

BRAZIL: RIO DE JANEIRO

Afro-Brazilian Beauty. Culture. Rhythm. Joy.

Destination: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Journey Length: 7 Days / 6 Nights

Experience: Culture • Heritage • Cuisine • Samba • Iconic Rio • Sisterhood

Activity Level: Moderate

Rio is a city that moves differently.

From the rhythms of samba and the history of Little Africa to breathtaking views from Christ the Redeemer and Sugarloaf Mountain, this journey blends the beauty of Rio with the Afro-Brazilian culture that gives the city so much of its soul.

Designed with connection, culture and joy in mind, our Rio experience invites you to experience the city's iconic sights while going deeper—exploring the heritage, food, music and traditions that have shaped Brazilian culture.

PASSPORT + VISA REQUIRED

U.S. citizens currently require a valid passport and Brazilian tourist visa for this journey. Visa and entry requirements are subject to change and will need to be reconfirmed before travel.

EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Little Africa Cultural Experience

Explore Rio's Pequena África, including Cais do Valongo and Pedra do Sal, while learning about the African presence, resilience and cultural legacy that helped shape Rio.

Christ the Redeemer

Stand beneath one of the world's most recognizable landmarks and take in panoramic views of Rio's mountains, coastline and cityscape.

Sugarloaf Mountain

Ride the cable car above the coastline and experience Rio from one of its most spectacular vantage points.

Behind the Scenes of Carnival

Step inside the artistry of Rio Carnival with a visit to a samba school warehouse, where you'll discover how the elaborate costumes and parade experiences come together—and have an opportunity to step into the costumes yourself.

Samba Experience

Learn the rhythms and movements of samba during an interactive lesson, with an opportunity to experience Rio's live samba culture.

Brazilian Cooking Experience

Join local chefs for a hands-on experience preparing traditional Brazilian dishes and cocktails before sitting down to enjoy what you've created.

Selarón Steps

Visit Rio's famous colorful mosaic staircase—one of the city's most recognizable works of public art.

Beach Club Experience

Slow down for a day along Rio's coast. Relax, enjoy the atmosphere and spend time connecting with your fellow travelers before your journey comes to an end.

Glória Market

Experience a more local side of Rio at Feira da Glória, browsing fresh produce, Brazilian specialties, street food and goods from local vendors.

Journey at a Glance

DAY 1 | WELCOME TO RIO

Energy: Arrival • Grounding • Connection

Welcome to Rio de Janeiro.

After arriving, settle into your accommodations in the Copacabana area and take some time to refresh and unwind.

In the evening, we'll come together for our **Welcome Dinner**—your introduction to the BTI community and the beginning of our Brazilian journey.

Experience: Welcome Dinner

DAY 2 | LITTLE AFRICA + CULTURAL IMMERSION

Energy: Heritage • Depth • Connection

Today we explore the African roots of Rio de Janeiro.

Our journey through **Little Africa (Pequena África)** connects us with the history and legacy of Afro-Brazilian culture. Visit historic **Cais do Valongo** and experience **Pedra do Sal**, an important gathering place deeply connected to Rio's Black history and samba traditions.

Along the way, sample Brazilian street food and enjoy lunch before returning to the hotel for some downtime.

Later, it's time to move.

We'll come together for a **samba lesson**, learning the rhythm and movement behind one of Brazil's most celebrated cultural traditions.

Experiences:

Little Africa • Cais do Valongo • Pedra do Sal • Brazilian Street Food • Samba Lesson

DAY 3 | MARKET, RHYTHM & CARNIVAL

Energy: Joy • Movement • Celebration

This morning, we'll experience another side of everyday life in Rio with a visit to **Glória Market (Feira da Glória)**.

Wander through the lively market, taking in the colors, aromas and local flavors while browsing fresh produce, Brazilian specialties, street food and goods from local vendors. It's an opportunity to experience Rio beyond its famous landmarks and enjoy a more local side of the city.

After our market experience, we'll have time to recharge before stepping behind the scenes of one of Brazil's most celebrated cultural traditions.

During our **Carnival Experience**, visit a samba school warehouse and discover the artistry, craftsmanship and creativity behind Rio Carnival. You'll even have an opportunity to step into the costumes.

We'll end the day with a **Brazilian Steakhouse Experience**.

Experiences:

Glória Market • Carnival Behind the Scenes • Brazilian Steakhouse

DAY 4 | ICONIC RIO + BRAZILIAN FLAVORS

Energy: Beauty • Expansion • Awe

Today brings us face-to-face with some of Rio's most iconic sights.

Begin at **Christ the Redeemer**, where sweeping views stretch across the mountains, coastline and city below.

Then we'll visit the vibrant **Selaron Steps**, known for their colorful mosaic tiles and artistic character.

After some afternoon downtime, we'll gather again for a hands-on **Brazilian cooking experience**. With guidance from local chefs, prepare traditional dishes and cocktails before enjoying the meal together.

Experiences:

Christ the Redeemer • Selaron Steps • Brazilian Cooking Experience

DAY 5 | RIO YOUR WAY + SUGARLOAF

Energy: Ease • Beauty • Presence

This morning belongs to you.

