

2026 Grand World Voyage

ZOOM Meet and Greet

3 June 2025

Recife, Rio de Janeiro , Iguazu Falls



Outline

- Recife
- Rio de Janeiro
- Iguazu Falls
- General Discussion

2026 Grand World Voyage

ZOOM Meet and Greet

27 May 2025

Recife



Essentials

- In Port – 8 AM to 5 PM – 15 Jan 2025
- Cruise Terminal
 - Ship moors in the commercial port
 - Mandatory shuttle to the Cruise Terminal
- HAL should offer a shuttle to Old Town (1.6 miles)
 - Casa da Cultura
- Recent reports said walking to Old Town was safe – with a massive police presence and AI-controlled cameras



Essentials

- Money
 - The Brazilian Real (BRL, pronounced “hey-AL”) is the only legal tender in Recife. US dollars (USD) are not widely accepted. 5.5 R\$ to 1\$ USD
 - Recommend changing \$50 USD in Terminal
- VISA – eVisa required
- Safety – Increase Vigilance -
- Internet – Widely available
- Cell Service – All major providers
- Taxis – Uber is available - Táxi Comum (Common Taxi): White with blue stripe, uses taximeter. Found in city center (e.g., Recife Antigo, Boa Viagem). ~R\$7–10 base fare, ~R\$3/km

