



Brazil

Pantanal Jaguars & Atlantic Rainforest

PIONEER EXPEDITIONS



Do something extraordinary.....

<p>Itinerary</p>	<p>Brazil • Atlantic Rainforest</p>
<p>15 Days • 14 Nights</p>	<p>Rio De Janeiro – Foz Do Iguacu – Puerto Iguazu – Cuiaba – Pantanal Norte – – Paraty – Ilha Grande</p>

HIGHLIGHTS	TOUR ESSENTIALS	
<p>Opportunities to spot Jaguar in the spectacular Pantanal</p> <p>Discover Rio beyond the highlights</p> <p>Awe-inspiring Iguassu falls is one of Latin Americas greatest natural wonders</p> <p>Beach hop on the sublimely beautiful Ilha Grande</p> <p>Step back in time in the historic fishing port of Paraty</p>	<p>Tour Style</p> <p>Tour Start</p> <p>Tour End</p> <p>Accommodation</p> <p>Included Meals</p> <p>Difficulty Level</p>	<p>Family Expedition</p> <p>Rio De Janeiro</p> <p>Rio De Janeiro</p> <p>Hotel</p> <p>Indicated on the itinerary</p> <p>Medium</p>



The perfect family get away

A unique look at Brazil taking in the classic sites of Rio in addition to some wonderful alternative trips focussing on wildlife and community. Iguassu Falls is ever powerful and awe inspiring – even more so from below! One of the world’s best locations for Jaguar spotting- The Pantanal is best from July to September for Jaguar but also good for all sorts of wildlife experiences. Combine this with historical, colonial Paraty and the sublimely beautiful Ilha Grande this is the ultimate Brazil tour.



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BRAZIL *an overview*

Brazil is a socio-biodiverse country by nature. It has the greatest diversity of species on the planet and a natural territory that is still largely preserved. In 2023 it was chosen by Forbes Magazine as the best country in the world to practice ecotourism. The five biomes it has are distinct and equally incredible providing different charms and experiences: the Amazon, the Cerrado, the Atlantic Forest, the Pantanal, the Caatinga (exclusively Brazilian) and the Pampa. Whether in one biome or another, water is always key. A visit to Brazil can include bathing on beaches, waterfalls, lakes, lagoons, natural pools and rivers that are so immense they could be mistaken for sea.

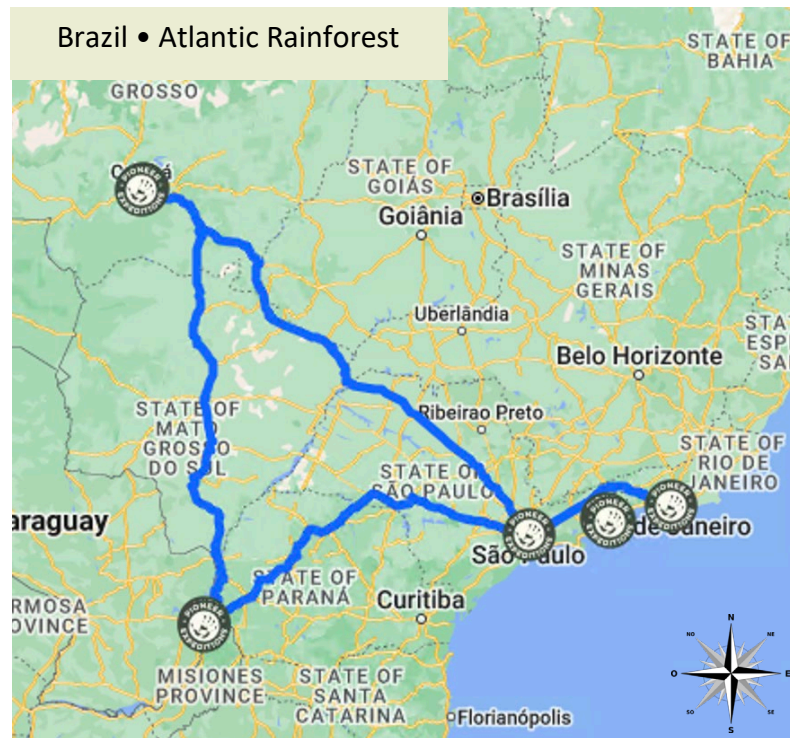
Why Pioneer Expeditions?

