

## **BRAZIL - MANAUS/ SALVADOR /IGUAÇU/RIO DE JANEIRO**

### **DAY 1 – MANAUS**

Arrival. Reception and transfer to hotel Tropical Manaus for overnight Manaus, the capital of the State of Amazonas, is located in northern Brazil, on the northern bank of Rio Negro. It is the gateway city to the largest tropical forest of the planet: The Amazon Forest. Manaus' enormous wealth came from the export of rubber in the late 1800's. Today the center of a rapidly developing region, the city still boasts its old-world mansions and monuments, now set among skyscrapers. Dating from 1896, the finest example of architecture from this period is the Teatro Amazonas - the famed Opera House - an impressive neoclassical structure built with materials imported from Europe, and decorated with priceless paintings by Capranesi and De Angelis.



### **DAY 2 – MANAUS**

After breakfast, depart from the hotel for a city tour, visiting the famous and lavish Opera House, the Rio Negro Palace which now serves as the seat of state government. The Indian Museum will be the next stop. On the way to the Natural Sciences Museum, drive by one of the sophisticated residential district in town; return to hotel for check-out and



depart Hotel Tropical landing-stage on board of the CLIPPER PREMIUM boat to start the Amazon & Negro River Cruise (5 days).

Upon embarkation, normal procedures for presentation of the on board staff, route and facilities. Start navigating towards the "Meeting of the Waters" for observation of this incredible show of nature. Navigation continues in the Xiborena and Careiro region to Curari. Canoes will be used for smaller trips in creeks to see life on the flood plains:

jute, market-garden production, rubber trees, as well as flood plain forest and lakes with giant water lilies (\*). This trip returns after sunset, so that we can observe night life, including caimans. Navigation up the Amazon (the upper part of it called Solimões by the natives) to Lake Janauaca. Dinner on the way.

### **DAY 3 – MANAUS RIVER CRUISE**

Early morning canoe trip for bird-watching. There are good chances of seeing Hoatzins and large flocks of Egrets and Cormorants. Breakfast. Walk in the forest with assistance and commentaries of a specialist. Visit to the inhabitants of the lake who live from manioc plantations, fishing, diverse fruit trees, rubber, Brazil-nut trees, wood and other extractive products. Lunch.

Navigation. Fishing for piranhas and other types of fish. Dinner.

Night trip to see nocturnal animals, sometimes including night-hawks, snakes, toro-rats, sloth and frogs. Navigation.



#### **DAY 4 – MANAUS RIVER CRUISE**

Early morning bird-watching trip in the Janauary Ecological Park and nearby waterways. Breakfast. Navigation past Manaus port, with views of the floating docks, market, old custom house and houses on stilts. Navigation to the Pagodo river (tributary of the Negro). Canoe trip shortly before sunset, returning after dark, with the possibility of observing nocturnal animals and perceive the change in the forest as night falls. Dinner. Navigation to Açú Creek or nearby tributaries.



#### **DAY 5 – MANAUS RIVER CRUISE**

Canoe trip at sunrise for bird watching. Breakfast. Walk in the forest with commentaries by the specialist. Observation of the flora. Visit to a "caboclo" family. Chance to see the local way of life, preparation of manioc flour (the staple foodstuff of the Amazon), the health and education, situation of the children etc. Lunch. Fishing for piranhas. Navigation through the Anavilhanas, the world's largest fresh water archipelago, more than 1000 miles from the ocean. Navigation. Dinner. Night trip to see caimans and possibly frogs, sloth, snakes and other species, depending on the season.



#### **DAY 6 – MANAUS RIVER CRUISE**

Breakfast and visit to the village of Novo Airo, with its handicraft boat yards where the "AMAZON CLIPPER" was built, sawmills, market and other activities. Navigation to Praia Grande or other white sand beach. Swimming if conditions permit, and observation of the vegetation of sandy areas. adjacent lake domains to useful palm trees of various types). Dinner. Navigation.



#### **DAY 7 – MANAUS RIVER CRUISE**

Lake Janauary. Canoe trip at sunrise for bird watching. Breakfast. Navigation to the "Meeting of the Waters". Return to the Tropical Hotel, check-in and overnight.

