

**Tango and Samba Package**  
9 days/8 nights

Great option for those who don't have much time and want to get a feel for the east part of South America. Visit cosmopolitan Buenos Aires with its museums, cafes, nightlife and surrounding area of "El Tigre & Delta". Fly to the magnificent Iguazu Falls, the most impressive waterfall in the world. Check out the scene in Rio de Janeiro, bordered on one side by the blue sea, on the other by verdant hills. Between them lies a colourful state of mind called CARIOCA, with almost 8 million locals who samba their way through life, relaxed and high-spirited. That is just the way it should be in Rio. You can combine this tour with a stay in either Buzios or Paraty, just over two hours away from Rio or perhaps fly north toward Salvador or the Amazon.

**Itinerary: ( Operates every day and available Buenos Aires to Rio or VV)**

**Day 01 Arrive Buenos Aires**

Morning transfer hotel to the airport for your flight to Buenos Aires. Meet and assist at the airport and transfer to selected hotel. **(B)**

Buenos Aires, capital city of Argentina is, with over 11 million inhabitants, one of the largest cities in the world. It is also the most elegant, sophisticated and active city in South America and undoubtedly the one that summarizes the varied and heterogeneous essence of the Argentine being. A city with modern structure and dynamic activity that has nevertheless found the way to preserve old traditions and lovely spots. Its ambiance fascinates for the different personality of each of the neighborhoods, the warm welcome of the people and the wide cultural and commercial offer. Buenos Aires is, undeniably, the great gateway to this magnificent country and to South America. (Take some time to do some shopping here: Leather goods, shoes, bags and clothes are a real bargain)



**Day 02 Buenos Aires**  
**Half day City Tour/Evening Tango Dinner Show**

Breakfast. Discover the beauty and wonders of Buenos Aires, visit the National Congress, The Metropolitan Cathedral next to the Government House in may square area. Admire the Colon Theatre, one of the most important opera houses in Latin America.

Visit San Telmo, traditional neighbourhood where Tango performances can be seen in many bars and restaurants. Stop at La Boca colourful neighbourhood, which was, seat of immigrants - mainly Italians - and now home of some artists. Enjoy Palermo, an area that combines its architecture and history with entertainment and amusement in its green spaces. Finally, La Recoleta, an exclusive and elegant district where the famous cemetery is found. Although it may seem unusual, fashionable restaurants, bars, cafes, discos and a cinema complex also surround the area. Afternoon free.



**In the evening, Tango Dinner-Show**

The ideal way to get to know the city. A delicious meal, good wine and the best Tango: a perfect combination. Taste Argentine cuisine specialities accompanied by excellent wines and finish the evening enjoying a Tango and folklore show long to be remembered. (the tour includes round trip transfers and can also be taken without the dinner)

**Duration:** including dinner 4 hours. **(B,D)**



**Day 03 Buenos Aires**  
**Free Day (B) – Optional Full Day Fiesta Gaucha Exc. AU\$65 p/pers inc. lunch.**

You will visit the Argentine countryside with its customs and traditions spending a day at a ranch. This delightful and unique tour will allow you to enjoy the traditional dances and songs of the Argentine countryside, taking part in a real Gaucho Festival. A welcome reception with typical "empanadas" (meat pies) and superb Argentine wine is offered. Then you will be enjoying a delicious Argentine barbecue: "Asado". This will be followed by a folklore show with singing and dancing, and a demonstration of "gaucho" skills on horseback: riding, rodeo, as well as a horse exhibition and the "sortija" (ring race). You may also have a horse ride or get on a typical carriage to have a better feeling of the gauchos' way of life. The first sight of the vast Pampas and its people.



**Day 04 Buenos Aires/Puerto Iguassu**  
**Morning flight to Puerto Iguassu**

Breakfast. Morning transfer to the airport for your flight to Puerto Iguazu and further transfer to selected hotel. **(B)**

Welcome to **Iguaçu Falls**, located in the unspoiled, tropical jungle at the borders of Brazil, Argentina and Paraguay, belong to the most spectacular nature attractions of South America. They are bigger and more breathtaking than the Niagara falls and they even top bigger than the Victoria falls in Africa. On a spread of 2.5 km the Iguacu descends with such force into the deep of the Garganta del Diabolo that one can hear it miles away. This spectacle of nature with the brown jungle stream gently flowing until it suddenly plunges straight down into the deep creating a huge cloud of water is an experience that will remain unforgettable.