Pioneer Expeditions are one of the few specialists that really *do* off the beaten track and unique adventures. The team have a real passion for wildlife and adventure travel which we love to share with our clients. We delight in searching the world for new destinations, new experiences and creating the most incredible adventures.

We like to introduce our clients to unique, the different, and the incredible. Whether it is through wildlife tracking, sea kayaking, snorkelling, trekking, rafting, cycling or observing wildlife in its natural environment, we want to give you the real Pioneer experience.

From the moment you choose to travel with Pioneer Expeditions until you return back home, you are supported by our dedicated team. We listen to what you want and can create an itinerary around your specific needs, working with your budget and with a commitment to responsible travel.

Itinerary



DAY 1: RIO DE JANEIRO

Private transfer from the airport to the hotel in Rio de Janeiro with driver guide (approx 17km - 30 min) Overnight at the Windsor Leme hotel in a standard room with breakfast.

Overnight at Windsor Leme Hotel – Standard Room



Overnight:
Hotel



Meals:
B



Distance:
Varies



Activity:
Travel

DAY 2: RIO DE JANEIRO

Private round-trip transfer from Rio de Janeiro to Silva Jardim (Associação Mico Leão Dourado)

Accompanying guide for 08 hours in Rio de Janeiro.

Tickets for full day tour On the trail of the Golden Lion Tamarin

Meeting a golden lion tamarin family in the wild is an exciting experience! In this tour, the visitor will have the chance to observe the marmosets and their behavior in the wild together with the researchers of the Golden Lion Tamarin Association. The activity can be carried out inside the park or on a partner property, according to technical planning.

**The reservation of this tour also includes the ticket to visit the trails and attractions of the Mico-Leão-Dourado Ecological Park. Important: Because it is a free-living animal in the wild, although monitored, AMLD reinforces that it is not possible to guarantee the encounter with the golden lion tamarin.*

Operation: Thursdays and Saturdays (By appointment only). Limited vacancies. Duration for the entire tour & transports: around 8h

Overnight at Windsor Leme Hotel – Standard Room



Overnight:
Hotel



Meals:
B



Distance:
Varies



Activity:
Travel and wildlife

DAY 3: RIO DE JANEIRO

Favela Tour at Morro da Babilônia

We will start our tour to Morro da Babilônia, which is located between the neighborhoods of Leme, Copacabana, Botafogo and Urca, and therefore has spectacular views of the beaches of Leme and Copacabana, Praia Vermelha da Urca and Pão de Açúcar, in addition to the cove of Botafogo and Corcovado with Christ the Redeemer. Accompanied by a guide from the community itself, we will learn more about the way of life and the structure of the Favelas, as well as the daily lives of its residents and the political and social aspects behind the development of the Favelas in Rio de Janeiro. By taking this tour, you will be making a donation to the Morro da Babilônia Residents' Cooperative, which is responsible for reforesting the area and for other social actions in the community

Iconic Rio: Corcovado & Sugarloaf (with hike to Morro da Urca) (Private)

From Babilônia we'll continue our adventure. Set off on a private guided tour to the most emblematic postcards of Rio! We will embark on a 30-minute tram ride uphill to the top of Corcovado Mountain. The summit offers the best views of the entire city and features the iconic statue of Christ the Redeemer, with its wide open arms. After a stop for lunch (not included), we will head to the famous Sugarloaf Mountain. From its base, on Praia Vermelha beach, we will take a 40 minute trail which winds up the hill through lush forest. We will make a stop at a lookout point that offers spectacular views of the Atlantic Ocean and Rio's surrounding mountains. With a bit of luck we will come across some of the area's monkeys and birds. The hike ends on top of Morro da Urca (220m), an excellent spot to take pictures. From there we take the cable-car lift to the Sugarloaf hill summit (396m), where we enjoy unparalleled 360-degree views of the surrounding areas and a unique sunset.

