

BRAZIL & ARGENTINA



TRIP OVERVIEW

An incredible introduction to Brazil and Argentina, this 9 day, 8 night tour offers a fantastic insight into some of the best these countries have to offer. Discover the breathtaking beauty of the flamboyant Rio de Janeiro, experience the wild thunder of the mighty Iguazu Falls & get lost in the alluring passion & elegance of Buenos Aires. This extraordinary tour combines natural wonders, tropical jungles, world famous beaches & vibrant cities.

ITINERARY & DETAILS

This document aims to give you all the information that you require for a smooth and comfortable trip to Brazil & Argentina. Please take the time to read this dossier to familiarise yourself with all the aspects of our tour. It includes important information such as flight details, visa requirements & travel insurance.

Your included meal guide:

B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner

DAY 1: UK to Rio de Janeiro

Depart London on your scheduled, overnight flight to Rio de Janeiro, via São Paulo.

DAY 2: Rio de Janeiro

On arrival, you will be met by your local guide and transferred to your hotel. The rest of the day is at leisure to settle in and relax.

DAY 3: Rio de Janeiro B

Spend the morning on a half day tour of the city including a visit to Sugarloaf Mountain, a natural peak situated on a peninsula at the mouth of a bay, and one of Rio's most famous icons. Take a ride in a cable car to the 394 metre summit for breathtaking views over the surrounding beaches and bays including the well-known Copacabana Beach. Enjoy the rest of the day as free time to further explore this beautiful city and perhaps stop to try some 'açaí', a local deliciously healthy fruit, at one of the city's thousands of juice bars found on every corner you turn.

DAY 4: Rio de Janeiro B

This morning's tour takes you to Corcovado Mountain in Tijuca Forest, site of the magnificent Christ the Redeemer statue. Considered to be the largest art deco statue in the world, the impressive figure standing 30 metres tall and arms stretching 28 metres wide, is a symbol of Brazilian Christianity overlooking the city. The afternoon is at leisure, you may choose to take a stroll along Ipanema beach or explore the beautiful Botanical Gardens.

DAY 5: Rio de Janeiro & Iguazu B

The morning is free before you take your flight to the Brazilian side of the Iguazu Falls. We suggest you take a trip to Santa Teresa, a bohemian neighbourhood where the Portuguese Royal Family used to reside in the eighteenth century. On arrival in Iguazu, you will be transferred to your hotel where you will spend the night.

DAY 6: Iguazu Argentinian Side B

Declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1984, Iguazu National Park is home to incredible waterfalls with 275 jumps of water falling from an average height of 70 metres. On today's tour you will explore the routes of the Upper Circuit, Lower Circuit and Devil's Throat. The Lower Circuit is a trail of just under one mile and allows you to get closer to some of the smaller waterfalls. From the Upper Circuit you will be able to enjoy stunning panoramic views and the top of the majestic falls. The infamous Devil's Throat is where the largest volume of water descends and from the catwalk here you will really be able to feel the intensity of the almighty thunder.

DAY 7: Iguazu & Buenos Aires B

This morning, cross back into Brazil to see this side of Iguazu National Park. Take in the amazing views of San Martin Island and three of the most impressive jumps of the falls before getting to a further viewpoint with a perfect view of the Devil's Throat just 150 metres away. In the afternoon you will transfer to the airport in order to catch your flight to Buenos Aires where you will be met and taken to your hotel.

DAY 8: Buenos Aires B

Today's morning tour of the city starts in the historic Plaza de Mayo, the site of the 1810 revolution and now a hub of political life. From here you will see the Casa Rosada government palace and its famous balcony where Eva Peron used to address the people. Later you will reach the picturesque and colourful neighbourhood of La Boca with its famous street 'Caminito' whose architecture reflects the European influence of the late 19th century. After this, head to the modern Palermo neighbourhood with its elegant residences, finally reaching the district of Recoleta, the most sophisticated neighbourhood in Buenos Aires. Enjoy the afternoon at leisure; perhaps see a Tango show which your guide will be able to organise for you at an additional cost.

DAY 9: Buenos Aires B

Enjoy a day at leisure to take in the city at your own pace. We recommend a visit to the Malba Museum to learn about Latin America arts or a drink at one of the vibrant bars in Plaza Serrano - ask for an 'alfajores,' a soft delicate cookie filled with dulce de leche.

DAY 10/11: Buenos Aires to the UK or Extension B

Transfer from your hotel to Buenos Aires Airport in time for your overnight flight back to the UK, via São Paulo or continue on to your chosen extension.

