

# Brazil Friendship Tours

(Available year round)

Brazil is the most successful national football team in the World having won the World Cup 5 times, The Confederations Cup 3 times and most recently won the 2019 Copa America. The Brazil Women's National team has also had some recent success, reaching the last 16 at the 2019 Women's World Cup.

A common quip about Brazilian soccer is: "Os ingleses o inventaram, os brasileiros o aperfeiçoaram" ("The English invented it, the Brazilians perfected it")! Brazil has also produced some of the world's best international players in the history of the game including Pelé, Zico, Romário, Roberto Carlos, Ronaldo, Ronaldinho, Kaká and Neymar. This makes Brazil the perfect place for your team to travel to and learn more about the Brazilian style of football!



## Suggested itinerary

For the first 5 nights of your tour you are based in **Rio de Janeiro**, the second largest city of Brazil and the third largest metropolitan area in South America. The city was the capital of Brazil for nearly 200 years.

Rio de Janeiro is the most visited city in the southern hemisphere and it lives up to its pet name as the 'Marvelous City' with its white beaches, towering mountains and scenic docks. In addition this bustling city is also known for its concerts, carnivals, football matches, music and its well preserved lush tropical forests.

**Day one:** After your transatlantic flight you will be met a Rio de Janeiro airport by your tour guide and a private bus which will transfer you to your hotel. (Windsor Copacabana Hotel or similar). After check in you will take a tour of the City, this will give you an 'overview 'of this fantastic place. Dinner at the hotel.

**Day two:** After breakfast you will take a sightseeing tour to Christ the Redeemer Statue. Go all the way up to the iconic statue of Christ the Redeemer by the Corcovado Train, this was the first electrified railroad in Brazil. Inaugurated in 1884 it is older than the statue itself, In fact, it was the train that, during four consecutive years, transported pieces for monument's construction.

The Train rides through a railway inside Tijuca National Park, the largest urban forest in the world, making a unique view over Rio de Janeiro city.

At the foot of the statue of Christ, you'll be able to take in the most beautiful view over the city, and see from above what makes Rio de Janeiro so special.

*This evening, after a pre-match meal, you will play your first game against a local team.*

**Day three:** After breakfast you will take a sightseeing tour to Sugar Loaf Mountain. Named after the traditional sugar loaves, the Sugarloaf Mountain is a tall 395 metre peak rising from the Guanabar Bay in the Atlantic Ocean.

To reach the summit, passengers take two cable cars. The first ascends to the shorter Morro da Urca, 220 m (722 ft) high. The second car ascends to Pão de Açúcar. The Swiss-made bubble-shaped cars offer passengers 360° views of the surrounding city. The journey takes three minutes from start to finish.

At the top, you will have the chance to capture pictures of the sparkling Rio beaches, statue of Christ and the green forests.

Dinner will be taken at a Barbecue restaurant in Ipanema District At the restaurant they carve succulent meats at table side which are offered with a variety of freshly prepared gourmet salads and traditional Brazilian hot dishes.

Ipanema is one of the fantastic neighbourhoods of Rio with its beautiful beach and vibrant vibe. Whilst it has all the buzz of a city, it also has the coziness of a small town so it's easy to fall into the local lifestyle.



**Corcovado Train**



**Sugar Loaf Mountain**



**Barbecue restaurant**

**Day four:** A free day for you to relax and enjoy the beach before playing your **second match of the tour against a local team.**

As with all of the matches on the tour we match you against teams of your own ability level.

After the match you will return to your hotel for an evening meal.



**Day five:** Today will mainly be at the beach. After a tour of Rio's beaches you will visit the Olympic Park before returning to Leme's Beach for a foot volley clinic.

In the evening you will attend a match at the Maracanã which was, until recently the largest football stadium in the world.

Officially inaugurated during the 1950 World Cup, this all encompassing stadium features a capacity to hold 100,000 cheering fans. Owned by the Rio de Janeiro State Government, major football clubs like Flamengo, Fluminense, Botafogo and Vasco da Gama play their matches here.