Overnight at Windsor Leme Hotel – Standard Room



Overnight:
Hotel



Meals:
B



Distance:
Varies



Activity:
Hike

DAY 4: RIO DE JANEIRO – FOZ DO IGUAÇU – PUERTO IGUAZU

Private transfer from hotel to the airport in Rio de Janeiro.

Private transfer from IGU Airport to Foz do Iguaçu and Brazilian Falls tour afterwards with driver-guide.

Brazilian Falls

Get ready for THE most stunning panoramic views of the greatest water spectacle in the world. The 275 falls of the Iguassu River spread out into a 2,700 meter semicircle - approximately 800 meters in the Brazilian side, and 1,900 meters in the Argentinean side - right in front of you very eyes! You will have the chance to almost walk into the most famous fall in the park, the Devil's Throat, and feel the colossal power and deafening intensity of this natural wonder. Upon arriving at the park, there will be a short bus ride to the beginning of the trail, during which you can start to admire the beauty of the largest remaining stretch of Atlantic Forest in Southern Brazil. It is home to a rich biodiversity, consisting of representative species of the Brazilian fauna and flora, that includes the jaguar, broad-snouted caiman, purple parrot, harpy eagle, peroba pink ariticum, araucaria, and many others. The walkway is 1,200 meters long and offers several lookout points for a closer view of some of the falls. There is a variety of angles and possibilities for photographers to capture the Brazilian falls with some of the Argentina-side falls in the background. At the end of the over-water boardwalk is stunning panoramic of the Devil's Throat from just downstream. We recommend you make this tour in the morning (the park opens at 09am), but in case you prefer in the afternoon, or if your flight arrives during the day, you can enter the park until 3 p.m., as it closes at 4 p.m. And if you have the time, be sure to check out the Bird Park, for an incredible fauna experience, right next to the falls.

Duration: approx. 3 hrs

What to wear: comfortable clothing, closed shoes, sunglasses, hat, repellent and sunscreen.

After the Tour we'll continue in a private transfer with a driver guide from Foz do Iguaçu to your Hotel in Puerto Iguazu.

Overnight at La Reserva Virgin Lodge in room Tierra or Jangla



Overnight:
Lodge



Meals:
B



Distance:
Varies



Activity:
Exploring

DAY 5: PUERTO IGUAZU

Driver guide (English) for Tour Cataratas Argentinas combined with Gran Aventura or La Aripuca.

Argentinean Falls

Such is the greatness of the Iguazu Falls that they spread across natural parks of two different nations! On the Argentine national park, we will board an ecological train that take us on a beautiful ride to the beginning of three different circuits. The lower circuit (2,800m round-trip) invites you into the jungle, on an immersive walk that offers close contact with the splendorous falls - be prepared to get wet! The upper circuit (3,400m round-trip) offers amazing panoramic views of the upper Iguazu River along its flat pathways. The Argentine side experience is more rustic and immersive than the Brazilian side, with its varied and exuberant trails. Duration: approx. 5 hrs. in the park (+ approx. 2 hrs. of round-trip transfers) What to wear: comfortable clothing, closed shoes, sunglasses, hat, repellent and sunscreen.

ATTENTION: For this tour it is necessary to cross the border to Argentina. Please, contact the responsible authorities to verify the visa requirements for your nationality.