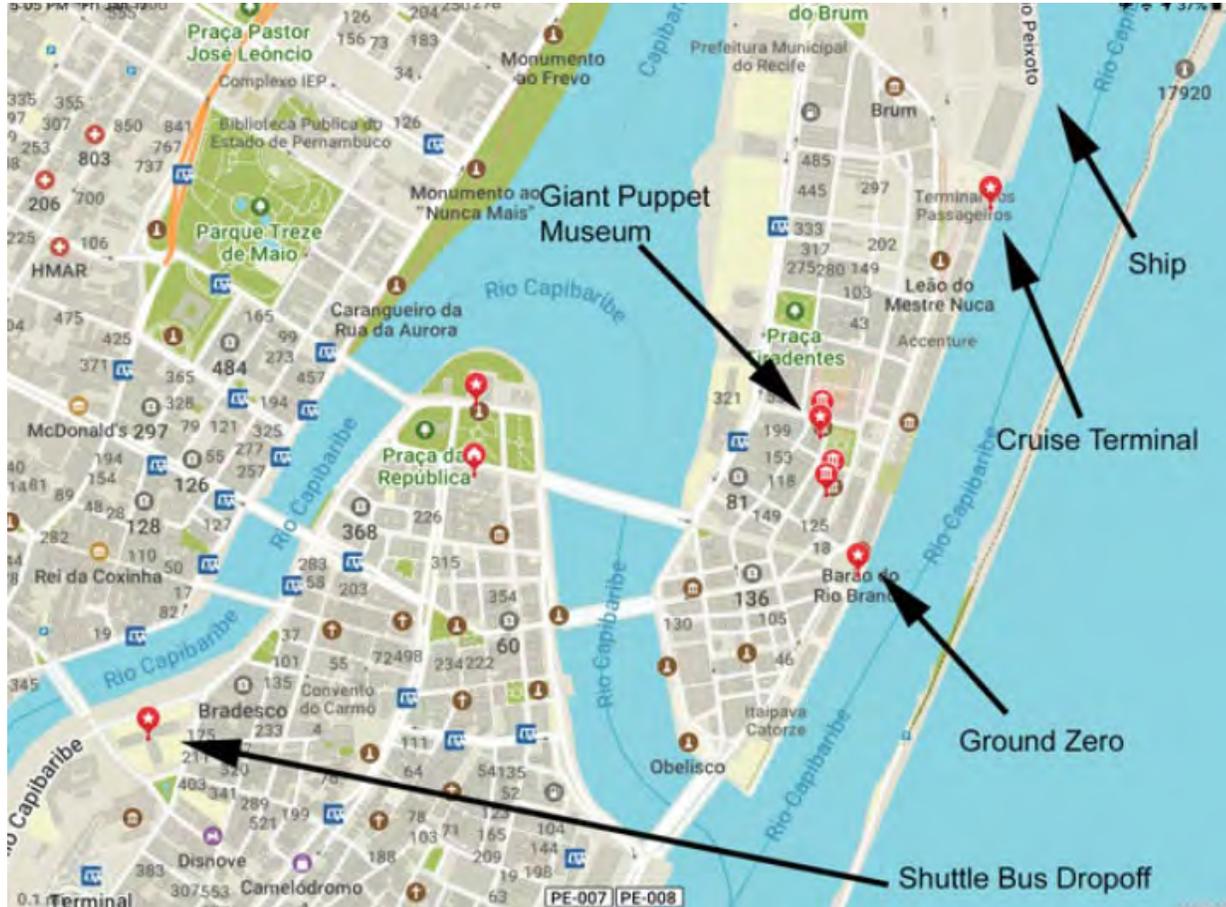


History

- Pre-1537: Tupinambá/Tabajara peoples inhabited area; Brazilwood trade attracted Portuguese.
- 1537: Recife founded as Olinda's port; sugarcane industry grew with African slave labor.
- 1630–1654: Dutch occupied Recife (Mauritsstad), built canals and Kahal Zur Israel Synagogue. Expelled after 1649 Guararapes Battle.
- Colonial Era: Faced French (1561), English (1595) raids; Mascates War (1710–1711) sought autonomy from Olinda.
- 1827–1848: Became Pernambuco's capital; led rebellions (Pernambucana 1817, Praieira 1848) for independence.
- Modern Era: Sugar waned; modernized post-1930s. Now a tech (Porto Digital), medical, and tourism hub.



Recife





Tourist Info

- Visit Brasil (visitbrasil.com)
 - Official Site
- Recife Tourism Portal (recife.pe.gov.br)
 - City-run site by Recife City Hall's Tourism Secretariat
- Lonely Planet Recife (lonelyplanet.com)
- My Guide Recife (myguiderecife.com)
 - Local site



Top Attractions

- Marco Zero: Recife Antigo's historic plaza with "Zero Marker" and river views.
 - Free, 24/7. ~2-min walk from shuttle drop-off. Carnival prep vibes (Jan 2026).
- Paço do Frevo (234 R. do Apolo): Museum of frevo dance/music with exhibits, workshops.
 - Tue–Fri 9 AM–5 PM, Sat–Sun 2–6 PM. ~R\$10–20. ~7-min walk from Marco Zero.
- Embaixada de Pernambuco (R. do Bom Jesus, 183): Giant Carnival puppets (~50–70) with tours.
 - Daily 8 AM–5 PM. ~R\$15–35. ~2-min walk from Marco Zero.
- Boa Viagem Beach: 4-mile promenade for strolling (no swimming, shark risk).
 - Free, 24/7. 15-min taxi (R\$20) from Marco Zero. Kiosks ~R\$5.
- Ricardo Brennand Institute: Museum with medieval armor, art, gardens.
 - Tue–Sun 1–5 PM. R\$30. ~30-min taxi (R\$40) from Marco Zero.

Recife

1 view
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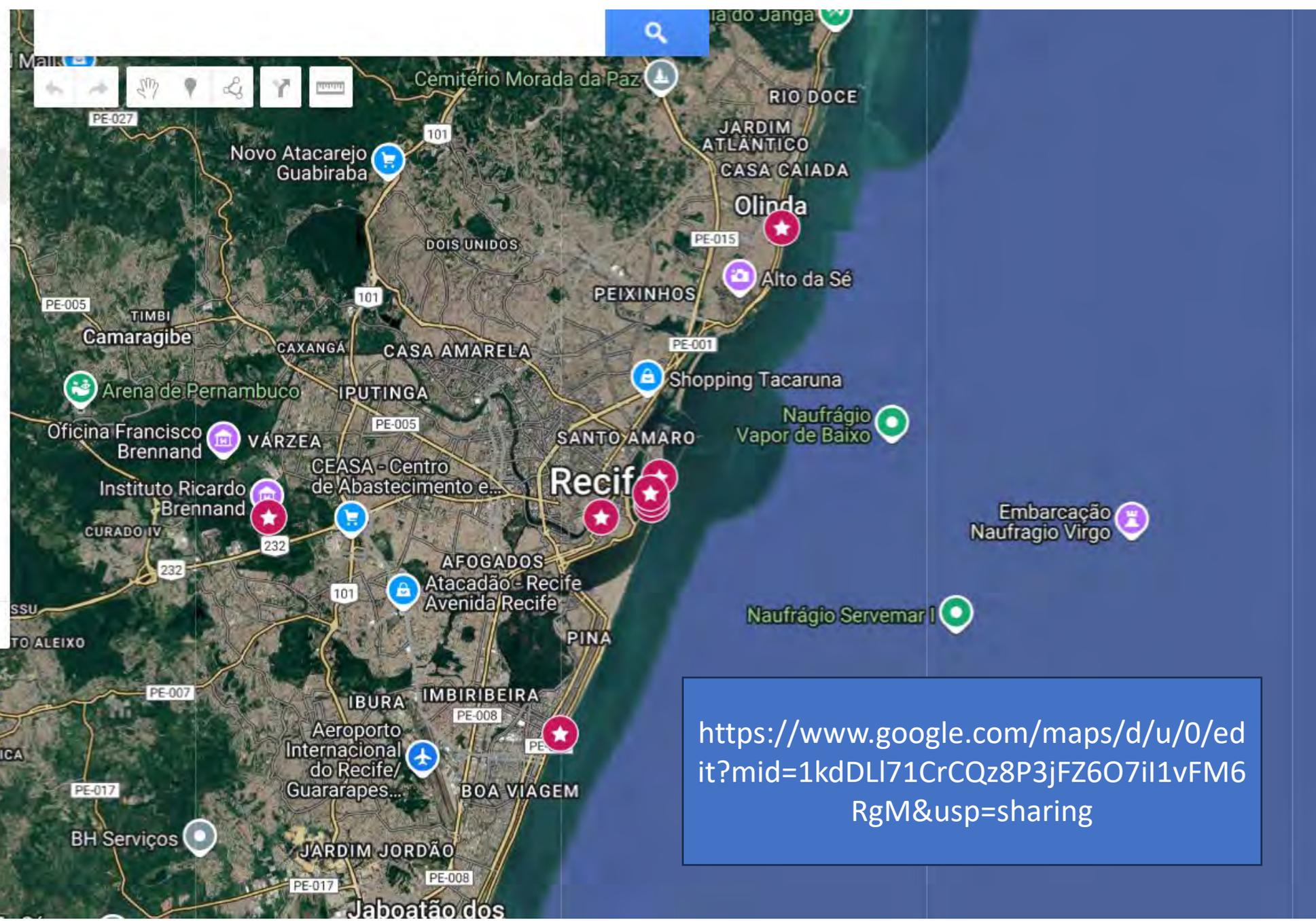
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Individual styles