Sleep in. Spend time at the beach. Schedule a wellness experience. Explore more of Rio. Or select an optional experience that speaks to your interests.

Later, we'll reunite and make our way to **Sugarloaf Mountain**.

Ascend by cable car and take in one of Rio's signature views as the city, mountains and coastline unfold beneath you.

Optional experiences: Santa Marta Favela Cultural Experience, private beach or wellness experiences, Museum of Tomorrow, hang gliding, helicopter ride and Santa Teresa by tram.

Note: Optional experiences are not included in the trip package and are subject to availability, weather conditions and additional cost.

DAY 6 | BEACH DAY

Energy: Relaxation • Connection • Celebration

After several days of exploring Rio's culture, history, cuisine and iconic sights, today is about slowing down and enjoying the beauty of Brazil.

We'll spend the day at a beach club, where you can relax, enjoy the coastal atmosphere, spend time with your fellow travelers and simply soak in your final full day in Rio.

Swimsuit on. Sunglasses ready. Nothing to rush to.

This is your day to relax, connect and enjoy Rio at an easier pace before heading home.

Experience:

Beach Club Experience

DAY 7 | DEPARTURE - UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN

Energy: Reflection • Connection • Gratitude

Enjoy a final breakfast and a little time to reflect on your experience in Rio.

You'll leave Brazil with more than photographs—the rhythms, flavors, history and connections of Rio will become part of your travel story.

You arrived curious. You leave with a deeper connection to Brazil.

IMPORTANT ITINERARY NOTE

Please Note: This itinerary is intended to provide an overview of your Rio de Janeiro experience. Activities, restaurants, venues, transportation, timing, and the order of experiences are subject to change based on availability, weather, local conditions, or other operational considerations. Any changes will be made with the overall quality and flow of the journey in mind. Registered travelers will receive the final itinerary approximately **30–60** days before departure.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- 6 nights upscale accommodations in Rio de Janeiro's Copacabana area
- Daily Breakfast, 2 lunches and 2 dinners, including our Welcome Dinner
- Little Africa Cultural Experience
- Brazilian street food experience
- Samba lesson
- Glória Market experience
- Behind-the-scenes Carnival experience
- Brazilian Steakhouse experience
- Christ the Redeemer
- Selarón Steps
- Brazilian cooking experience
- Sugarloaf Mountain and cable car
- Beach Club experience
- Transportation for included group activities
- Services of local guides for scheduled experiences
- BTI group experience and support
- One scheduled group arrival transfer and one scheduled group departure transfer

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- International airfare to and from Brazil
- Brazilian tourist visa and associated fees
- Passport expenses
- Travel insurance
- Meals and beverages not specifically included in the itinerary
- Optional tours and experiences
- Personal expenses, shopping, spa services, and hotel incidentals
- Transportation during independent/free time
- Airline baggage fees
- Gratuities for guides, drivers, hotel staff, and other service providers
- Any expenses resulting from flight delays, cancellations, missed connections, or other circumstances outside of BTI's control

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Travel insurance is strongly recommended. Travelers should consider coverage for trip cancellation or interruption, medical emergencies, emergency evacuation, baggage loss or delay, and other unexpected travel disruptions. Travelers are responsible for reviewing policy terms, coverage limits and exclusions before purchasing.

WHAT TO EXPECT

Activity Level: Moderate

This journey includes walking and standing during cultural tours and sightseeing experiences. Guests should be comfortable navigating city streets, attractions and some uneven surfaces.

Accommodations

Upscale accommodations in Rio's **Copacabana area**. **Grand Mercure Rio de Janeiro Copacabana or similar**

Meals

Daily breakfast, 2 lunches and 2 dinners

Arrival / Departure Airport

Rio de Janeiro/Galeão International Airport (**GIG**).

Solo Travelers

Solo travelers are welcome, and the current program offers a roommate-matching option.

Final Itinerary

As with other BTI journeys, the finalized itinerary is provided approximately **30–60 days before departure**.

Airport Transfers

One group arrival and departure transfer will be included with your package.

VISA & ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Currently Required For U.S. Citizens

Brazil Tourist Visa Required

U.S. citizens traveling to Brazil for tourism are currently required to obtain a Brazilian visitor/tourist visa. Brazil's government confirms that U.S. citizens require a tourist visa, and Brazilian authorities require travelers applying for a visa to have a valid travel document and complete the applicable visa process.

Passport

Travelers must have a **valid U.S. passport** to enter Brazil. Brazil's official visa guidance requires a valid travel document as part of the visa process.

We recommend that your passport:

- Remain valid well beyond your scheduled return from Brazil.
- Have sufficient blank pages for immigration purposes.
- Match the name used on your airline reservation and travel documents.

Important

Entry and visa requirements are subject to change. Because this information sheet covers travel in 2027 and 2028, all travelers should confirm the latest requirements with the Government of Brazil and their airline before departure.

Travelers who are not U.S. citizens should check the requirements applicable to the passport they will use to enter Brazil.