Safari Boat La Gran Aventura (Regular)

“La Gran Aventura” combines the very essence of Iguazu National Park in a single adventure: the jungle and the waterfalls. First, we hop on special trucks and take the Yacaratiá trail into the jungle, on the Argentinean side. Bilingual guides will introduce us to the local natural and cultural aspects. The 5 km ride ends at Puerto Macuco, where we head for the docks and board a powerboat. The boat takes an arcing route around the island towards the Brazilian side, powering through the rapids that provide jumps and lurches to get your body tingling. Wearing swimsuits is strongly advised. All of a sudden we are heading toward the Garganta del Diablo, as waterfalls crash either side and drown out the screams of excitement from the people around you. The boat then heads towards the cascades on the side of Isla San Martin. Suddenly you are blinded by spray as you are driven right below the deafening wall of water. Stretch your arms out and embrace this extraordinary contact with Iguazu falls. The boat will take us around for another wet rollercoaster into the fray on the other side of Isla San Martin and drop us off either at the same station or further down the river to continue the Gran Aventura with a jungle ride back to where we started.

Duration: approx. 2 hrs

What to wear and bring: light clothes, extra clothes (to change after it ends) and small towel, sunscreen, repellent.

Attention: You'll get completely wet! Protect all personal belongings by putting them inside the specially designed waterproof bags offered by the local company, otherwise they will get wet when approaching the waterfalls. It is an adventure tour, and it includes climbing over 150 meters of steep stairs and navigating 2 km of white waters.

Ride prohibited: Under 12 years olds; Pregnant women; People with osteoporosis, back problems or similars; People with a history of heart or neurological disorders; People with chronic lung diseases; People with any physical and/or cognitive and/or sensory disabilities that may cause the lack of response or understanding in an emergency. For a lighter ride we recommend The Macuco Safari Tour, on the Brazilian side

Overnight at La Reserva Virgin Lodge in room Tierra or Jangla



Overnight:
Lodge



Meals:
B



Distance:
Varies



Activity:
Experience

DAY 6: FOZ D IGUACU – CUIABA – PANTANAL NORTE

Private transfer-out from Puerto Iguazu to IGU Airport with driver-guide

Pick-up at Cuiabá Airport or at the hotel in Cuiabá to start our journey to Araras Lodge. This route is made in a Private transfer to the Pantanal.

The transfer goes through a section of the scenic Transpantaneira Park Road. While crossing the area it is possible to spot lovely sights of the local flora & fauna.

Arrival at Araras Pantanal Eco Lodge, with a welcome drink and accommodation. We will meet our bilingual guide for our first activity: A late afternoon hike within the surroundings of the lodge, reaching the Mirante da Garça, a 12 m / 39.5 ft. high observation tower that offers an unequalled view of the sunset.

After dinner, a stargazing trek, to the sounds of the Pantanal.

LUGGAGE - During transfers, luggage should be limited to one piece per passenger. The lodge offers storage space at the office in Cuiabá, for any extra luggage.

Overnight at Araras Eco Lodge



Overnight:
Lodge



Meals:
B



Distance:
Varies



Activity:
Explore

DAY 7: PANTANAL NORTE

After breakfast, we head to Rio Clarinho river. We go on a rowboat ride on Rio Clarinho, exploring the banks of riparian forest and mangroves. In this place we may spott different species of otters and, with luck, they can be seen playing. It is

possible to go piranha fishing, a fun and challenging activity, as they have the ability to steal the bait from the hook, away from the eyes of the fisherman.

A barbecue style lunch will be prepared at the campsite by the river. Depending on the weather, the boat tour may take place at another location and the schedule may change. After a pleasant rest in hammocks, set up at the campsite, we return to the pousada. We end this fun-packed day with a walk to the Torre do Bugio, our tallest observation tower - 25 m high - that offers a spectacular view of the Pantanal plains. After dinner, we hop onto a safari truck, in search of nocturnal animals.