In the afternoon, tour of the falls, Argentine side. Departure to the Iguazú Falls, located 24Km from Puerto Iguazú city. Arrival at the Visitor's Center at the entrance of the Iguazú National Park. This Center displays great panels showing the importance of the biodiversity of the humid subtropical forest. In order to gain access to the walkways from where the Iguazú Falls may be observed, the visitor takes a gas operated train to the upper paths and the Devil's Throat. The access to the San Martin Island is through the lower paths. Arriving at the Devil's Throat station the footbridge crosses several islands until the end where the visitors may enjoy a magnificent viewpoint of this overwhelming waterfall.



**Day 05 Foz do Iguazu**

### Morning Falls Tour – Brazilian Side

Departure to the Iguazú falls located 30Kkm from Foz do Iguazu city. Arrival at the Visitor's Centre at the entrance of the Iguazú National Park with excellent photographs of the falls. The visit continues inside the National Park, along a paved road which will take us to the magnificent Iguazú Falls. Start the walking tour along the catwalk with several gorgeous panoramic views of the falls and at the end of the catwalk a fantastic close-up encounter with the Devils' Throat and main waterfalls. It is a completely different tour than the one on the Argentine side, we recommend you to see the falls from both sides. The tour ends at the upper part of Iguazú Falls taking a panoramic elevator. From there, the visitors will follow a track to Porto Canoas, from where you will enjoy a pleasant lookout point with a great view to the upper Iguazú River. Overnight at selected hotel. **(B)**

### Day 06 Foz do Iguazu/Rio de Janeiro

#### Afternoon flight to Rio de Janeiro

Morning free to relax. Afternoon transfer to the airport for your flight to Rio de Janeiro. Transfer to selected hotel. **(B)**

**Rio de Janeiro** - founded in 1556, the city of St. Sebastian of Rio de Janeiro became the capital of the Colony of Brazil in 1776. Rio is graced by its topography. The city is situated in a 15-mile-strip of land, wedged between mountains and sea. There are some thirty miles separating downtown Flamengo, from far-flung Recreio, bordered on one side by the blue sea, on the other by verdant hills. Between them lies a colourful state of mind called CARIOCA, with almost 8 million locals who samba their way through life, relaxed and high-spirited. That is just the way it should be in Rio, surrounded by natural beauty on all sides, with Christ the Redeemer perched on top of Corcovado blessing the city and Sugar Loaf, one of the most famous postcards of our country.

### Day 07 Rio de Janeiro

#### Half day Corcovado Tour

Departure from the hotel to the Corcovado railway station at the foot of the Corcovado mountain. A 3,5 kilometer (25 minutes) train ride through the lush mountain greenery to the station on the top of the mountain. Take elevator and escalator from the end station to the 38 meter high statue of Christ the Redeemer, 710 m above sea level. Time at leisure. Return to the train and ride back to the Corcovado railway station. Lunch and return to hotel. **(B)**

#### Optional Evening BBQ/Dinner Show. Price per person AU\$97, inc transfers, show & dinner

Departure from the hotel to one of Rio's many "Churrascarias", or barbeque restaurants where you will sample some of the country's magnificent barbecued meats. Here they serve up to 12 different kinds of meat, chicken and sausages, plus salads, French fries and enough other accompaniments to satisfy anyone. From the restaurant, a short transfer to Plataforma 1, located in Leblon, to experience a fantastic and colourful show. The show takes the visitor on a journey through Brazil's cultural past with music, typical Afro-Brazilian dances, Samba-schools, Carnival dresses and much more. The show begins at 22:00 and ends at 23:30. Return transfer to the hotel. Entrance fees included.