ACCOMMODATION DETAILS & MAP

Accommodation

Your accommodation is selected for convenience, location, comfort or character, and can range from business hotels to leisure hotels. Hotel accommodation is generally rated as local three to four-star standard, but please note there is no international classification system for hotels, and differences in facilities and quality do exist between the UK and Peru. All group tours hotels have private bathroom facilities and air-conditioning, where needed.

Rest assured that all accommodation used by Mercury Holidays is regularly inspected by our staff and partners to ensure that standards meet your needs.

Meals

Breakfast is always western style and served in the hotel each morning. Lunch and dinner are not included in the tour so you will be able to choose where you dine for these meals. Your guide will be able to offer recommendations if you wish.



ON YOUR ARRIVAL

On your arrival in Rio de Janeiro you will be met by a representative from our local agent, **Blumar**, holding a sign displaying: "Mercury Holidays". The Mercury Holidays/Blumar representative will show you to your transfer vehicle. Your guide will be able to answer any queries. However, if you need to contact Blumar or Eurotur (Argentina) during your stay the details are:

BRAZIL: Blumar

Rua Siqueira Campos, 43 - cob 02
Copacabana, Rio de Janeiro, 22031-901
Telephone: 0055 21 2142 9300
E-mail: laila@blumar.com.br

ARGENTINA: Eurotur SRL

Viamonte 486
Buenos Aires - Argentina
Telephone 0054 11 4312-6077
E-mail: camila.udovicich@eurotur.tur.ar

Emergency contact information

Please find below the 24 hour emergency contact details
BRAZIL: 0055 21 97293 4434

ARGENTINA: 0054 9 11 6878-1562 / 0054 9 11 4992-1369
Emergency e-mail address: 247@eurotur.tur.ar

WHAT YOU NEED FOR YOUR TOUR

Visas

UK passport holders are not currently required to obtain a visa prior to travel for either countries. This will be granted on arrival for stays of up to 90 days. Further advice should be sought from the applicable tourist authority for other nationalities and for general queries. We strongly advise you to check with your destinations' tourist board or embassy for the most up to date guidelines regarding the required passport validity.

Insurance

We strongly recommend that you and all members of your party are suitably insured as soon as you book your holiday. It is a condition of booking that you must have suitable travel insurance. It is important that you purchase travel insurance that suitably covers your participation in whatever activities you may undertake at the time that you make your booking. To assist you with this, we have arranged travel insurance in partnership with Holiday Extras. To arrange your travel insurance with Holiday Extras, please call 0800 781 4237 and quote 'WK830' for preferential rates. Please ensure you provide us with the name of your insurer, policy number and their 24 hour emergency contact number as soon as possible. Mercury Holidays will not be liable for any costs incurred by you due to your failure to take out suitable travel insurance from the date of booking.

Tour Guides

This is an escorted tour, meaning that you will be met on arrival and will have a local English speaking guide with you in each destination during excursions and transfers, ensuring that you have first-hand knowledge at all times.

Tipping

It is customary to tip both your driver and guide and is at your discretion. We would recommend approximately £2.00 (\$3.00) per person per day in total. This will be collected at the end of your day and can be paid in both local currency and US dollars. This is a total of £18 per person (\$23) to budget for tips on your trip.

Health and Vaccinations

It is your responsibility to check any health and vaccination requirements applicable to your booked arrangements. We can only provide general information about this. Health and hygiene facilities and disease risks vary from country to country. You should take health advice about your own needs as

early as possible and in good time before your departure. Sources of information include; www.fco.gov.uk, www.travelhealthpro.org.uk, www.hpa.org.uk, your General Practitioner or a specialist clinic.

Physical Accessibility

This tour is accessible to most people with a good level of fitness and normal mobility. It involves climbing of steep stairs and getting on and off coaches. This tour is not suitable for anyone with walking difficulties.

All our tours feature a "Tour Pace" to help find the right holiday for you. To travel on any of our tours requires unaided mobility and the ability to stroll around the sights, climb stairs and get on and off coaches and boats. Our tour paces are marked with dots out of 3, with the differences being as follows:

- 1 Dot the tour is Easy-Going
- 2 Dots the tour is Intermediate
- 3 Dots the tour is Advanced

Brazil and Argentina is rated as 2 Dots meaning that the tour pace is Intermediate. A good level of fitness is required as you may be on your feet for approximately four hours in a day, though this will be interspersed with regular breaks and will vary from day to day. You will be walking around the sights, and may be getting on and off coaches, trains and boats and climbing steps which may be irregular. You will stay in variety of hotels throughout the tour.