Overnight at Overnight at Araras Eco Lodge

 **Overnight:**
Lodge

 **Meals:**
B

 **Distance:**
Varies

 **Activity:**
Explore

DAY 8: PANTANAL NORTE – JAGUAR DAY

Jaguar Express (regular tour)

The JAGUAR EXPRESS is a 14-hour tour to search for jaguars and other wildlife along the Cuiaba River banks and within the Meeting of the Waters State Park, 112 km south of Araras Eco-Lodge. It is combined with a 4-night minimum package at the lodge.

Overnight at Overnight at Araras Eco Lodge

 **Overnight:**
Hotel

 **Meals:**
B

 **Distance:**
Varies

 **Activity:**
Wildlife

DAY 9: PANTANAL NORTE

Right after breakfast, we will explore another of the pousada's areas, walking along the Ronco Trail that will take us to one of our stud farms. We'll return on a Safari truck and have lunch at the Pousada. After the afternoon tea, we'll go on a photo safari of 2 to 3 hours, in a specially equipped truck, in search of animal life along the Transpantaneira Park Road. After dinner you'll have the opportunity to talk to your guide about the list of animals spotted during the safari.

Overnight at Overnight at Araras Eco Lodge

 **Overnight:**
Hotel

 **Meals:**
B

 **Distance:**
Varies

 **Activity:**
Explore

DAY 10: PANTANAL NORTE – CUIABA – SAO PAULO - PARATY

We go for a walk at dawn to enjoy the awakening of this incredible ecosystem. Breakfast and departure to Cuiabá at 7:30 am or 12:30 pm, depending on your flight time. We will make stops along the Transpantaneira Road for pictures. For alternative transfer-out times, please ask us about private transfers.

Private transfer from São Paulo to Paraty (approx 268 km - 04 hrs).

Overnight at Pousada do Sandi in Apartment



Overnight:
Hotel



Meals:
B



Distance:
Varies



Activity:
Explore

DAY 11: PARATY

Hike to Mamanguá Peak (private)

Hike the Mamanguá Sugarloaf Peak for the best panoramic views of the region. The Saco do Mamanguá, Brazil's only tropical fjord, is a unique marine ecosystem and tropical paradise located on the nearby Joatinga Ecological Reserve. On this small-group full-day tour, you set out from Paraty by bus to Paraty Mirim to catch a boat into the fjord. The hike up the Mamanguá Sugarloaf Peak (425m) is intense and offers incredible views of the bays and rainforest covered mountainsides. On the way back, we stop at a lovely sandy beach to swim, relax and cool off after the hike. We also recommend you try the delicious fresh fish with rice, beans and salad at our favourite beach kiosk. This is a great day out for people looking to get off the beaten track and enjoy the best views!

Duration: 7 hrs.

Level of difficulty: medium (walking time: 2.5 to 3 hours with breaks).

Overnight at Pousada do Sandi in Apartment



Overnight:
Hotel



Meals:
B



Distance:
Varies



Activity:
Explore

DAY 12: PARATY – ILHA GRANDE

Private transfer from Paraty to Ilha Grande (via Angra dos Reis) by vehicle + speedboat (Approx. 2h30). Arriving in Ilha Grande a bilingual guide will be waiting for you and you'll walk to your Hotel.

Overnight at Hotel O Sitio Ilha Grande – Standard room



Overnight:
Hotel



Meals:
B



Distance:
Varies



Activity:
Explore

DAY 13: ILHA GRANDE

Lopes Mendes Boat Transfer (regular)

We will board a boat at Vila Abraão pier to Mangues beach, from where we will hike for about 20 to 30 minutes until Lopes Mendes Beach. Those hungering for more adventure can take yet another hiking trail, for 20 minutes, to the



beautiful and secluded Santo Antonio Beach. In the meantime, those staying in Lopes Mendes will enjoy its fine white sand, crystal clear waters and just the right amount of waves, that please both occasional swimmers and experienced surfers. The beach is 2,4 km long, with a small creek that runs into the ocean at one of its ends, in addition to a small chapel and a mosaic on a large buoy that broke loose a ship created by the artist Silvio Cavaleiro. Make sure you bring some water, since there are no kiosks there - but there's one at Pouso Beach, our next stop, where you can have a snack and a refreshing drink.