- ★ Olinda Shopping
- ★ Cruise Port Recife Brazil
- ★ Casa da Cultura de Pernamb...
- ★ Ground Zero
- ★ Embassy of Pernambuco - Ol...
- ★ Paco de Frevo
- ★ Instituto Ricardo Brennand
- ★ Boa Viagem Beach

Base map



<https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/edit?mid=1kdDL71CrCQz8P3jFZ6O7il1vFM6RgM&usp=sharing>



Giant Puppets





Ground Zero





Food

- **Bolo de Rolo**
 - A thin, rolled cake layered with guava paste (goiabada), distinct from a rocamboles, with delicate, spongy dough.
- **Peixada Pernambucana**
 - A hearty fish stew with bell peppers, onions, garlic, tomatoes, and spices, often using local catches like snapper or grouper.
- **Tapioca**
 - A crepe-like flatbread made from cassava starch, filled with savory options (cheese, meat, coconut) or sweets (Nutella, guava with cheese—aka “Romeo e Juliette”)
- **Guaianum**
 - A large, native land crab, often steamed or stewed, served whole or in dishes like a seafood moqueca (stew)
- **Macaxeira com Carne de Sol: Steamed cassava topped with sautéed veggies and sun-dried beef, a hearty dish**
 - Mercado da Madalena (~15-min taxi, ~R\$15) or Parraxaxá buffet. ~R\$20–30.



Restaurants to Try

- Restaurante Leite (Praça Joaquim Nabuco, 147, Santo Antônio): Brazil's oldest restaurant (1882), serving Portuguese-Brazilian classics like grilled giant shrimp and cartola (banana-cheese dessert). ~R\$50–80.
 - ~5-min walk from Marco Zero.
- Bargaço (Av. Antônio de Goes, 62, Pina): Renowned for Bahian seafood since 1968, offering moqueca (shrimp stew) and crab claws. Oceanfront mansion setting. ~R\$60–100.
 - 10-min taxi (R\$15) from Marco Zero.
- Parraxaxá (Av. Fernando Simões Barbosa, 1200, Boa Viagem): Festive buffet with 100+ Northeast dishes (carne de sol, bolo de rolo), cangaceiro-themed decor. ~R\$40–70.
 - 15-min taxi (R\$20).
- Chica Pitanga (R. Petrolina, 19, Boa Viagem): Kilo-style buffet with regional seafood, poultry, and tapioca, inspired by local legend. Award-winning value. ~R\$30–50.
 - 15-min taxi (R\$20).
- Hotel Central (Av. Manoel Borba, 209, Boa Vista): Historic 1930s venue with home-style Brazilian fare (e.g., frango à cabidela). Community-driven gem. ~R\$20–40.
 - 10-min taxi (R\$15).



What to Buy

- Galo da Madrugada Memorabilia: T-shirts, mugs, or pins celebrating Recife's famous Carnival bloco, featuring its rooster mascot.
 - Where: Mercado de São José (~10-min walk from Marco Zero) or Embaixada de Pernambuco (R. do Bom Jesus, 183, ~2-min walk). ~R\$10–50.
- Renda de Bilro (Bobbin Lace): Intricate, handmade lace for tablecloths or clothing, a traditional Pernambuco craft.
 - Where: Casa da Cultura (former prison, 10-min walk) or Recife Shopping (10-min taxi, ~R\$15). ~R\$20–100.
- Ceramic Figurines: Hand-painted miniatures of frevo dancers, maracatu drummers, or local figures, reflecting Recife's culture.
 - Where: Mercado da Boa Vista (~15-min taxi, ~R\$15) or Paço do Frevo shop (234 R. do Apolo, ~7-min walk). ~R\$15–60.
- Frevo and Maracatu Souvenirs: CDs, posters, or small instruments (e.g., pandeiro) tied to Recife's Carnival music/dance.
 - Where: Paço do Frevo or Embaixada de Pernambuco. ~R\$10–40.



