



BUENOS AIRES, BRAZIL & THE GUYANAS WITH CARNIVAL, (LBAV)

Buenos Aires to Boa Vista 80 Days, departing 25th January 2021



TRIP OVERVIEW

Trip Style: Overlanding

Route: Buenos Aires to Boa Vista

Duration: 80 Days

Transport: Overland Expedition Vehicle, Jeep, Local Bus, Canoe, Boat, Metro, Private Bus, Ferry, Minibus

Accommodation: Comfortable Hotel 26 nights
Camping 23 nights
Basic Hotel 18 nights
Multishare Hostel 6 nights
Overnight Boat 2 nights
Guesthouse 3 nights

Meals: Breakfasts x 56, Lunches x 29, Dinners x 28

Physical Challenge: ● ● ● ○ ○

Depending on the trip, activities may include treks of 3-4 hours at altitude or across hilly terrain, multi-day treks at sea level, horseback riding, canoeing and other adventurous activities. A moderate level of fitness is required.

Lifestyle Challenge: ● ● ● ● ○

This is a fairly challenging trip; you may well be travelling at high altitudes, across deserts or through cold and windy or hot and steamy areas. The terrain and roads may be rough and the facilities can be very basic or non-existent. There may be some long drive days followed by wild camps, and physically and mentally it can be tough, but there will be some rest days and time to relax as well.



DAILY ITINERARY

Day 1 - Buenos Aires (25th January 2021)

Border information: if you are joining in Buenos Aires, you will most likely enter Argentina at Buenos Aires Ministro Pistarini International Airport, also known as Ezeiza Airport (IATA code: BUE/EZE).

Welcome to Buenos Aires, the wonderful capital of Argentina! There will be an important group meeting at 6:00pm at the joining hotel - please look out at the hotel reception for a note from your leader with more details about this important meeting.

Please note that many of the options listed below will only be possible for those with extra time in Buenos Aires before the start of your trip with us - please contact the Sales team if you would like to book pre-tour accommodation with us to have extra time exploring Buenos Aires.

In Buenos Aires we will stay in a centrally-located hotel.

Accommodation: Hotel Mundial "A"

Day 2 - Buenos Aires (26th January 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Today will be a free day to explore the incredible city of Buenos Aires, soak up the atmosphere of its streets, and discover its amazing culture, art, and music.

Day 3 - Yapeyu (27th January 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we have a full day drive north through the provinces of Entre Rios and Corrientes, aiming to reach the beautiful village of Yapeyú on the banks of the River Uruguay. Yapeyú is very famous amongst Argentines for being the birthplace of their national hero General Jose de San Martin, one of the liberators of South America from Spanish colonial rule.

Day 4 - Foz do Iguacu (28th January 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Border information: Exit Argentina at Tancredo Neves, enter Brazil at Tancredo Neves.

Today we cross the border into Brazil and drive to the city of Foz do Iguacu.

Day 5 - Foz do Iguacu (29th January 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will visit the Brazilian side of the phenomenal Iguazu Falls, to get some incredible panoramic vistas of the mighty waterfalls. There is also plenty of time to visit the bird park, take a helicopter ride over the falls, see the incredible Itaipu Dam, or quickly stop into Paraguay to pick up some bargains in the nearby Ciudad del Este.

Day 6 - Foz do Iguacu (30th January 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will take a day trip back into Argentina to see the incredible Iguazu Falls from the other side. This is well worth doing as the views are even more spectacular, and you'll be able to look right down into the mighty Garganta del Diablo (the largest waterfall here) from a gantry walkway viewing point). We will have a full day at the Argentine side of the falls, allowing us lots of time to freely explore the site, hike some nature trails, or perhaps take an exhilarating (and very wet) boat ride!

We will return to our base in Foz do Iguacu tonight.

Day 7 - Bonito (31st January 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we have a full drive day north to the Brazilian eco-tourism capital of Bonito.

