

Historic Rio Tour



VISUAL TRAVEL TOURS

Maps Show You Where... We Show You Why!

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Tour Summary

The usual image that tourists have of Rio is of the white sandy beaches and luxurious apartments at Copacabana and Ipanema. This tour reveals the area where the city originated after the arrival of the Portuguese colonizers in the 16th century. Rio would become the capital of a thriving new colony and later the seat of a vast commercial empire with links to 4 other continents. The most important historical buildings and their cultural heritage have been preserved in excellent condition, allowing the visitor to obtain an accurate description of Brazil's past.

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Historic Rio Introduction





This tour will take you back in time to the 16th century when Portugal was a major naval power with half of the world under its control.



Thousands of Portuguese sailors were ready to cross the Atlantic in search of riches and adventure.



Their main forms of transport were galleons, models of which can be seen at the Naval Museum during this tour.



The Portuguese were ready to defend their colonies at all cost from their main rivals, the French and the Dutch.



The Portuguese wanted to get rich by controlling the spice trade with India and other Asian countries.



The colonizers consolidated their control in Brazil and in 1763 began building government buildings in their new capital, Rio de Janeiro.



The Portuguese also constructed lavish churches for their religious ceremonies.



And wide avenues and parks.



At the beginning of the 19th century, Joao VI, King of Portugal moved with all of his court to Rio de Janeiro. Later, his son Dom Pedro I was declared the Emperor of Brazil.



All this cultural heritage has been preserved in perfect condition by the local tourist board.



All these historic monuments are easily viewed by visitors of all ages.



The result is a breathtaking variety of palaces, museums, and expositions that will amaze you.

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