Duration: approx. 6 hrs.

Departures (to be confirmed): 9:30, 10:30 or 11:30 a.m. (returning at 2:30, 3:30 or 4:30 p.m.)

**Minimum of people for departure: 10. If the number is not reached, a refund or an alternative tour will be offered. Bilingual guide not included.*

Overnight at Hotel O Sítio Ilha Grande – Standard room



Overnight:
Hotel



Meals:
B



Distance:
Varies



Activity:
Explore

DAY 14: ILHA GRANDE

Two Rivers hike (private)

Ilha Grande is not only known for its beaches (including the superb Lopes Mendes beach), but also and above all for the countless hiking possibilities it offers. It's a hike that requires stamina. We'll follow the T14 trail through the Atlantic Rainforest, with traces of the road made by ex-prisoners from the former Cândido Mendes penal colony, which is located in the village of Dois Rios, named after two streams that flow into each other at each corner of the beach, with very transparent waters that have a yellowish color from a biological process. Here we will have free time to enjoy a beautiful, flat beach with clear waters. But the main attraction is the ruins of the extinct prison, one part of which is now used by UERJ for university studies and the other is the Ecomuseum where we can learn more about the history of this famous prison. Distance: 14km round trip.

Difficulty level: Difficult.

Altitude difference: +320m / -320m

Duration: approx. 6 hours

Overnight at Hotel O Sítio Ilha Grande – Standard room



Overnight:
Hotel



Meals:
B



Distance:
Varies



Activity:
Explore

DAY 15: ILHA GRANDE – RIO DE JANEIRO

Private transfer from Ilha Grande to Rio de Janeiro via Conceição de Jacaré (regular speedboat and private vehicle). At the appropriate time, you should go to the Abraão pier for boarding. 20 minutes by speedboat and 2 hours by private vehicle (128km). Arrival at Rio de Janeiro's airport and end of expedition



Overnight:
N/A



Meals:
Nil



Distance:
Varies



Activity:
Travel

Optional Tours

Optional Tours Rio De Janeiro

- Iconic Rio: Favela Tour Morro da Babilonia Corcovado & Sugarloaf (with hike to Morro da Urca) (Private)
- City Tour Rio de Janeiro (Regular)
- Samba Class (Regular or Private)
- African Heritage Tour (Private)
- Tickets for full day tour On the trail of the Golden Lion Tamarin
- Walking Tour: Historical Center of Rio de Janeiro (4h - private)
- Bike Tour Carioca Sunset (3h Private or Regular)
- Backgrounds of carnival (4h Private with transport)
- Nightlife of Rio as a Local (4h Private)
- Boat trip to Gigoia Island (4h Private)
- Samba Class + Samba Tour (Regular or Private)
- Baia de Guanabara Tour (Regular)
- Santa Marta Favela Tour
- Ginga Tropical Tour
- Soccer Tour - Maracana stadium and Flamengo club (private)
- Soccer match in Rio de Janeiro
- Cooking Together (Private)
- City Tour Buzios (Regular)
- Ocean Kayaking (Private)
- Helicopter flight - 15 min
- Rio Eco-Citytour (Regular or Private)
- Pedra da Gávea (Private)
- Hike Tijuca Adventure Circuit (Regular or Private)
- Sugarloaf Hike with rock climbing (private)
- Tijuca Forest Express Hike (Regular or Private)
- Morro Dois Irmãos with Vidigal favela (Private 4h)
- Hike to the Wild Beaches of Guaratiba (6h Private)
- Private Tijuca Forest Family Hike (Private 5h)
- Surf Lesson: "Rio's Beach Culture" (Private)
- Jeep Tour Tropical Paradise + Museum (Regular)
- Jeep Tour 4 Wonders (Regular, minimum 2pax)
- Jeep Tour Botanical Garden + Rainforest (Regular)

