

BRASMEX-Europa GbR

History of Brazil



1st day: Lisbon, where it all began

We will fly to Lisbon in order to see where it all began. Unfortunately the big earthquake of 1755 destroyed the main buildings like the former royal palace. Nevertheless the monastery of Sankt Hieronymus and the famous tower of Belem let imagine the times of king Manuel I. The monument "Padrão dos Descobrimentos" honors the discoverer of Brazil.

2nd day: Porto Seguro

We will use a stop over in Guarulhos/São Paulo to recall the declaration of the independence of Brazil from Portugal. The "Parque Independência" in the district of Ipiranga was named in memento of 1822 when Dom Pedro I., the later emperor of Brazil, declared the independence. In the afternoon we continue our flight to Porto Seguro.

3rd day: "Costa do Descobrimento"

Pedro Alvares Cabral entered Brazil on April 22, 1500 and declared the territory as property of Portugal. We will visit the beaches of this coast of discovery (Costa do Descobrimento), the nature reserve of mount Pascoal and the territory of the Pataxó tribe in order to imagine the impression of the first Europeans discovering this country. Here we also will find some parts of the rain forest "Mata Atlântica", formerly covering the whole area of the east cost of Brazil.

4th day: Flight to Salvador da Bahia

Salvador da Bahia was the first capital of Brazil.



5th day: Salvador da Bahia

Tomé de Sousa founded Salvador da Bahia in 1549. The town became capital of Brazil in the same year. Economical base of the North of Brazil in the 17th century was the exportation of sugar. The production of sugar was the main reason for the importation of slaves from Africa. Salvador da Bahia lost its importance with the exploitation of minerals in the southern part of Brazil in the 18th century. As a consequence the city also lost its status as capital of Brazil to Rio de Janeiro (1763). Salvador da Bahia is built into the mountains on mainly two levels. The upper town with the administration and the lower town with the harbor and the market. Both are connected by an elevator (Lacerda), busses and the funicular Plano Inclinado Gonçalves.



6th day: Bahia de Todos os Santos

Bahia de Todos os Santos is the major bay of Brazil. The Italian cartographer Gaspar de Lemos named it according to his arrival on November 1st, 1501 (All Saints' Day). We will spend the whole day in the bay and its islands.



7th day: Recife

The next chapter of the Brazilian history took place near Recife.

8th day: Dutchman in Brazil

The area near Recife was colonized by the Portuguese in 1537. Olinda, today a town near Recife, is one of the most antique cities of Brazil and was the capital of Pernambuco until it was conquered by the Dutch in 1630. Since 1982 Olinda is honored by the UNESCO as World Heritage. The Dutch general governor Moritz von Nassau founded a new city nearer to the sea, called it Mauritsstad and transferred the center of commerce to

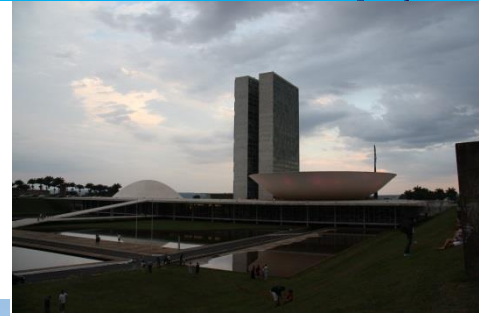
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the new city. The Dutch period ended in 1654 after the battle of Guararapes. Mauritsstad was renamed in Recife in 1710. It became capital of the Brazilian state of Pernambuco in 1837. Witnesses of the Dutch period and part of our journey are the fortresses and Olinda itself.

We will start our visit of Rio de Janeiro with the historical center and the buildings of the city as capital of Brazil. The national park of "Floresta da Tijuca" contains parts of the Mata Atlântica the former main forest of Brazil and on its oriental edge the hill of Corcovado with its famous "Cristo Redentor".



9th day: Flight to Rio de Janeiro

We will fly to Rio de Janeiro, the most famous town of Brazil.

10th day: Rio de Janeiro

Rio de Janeiro became capital of Brazil on January 27, 1763. French troops of Napoleon Bonaparte entered into Portugal in 1807 and the Portuguese king João VI. fled to Brazil. After the Napoleon wars he returned to Portugal in 1821. His son, Pedro I., declared the independence of Brazil from Portugal on September 7, 1822 and himself emperor of Brazil on September 22, of the same year.



11th day : Day on the beach

The beautiful beaches of Rio de Janeiro invite for a day of recreation. A visit of the Corcovado and the Sugar Loaf is a must for those who visit Rio for the first time. UNESCO since 1987.

12th day: Brasília

Brasília, the third capital of Brazil is our next destination. The decision to build a new capital became part of the Brazilian constitution in 1891. The construction started on September 7, 1922 and 48 years later, on April 21, 1960 president Juscelino Kubitschek could inaugurate the new capital. The city was designed as a cross in the center of Brazil (with one axis bend due to the landscape of this region). Brasília is part of the world heritage monuments of the UNESCO since 1987.

13th day: Flight back to Europe

We will return to Europe after having visited all the three capitals of this marvelous country since 1549 and having experienced six centuries of Brazilian history.

14th day: Arrival in Munich

Our journey will end in Munich.



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