Our guides will always endeavor to provide the highest level of service and assistance; however, they cannot be expected to cater for customers who are unfit to complete the itinerary.

Group Size

The minimum number of travellers in your group will be 10, and the maximum will be 35. If in the unlikely event there are less than 10 people booked on your tour date, we will endeavour to reduce any disruption to your holiday and try to operate your tour with lower passenger numbers. If we are not able to operate your departure date, then you may be asked to change to a different date and a full refund will be made available to you should this alternative not be suitable.

Currency Exchange

The currency in Brazil is the Brazilian Real, known as BRL. The currency in Argentina is the Argentine Peso, known as ARS. However, US Dollars are also widely used and recommended throughout both countries and are exchangeable

at official outlets. Cash machines are available in all the major cities to withdraw money in the local currency. The Argentine Peso can not be exchanged in the UK. We recommend that you exchange your currency before you leave the UK. It is important that you budget carefully and ensure you have the right form of currency before you arrive in the country. Cash machines will also be available throughout the tour in order to withdraw money in your local currency.

Credit Card Information

As normal practice you will be asked for your credit card details on check-in at the hotel in order to cover any extras incurred during your stay. If you do not have a credit card you may be asked for a cash deposit. American Express, Diners Club, MasterCard and Visa are widely accepted in hotels.

Personal Expenses

You will need to take money with you to cover any personal purchases such as souvenirs, laundry, any meals not included in the itinerary as well as drinks and any additional snacks. Approximately £300- £400 per person will be sufficient for the duration of the tour. It is a good idea to try and maintain a supply of small notes and change in the local currency for tipping or small purchases.

WHAT TO PACK

- Sunscreen and hat
- Insect repellent
- Waterproof lightweight jacket
- Comfortable walking shoes
- Camera and charger

Personal Safety

We recommend that you do not wear any jewellery whilst you are walking around and don't advertise your cameras and phones by keeping them in a bag or pocket where possible. Rio has had a bad reputation in the past for personal security, but this has vastly improved in recent years thanks to far more tourist police and better patrolling of problem areas. Keep cash to a minimum and leave your passport in the hotel's safe.

Itinerary Changes

The order of events and sightseeing may vary according to local conditions or for operational purposes. The schedules of the domestic airlines in country are subject to frequent changes. For this reason, we have indicated approximate times only. Your local guide will inform you of any schedule changes as they are informed of them. Some road construction &/or weather conditions may lengthen the driving times. Our intention is to adhere to the day-to-day itinerary as printed; however, order of events and sightseeing may vary according to local conditions.

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Your initial flight is to [Galeao International Airport Rio de Janeiro](#) with [LATAM \(LA\)](#), (via São Paulo) departing from [London Heathrow Terminal 3](#).

IMPORTANT: Please note that final flight details will be confirmed on your e-ticket and final documentation which will be sent to you approximately 10 days before departure.