Do Brazil Right

Recife Olinda Tour

6-8 hours tour of Recife and Olinda

<https://www.dobrazilright.com/product/recife-olinda-tour-cruise/>





HAL Excursions Recife

Tour Name	Departure	Duration	Price	Key Stops
Cultural Olinda & Recife	9:15 AM	~4 hrs	\$109.95	Olinda (UNESCO site), Sé Cathedral, Misericordia Church, Marco Zero, Bom Jesus St., Pernambuco Embassy (carnival dolls)
Recife & Historic Olinda	8:30 AM	~4.5 hrs	\$109.95	Boa Viagem Beach, Casa da Cultura, Olinda (Sé Cathedral, Monastery of St Benedict, Golden Chapel)
Recife Arts & Culture	12:30 PM	~4 hrs	\$109.95	Instituto Ricardo Brennard (Dutch colonial artifacts), Museum do Homen do Nordeste (colonial history)
Venice of Brazil & Catamaran	8:45 AM	~3 hrs	\$119.95	Catamaran cruise, Recife Antigo colonial buildings

2026 Grand World Voyage

ZOOM Meet and Greet

3 June 2025

Rio de Janeiro

Rio de Janeiro!







Essentials

- In Port – 8 AM 18 Jan 25 to 5 PM 19 Jan 2025
- Cruise Terminal
 - Ship moors alongside road/terminal warehouse
 - Walk to town
- Tours meet in a warehouse across the street from/trolley track



Essentials

- Money
 - The Brazilian Real (BRL, pronounced “hey-AL”) is the only legal tender in Recife. US dollars (USD) are not widely accepted. 5.5 R\$ to 1\$ USD
 - Recommend changing \$50 USD in Terminal
- VISA – eVisa required
- Safety – Increase Vigilance -
- Internet – Widely available
- Cell Service – All major providers
- Taxis – Uber is also available. Official Taxis are Yellow with a blue stripe – Most are cash only



Official Taxi





History

- Pre-1502: Tupi and other Indigenous peoples inhabited the area; Guanabara Bay noted by Portuguese explorers.
- 1565: Rio founded by Portuguese at São Sebastião do Rio de Janeiro to counter French claims; sugar trade grew.
- 1763: Became Brazil's colonial capital, thriving on gold exports and African slave labor.
- 1808–1821: Portuguese royal court relocated to Rio, boosting urban growth; became Brazil's capital post-independence (1822).
- 1822: Dom Pedro I declared Brazil's independence, ending Portuguese rule.
- 1889–1960: Republic era; Rio modernized with Copacabana, trams, and favelas. Lost capital status to Brasília (1960).
- Modern Era: Global cultural hub with Carnival, samba, and landmarks (Christ the Redeemer, 1931). Hosted Olympics (2016).



