

Brazil's Rio, Amazon & Beaches



TRIP OVERVIEW

Get a panoramic view of Rio from the iconic Christ the Redeemer Statue, cruise along the mighty Amazon River and immerse yourself in the rainforest's legendary biodiversity. Finish your tour with time to relax on the beach.

ITINERARY & DETAILS

This document aims to give you all the information that you require for a smooth and comfortable trip to Brazil. Please take the time to read this dossier to familiarise yourself with all the aspects of our tour. It includes important information such as visa requirements.

Your included meal guide:

B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner

DAY 1: UK to Rio de Janeiro

Depart London on your scheduled flight direct to Rio de Janeiro. On arrival you will be met and transferred to your hotel.

DAY 2: Rio de Janeiro B

After breakfast, embark on a full day's sightseeing tour beginning at a traditional street fair. Next take the scenic route to Corcovado Mountain. Travel past the 'Heart of Rio' at Rodrigo de Freitas lagoon. Reaching the foot of Corcovado mountain, board the funicular railway through verdant forestlands along the steep ascent to the summit. Gaze in awe at the breathtaking vistas overlooking downtown Rio, Copacabana beach and Sugarloaf Mountain, and stand in the shadows of the Christ the Redeemer statue. Next, take an exhilarating trip on a glass-walled cable car to Sugarloaf Mountain. Continue to explore the city with photo stops at the lavish twentieth century Municipal Theatre, home to the Rio Opera, Orchestra and National Ballet and later, visit Rio Cathedral.

DAY 3: Rio de Janeiro B

Spend a day at leisure to explore Rio's spectacular landscapes and pristine golden beaches at your own pace. Perhaps discover the city's lively atmosphere from the buzzing streets, or mingle with locals on Ipanema beach, delighting in the carefree ambience which radiates throughout the city.

DAY 4: Rio de Janeiro to Manaus to the Amazon B/L/D

Enjoy another full day in Rio. This evening transfer to Rio airport and board your flight to the Amazon's largest city. Journey to the Amazon Ecopark Jungle Lodge, a secluded resort positioned on the peaceful Tarumã river banks.

DAY 5: The Amazon B/L/D

Today, start with a nature hike throughout the Amazon rainforest. Along the route's creeks and clear streams before returning to the lodge for lunch. Embark on a fishing tour this afternoon from the safety of a paddle boat or motorised canoe. Return to the lodge this evening for a delicious evening meal set amidst tranquil surroundings. Some activities may vary due to seasonal changes

DAY 6: The Amazon B/L/D

Early this morning, board a double-decker boat and cruise towards the Meeting of the Waters. Sail along the rugged line that distinctively separates the black, deep waters of the Negro river and light brown Solimões river. Glide towards Manaus' city centre where the ship will cruise past the renaissancestyle Amazonas Theatre where its characteristic dome. Heading onwards to the Amazon's industrial seafaring core at the Port of Manaus, make sure to look out for traditional stilt houses along the winding course; constructed primarily of resilient wood which withstands the harsh effects of the river.

DAY 7: The Amazon to Manaus to Rio B

Enjoy your last full day in the Amazon, before returning to Manaus' airport after dinner for your overnight flight to Rio de Janeiro.

DAY 8: Rio to Búzios B

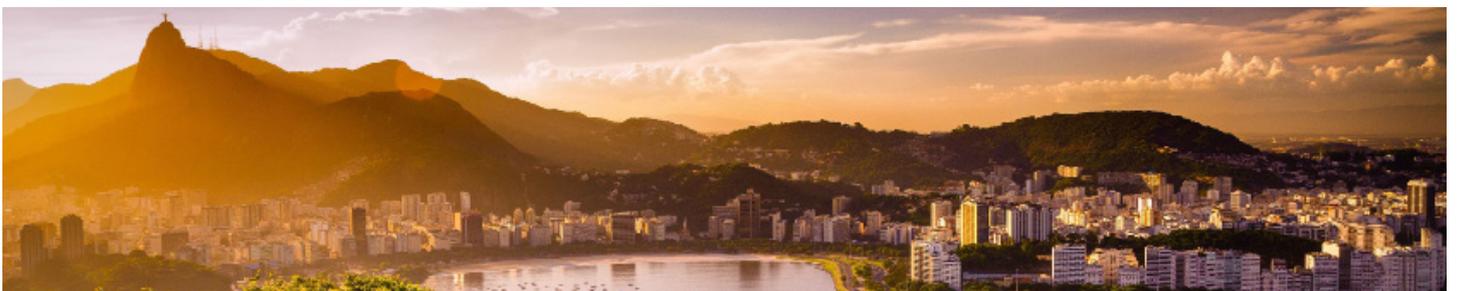
Arrive early this morning into Rio de Janeiro airport, and from here embark on a scenic drive to the quaint seaside resort of Búzios. Spend the rest of the day relaxing and unwinding under the beaming sun at one of Búzios 17 beautiful beaches, lounging on the golden sands. Witness the peninsula's rustic charm with a stroll along its narrow, cobbled avenues.