### Day 08 Rio de Janeiro

#### Free day (B). Optional Half day Sugar Loaf Tour. AU\$66 p/pers.

Breakfast. Sugar Loaf half day Exc. Departure from the hotel driving along the beaches to the northern parts of Rio with a stop at "Sambodromo", the purposed built stadium where the Samba-schools perform during the carnival. The tour continues passing by the biggest soccer stadium in the world, Maracana with capacity for more than 160.000 spectators. Then towards the downtown area, which is the business heart of Rio but it is also here where the historical sites of Rio are. Driving the narrow streets, passing by the Metropolitan Cathedral, some futuristic office buildings, the municipal theatre and the main avenue of Rio Branco before leaving the downtown area towards Sugar Loaf. Passing through the Flamengo Park and Botafogo before arriving to Urca and the cable Car station to the Sugar Loaf. By cable car to the first stage, the Morro da Urca mountain (220 meters). Walk to the other side of the mountain to take the next cable car to Sugar Loaf (395 meters). Time at leisure. Return to the ground level. Transfer back to hotel and rest of the day free.

### Day 09 Depart Rio de Janeiro

Breakfast. Late morning transfer to the airport for your flight back home. **(B)**

#### End of Services.

#### Prices for 2009

Price per person in 3\* hotels double share is **AU\$1402**

Single Supplement for 3\* hotels is **AU\$668**

Triple Reduction for 3\* hotels is **AU\$132**

Price per person in 4\* hotels double share is **AU\$2126**

Single Supplement for 4\* hotels is **AU\$1513**

Triple Reduction for 4\* hotels is **AU\$179**

Price per person in 5/4\* hotels double share is **AU\$3823**

Single Supplement for 5/4\* hotels is **AU\$3022**

Triple Reduction for 5/4\* hotels is **AU\$231**

#### Hotels Used

##### 3\*\*\* Hotels

Regis Hotel in Buenos Aires  
Rafain Centro in Foz do Iguassu  
Copacabana Rio in Rio de Janeiro

##### 4\*\*\*\* Hotels

Design Suites in Buenos Aires  
Bourbon Resort in Foz do Iguassu  
Ipanema Plaza in Rio de Janeiro

##### 5/4\*\*\*\*\* Hotels

Marriott Plaza in Buenos Aires



Tropical das Cataratas in Foz do Iguassu (4\*)  
Sofitel in Rio de Janeiro

**Includes: (All services in Seat in Bus basis = SIB and hotels in Run of the House = ROH, unless otherwise specified)**

#### Argentina

- Transfers in/out in Buenos Aires
- 3 nights accommodation in selected hotel in standard room
- Daily buffet breakfasts
- Half Day tour of Buenos Aires
- Tango/Dinner Show with transfers
- Hotel taxes

#### Brazil

- Transfers in/out in Foz do Iguassu
- 2 nights accommodation in selected hotel, in standard room
- Daily breakfasts
- Half day Argentinean Falls Excursion
- Half day Brazilian Falls Excursion
- Transfers in/out in Rio de Janeiro
- 3 nights accommodation in selected hotel, standard room
- Daily breakfasts
- Half day Corcovado excursion
- Hotel taxes

**Please Note:** Please be aware that arrival times and the itinerary may change due to unforeseen delays or events such as festivals and public holidays. However, we shall endeavour to ensure all sites are visited and that your tour runs as smoothly as possible but please note that Latin America does not run like clockwork, therefore do not expect the streamlined travel arrangements associated with some other continents. Things do not always go to plan; there will be times when you will need to be patient and philosophical about your travels. Conditions in South America can change rapidly and changes to the itinerary may be necessary. Be flexible, you will enjoy your tour much more. Travel Projects Pty Ltd. makes a point of visiting the indigenous populations of each country you visit, in order to give a true reflection of the country; please treat the local people and their customs with respect. Lastly, your tour guides are always conscious of everybody's views, but sometimes he/she will have to make an unpopular decision and your understanding will be appreciated in these circumstances.

**What's Not Included:** All optional excursions and meals unless otherwise stated in the itinerary, visas, pre- and post-tour accommodation.

