIRO

This morning begin your walking tour of Rio's historical district. Visit the São Bento Monastery, Praça XV (square), Candelaria Church, França-Brasil House, old Market Street and the Imperial Palace. Finally, stop at the celebrated delicatessen Confeitaria Colombo before returning to your hotel. You will take a short tour of Rio's downtown, with its fine colonial-style Portuguese buildings, before arriving at Praia Vermelha (red beach) and taking a cable car to the top of the peak. Next, proceed to Santa Teresa, a charming historical district in Rio located high upon a hill, with great views to the bay and the mountains and which still preserves beautiful architectural houses from the 18th century. Famous for the yellow tram that cross through it, the neighborhood offers much more than just this transportation option. Wander this magnificent area discovering the lookouts and curves in the streets which surprise you at every turn with magnificent views of the Guanabara Bay. Writers and artists have always been seduced by the district's call to internal life and to its architectural, gastronomic and cultural treasures. (B,L)

MARCH 24
RIO DE JANEIRO

After breakfast today, set out with your guide for a half day tour of Rio de Janeiro, beginning with a visit to the Christ Statue at Corcovado Mountain. The gigantic concrete statue of Christ is 98 feet tall and was completed in 1931. Spend some time enjoying the astonishing views of Rio and the surrounding countryside. You will have the afternoon at leisure, but we recommend watching the gliders land on the beach or exploring the forest around Corcovado! (B)

MARCH 25
DEPART RIO

Today you will be transferred to your departing flight. (B)