Ship

Selaron Steps

Santa Teresa

Start of Train to CR

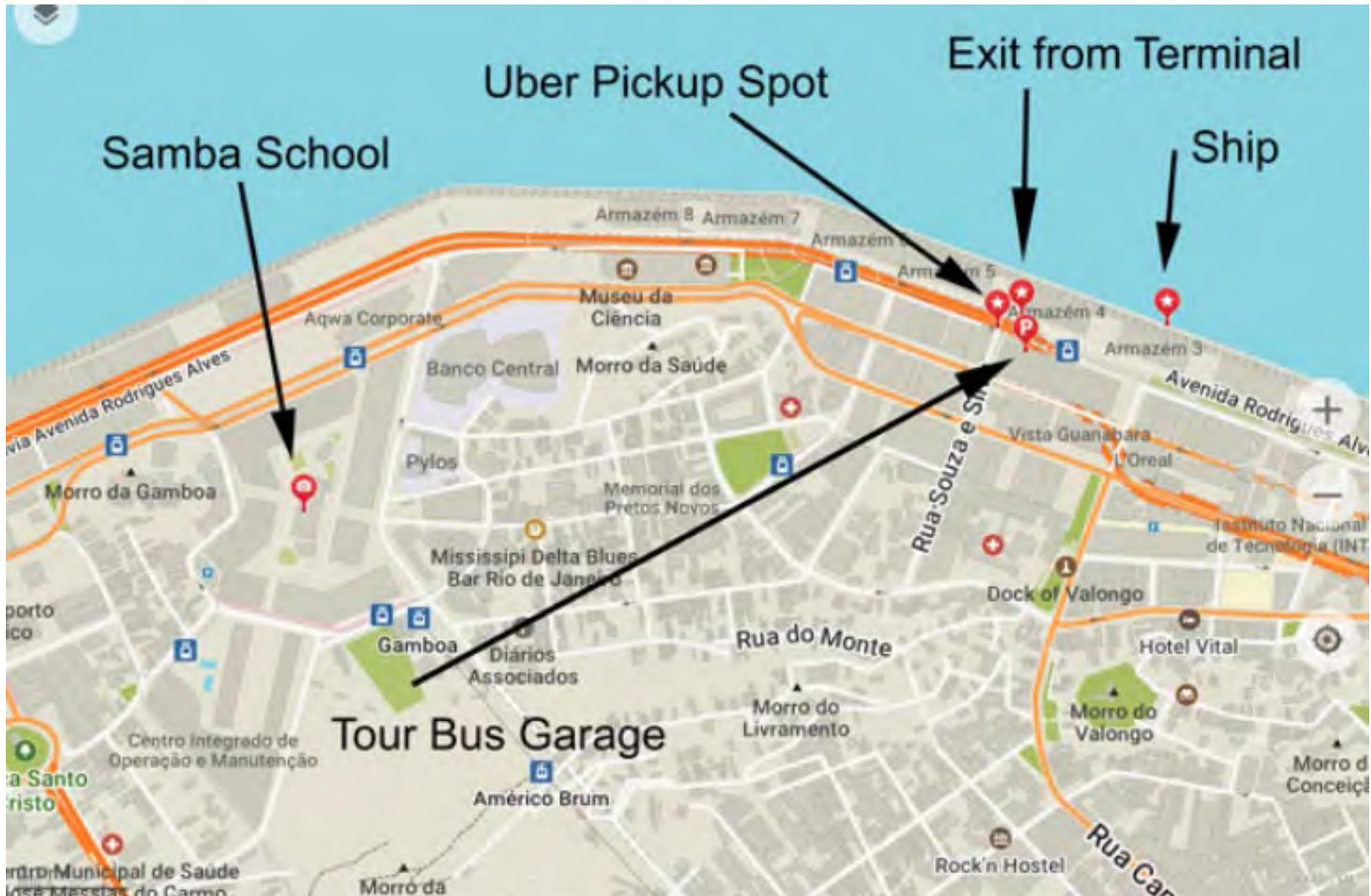
Sugarloaf Mt Cablecar Start

Christ the Redeemer (CR)

Copacabana

Hippie Art Fair

Ipanema Beach





What to Buy - Rio

- Havaianas Flip-Flops
- Christ the Redeemer Souvenirs
- Samba and Bossa Nova Items
- Carnival Costumes and Accessories
- Açaí and Brazilian Sweet



What Food to Try

- Feijoada: Hearty black bean stew with pork, sausage, served with rice, collards, and orange slices. A Saturday tradition.
 - Casa da Feijoada (Ipanema, ~20-min taxi, ~R\$30). ~R\$40–60.
- Pão de Queijo: Chewy cheese bread balls made with cassava flour, perfect as a snack.
 - Cultivar Brasil (Copacabana, ~15-min taxi, ~R\$20). ~R\$5–10.
- Açaí na Tigela: Frozen açaí berry puree topped with granola, banana, or honey, a refreshing beach treat.
 - Polis Sucos (Ipanema, ~20-min taxi). ~R\$15–25.
- Pastel de Camarão: Crispy fried pastry filled with shrimp, often paired with sugarcane juice.
 - Feira de São Cristóvão (~20-min taxi, ~R\$25). ~R\$10–15.
- Caipirinha: Brazil's iconic cocktail of cachaça, lime, sugar, and ice, served chilled.
 - Bar Urca (Urca, ~10-min taxi, ~R\$15). ~R\$15–25.



Restaurants to Try

- Confeitaria Colombo (R. Gonçalves Dias, 32, Centro): Historic 1894 café with Art Nouveau decor, famed for pastel de nata (custard tart) and coffee. ~R\$20–40.
 - 10-minute taxi (R\$15) from Porto do Rio.
- Aprazível (R. Aprazível, 62, Santa Teresa): Rustic eatery with Guanabara Bay views, serving Brazilian dishes like free-range chicken with plantain. ~R\$80–120.
 - 15-min taxi (R\$20).
- Bar Urca (R. Cândido Gaffrée, 205, Urca): Casual waterfront boteco for bolinhos de bacalhau (cod fritters) and caipirinhas, eaten on the seawall. ~R\$15–40.
 - 10-min taxi (R\$15).
- Churrascaria Palace (R. Rodolfo Dantas, 16, Copacabana): Classic all-you-can-eat Brazilian steakhouse with prime cuts and buffet. ~R\$100–150.
 - 15-min taxi (R\$20).
- Mee (Copacabana Palace, Av. Atlântica, 1702, Copacabana): Michelin-starred Pan-Asian at the iconic hotel, known for dumplings and sake pairings. ~R\$150–250.
 - 15-min taxi (R\$20).



