

Passport 2 Adventure Brazil Study Tour Highlights

SALVADOR CITY

Salvador one of the most historical cultural centers of Brazil. The city has the most important African influence anywhere in the world, outside the African continent. We will visit the Pelourinho District, the most important historical center of colonial architecture in Latin America. The last slave market in Brazil; the First African Church in the new world, built in 1704; art galleries, souvenirs shops and various other important historical landmarks.



STATUES OF THE ORISHAS

These distinctive statues, representing the deities of the Candomble Religion, stand triumphantly in the middle of a peaceful lake. We will visit The Good End Church, known by the locals as "Oxala's Church". This 18th century church is the center for the connection between African religions and Catholicism. Next, we will stop at the largest Handicraft Market in northern Brazil an opportunity to purchase hand-made objects of leather, ceramics, shells and wood. Visit to Yle Aye Educational Center where over 500 students attend for school which includes learning about music and African traditions.

CACHOEIRA

We will depart for the interior of Bahia which takes us through plantations of sugar cane and cocoa, and Rural Towns which have existed for several hundred years. Inhabitants still ride horses and donkeys to the market, and live primarily off the land. Our goal is to reach the town of Cachoeira, one of the most important historical and colonial towns in Bahia. We will visit the Tobacco Factory, where afro-cachoeiran women make all the products by hand. Also while in Cachoeira, we will make a special visit to the Sisterhood of the Good Death Church. This church is the oldest (240 years) and the most important Afro-Bahian Woman's Organization in Brazil.

OLODUM PERFORMANCE

A performance by the internationally renowned Olodum. This Brazilian percussion group achieved international acclaim when they appeared on recordings, videos, and tours with Paul Simon and Michael Jackson. Enjoying pulsating Afro-Bahian rhythms from this marvelous musical group.

CANDOMBLE TEMPLE

A visit to the Most important Candomble' Temple in Brazil. Yle Axe' Opo Afonja'. See the Orixas house, Meet Mother Detinha second person of the temple after the Yalorixa' Mother Stela and visit the Youth School on the temple grounds supported by Mother Stela, where the students even learn how to speak Yoruba' language. This will be an informative visit about the African and Afro-Brazilian culture.

NORTH COAST

A scenic drive of the longest coastline in Brazil - approximately 700 miles of sandy beaches, outlined by magnificent tropical vegetation. Our journey will take us past coconut trees, fruit trees, and other tropical vegetation, until we reach a "hippie village", started in the 1960's. This fantastic masterpiece, constructed entirely of local natural materials, has no running water, electricity or other amenities found in urban areas. This village, preserved in its

original state, contains gifted artists and craftsmen who create wonderful art objects, live in self made houses from palm leaves, wash clothes in the lake, and continue with the life style of the hippies of the 1960's. A twenty minute trip from the "hippie village" will bring us to the TAMAR Project, a national project for the conservation of the Sea Turtle, an endangered species.

BAHIA BY NIGHT

An evening of a true afro-bahian cultural experience. This magical evening starts off with dinner, an International Buffet which also features local Bahian Delicacies. After dinner, we will experience a true Afro-Bahian cultural performance. The exciting music and dance, performed by Native Afro-Bahian people. The folkloric dances and songs are presented in a spectacular manner, featuring pulsating rhythms, sensual movements and beautiful costumes. The variety of songs and dances, such as the Nigerian Yoruba Religious style (Candombley), the Fisherman's Rituals, and the Samba Dance, will prepare us for the climax at the show. The show reaches its zenith during the "Capoeira", a Brazil's form of martial arts. We will gain a greater awareness and love for Afro-Bahian food, song and dance.
