

Service Tour Itinerary, Post-trip Extension



Service Tour Itinerary

**Friday,
October 30**

Depart the U.S. on international flights to Brazil

**Saturday,
October 31**

Rio de Janeiro



Arrive in Rio de Janeiro. After transferring to the hotel from the International Airport, enjoy a welcome cocktail with fellow participants. Meet our partner, Global Imprints, who will be guiding our service projects and experience in Brazil. In the afternoon, embark on a tour of the city as you learn about important sustainability issues in the region's urban areas. Visit cultural highlights such as the Tijuca Rainforest and *Christ the Redeemer* statue, a World Heritage Site. Enjoy hiking along with the spectacular views of waterfalls during your visit to the Tijuca Rainforest. This evening, enjoy a welcome reception and meet Yale alumni living in Brazil, as well as our local project partners.

**Sunday,
November 1**



Rio de Janeiro / Rio Claro

After breakfast, transfer by private bus to Rio Claro, a former coffee-cultivating community two hours inland from Rio de Janeiro. Meet one of our local hosts, who manages a wildlife sanctuary and promotes reforestation initiatives in the Atlantic Forest. Over lunch, attend an orientation session to prepare for the week's service projects.

**Monday,
Nov. 2 -
Thursday,
Nov. 5**

Rio Claro

Participants will take a hands-on approach as we assist local communities on a variety of customized projects.



**Friday,
November 6**

Divided into sub-groups based on interest, skill sets, and the needs of our local partners, participants will engage in service projects such as: (1) planting trees to help reverse the degradation of the Atlantic Forest; (2) working with local families to create community vegetable gardens; (3) implementing entrepreneurial initiatives designed to economically empower local communities through their crafts; (4) educating the local community to improve sanitation, hygiene, and health among residents.

Participants will gain a heightened understanding of the project activities through hands-on volunteer work as well as interaction with community leaders, rural farmers, local businesses, and governmental officials.

Rio Claro / Rio de Janeiro

Service projects culminate in the afternoon. After bidding farewell to the Rio Claro community, travel to Rio for an evening of rest and reminiscence with your fellow volunteers.

**Saturday,
November 7**



Rio de Janeiro

After breakfast, enjoy a day of leisure with excursions to city highlights or a beautiful escape to nature. In the evening, join local Yale alumni and project partners for a celebratory farewell dinner. Optional nightlife activities are available following dinner.

**Sunday,
November 8**

Rio de Janeiro / Departure or Post-Trip Extension

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast, followed by free time for shopping or a visit to the beach. After lunch, transfer to the airport.

Return home with a lifetime of memories or continue your adventure by joining an optional extension tour in Brazil!

Post-trip Extension: Salvador, Bahia



NOVEMBER 8 (Sunday) - Fly from Rio to Salvador, a town on Brazil's eastern coast and the first capital of the country. Upon arrival in Salvador, we transfer to our hotel, located in Pelourinho, the historical section of the city and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Tonight enjoy an evening of dinner and entertainment in Pelourinho at the Miguel Santana Theater. Watch the Bahia Folklore Company, one of the most respected folklore dance troupes in the world. The show presents the multiple traditional African dances that underpin Bahian culture. After the show our dinner is served at Maria Mata Mouro Restaurant, an excellent dining option in Pelourinho.

NOVEMBER 9 (Monday) - Discover the essential sights of Salvador while tracing the development of the city from its simple beginnings to what is now the third largest city in Brazil. We start by visiting Salvador's Baroque treasure, the church of São Francisco with its gold-leafed interior, located just near the hotel. Our guide takes us through Pelourinho, the largest complex of colonial architecture in South America, and the Afro-Brazilian Museum where we trace the West African origins of the city. Next door is the 1696 Cathedral, the largest of the churches in Salvador, which allows for a wonderful panorama of the various stages of Brazilian baroque architecture. After lunch at a restaurant in Pelourinho, participate in a drumming class and then visit part of the lower city including the lighthouse and the coast. Tonight we dine at a local artist's home where we will enjoy a Bahian meal, accompanied by refreshments. Relax in the seating area while dinner is prepared or watch in the kitchen as the chef prepares the meal.

NOVEMBER 10 (Tuesday) - For this full-day tour, we transfer from the hotel to the pier to board a comfortable schooner. We will cruise to two of the 36 islands in the sparkling bay of Salvador, a day of rest and relaxation with great views of the city both on the outbound and homeward journeys. Our first stop is Frades (or Monk's) Island. Virtually uninhabited, the island is home to some of the best beaches in the bay. Here we have ample time to swim in the warm inviting waters, or relax in the sun or the shade.

Then we continue our cruise to the larger Itaparica Island for lunch. After lunch, for those who are interested, there is optional transport available to take us to the colonial town of Itaparica just a short distance away for a light walking tour of the charming waterfront town. We return to the schooner and then set off for Salvador.

NOVEMBER 11 (Wednesday) – RETURN TO UNITED STATES

After a morning at leisure, transfer from the hotel to the airport for the flight back to the United States, through Rio de Janeiro.

Post-trip Extension Cost: \$1,180. *Includes:* all itinerary activities as described above; accommodations at a 4-star charming hotel in the historic section of Salvador; round-trip airfare between Rio de Janeiro and Salvador.