HAL Excursions Rio

- **Beaches of Rio & Sugar Loaf Mountain**
 - Duration: ~4.5 hours, Price: \$109.95
 - Highlights: Scenic drive past Botafogo Beach, Flamengo Park, and Aterro Park. Cable car to Sugar Loaf Mountain (two stages) for panoramic views. Drive by Copacabana, Ipanema, and Leblon beaches.
- **Best of Rio de Janeiro**
 - Duration: ~8.5 hours, Price: \$245.95
 - Highlights: Cable car to Sugar Loaf, cogwheel train to Christ the Redeemer (2,400 ft) via Tijuca Forest. Lunch at a local restaurant. Drive past Copacabana, Ipanema, and Leblon beaches.
- **Christ the Redeemer & Paineiras Visitor Center**
 - Duration: ~6 hours. Price: \$99.95
 - Highlights: Coach and van to Paineiras Visitor Center, then to Christ the Redeemer atop Corcovado. View Rio's beaches, bridges, and city from 2,400 ft. Includes history of the statue.



HAL Excursions Rio

- **Corcovado & Rio Highlights**
 - Duration: ~4.5 hours, Price: \$115.95 (Adult), \$114.95 (Child)
 - Highlights: Cogwheel train through Tijuca Forest to Christ the Redeemer. Elevator/escalator to summit for 360-degree views. Drive past Rio's key sites.
- **Easy Rio**
 - Duration: ~4 hours, Price: \$59.95
 - Highlights: Drive through downtown Rio, view Rio de Janeiro Cathedral's stained-glass windows, pass Ipanema and Copacabana beaches, and see Sugar Loaf and Christ the Redeemer from Flamengo Park. Minimal walking.
- **Imperial Petropolis & Museum**
 - Duration: ~8 hours, Price: \$149.95
 - Highlights: Visit Petropolis (30 miles from Rio), explore Imperial Museum (crown jewels, royal carriages). Lunch at a churrascaria. Photo stops at Quitandinha and cathedral.



HAL Excursions Rio

- **Rio Festival Fun: Carnival Behind the Scenes**
 - Duration: ~4 hours, Price: \$95.95
 - Highlights: Tour the Grande Rio Youth Samba School, learn about Carnival float and costume creation, try on costumes, and explore Little Africa's Afro-Brazilian heritage.
- **Street Food, Art & Beaches**
 - Duration: ~6 hours, Price: \$179.95
 - Highlights: Small-group tour exploring Rio's culinary fusion (Portuguese, Brazilian, Japanese). Visit Selarón Steps (colorful art landmark), sample açaí at a Copacabana juice bar, try tapioca pancakes, and sip a caipirinha with empanadas at a beach kiosk. Drive by Leblon, Ipanema, and Cop. acabana beaches. Stop at Flamengo Park for Guarana soda and views of Sugar Loaf and Corcovado. Pass Tomorrow's Museum and MAR (optional, self-guided).
- **Tijuca Rain Forest by 4-Wheel-Drive**
 - Duration: ~4 hours, Price: \$114.95
 - Highlights: Off-road adventure in a 4x4 (10 guests max) through Tijuca National Park, the world's largest urban forest (7,900 acres). Spot endemic birds, butterflies, sloths, and monkeys. Visit Chinese Lookout for views of Corcovado, Sugar Loaf, Ipanema, Leblon, and Rodrigo de Freitas Lagoon. Photo stop at Taunay Falls. Return past Rio's beaches



Do Brazil Right

Rio Essential 2-half-day Tour - Old and Modern Rio - Fast Passes!!!

January 18, 2026 – 9:50am – Duration 6 hours

January 19, 2026 – 9am – Duration 6 hours



[Shop Here](#)

Petropolis Full-Day Tour - A visit to the Brazilian Imperial City

January 18, 2026 – 9:50am – Duration 8 hours



[Shop Here](#)



2026 Grand World Voyage

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Iguazu Falls Overland



Iguazu Falls

Rio de Janeiro

Buenos Aires

Punta de Este



Comparisons with other falls

Size and flow rate of Victoria Falls with Niagara Falls and Iguazu for comparison

Parameters	Victoria Falls		Niagara Falls		Iguazu Falls	
	m	ft	m	ft	m	ft
Height in meters and feet: ^[15]	108 m	360 ft	51 m	167 ft	64–82 m	210–269 ft
Width in meters and feet: ^[15]	1,708 m	5,604 ft	1,203 m	3,947 ft	2,700 m	8,858 ft
Flow rate units (vol/s):	m ³ /s	cu ft/s	m ³ /s	cu ft/s	m ³ /s	cu ft/s
Mean annual flow rate: ^[15]	1,088	38,430	2,407	85,000	1,746	61,600
Highest recorded flow: ^[15]	12,800	452,000	6,800	240,000	45,700	1,614,000

Niagara Falls





American Falls



Horseshoe Falls



Bridal Veil Falls

Niagara Falls

Niagara Falls. (2024, July 31). In Wikipedia.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Niagara_Falls



Victoria Falls



Victoria Falls

An aerial photograph of Victoria Falls, showing the wide expanse of water cascading over a rocky cliff. The surrounding area is lush with green vegetation and includes a wooden walkway that winds through the water. A large blue rectangular box is overlaid on the top right of the image, containing the text 'Victoria Falls' in white.