DAY 9-10: Búzios B

These days are yours to relax or explore this beautiful region at your own pace.

DAY 11/12: Búzios to Rio de Janeiro to UK B

Savour Búzios' blissful charm at leisure this morning before returning to Rio de Janeiro by coach later this afternoon. Transfer to Rio airport for your return flight to the UK or chosen extension.



ACCOMMODATION DETAILS & MAP



Accommodation

Your accommodation is selected for convenience, location, comfort or character, and can range from business hotels to lodges. Hotel accommodation is generally rated as local three to four-star standard, but please note there is no international classification system for hotels, and differences in facilities and quality do exist between the UK and Brazil. All group tours hotels have private bathroom facilities and air-conditioning, where needed. If you are staying in a lodge during your tour, plumbing and electricity supplies can vary and, in some cases, infrequent, with electricity only being accessible during certain times of the day.) Rest assured that all accommodation used by Mercury Holidays is regularly inspected by our staff and partners to ensure that standards meet your needs.

ON YOUR ARRIVAL

On your arrival in Rio de Janeiro you will be met by a representative from our local agent, **Blumar**, holding a sign displaying: "Mercury Holidays". The Mercury Holidays/ **Blumar** representative will show you to your transfer vehicle. Your local guide will be with you in each city should you have any queries, however if you need to contact your representative during your stay the details are:

Blumar

Address: Rua Siqueria Campos, 43- cob 02, Copacabana, Rio de Janeiro, Zip code: 22031-901. Contact telephone: 005521 21429317
Email: laila@blumar.com.br

WHAT YOU NEED FOR YOUR TOUR

Visas

A visa is not required for your trip to Brazil. Further advice should be sought from the applicable tourist authority for other nationalities and for general queries. We strongly advise you check your destinations' Tourist Board or Embassy for the most up-to-date guidelines regarding passport validity.

Insurance

We strongly recommend that you and all members of your party are suitably insured as soon as you book your holiday. It is a condition of booking that you must have suitable travel insurance. It is important that you purchase travel insurance that suitably covers your participation in whatever activities you may undertake at the time that you make your booking. To assist you with this, we have arranged travel insurance in partnership with Holiday Extras. To arrange your travel insurance with Holiday Extras, please call 0800 781 4237 and quote 'WK830' for preferential rates. Please ensure you provide us with the name of your insurer, policy number and their 24-hour emergency contact number as soon as possible. Mercury Holidays will not be liable for any costs incurred by you due to your failure to take out suitable travel insurance from the date of booking.

Tour Guides

This is a fully escorted tour meaning that you will be met by a local guide in each of the cities that you visit, ensuring that you have first-hand knowledge at all times.

Private Tour

If you have booked a private tour then you will be accompanied by a Driver Guide or a Driver and Local Guides. These will be available to you during all scheduled sightseeing. Private Tours can depart on any day of the week depending on flight and train schedules and the opening days of the



Please note the hotels listed on our website and brochure are provided for guidance only and final confirmation of your accommodation will be sent in a document, along with your final flight information, approximately 10 days before you travel.

Meals

Breakfast is always western style and served in the hotel each morning. Dinner (when included) will be taken in local restaurants or at the hotel. A variety of restaurants are visited giving you the chance to experience a range of dishes and flavours.

Emergency contact information

24hr Telephone Number: Blumar's emergency contact:
Telephone: 00 55 21 97293 4434

attractions. They will follow the itinerary as described in the brochure unless you have been advised otherwise and you will still have all of the same meals, sightseeing and local excursions included.

