

ITINERARY

Inside visits and special features are shown in UPPERCASE in the tour description, including admission charges where applicable.

Day 1 ARRIVE IN RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL **WD**

Welcome to South America's largest and most populous country. This evening, meet your Tour Director and fellow traveling companions for a welcome dinner at the hotel.

Day 2 RIO DE JANEIRO **B, D**

Today, visit the statue of Christ the Redeemer crowning CORCOVADO MOUNTAIN, a rounded peak rising 2,300 feet from the bay below. Take the scenic cog railway ride to its top, where a 360-degree panorama affords sweeping views. Proceed to bustling downtown Rio. View the Sambodromo and visit the CATHEDRAL. This afternoon, you may wish to join an optional trip into a local favela to see where 20% of Rio's population lives. Visits include a community center and a school. This evening, it's off to a CHURRASCARIA for a feast of barbecued meats marinated and roasted over charcoal in true Brazilian style.

Day 3 RIO DE JANEIRO **B**

Enjoy a day of leisure or consider an optional trip to historic Petropolis, once the former summer palace of Emperor Dom Pedro II and now a mountain resort.

Day 4 RIO DE JANEIRO–IGUASSU FALLS **B**

A flight from Rio takes you to IGUASSU FALLS. Experience the clouds of spray, the incessant roar, and the surrounding luxuriant tropical growth that make this an unforgettable natural wonder. Head into Brazil's Iguassu National Park to enjoy the magnificent panorama of waterfalls from the Brazilian side. Your Local Guide introduces the spectacle of this 2-mile-wide torrential downpour, with some cataracts as high as 250 feet—it's nothing short of hypnotic!

Day 5 IGUASSU FALLS **B**

Today is at your leisure to explore the area on your own. Your Tour Director will have suggestions for your free time.

Day 6 IGUASSU FALLS–BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA **B**

This morning, journey to the Argentine side of IGUASSU FALLS, where you will take the ECOLOGICAL JUNGLE TRAIN and enjoy a closer perspective on a walking tour of the falls. Meander along the walkways from atop the falls, and enjoy an exhilarating perspective looking over the precipice of the falls as the water plunges to the rocks below. Next, fly to Buenos Aires. After arriving, an orientation walk acquaints you with the "Paris of South America" and its wide boulevards and outdoor cafés.

Day 7 BUENOS AIRES **B, D**

Your sightseeing starts in La Boca, a colorful district and site of the city's first port. Take a short walking tour of this unique neighborhood and then on to San Telmo, famous for its late-colonial buildings and a popular gathering spot for artists. At Plaza de Mayo, see

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La Casa Rosada (the President's Pink House) and the METROPOLITAN CATHEDRAL, housing San Martin's Mausoleum. Drive past the ornate Colon Opera House before reaching RECOLETA CEMETERY, burial site of Eva Perón. After an afternoon at leisure, top off the evening at a famous TANGO CLUB. Start with a farewell dinner featuring Argentine steaks and other local specialties, and end with a show featuring flawless performances of Latin America's most sensuous dance—the Tango!

Day 8 BUENOS AIRES

B

Today is free to explore on your own. Perhaps take an optional excursion to the heart of the pampas (grasslands) and immerse yourself in the atmosphere of rural, country life at a working Argentine estancia (ranch). After a traditional welcome with empanadas and local beverages, get acquainted with the lifestyle of real gauchos (cowboys) on a horseback ride or carriage ride through the pampas. You will also enjoy a colorful feast, complete with world-renowned Argentine beef, salad, desserts, local wine, and live music and dance by the gauchos themselves. Top off the day with a horsemanship show by the gauchos before saying adios to the countryside and heading back to the city.

Day 9 BUENOS AIRES–SANTIAGO, CHILE

B

Fly over the Andes to Santiago, Chile's capital, where you will be met at the airport by a representative. This country is more than 10 times longer than wide, with 2,650 miles of beautiful Pacific coastline.

Day 10 SANTIAGO

B

Step back into the 16th century as your Local Guide traces the city's history and heritage. Start at La Moneda, the official Government Palace, before visiting the Plaza de Armas, the in square, with a visit to the 18th-century CATHEDRAL. The afternoon and evening are at your leisure. This evening, consider the optional Chilean Folkloric Dinner Show.

Day 11 SANTIAGO

B

Today is free to explore on your own or to take an optional excursion to the beautiful coastal region west of Santiago. Drive through the hills of Chile's wine country to the port of Valparaiso, then along the coast to Viña del Mar. This chic seaside resort with palm tree-lined avenues and lovely villas truly deserves the sobriquet "Pearl of the Pacific."

Day 12 SANTIAGO

B

Your tour ends with breakfast this morning.

MEALS:

WD	Welcome Dinner
B	Breakfast
L	Lunch
D	Dinner