#### Pre Departure Information Follows

##### Pre-Departure

All passengers MUST bring:

1. Passport.
2. Vaccination Certificate.
3. Travel Vouchers.
4. Travel Insurance Policy.

**Insurance:** Travel insurance is compulsory for all tours. All clients MUST be insured to cover personal accident, medical expenses, cancellation, curtailment and repatriation. If you have not already arranged your insurance Travel Projects can do this for you.

Please call us on the Travel Projects 1300 662 533 number, or on 03-9670 7304 in Australia for further information. No client will be allowed on tours without suitable insurance. At the start of your tour or on collection of your travel documents, you will be asked to present your original policy document and complete an insurance information form. We recommend that you have a photocopy of this document, which you keep separate from the original. It is very important that your insurance policy is relevant to the Travel Projects style of travel. Also, be aware that many of the optional activities such as bungee jumping or water rafting may not be covered on your policy. If you plan on doing any of these activities please purchase additional insurance.

**Passport:** Your passport is a valuable document and you should exercise extreme care in keeping it safe. We recommend that you keep your passport on you at all times, preferably in a money belt that is worn under your clothing or in a suitable safe deposit box at your hotel. It must be valid for at least six months after the end of your tour and it must have at least one blank page for each visa required. We advise that you take copies of relevant pages in your passport and any visas that you may purchase in case of loss or damage. We recommend that you have a photocopy of all passport details, kept separate.

**Climate Information:** For detailed climate information see <http://www.columbusguides.com/region/atoz.asp> Travel Tip: Always bring a lightweight, waterproof jacket and/or an umbrella even during the height of summer - this should prepare you for anything!

In Patagonia temperatures can fall to below zero between early autumn and late spring. Be prepared for very cold conditions. You should bring a warm jacket, gloves and woolly hat if you are doing a trip in Patagonia.

**Money:** We suggest passengers budget for between US\$25-30 per day for personal expenses, souvenirs, evening out, alcoholic drinks etc. Be aware that some countries are more expensive than others and that if you are travelling through several your expenses will vary enormously. Similarly there will be some days when you spend nothing at all and others when you exceed your budget.



**Take your money in US dollars only.** This is the only foreign currency readily exchanged in Latin America. Traveller's cheques should be AMERICAN EXPRESS. American Express is the most widely accepted. Cash is far easier to exchange than Travellers Cheques, but also more risky as once lost, is irreplaceable. However, we do recommend that you take some US dollars cash in small denominations (\$10 and \$20). In many countries, you may exchange US Dollars traveller's cheques for US cash, or retrieve US dollars cash from ATMs (with a credit card), usually for a small commission but please do not rely solely on this option.

Credit cards are accepted frequently, particularly in the larger cities. They can also be used to get money from ATMs. Visa, MasterCard and American Express are the most widely accepted credit cards. Visa being the most useful.

**Local Customs:** Please use your discretion and be sensitive to cultural differences in the countries that you visit, in particular visits to religious buildings and when taking photographs. Your Tour Guides will advise you of any specific customs to observe.

## **Luggage and Personal**

### **Equipment:**

#### **How much should I take?**

- The best rule for packing is to limit your self to a 1 suitcase of approx. 31Kgs. It will inconvenience you and your fellow passengers if you bring more. If your luggage does not arrive at the airport, please inform your crew at the Pre Departure Meeting.
- A small daypack is practical for keeping general items (e.g. camera, books, wallets etc.) at hand when your main pack is out of reach. It is also handy for day trips and excursions. This can also be used for carrying 2 days of clothing so it is not always necessary to unload the large backpacks every night. You will be in hotels and hostels for the majority of the tour but you may wish to bring the following for the Inca trail, although these can be hired in Cuzco for a small cost of approximately US\$8 per day.
- Sleeping Bag (If you are doing the Inca Trail or any other trek with tent accommodation) - a good quality sleeping bag, rated for sub-zero conditions is the best for tours, which travel through the Andes and Patagonia. You can purchase extra blankets in South America cheaply. We recommend a Four Seasons sleeping bag.
- Inner Sheet - for your sleeping bag. Can also be used as a sleeping bag when it's hot.
- We also recommend that you keep your passport, credit cards travellers cheques etc. on you at all times, preferably in a money belt worn under your clothes.