Tipping

It is customary to tip both your driver and guide and is at your discretion. We would recommend approximately £2.00 (\$3.00) per person per day in total. This will be collected at the end of your day and can be paid in both local currency and US dollars.

Health and Vaccinations

It is your responsibility to check any health and vaccination requirements applicable to your booked arrangements. We can only provide general information about this. Health and hygiene facilities and disease risks vary from country to country. You should take health advice about your own needs as early as possible and in good time before your departure. Sources of information include; www.fco.gov.uk, www.travelhealthpro.org.uk, www.hpa.org.uk, your General Practitioner or a specialist clinic.

Physical Accessibility

All our tours feature a "Tour Pace" to help find the right holiday for you. To travel on any of our tours requires unaided mobility and the ability to stroll around the sights, climb stairs and get on and off coaches and boats. The tour pace for Brazil's Rio, Amazon and Beaches is rated as Advanced. A higher level of fitness as required as you may be on your feet for most of the day though this will be interspersed with regular breaks and vary from day to day. You will be walking around the sights, getting on and off coaches, trains, boats and climbing steps which may be irregular. There may be some time spent at high altitude. You will stay in variety of hotels, possibly including overnight trains, and accommodation standards may not match those you

are used to at home. Our 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.

Group Size

The minimum number of travellers in your group will be 10, and the maximum will be 40. If in the unlikely event there are less than 10 people booked on your tour date, we will endeavour to reduce any disruption to your holiday and try to operate your tour with lower passenger numbers. If we are not able to operate your departure date, then you may be asked to change to a different date and a full refund will be made available to you should this alternative not be suitable.

Currency Exchange

The currency in Brazil is the Brazilian Real, known as BRL. However, US Dollars are also widely used and recommended throughout both countries and are exchangeable at official outlets. Cash machines are available in all the major cities to withdraw money in the local currency. We recommend that you exchange your currency before you leave the UK. It is important that you budget carefully and ensure you have the right form of currency before you arrive in the country. Cash machines will also be available throughout the tour in order to withdraw money in your local currency.

Credit Card Information

As normal practice you will be asked for your credit card details on check-in at the hotel in order to cover any extras incurred during your stay. If you do not have a credit card you may be asked for a cash deposit. American Express, Diners Club, MasterCard and Visa are widely accepted in hotels.

Personal Expenses

You will need to take money with you to cover any personal purchases such as souvenirs, laundry, any meals not included in the itinerary as well as drinks and any additional snacks. Approximately £500- £600 per person will be sufficient for the duration of the tour. It is a good idea to try and maintain a supply of small notes and change in the local currency for tipping or small purchases.

Personal Safety

We recommend that you do not wear any jewellery whilst you are walking around and don't advertise your cameras and phones by keeping them in a bag or pocket where possible. Rio has had a bad reputation in the past for personal security, but this has vastly improved in recent years thanks to far more tourist police and better patrolling of problem areas. Keep cash to a minimum and leave your passport in the hotel's safe.

Itinerary Changes

The order of events and sightseeing may vary according to local conditions or for operational purposes. The schedules of the domestic airlines in country are subject to frequent changes. For this reason, we have indicated approximate times only. Your local guide will inform you of any schedule changes as they are informed of them. Some road construction &/or weather conditions may lengthen the driving times. Our intention is to adhere to the day-to-day itinerary as printed; however, order of events and sightseeing may vary according to local conditions.

WHAT TO PACK

- Sunglasses, Sunscreen and hat in summer
- Comfortable walking shoes
- Camera and charger
- A plug adaptor (current is 110V and requires a three-prong adaptor)
- Antibacterial hand gel
- Binoculars
- Personal first aid kit containing travel pills, rehydration powder, plasters, stomach settlers, antiseptic creams, aspirin etc
- Small day pack for excursions
- Waterproof, lightweight jacket
- Lightweight clothing
- Sweater and jacket for the cooler months