Paraty

- Walking tour in Paraty (private)
- Hike to Mamanguá Peak (private)
- Hiking to Ponta Negra (8h)
- Quilombola Tour (6h - Private)
- Jeep Tour (Regular)
- Jeep Tour (Private)
- Kayak in Paraty Bay (regular)
- Kayak in Paraty's Bay (4h - Private)
- Schooner Tour (regular)
- Caiçara Tour (Private)
- Tour Green Coast & Hike to Sono Beach (regular)
- Gold Trail + City Tour (private)
- Bike Tour (PRIVATE)
- Story over the Sea Boat Tour (private)
- Trindade Tour (Private 6h)
- Surf class on the beach at the farm
- Boat Tour (Private)

Ilha Grande

- Polynesia Canoe Paddling Tour - Classic Tour (1h30 Regular)
- Hike Feiticeira Beach and Waterfall (private)
- Lopes Mendes Boat Tour (regular)

- Lopes Mendes Boat Tour (private)
- Hike Praia de Lopes Mendes (private)
- Hike Pico do Papagaio (private)
- Historic and Cultural Tour (private)
- ILHA GRANDE KAYAK TOUR
- Hike Praia de Lopes Mendes (private)
- Dive in Ilha Grande (can be baptism or advanced)
- Blue Lagoon & Beaches Tour (private)
- Blue Lagoon & Beaches Tour (regular)
- TWO RIVERS WALK
- Snorkeling tour in Lagoa Azul and Lagoa Verde with visit to a floating restaurant with FAMILY MARICULTURE.

Accommodation, at a glance

Subject to availability

<i>Nights</i>	<i>Destination</i>	<i>Accommodations</i>
Nights 1, 2, 3	Rio De Janeiro	Windsor Leme Hotel
Night 4, 5	Puerto Iguazu	La Reserva Virgin Lodge
Nights 6, 7, 8, 9	Pantanal Norte	Arasa Eco Lodge
Nights 10, 11	Paraty	Pousada Do Sandi
Nights 12, 13, 14	Ilha Grande	Htel O Sitio Ilha Granade

Important Information

INCLUDED

Transport (where specified)
English bilingual guide
Excursions
Guide Expenses
Tickets (Day 2)
Room
Meals as specifies in the itinerary
Departure transfer (day 4)
English-speaking driver guide
Arrival transfer (day 4)

NOT INCLUDED

- International flights
- Flights
- Meals
- Drinks
- Options, alternatives, updates and solutions
- Tips for drivers and guides
- Visa fees
- Airport fees
- Flight from Rio to Iguacu (day 4)
- Flight from Iguacu to Cuiaba (day 6)

The Pioneer Booking Process

Where do you go from here? Well, you can feel free to email us at info@pioneerexpeditions.com if you're interested in this trip, or any of our other expeditions from around the world. Visit our website www.pioneerexpeditions.com to unearth all of our other equally amazing trips and destinations.

1. Contact us -

We will be happy to answer any questions or enquiries you may have. From here we will begin to plan and put together your dream adventure holiday! Alternatively, on our website you will find our booking and enquiry forms; once filled in, we will be notified of your enquiry and will get back to you ASAP.

2. Leave everything to us -

Everything will be arranged and booked by us, but we will make sure to keep you updated every step of the way. In addition, we can arrange your international flights if needed, as we have access to competitive airfares. We can also arrange any additional tours or additional night's accommodation.

3. Wait for your adventure to begin -

Sit back and count down the days until your trip of a lifetime with Pioneer Expeditions. We'll handle all of the last minute preparations and provide you with everything you need. All practical information will be sent out to you, prior to your trip.

If you feel like altering this itinerary to suit your personal preferences, we can arrange all of that and more – just get in contact with us and let us know your requirements and wishes. From here, we can simply tailor-make your dream holiday.