Victoria Falls – Zambia/Zimbabwe

Victoria Falls. (2024, July 26). In Wikipedia.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Victoria_Falls

Iguazu Falls



Iguazu Falls

An aerial photograph of the Iguazu Falls, showing the river cascading over a series of rocky ledges. The falls are surrounded by dense green forest. A prominent red diagonal line runs from the top left towards the bottom center, separating the Brazilian side (left) from the Argentine side (right). In the bottom left corner, there is a building complex with a red-tiled roof and a parking area. The river is a deep blue-green color, and the surrounding landscape is lush and green.

ARGENTINA

BRAZIL



Iguazu Falls







TOURIST MAP - Iguaçu National Park - Brazil





Jungle
Paseo Ecológico
Stand-Boletería

Estación Garganta

Paseo Garganta del Diablo
1190 m

Paseo Ecológico

Salto Unión

Garganta del Diablo

Salto Mitre

Salto Belgrano

Salto Rivadavia

Salto Escondido

Salto Dos Mosqueteros

Salto Tres Mosqueteros

Salto San Martín

Salto Mbiguá

Salto Goeque

Salto Adán y Eva

Salto Bossetti

Isla San Martín
700 m

Jungle

Paseo Superior
1590 m

Brasil

Jungle
Embarque

Circuito Interior
1400 m

Salto Alvar Núñez

Fast Food Dos Hermanas

Jungle
Central

Estación Cataratas

Rio Iguazu Interior

Salto Lanusse

Hotel Sheraton

Viejo Hotel Cataratas

Restaurante 'El Fortín'

Gran Aventura

Sendero Verde
600 m

Jungle
Stand-Boletería

Centro de Visitantes

Acceso

Salto Arrechea

Sendero Macuco
3,5 Km

C.I.E.S.

Jungle
Embarcadero Macuco

Sendero Yacaratiá
5,5 Km

Estación Central

Jungle
Restaurante 'La Selva'

Centro Operativo Cataratas (COC)

Embarque Gran Aventura



Flights

- Iguazu Airports
 - Bueno Aires
 - Local Airport AEP
 - Argentina Side Iguazu to IGR
 - Brazil Side Iguazu - IGU

<input type="checkbox"/>		9:55 am – 11:50 am Aerolineas Argentinas	nonstop	1h 55m AEP-IGR
<input type="checkbox"/>		9:25 pm – 11:25 pm Aerolineas Argentinas	nonstop	2h 00m IGR-AEP



Iguazu Falls

- Volendam 2026
 - Rio 18/19 Jan
 - Jan 22 Punta de Este, Uruguay
 - Jan 23 Buenos Aires
 - Jan 24 Montevideo





	Pole to Pole	World
Day 1	Leave BA /Iguazu Argentina	Leave Rio/Iguazu Brazil
Day 2	Iguazu Brazil	Iguazu Argentina
Day 3	Fly to Rio	Fly to Buenos Aires
Day 4	Meet Ship	Meet Ship



Visit Paraguay?