FLIGHT INFORMATION

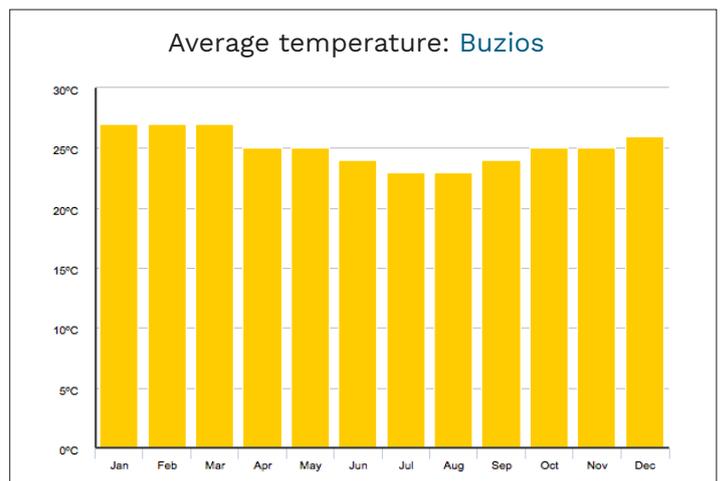
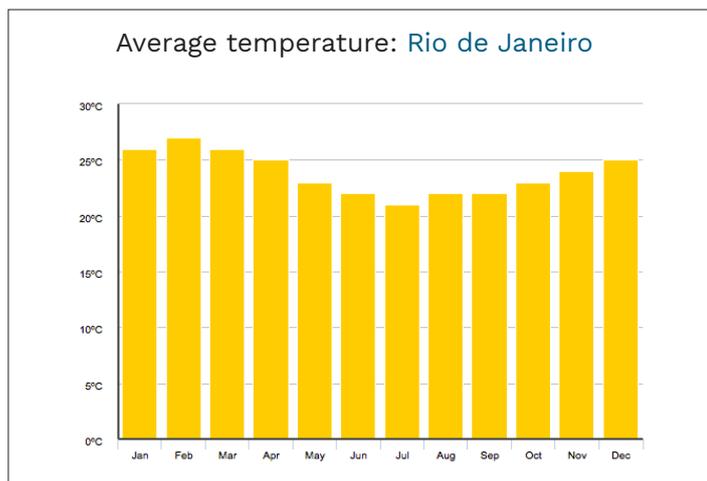
IMPORTANT: Please note that final flight details, including terminal, airline and baggage allowance, will be confirmed on your final documentation which will be sent to you approximately 10 days before departure. A printed E-ticket is no longer required at check-in, all you need to do is present your passport to the staff at the desk and your boarding pass will be given to you.

Airport Extras

If you wish to arrange Airport car parking or accommodation at preferential rates, we recommend you book this in advance with Holiday Extras on 0871 360 2000, quoting HX313.

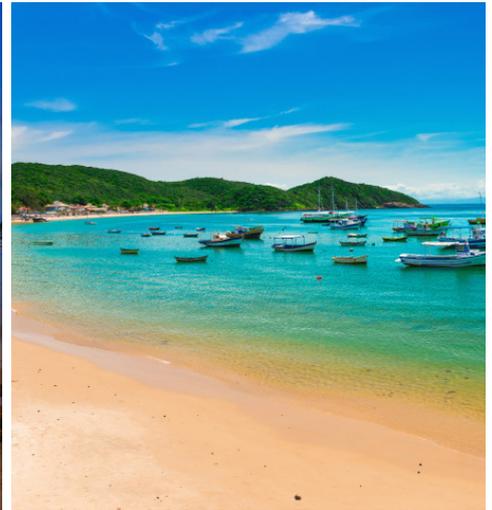
WEATHER AND CLIMATE

Weather can vary quite considerably throughout the year, so please familiarise yourself with the climate charts below.



Buzios Beach Stay

If you have not yet booked this fabulous extension, there is still time to do so. Please contact 0333 003 0522



TRIP OVERVIEW

Located 100 miles from Rio de Janeiro, this former fishing village offers expanses of emerald water, over 17 white sand beaches and a picturesque cobbled waterfront and streets, earning it the well deserved title of 'Brazil's St. Tropez'.

ITINERARY & DETAILS

This document aims to give you all the information which you will require during your extension to Buzios.

