









# DMC & Incoming Tour Operator

www.passionbrazil.com



## **Passion Brazil**

Passion Brazil is the complete DMC for Brazil, specializing in tailor-made holidays, exclusive experiences, special interest itineraries, leisure groups, incentive travel, events and travel services designed to meet your client's needs.

Located in the heart of Rio de Janeiro since 2004 and Salvador (Bahia) since 2011, Passion Brazil is also present in all the other Brazilian cities.

Our company is strongly influenced by the way we strive to harmonise **the European way of working** (highly committed, efficient, detail-oriented and with a constant search for improvement) with **Brazilian dynamism**, **creativity and flair!** 

#### Our services and values include:

- Original experiences and exclusive travel services;
- The ability to meet every need and match every budget;
- Reliable, efficient and well-proven travel and accommodation logistics;
- Unique and unforgettable offers in exceptional locations;
- Knowledgeable, experienced and permanently placed field staff;
- Effective, transparent and trusting industry cooperation;
- Strong buying power through our network of local partners.

## **Our Expertise**

We have been a major player in the Brazil's business tourism industry since early 2000 and we have an unrivalled reputation and privileged relationships with all our local and international suppliers and partners.

We are passionate about Brazil and everything it has to offer our guests and business partners and we take great pride in our personalized, reliable and highquality professional services.

#### Passion Brazil's support for your business travel needs includes:

- Tailor-made holidays;
- Thematic trips and special interest tours (wellness, honeymoon, family trips, sports and adventure, agro-business, architecture...)
- Incentive travel and special events;
- Conventions, conferences and seminar organization;
- Luxury trips and high-end services for VIP's and small groups;
- Airport services and transport requirements;
- Hotel selection and booking;
- Special meals, gastronomy and restaurant booking.



## Why Passion Brazil?

Our mission is to identify and then exceed our client's needs and expectations, providing you, and your clients with inspiring, enjoyable and unforgettable Brazilian experiences.

We strive to deliver unique solutions and proposals, designed to meet the specific needs of everyone who travels with Passion Brazil. For us, the impossible does not exist!

Our suppliers are carefully selected, guaranteeing a high level of personal service and product innovation, faultless professionalism and complete customer satisfaction.

We have a strong, nation-wide network of local partners and our purchasing power ensures that our rates are always highly competitive, adding value to your relationship with your clients and flexibility in negotiations.

### Our Team and Departments

Our team of passionate & experienced Travel Consultants is trained to best advice about our products and designing the best proposal according to your clients' needs.

With around 30 employees (which is not too big to make it impersonal, nor too small to have to rush on requests), we are able to carefully work on each request and give our clients total assistance.

#### Our departments:

- FIT
- Groups
- Incentive Travel and Special Events
- Handling
- Product and Contracting
- Financial and Administrative
- Human Resources



## **General Information**

Brazil is a land which, according to a popular saying: "was blessed by God and is naturally beautiful". Brazil is continental in size, the fourth largest national territory in the world. In fact, its land expanse is greater than Europe and larger than the continent of United States (excluding Alaska and Hawaii).

A visit to Brazil means the unexpected discovery of a place of warm tropical sun and 5000 miles of white-sand beaches, of coconut groves and mango trees, of music and dance, of baroque colonial towns and villages, plus impressive cities of 21st century opulence and sophistication.

Brazil's allure is not only in the climate, the landscapes and the architecture, it lies in the people themselves, whose sense of cordial hospitality and friendship creates the perfect environment for your travel. As a whole the climate is excellent all year round.

From North to South, unique attractions are ready to amaze and excite participants on any kind of Special Interest Program who are eager to see and learn about new, different things.

Brazil offers a wide range of hotel accommodations ranging from deluxe resorts to lodges deep in the rain forest with something sure to match the budget and characteristics of any travelers.

Whatever choice you make, personal attention and warm hospitality will be yours everyday of your stay.

#### Health

There are no compulsory health requirements for entry into Brazil. Precautions are advised for Yellow Fever and Malaria. Visitors are advised to have full medical insurance coverage.

Please note that if you are entering Brazil via Peru, Ecuador or Colombia, you will be required to provide an up to date yellow fever vaccination certificate for immigration purposes.

Avoid eating and drinking local products from street vendors and restaurants with suspect hygiene or refrigeration practices. It is advisable to drink only bottled water at all times.



#### Money

The Brazilian currency is the REAL. All banks and exchange offices accept foreign currency. It is advisable to take US Dollar as this is more readily exchanged than other currency.

Credit Cards - Access, MasterCard, American Express, Diners Club and Visa are accepted in the majority of hotels, shops and restaurants.

Banking Hours - 10:00-16:00 Monday to Friday (may vary in some banks) ATM machines are also available in the main cities.

#### Time

Brazil spans several time zones, however the Brazilian Standard Time is 3 hours earlier than G.M.T. and 2 hours earlier in the summer (Oct to Feb).