- **Itaipu Hydroelectric Dam Tour**
 - Set foot in Paraguay without a visa

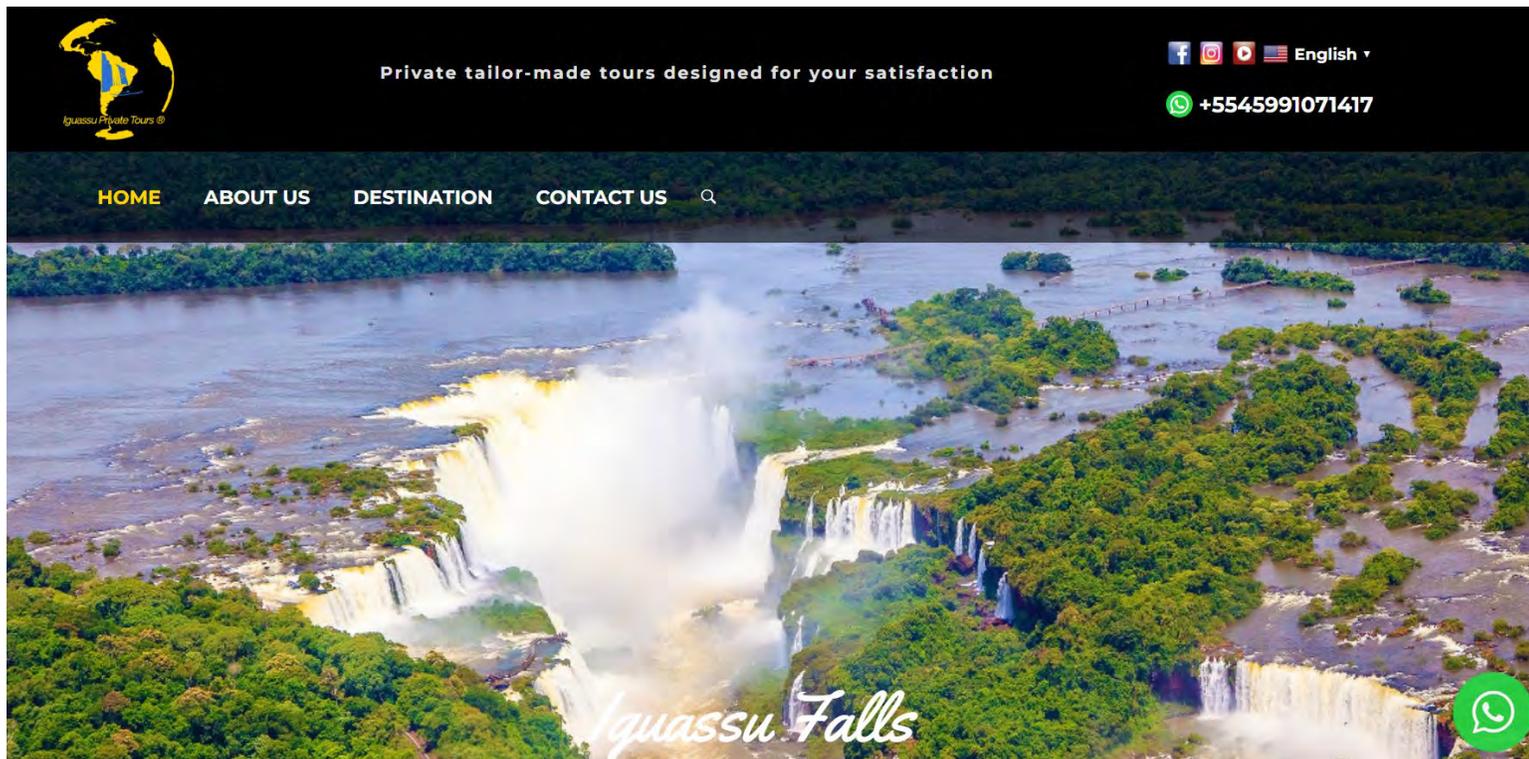


Iguazu Private Tours

- Highly recommended – I used them in 2020
 - I have no affiliation with this company
 - <https://iguassuprivatetours.com/>

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Instagram.: @iguassuprivatetours





HAL Excursions Rio - Overland

- Iguazu Falls to Buenos Aires: Overland Adventure (RIO-BUE)
- Duration: 5 days / 4 nights, Price: \$4,499.95 (Double Occupancy); \$5,799.95 (Single Occupancy)
- Itinerary:
 - Day 1 (19 Jan 25)(L/D): Fly from Rio to Iguazu Falls (2-hour flight, boxed lunch). Check into Belmond das Cataratas Hotel (or similar).
 - Day 2 (20 Jan 25)((B/L/D): Brazilian side of Iguazu Falls: 1-mile guided walk, catwalk to Devil's Throat, elevator to road level, lunch in park. Afternoon speedboat adventure (4x4 wagon, inflatable boat through rapids) for close-up falls views. Overnight at Belmond das Cataratas.
 - Day 3 (21 Jan 25)((B/L/D): Argentine side of Iguazu Falls: Cross Tancredo Neves Bridge, explore upper and lower circuits, mini-train to Devil's Throat (260-ft drop). Lunch at local restaurant. Relax at hotel, dinner included. Overnight at Belmond das Cataratas.
 - Day 4 (22 Jan 25)((B/L/D): Fly to Buenos Aires, transfer to Alvear Palace (Double) or Fairmont Rio (Single). Lunch (schedule permitting), free time to explore, dinner at hotel.
 - Day 5 (23 Jan 25)((B): Buenos Aires city tour: See San Telmo, La Boca, Casa Rosada, Metropolitan Cathedral, Cabildo, Avenida de Mayo, Congress, Colón Theatre, Palermo parks, Recoleta. Rejoin ship at Buenos Aires pier.
- Highlights: Explore both Brazilian and Argentine sides of Iguazu Falls, including Devil's Throat and speedboat adventure. Panoramic Buenos Aires tour with iconic landmarks. All meals (as noted) and accommodations included.