

## A Family Holiday to Brazil



Capybara in the Pantanal

Prepared for  
Steppes Travel Clients

## QUICK REFERENCE ITINERARY

Day 1	Fly UK/Rio de Janeiro,
Day 2	Arrive Rio de Janeiro
Days 3 & 4	Rio de Janeiro
Day 5	Fly Rio de Janeiro/Iguaçu
Days 6 & 7	Iguaçu
Day 8	Fly Iguaçu/ Cuiaba Pantanal
Days 9 & 10	Pantanal
Day 11	Fly Cuiaba/Salvador
Day 12	Salvador
Day 13	Salvador/Praia do Forte
Days 14 to 16	Praia do Forte
Day 17	Fly Salvador/UK
Day 18	Arrive UK

## MAP



# DETAILED ITINERARY

## Day 1

### UK/Rio de Janeiro

Depart the UK on the flight to Rio de Janeiro, flying overnight in economy class.

## Day 2

### Rio de Janeiro



You will be met upon arrival by the Steppes Travel representative at the airport and transferred to your hotel. All transfers are included in your trip, however it will not detail every transfer on this itinerary.

As the Brazilians say, 'God made the world in six days, the seventh he devoted to Rio'. Founded by the Portuguese in 1565, Rio de Janeiro was the capital of Brazil from 1763 until 1960. Nestled between the mountains and the sea, Rio is unsurpassed for its natural beauty. Its magnificent shoreline, with charming bays and beautiful beaches, is an important part of Rio social life and offers numerous outdoor activities from biking to surfing. In the mountains above Rio, you will find the Tijuca national forest, the largest natural urban park in the world. The city's eight million inhabitants, known as 'Cariocas', are friendly, carefree people who always seem to find time for the pleasures of good living.



*Overnight at your chosen hotel in Rio de Janeiro on a bed & breakfast basis.*

## Days 3 & 4

### Rio de Janeiro

Days to spend independently as you choose in Rio. Here are some of the best ways to spend your time in this buzzing city; any of these suggestions can be pre-booked for you:



- Board the cable car to the top of Sugar Loaf Mountain
- Climb up to Corcovado, the statue of Christ for an incredible view over the city and Guanabara Bay
- Learn how to Samba at a dance school
- People watching on Copacabana Beach
- Listen to live Bossa Nova in a restaurant in Ipanema
- Visit the botanical gardens with their famous avenue of imperial palms
- Relax on a choice of beautiful beaches
- Join a favela tour (shanty towns)
- Explore the restaurants and night life scene
- Day trip to Petropolis - the Summer Residence of the Imperial family of Brazil



*Overnight at your chosen hotel in Rio de Janeiro on a bed & breakfast basis.*

## Day 5



## Rio de Janeiro/Iguaçu

Depart Rio de Janeiro on a flight to Iguazu.

Iguaçu or Iguazú; Argentina, Paraguay and Brazil meet where the Iguazú river joins the Paraná river in the north-eastern Argentinean province of Misiones. It is here that the Iguazu Falls (meaning 'Big Water' in the local Guaraní language) plunges over hard granite into a wide gorge in a series of gigantic waterfalls measuring two miles in length and plunging more than 240 feet below. The thunderous roar of crashing water and the multicoloured mist which rises above the falls is natural beauty and grandeur at its best. Opportunity to visit the different sides of the falls, plus a choice of jungle excursions, boat trips or a visit to the Brazilian/Paraguayan hydroelectric complex, Itaipu, the world's largest.

*Overnight at your chosen hotel in Iguazu on a bed & breakfast basis.*

## Days 6 & 7



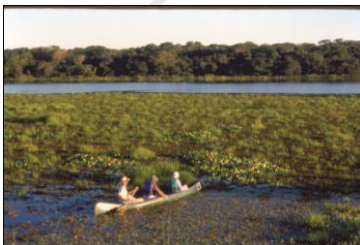
## Iguaçu

Days at leisure to relax and explore Iguazu. Here are some of the best ways to spend your time. (Any of the below can be pre-booked for you)

- Helicopter flight over the falls and surrounding area
- Macuco Safari - half day trip on the Brazil side of the falls by jeep and boat right up to the falls (pack a water proof!)
- Visit Itaipu on the Brazil side - the largest hydro electric power dam in the world
- Night time walking tours which cast a blue halo over the falls
- Explore either the Brazil or Argentinean side of the falls for a different perspective
- Wander the forest trails and experience the fabulous flora and fauna
- Visit the fascinating bird farm on the Brazil side

*Overnight at your chosen hotel in Iguazu on a bed & breakfast basis.*

## Day 8



## Iguaçu/Pantanal

Depart Iguazu on a flight to Cuiaba or Campo Grande, respective gateways to the Northern and Southern Pantanal.

The Pantanal or wetlands of Mato Grosso are one of nature's last frontiers, the world's largest animal reserve and home to more than 600 different species of birds and 230 varieties of fish, it is made up of a huge lowland plain, entirely overgrown by lush vegetation and covered with flowers that bloom during the rainy season (December-April). The Pantanal includes many rivers and crystalline lakes as it used to be a vast inland sea. Rare species of birds and other animals seek shelter along their shores and cluster around the diminishing pools during the dry season from May through to November.

*Overnight at your lodge in the Pantanal on a full board basis*

## Days 9 & 10



## Pantanal

Days to explore the Pantanal on horseback, foot by canoe or small motor boat observing the rich fauna & flora of this ecological sanctuary. Excursions out to see a variety of animals that could include; capybara, crocodiles, deer, iguanas, possums, anacondas, the longest snake in the world often hiding in the beds of hyacinth, incredible amounts of birds and raptors. This is a wildlife enthusiast's paradise, a bird watchers heaven and a photographer's dream world.

