Rio: Copacabana & Ipanema Tour





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Tour Summary

"Rio." The name summons images of impossibly beautiful people decorating sweeping beaches with domes of granite in the background. This is Rio's Zona Sul, or South Zone - but Zona Sul is so much more. Stroll past trendy clothing and shoe stores, or window-shop outside the highend jewelry stores, then refresh yourself at the restaurant where the song "The Girl from Ipanema" was written. If you enjoy the simpler pleasures, sip from a chilled coconut by the lake, strike up a conversation with the vendor at the newspaper stand, linger over a deliciously rich cup of coffee, or sit at the beach and marvel at the amazing game of "foot volley." Nestled between tree-shrouded cliffs and the shimmering South Atlantic, Rio's South Zone should be visited at least once. Back to Table of Contents

Copacabana & Ipanema





"Rio." The name alone evokes images of sugary beaches populated by impossibly beautiful people. In this tour we will introduce you to Rio's Zona Sul, or South Zone, which offers world-class beaches, shops, and restaurants, and a variety of outdoor activities.



We'll begin on the streets of historic, eclectic Copacabana, visiting the luxurious Copacabana Palace, the hotel that introduced Rio to the world.



We'll visit a hidden gem of a park, then a shop offering an incredible variety of Brazilian and world music. You will learn where the locals go for "a beer and a bite," before stopping to browse at an upscale antique fair that you won't find in any guidebook.



Across the street you'll find shady Fishermen's Corner and the historic Copacabana Fort with its sweeping views.



Next we'll trade our tennis shoes for flipflops and drift down the sidewalk of Copa Beach, checking out the goods for sale, the sports enthusiasts, the street performers, and some amazing sand sculptures.



Discover where to take a break with a relaxing massage under the palms... the ocean waves splashing right beside you.



Next we'll visit Ipanema, my home. In this trendy but laid-back neighborhood, we'll visit the Hippie Fair, a Sunday favorite of locals for 40 years. You can do all of your gift shopping in one place!



Learn the locals' favorite "by the kilo" restaurant...



...then immerse yourself in the colors and aromas of the farmers' market, where you'll find fresh vegetables, flowers, and fruits, many of which are not available back home.



Window-shop along Diamond Row, where precious and semi-precious stones from the interior of Brazil are transformed into one-of-a-kind creations.



Wander the path alongside the lagoon, where fishermen still cast their nets only a block from the ritziest social club in Ipanema. Take a minute to rest and sip a drink from a chilled coconut.



You'll learn about two upscale restaurants perfect for that last-night splurge, and stroll by the restaurant where the world-famous song "The Girl from Ipanema" was written. Saving the best for last, we'll visit Ipanema Beach and take you down into the sand, giving you the inside scoop on which stretch of beach is best, prices you should pay, and tips on beach culture. You'll leave feeling like a local yourself.

Welcome to my city, the Marvelous City of Rio.

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