Baggage Allowance

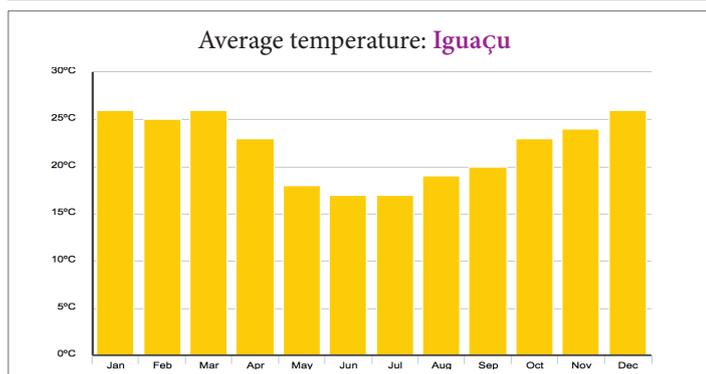
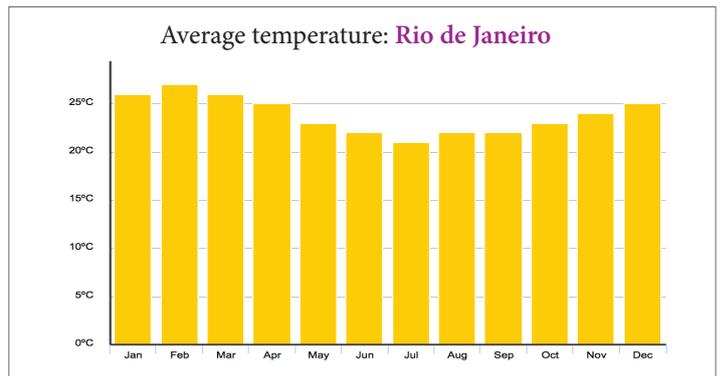
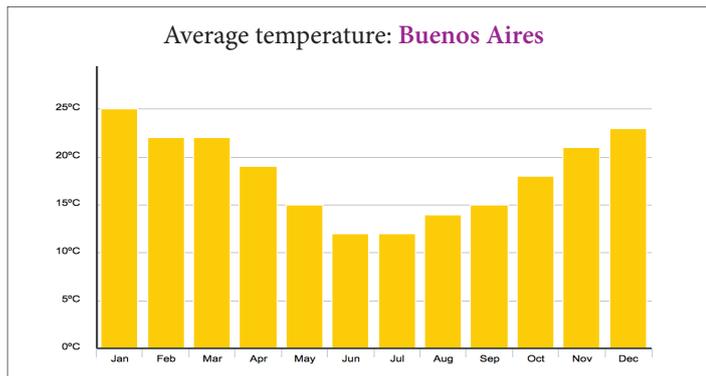
Baggage allowance (per person): Each passenger is entitled to 23KG of hold luggage plus 1 item of hand luggage not exceeding in size and 1 personal item such as a handbag, briefcase or laptop case. Weight restrictions will be finalized on E-ticket receipt. Should you wish to take additional luggage you will need to pay extra at check-in. Check-In should be at least 3 hours before departure.

Airport Extras

If you wish to arrange Airport car parking or accommodation at preferential rates, we recommend you book this in advance with Holiday Extras on 0871 360 2000, quoting HX313.

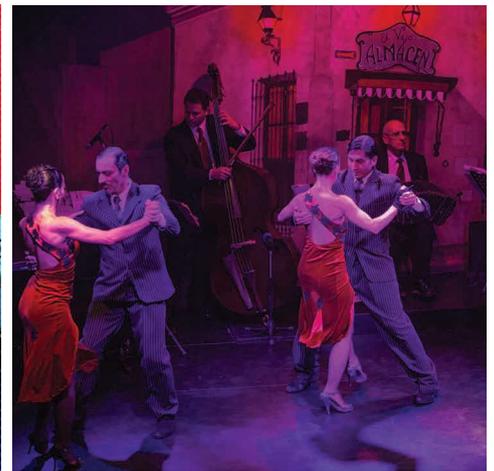
WEATHER AND CLIMATE

Weather can vary quite considerably throughout the year, so please familiarise yourself with the climate charts below.



YOUR ADD-ON TO BUENOS AIRES BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

If you have not yet booked this fabulous extension, there is still time to do so. Please contact 0843 224 0723



TRIP OVERVIEW

Discover why so many people fall in love with the 'Paris of the Southern Hemisphere'. Buenos Aires provides a seductive mix of stunning European architecture, old-world languor & elegant neighbourhoods where colonial buildings and lively outdoor markets can be found at every turn.

ITINERARY & DETAILS

This document aims to give you all the information which you will require during your extension in Buenos Aires.

Buenos Aires

Enjoy three nights at your leisure to explore this fascinating and beautiful European-like city offering gourmet cuisine, excellent shopping, a varied nightlife and a wealth of activities.

Buenos Aires is a cosmopolitan metropolis with an elegant, seductive feel and an old-world languor, a city unlike any other in the world.

Hotel

Your Buenos Aires stay will take place at the 4★ **Kenton Palace** on Bed & Breakfast, unless otherwise stated at booking.
Address: Defensa 383, Buenos Aires, Argentina,
Tel: 0054 11 4331-2020

Personal Expenses

You will need to take money with you to cover any lunches and dinners, as well as personal purchases, such as souvenirs, laundry, snacks and drinks.

Tour Guides

Your stay in Buenos Aires is not escorted by a tour guide. All internal transfers are included.

Transport

Taxis are readily available and are on the meter. A journey of 30 minutes will cost approximately £7.

Please note

This extension takes place after your main tour.