Duration options in Buzios

Choose from either a 2 or 4 night extension to Buzios. Please note that 4 night extensions are valid for departures 25/11/19 - 02/03/20 & 02/11/20 - 30/11/20

Hotel Options in Buzios

You will be transferred from Rio de Janeiro to Buzios and your selected hotel:

3★ Abracadabra Pousada

2 or 4 nights Bed & Breakfast

Address: R. Morro do Humaitá, 13 - Lot. Triangulo de Buzios, Búzios - RJ, 28950-000, Brazil

Phone: 0055 22 2623-4576

OR

4★ Insolito Boutique Hotel

2 or 4 nights Bed & Breakfast

Address: Condo Atlantic - Of Horseshoe Beach E1 Street, Búzios - RJ, 28950-000, Brazil

Phone: 0055 22 2623-2172

Personal Expenses

You will need to take money with you to cover any lunches and dinners, as well as personal purchases, such as souvenirs, drinks and snacks.

Tour Guides

Your stay in Buzios is not escorted by a tour guide. All internal transfers are included.

Meals

Your stay in Buzios is on a Bed and Breakfast basis.



FLIGHT INFORMATION

Please note: Final hotel and flight details will be confirmed on your final documentation which will be sent to you approximately 10 days before departure.

For any further enquiries or for more information call us on **0333 003 0522**

Iguazu Falls Extension

If you have not yet booked this fabulous extension, there is still time to do so. Please contact 0333 003 0522



TRIP OVERVIEW

Declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1984, Iguazu National Park is home to incredible waterfalls with water falling from an average height of 70 metres. Explore the routes of the Upper Circuit, Lower Circuit and Devil's Throat. These various trails allow you to get closer to some of the smaller waterfalls as well as enjoy stunning panoramic views at the top of these majestic falls.

ITINERARY & DETAILS

This document aims to give you all the information which you will require during your Iguazu Falls extension.

Hotel

Your 4 night stay will take place at the following hotels;
Iguazu Falls (3 nights): 4★ San Martin Hotel on a Bed & Breakfast basis. Positioned just 400 metres from the entrance of Iguazu National Park, this fantastic 4-star hotel, situated amongst tropical gardens and forests boasts an array of excellent guest facilities and offers a relaxing atmosphere.

Address: Avenida das Cataratas, Km 21, s/n - Parque Nacional, Foz do Iguazu - PR, 85853-000, Brazil
 Contact number: 0055 800 645 0045

Rio de Janeiro (1 night) 4★ Arena Leme Hotel on a Bed & Breakfast basis. A stone's throw away from Rio de Janeiro's vibrant restaurants, cafes and Copacabana Beach's lively boardwalk, the Arena Leme Hotel is the perfect base to explore this atmospheric city.

Address: Av. Atlântica, 324 - Leme, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22010-000, Brazil
 Contact number: 0055 21 2244-9200

Personal Expenses

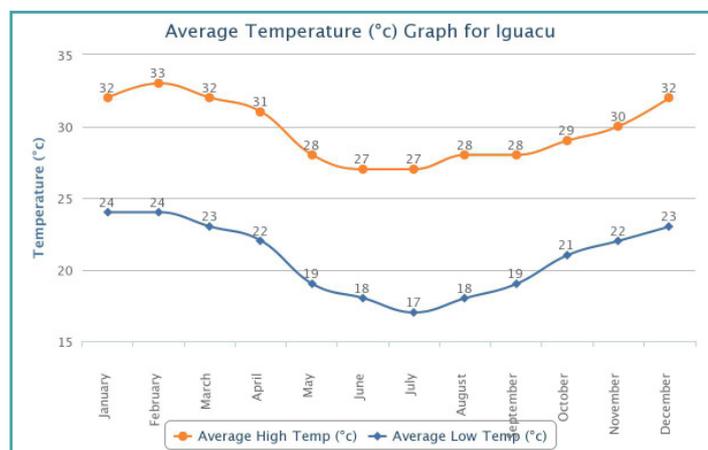
You will need to take money with you to cover personal purchases, laundry service, souvenirs, plus lunch, dinner and drinks.

Tour Guides

This extension is only escorted during transfers and excursions.

Please note

This extension takes place after your main tour.



FLIGHT INFORMATION

Please note: Final hotel and flight details will be confirmed on your final documentation which will be sent to you approximately 10 days before departure.

For any further enquiries or for more information call us on **0333 003 0522**