#### Language

The official language is Portuguese. Some English is spoken, particularly in the main cities, but the nearest thing to a second language is Spanish with which you will generally be able to make yourself understood.

#### **Taxes**

Airport taxes are usually included on the ticket price. To promote tourism and conventions, most of the hotels charge a non-mandatory fee that runs from U\$ 1,00 to U\$ 7,00 per room per night depending on the hotel category as a contribution to the Convention Bureau. If guests want to deny the payment they must inform to the reception clerk upon check out.

#### **General Security**

Brazil, especially Rio, has had a bad reputation for personal security and many potential visitors have been put off travelling there. Much of this reputation can be put down to wild exaggeration, but it has had the beneficial effect of spurring the various city authorities into doing something about it. There are now far more tourist police, who are a great deal more helpful to visitors, and there is much better patrolling of problem areas. Although there is far more being done to improve security, an awareness of the following will lessen the risk to you and your belongings.



#### **Tipping**

In most restaurants and bars, a 10% service fee is added to the bill. More sophisticated places may add on 15%. If service is not included it will be stated at the bottom of the bill: "Serviço não incluído".

Cab drivers do not expect a tip, but it is normal to round up the final price. You should be aware that the amount shown on the taximeter may not always correspond to the amount you are due to pay - look out for a separate sheet taped to the window which will tell you how much the amount on the meter equates to.

#### Brazilian food and drink

The most common dishes feature various meats, rice and the ubiquitous Brazilian black beans (feijão), whilst restaurants often offer all-you-can-eat barbecues and buffets.

Brazil also has many regional varieties of cookery. An example is the Bahian cookery, which includes dishes such as: Vatapa (shrimps, fish oil, coconut milk, bread and rice), Sarapatel (liver, heart, tomatoes, peppers, onions and gravy). From Rio Grande do Sul a typical dish is Churrasco (a kind of barbecue). From the Amazon comes Tacaca (thick soup with shrimps and garlic).

All alcoholic drinks are available, including excellent large style beers: Skol, Brahma, Antarctica and Cerpa. The most popular local alcoholic beverage is Cachaça, most commonly served as 'Caipirinha' with slices of lime. Soft drinks include Guaraná (a carbonated cola-like drink) and many varieties of excellent fruit-juices (sucos) including several vitamin-rich fruits you will never have heard of. Coffee tends to be served as a very strong. If you want to avoid sugar in sucos or coffee you should specifically ask for this.

#### Clothing

Brazil's climate ranges from tropical in the North to temperate in the South. Throughout the country, however, dress is informal. Generally, light cotton shirts, shorts, dresses and trousers are ideal for day wear, whilst in the evenings long-sleeved shirts and leather shoes are normal.

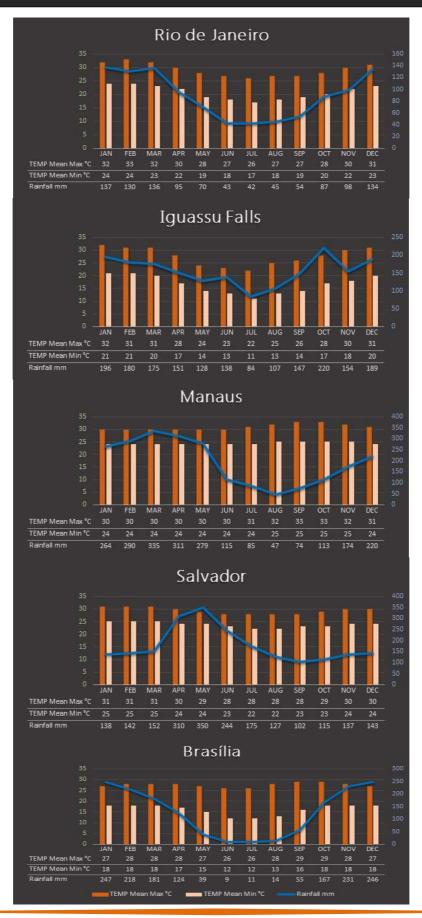
You will not normally need a jacket and tie in Brazil. In winter season (June/September) it is worth bringing something warm, as the temperature can be quite cool in the South of the country.

#### Shopping

As with the food, in a country the size of Brazil there are many local specialties for the shopper. In most major cities shopping centers stay open until late (up to 10.00 pm), while street shops close at 6pm. Good-quality arts and crafts are available at regular outdoor markets, which are colorful and entertaining places for tourists to visit.



## Climate





# The Country





# **Main Destinations**

# Nature (Amazon | Pantanal | Bonito | Chapada)









# Culture & History (Minas Gerais | Paraty | Olinda)











# Sea & Sun (Jericoacoara | Morro de São Paulo | Búzios | Ilha Grande | Trancoso)



