#### **DAY 8 – MANAUS - SALVADOR**

Buffet breakfast at the hotel Tropical and transfer to airport for flight to Salvador. Arrival to Salvador airport and transfer to hotel for check-in and accommodation. You really can't say you've been to Brazil, until you've been to Bahia! Salvador - the "Land of Happiness" - is a magical world of its own, and indeed one of Brazil's most privileged cities, with a luxurious tropical atmosphere, friendly people and rich cultural heritage. The historical center offers many attractions such as the Pelourinho, which is associated with the period of slavery in Bahia. At Pelourinho, the preserved colonial buildings and churches, the museums and the exciting nightlife make this in one of the most interesting areas of the city.



## **DAY 9 - SALVADOR**

After breakfast, depart from your hotel for a full day tour visiting the upper and lower part of town. On the way, a stop at the Farol da Barra (Barra Lighthouse) offers a panoramic view of the entrance to Baía de Todos os Santos (All Saints Bay).

Continue along the Vitoria Corridor, through some of the residential areas until the historical section; from the lookout point you can observe the lower city and port, the Mercado Modelo and the Lacerda Elevator, connecting the 2 parts of the city with its main historical buildings and churches, some of which will be visited. Arrive to the greatest market of handicraft in the city, the famous Mercado Modelo. This market gathers all the handicraft of Bahia and other states of the North-eastern Brazil; lunch included.

Return to the hotel to change and depart for an evening tour including dinner in a local restaurant with a typical show presented in one of the local theatres.

## **DAY 10 - SALVADOR/PRAIA DO FORTE**

In the morning, transfer to Praia do Forte on the Estrada do Côco ("Coconut Highway"). This region of the Northern coast of Bahia is considered the principal area of coconut trees in the country. On the way visit the fishermen's village of Praia do Forte; also visit the Tamar Project - the preservation center of marine turtles gives an ecological aspect to the village. With its 12km of beaches, this village is the ideal place for sea swim in natural pools. Enjoy a seafood lunch and have some leisure time to look around the village before arriving to your hotel;

## **DAY 11 - PRAIA DO FORTE**

Leisure day

## **DAY 12 - PRAIA DO FORTE**

Leisure day

## **DAY 13 - PRAIA DO FORTE/IGUAÇU**

Breakfast at the hotel and transfer to the airport for flight to Iguassu

Arrival to Iguaçú, reception and transfer to hotel



## **DAY 14 & 15 IGUAÇU**

Half-day visit of the Brazilian side and Half-day visit of the Argentinean side of the Falls afternoons at leisure



## **DAY 16 – IGUAÇU – RIO DE JANEIRO**

Breakfast at the hotel, transfer to the airport for flight to Rio

Arrival to Rio , reception and transfer to hotel

Rio de Janeiro, the famous Cidade Maravilhosa (Marvelous City), land of Samba and Carnival! Rio is one of the most beautiful cities in the world, and one of the most unforgettable places you will ever visit. It's a delightful combination of sophisticated metropolis and casual seaside resort – an intriguing city with a unique personality and charm that has something to offer everyone.

### **DAY 17 - RIO DE JANEIRO**

Breakfast at the hotel ; after breakfast depart for a half-day visit of the beaches and Corcovado, drive through residential areas to Cosme Velho to board the funicular railway for a 20 minute climb through Tijuca Forest. As the train climbs Corcovado (hunchback) Mountain, enjoy spectacular views of Rio and the Bay peeking through the dense vegetation. At the top of Corcovado, 2400 feet above sea level, is the majestic, 120 foot high statue of Christ with outstretched arms. The panoramic view is breathtaking. Descend by train again lunch on the way and return to the hotel via Rio's famous beaches



### **DAY 18 - RIO DE JANEIRO**

Breakfast at the hotel, depart for a half-day tour to Sugar Loaf. Drive along Rio's world-famous beaches to the Urca district, where you take a cable car to the top of Urca Hill with pretty gardens and lookout points over Rio and Guanabara Bay with its rocky peaks jutting out of the water. If you wish, take a second cable car even higher to the top of Sugar Loaf Mountain, 1300 feet above sea level. Here the view of the beaches, Bay, hills and harbour is breathtaking.



In the evening depart for an exciting and colourful samba and folklore show at the Plataforma I - Night club, following dinner. Upon arrival, sit back and let Brazil's vibrant and electrifying rhythms enfold you. If you have never experienced a Carnival in Rio, the show will offer a glimpse of what the excitement is all about. Feel the exuberance and the spirit of Brazilian 'joie de vivre' during the two-hour performance. At the end of the show, you will be transferred back to the hotel.

### **DAY 19 - RIO DE JANEIRO**

Breakfast at the hotel, time at leisure in due time transfer to airport for flight back home