Kenton Palace



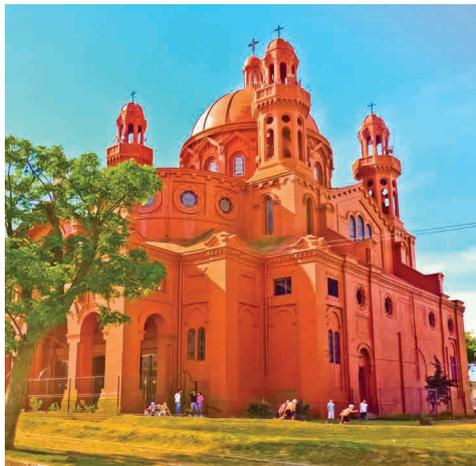
FLIGHT INFORMATION

Please note: Final hotel and flight details will be confirmed on your e-ticket and final documentation which will be sent to you approximately 10 days before departure.

For any further enquiries or for more information call us on **0843 224 0723**

YOUR ADD-ON TO MONTEVIDEO MONTEVIDEO, URUGUAY

If you have not yet booked this fabulous extension, there is still time to do so. Please contact 0843 224 0723



TRIP OVERVIEW

Lying across the Rio de la Plata, Montevideo is the capital city of Uruguay & one of the most under-visited capital cities in all of South America. Take a ferry across the river from Buenos Aires to spend three nights in this vibrant, chic and eclectic, beach-lined city with its rich culture and laid back way of life.

ITINERARY & DETAILS

This document aims to give you all the information which you will require during your extension in Montevideo.

Montevideo

The city has an impressive seafront promenade stretching for miles around the coastline. The city is split into two main areas, the old town in the far west, then the newer part of the city which has grown and grown outwards further north and east. The Old City (Cuidad Vieja) has some nice bars and restaurants, and notably the "Mercado del Puerto", a traditional venue for Uruguayan food and beverages.

DAY 10: Buenos Aires to Montevideo B

Transfer to the port for your ferry to Montevideo. On arrival you will be met and transferred to your hotel.

DAY 11: Montevideo B

This day is at leisure for you to explore the sights of Montevideo.

DAY 12: Montevideo to Buenos Aires B

After breakfast depart Montevideo for your ferry back to Buenos Aires. On arrival into the Port in Buenos Aires transfer to your hotel for your last night.

DAY 13: Buenos Aires to the UK B

Depart after breakfast for your return flight to the UK.

Ferry Information

Your ferry from Buenos Aires will be the Burquebus departing from the port at 7:30am and arriving in Montevideo at 10:00am. Before boarding the ferry you will go through immigration for both countries. The ferry takes 2 and a half hours and seats are not reserved, but there are enough for all travellers. Luggage will be checked in before you depart and will be collected when you disembark the ferry. Your return ferry will depart Montevideo at 11:00am and arrives back into Buenos Aires at 13:30pm.

Hotel

Your Montevideo stay will take place at the 4★ NH Columbia Hotel (15 mins from the ferry port) on Bed & Breakfast, unless otherwise stated at booking.

Address: Miles, Montevideo 11000, Uruguay.

Tel: 00598 2916 0001

Your Buenos Aires stay will take place at the

4★ Kenton Palace on Bed & Breakfast, unless otherwise stated at booking.

Address: Defensa 383, Buenos Aires, Argentina

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Please note: Final hotel and flight details will be confirmed on your e-ticket and final documentation which will be sent to you approximately 10 days before departure.

Tel: 0054 11 4331-2020

Personal Expenses

You will need to take money with you to cover any lunches & dinners, as well as personal purchases, such as souvenirs, laundry, snacks and drinks.

Tour Guides

Your stay in Montevideo is not escorted by a tour guide. All internal transfers are included.

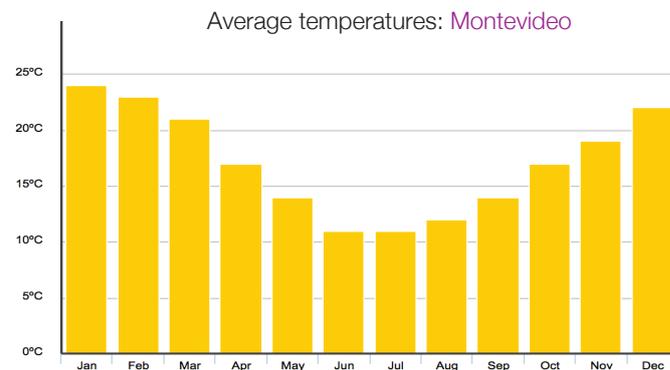
Please note

This extension takes place after your main tour.

You will take the ferry back to Buenos Aires at the end of your stay.

WEATHER AND CLIMATE

Weather can vary quite considerably throughout the year, so please familiarise yourself with the climate charts below.



For any further enquiries or for more information call us on 0843 224 0723