**Maracanã Stadium**

The final 4 nights are spent in **Búzios** which sits on a peninsula edged by 17 beaches. A simple fishing village until the early '60s, when it was 'discovered' by Brigitte Bardot and her Brazilian boyfriend, it's now one of Brazil's most upscale and animated seaside resorts, littered with boutiques, fine restaurants, villas, bars and posh pousadas.

The Mediterranean touch introduced by the Portuguese has not been lost – indeed, the narrow cobblestone streets and picturesque waterfront contribute to Búzios' image as Brazil's St Tropez.

**Day six:** After breakfast you will leave Rio and Travel the 106 miles to Búzios eating lunch on the way .

Upon arrival you will check in at your hotel (Pousada do Namorado or similar) for the next 4 nights.

After check in there will be time for some practice at the local soccer field before having your evening meal.



**Hotel Pousada do Namorado**

After breakfast at the hotel you will have a free morning to explore the area before your **third match of the tour** at the Cabo Frio Stadium.

After the match you will eat dinner at an all you can eat Pizza restaurant in Cabo Frio.



**Cabo Frio Stadium**

**Day eight:** After breakfast at the hotel you will enjoy an unforgettable experience on a boat tour in the beautiful Bay of Buzios.

Set sail through the crystal-clear waters. See places such as Lighthouse Island, , Gorilla Rock, Blue Grotto, Pontal do Atalaia, and Forno Beach. Take in views of the exquisite landscape and the mighty sea.

After the tour return to the hotel in time for your evening meal.



**Boat tour**

**Day nine:** After breakfast at the hotel you will have time to do that last minute souvenir shopping. The resort offers some great opportunities to shop. Specialty stores located on Rua das Pedras offer a unique shopping experience with traditional Brazilian arts and crafts and much more, which you aren't likely to find easily. Grab the chance to chat with local shop owners and you can have an expert view on places to shop for what you are looking for.

Don't wear yourselves out though as you will be playing the **final match of your tour** in the early evening.

After the match return to the hotel in time for your farewell evening meal.



**Day ten:** Time to pack, check out of hotel and transfer to Rio de Janeiro International Airport.



## What's Included

As you will see from the list below other than lunches and spending money this tour includes everything from accommodation to meals, sightseeing to matches. We have really made this the trip of a lifetime!

- **5 nights in double rooms** in 4 stars hotel in Copacabana District
- **4 nights in double rooms** in a 3 stars hotel in Búzios
- **Full transportation** in private bus
- **9 Breakfasts** in self-service buffet
- **8 Meals** in self-service buffet
- **1 Dinner** in Barbecue steak house
- **4 games** against local teams
- **Tickets to a Pro-Soccer Game** in Maracanã Stadium (if available)
- **Beach Soccer clinic**
- **Tickets and sightseeing** to Sugar Loaf Mountain
- **Tickets and sightseeing** to Statue of Christ the Redeemer
- **City Tours** of Rio de Janeiro and Búzios
- **Boat Tour** in Búzios
- **Copacabana Open Market**
- **English Speaking Tour Guide**



**Beach Soccer!**

## Getting There

**Galeão International Airport is the main International airport serving Rio.** Only **British Airways** fly there directly from the UK , with daily flights from London-Heathrow.

There are several airlines that fly there with just one stop. For example **Lufthansa** fly from London-Heathrow with a stop over in Frankfurt, **KLM** fly from London-Heathrow with a stop over in Amsterdam and **Air France** fly from London-Heathrow with a stop over in Paris.

From Manchester **Air France** fly there with a stop over in Paris, **Lufthansa** fly there with a stop over in Frankfurt.

We can deal with certain airlines on your behalf if you wish, alternatively, we can pass your details on to a company called **AVIATE GROUPS** which is a division of Aviate Travel, who are committed to providing the best group flight booking service in the industry for both trade and consumers.

Booking group flights offers many benefits, but can be a confusing and stressful process. Aviate take the stress out of booking group travel. They organise flights and manage the booking from beginning to end, using their experience of the market and relationships with their airline partners to find you the best itinerary at the best group fare. Their ethos is customer service led, and their friendly and knowledgeable team will help you plan and manage your group booking. Also when you book your flights with **AVIATE GROUPS** you are protected under their ATOL licence.