*Overnight at your lodge in the Pantanal on a full board basis*

## Day 11



## Pantanal/Salvador

Depart the Pantanal on a flight to Salvador.

During colonial times (until 1763), Salvador was the capital of Brazil and is one of its oldest cities. The riches generated by the cultivation of sugarcane and cocoa made Salvador an enormously wealthy city. The legacy of this wealth can be seen not only in its buildings and monuments but also in its distinctive African culture. Dating back to when labour was brought over from Africa to work the plantations, Salvador displays folklore and pageantry - namely Candomblé and Voodoo ceremony - as well as a rich mix of music, dance, exotic food and a beautiful people.

*Overnight at your hotel in Salvador on a bed and breakfast basis*



## Day 12



## Salvador

Free day to relax at your hotel or explore the many sights of the Salvador. You could visit Barra Lighthouse that protects one of the largest bays in the world and was built using the foundations of the Santo Antonio fort, or the colourful Pelourinho district declared an UNESCO World Monument in 1985 and Latin Americas largest colonial area with buildings dating back to the 16th & 17th century.

*Overnight at your hotel in Salvador on a bed and breakfast basis*

## Day 13



## Salvador/Praia do Forte

You will be collected from your hotel and transferred up the beautiful coast to Praia do Forte.

The fishing village of Praia do Forte takes its name from the castle built by a Portuguese settler in 1556. Relax and unwind on the beautiful beach or go swimming and snorkelling in the warm sea. Explore the surrounding wetland which is rich in bird, animal and plant life or visit The Tamar Project, where the sea turtles lay their eggs, funded by the Worldwide Fund for Nature.

*Overnight at your chosen hotel in Praia do Forte on a bed & breakfast basis.*

#### Day 14 to 16



#### Praia do Forte

Days to relax on the beach or visit the village, explore the surrounding wetland which is rich in bird, animal and plant life or visit the Tamar Project with a guide from the project, a kilometre along the coast where the sea turtles lay their eggs and some turtles live in tanks for educational and research purposes. You can also walk; see wildlife and boating excursions as well as any number of water sports and riding.

*Overnight at your chosen hotel in Praia do Forte on a bed & breakfast basis.*

#### Day 17

#### Praia do Forte/Salvador/UK

Transfer to Salvador and depart on a flight to the UK, flying overnight in economy class.

#### Day 18

#### Arrive UK

## TRIP PRICE

In each location there is a variety of different category of hotels, lodges and guest houses, therefore please treat this sample itinerary as a guide of what you can do. It is difficult to categorise each property as they vary so much therefore this is a general price guide only.

**Trip price from: £2,985 per person + flight taxes.**  
**Based upon a family of four travelling together.**

The rates quoted are subject to the availability of all services, currency fluctuations, written confirmation and Steppes Travels terms and conditions.

The price includes return flight from UK, internal flights, local transport, airport-hotel transfers and tours on a shared basis (or can be organised on a private basis), accommodation (twin/double with private facilities where available) and board. Accommodation is on a bed and breakfast basis, unless staying in a remote lodge when normally this will be on a full board basis.

The price excludes entrance charges to sites, parks and museums, extra local excursions and guided tours, international and domestic airport taxes. Travel insurance, visas, single supplements (if applicable) and items of a personal nature, such as laundry, drinks, etc.

**Please note** that the above is only a suggested journey, allowing in-depth visits to the highlights of the country and the chance to explore the wide range of possibilities this fascinating country has to offer. We have a separate list of escorted tours and specialise in tailoring individual itineraries to your particular interests and requirements. This journey idea serves more as a general guide on what there is to see and do, as well as a guide on price.

## Why Travel with Steppes?

Steppes Travel was founded in 1989 with the objective of creating a travel company where service and knowledge are of the highest priority. We aim to design itineraries and include the highlights of any country, whilst taking travellers off the beaten track to see lesser known, interesting places not frequented by large numbers of tourists. We offer individuals the ability to travel safely in remote areas, with the knowledge that we have travelled there before.

### Financial Protection

Steppes Travel is a fully bonded tour operator that complies with the Civil Aviation Authority bonding conditions of the UK. This fully guarantees your money in the unlikely event of us going out of business before you start your holiday. Our ATOL number is 6945 and we have full insurance to cover the financial failure of an airline. In addition, all accommodation-only bookings (such as hotels, lodges and boats) which are not covered by the ATOL regulations are financially protected with all payments being held in a separate trust account until the date of departure. This is in accordance with the Package Travel Regulations Act 1992.

### Specialist Knowledge

We demand and employ only a very high calibre of staff. All of our specialists have a wealth of travel experience and have travelled, and continue to travel, extensively throughout their regions of specialisation. You can therefore rely on their first hand knowledge and expertise. Some have been with us for more than ten years. They will tell you about those intimate, friendly hotels and introduce you to our charismatic guides - those little extra qualities that make your holiday both unique and special.

### A Tailor-made Journey

After an initial discussion with you, one of our specialists will create a unique itinerary for your trip, designed around your own interests, preferred style of accommodation and the pace at which you like to travel. This will be fine tuned until you are completely satisfied with it. Throughout this whole process, you will be dealt with by the same specialist and you are welcome to call them at any time.

### 24 hour Emergency Service

We have an emergency service so that we can be contacted 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

### Recognition

More than 65% of our business is achieved through recommendations, referrals and repeat bookings. This, for us, is the highest endorsement we could have. In addition, our 20 years of experience in this specialist travel sector confirms our expertise.

**Please contact the Latin America team on 01285 885 333 or visit our website [www.steppestravel.co.uk](http://www.steppestravel.co.uk) for further information.**