**TRAVEL TIP:** You might be tempted to buy a few souvenirs here and there, so leave a little room for those extra purchases!!

**Personal Effects:** We suggest that you take into account the time of year you will be travelling, and pack accordingly to the season. Quick drying clothes are recommended, and at many hotels there are laundry facilities. Your tour guide will advise where this is possible.

### **Personal Effects:**

Camera & film, Spare passport photos, Water bottle, Money belt, Sewing kit, Sunhat/ Sunglasses, Music cassettes /CDs, Books, Wet Ones, Soap to wash clothes, Writing materials, Swiss Army knife, Calculator, Personal toiletries, including tampons, Contraceptives, Insect Repellent, Sunscreen

**NOTE:** If you wear glasses, it is advisable to bring a spare pair since opticians are uncommon. If you wear contact lenses you may find that climatic changes and dust can create visual irritation, therefore, it is advisable to bring a pair of glasses.

**Time:** For detailed information see [www.timezoneconverter.com](http://www.timezoneconverter.com)

**Language:** Spanish is the language most widely spoken in the countries we visit in Latin America but English will be spoken in the larger cities. You might like to take the time before your trip to read up on the country you will be visiting and perhaps learn a few words of the language. Your effort will always be welcomed and will make your trip all the more enjoyable.

**Photography:** All types of camera film are readily available in Latin America; however, it is often cheaper to purchase it in your country of origin or through duty free. As a guideline, most people use approximately one to two rolls of 36 per week. Fast film (200-400 ASA) may be useful at times and black & white film is nice to use for portraits of local people. A zoom lens is also useful. Please remember, we are guests in the countries through which we travel and we may sometimes inadvertently cause offence by taking photographs without first asking permission. Most Latin American countries have very strict rules about taking photos of army, police or any official personnel; restrictions apply at borders, bridges and any government building. Please exercise care in this regard as the penalty may be to have your film and/or camera confiscated. It is absolutely forbidden by law to take photos at any borders, as they are all active military installations.

**Food:** Local Restaurants - Latin American food is delicious, nutritious and varied and local restaurants provide an important insight into local ways of life. There is always an excellent range of restaurants to choose from. An evening meal can range from US\$1 up to US\$20. Most travellers spend an average of US\$5 to US\$10 plus drinks. Local alcoholic drinks are generally inexpensive even in restaurants and bars. Vegetarians are easily catered for.

**Accommodation:** We have put a lot of thought and effort into locating the most appropriate type of accommodation for each tour and our clients' needs. We choose our hotels, guesthouses and hostels for their location, comfort, security and hygiene standards. All are located near the city centre usually within easy walking distance of services and facilities. Most rooms are on a twin, double or triple share basis with private bathrooms.

## **Pre & Post Tour**

### **Accommodation:**

If you wish to spend a few additional days in your start city before the departure of your tour, then we can arrange accommodation for you. On the last day of the tour we usually arrive at our final destination in the late afternoon, when the tour ends. If you would like to book accommodation for that night or even stay additional nights, we will be more than happy to arrange this for you as well. All our accommodation is carefully chosen, conveniently located, clean and comfortable. (All rates per person per night and subject to availability).

### **Tippling and Bargaining:**

For better or for worse, tipping is an accepted part of everyday life and although it is always at your discretion, you will be expected to tip to reward service. To avoid embarrassing situations always ask your local guides about tipping.

**Drug Policy:** Under no circumstances are any illegal drugs allowed on any part of the trip. Anyone discovered in possession of any such drugs, will be asked to leave the tour immediately without question or refund.

## **When you've finished your tour**

We would like to know what you thought! Obviously, we are concerned that everybody should get the most from their holiday. Customer feedback is very important to us, both to help maintain standards and to spot any potential trouble areas. So your written comments will be more than welcome once you are back home.

## **Special Interest Groups**

Travel Projects is well organized to operate private groups and arrange special requests. We would be delighted to provide you with a quote for your requirements, whether you would like us to arrange a specific itinerary or suggest a route within your preferred region. In the past we have organized successful trips for dance schools, music groups, sporting groups and special interest groups to Latin America.

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