Day 8 - Bonito (1st February 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

We have two full days in Bonito to take part in the plethora of incredible optional activities here. You could go out on a world-class snorkelling trip, explore the nearby caves, or go abseiling down some of the largest waterfalls in the area, amongst many other possibilities!

Day 9 - Bonito (2nd February 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Second free day for optional activities in Bonito.

Day 10 - Pantanal (3rd February 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we have a short drive to Brazil's amazing Southern Pantanal region, where we have a visit a local eco-tourism ranch (or 'fazenda').

We will spend 2 nights here and have a fantastic package of included activities such as exploring the beautiful surrounding countryside on horseback, trips down the wildlife-abundant rivers in boats and canoes, and safaris on the ranch's trucks and on foot where we hope to spot capybaras, caimans, and (if we are very lucky) jaguars and ocelots. Our stay here is an incredible highlight!

In the Southern Pantanal we will stay in dorm accommodation in a well equipped lodge with all the meals and activities included.

Day 11 - Pantanal (4th February 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Full day in the Pantanal.

Day 12 - Campo Grande (5th February 2021)

After our morning activities and one final lunch in our beautiful ranch, it is time to leave the Pantanal. We will start driving east towards Sao Paulo state, and wild camp or stay in a local pousada at the end of the day.

Day 13 - Brotas (6th February 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will drive to the remote town of Brotas in southeastern Brazil.

Day 14 - Brotas (7th February 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today is free to take part in optional adventure activities such as white water rafting or canyoning, or to simply relax by the pool!

Day 15 - Paraty (8th February 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we have a full day drive to the colonial town of Paraty on the Emerald Coast of the Atlantic!

Day 16 - Paraty (9th February 2021)

Today we will have an included boat trip around the incredible islands and beaches off the coast.

Day 17 - Paraty (10th February 2021)

Today we will have free time to explore the town, take a historical tour, walk along the stunning scenery of the coastline, head out snorkelling or diving, or simply relax on the idyllic beaches.

Day 18 - Rio de Janeiro (11th February 2021)

This morning we will drive to the incredible Rio de Janeiro, one of the most beautifully situated cities in the world!

In Rio de Janeiro we will stay in a great hotel in the Flamengo district, close to the beach and the metro station.

Day 19 - Rio de Janeiro (12th February 2021)

Welcome to Rio Carnival, the biggest party on the planet!

There will be an important meeting at 17:00 or 18:00, where you'll have a full briefing on how to make the most of your time in Rio and receive your tickets, maps, T-Shirt and souvenir booklet - please check the notice board in the reception area for other important information throughout the week.

After the meeting we have a table booked at a nearby buffet restaurant, so you can get to know some of your fellow travellers.

Our dedicated Carnival team will be on hand throughout the week for a few hours each day to provide any assistance you may need.

There's a whole host of additional optional activities that you may like to take part in, such as 'Join the Parade', prior early booking is essential!

If you are arriving early you may like to join a Market Tour or Jungle Tour.

In Rio de Janeiro we will stay in a great hotel in the Flamengo district, accommodation is in twin or double rooms. Our hotel is close to the beach and the metro station. Our hotel check-in is from 2pm, and staff will be on hand to give you assistance.

Border information: if you are joining in Rio de Janeiro, you will most likely enter Brazil at Rio de Janeiro Galeão International Airport.

Day 20 - Rio de Janeiro (13th February 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will visit the most iconic sights of Rio; the immense statue of Christ the Redeemer standing at 710m on Corcovado mountain and the Pão de Açúcar (Sugarloaf Mountain). We will have some time to explore these sights in our own time, you may even choose to take a helicopter ride!. We will also aim to see some other important landmarks such as the Maracanã stadium, Escadaria Selarón and the Lapa Arches. We will travel by minibus. (NB today's tour is unguided but you will be accompanied by our crew).

This evening we will head out to Lapa for a night out in a samba club; Rio Scenarium, one of the City's greatest nightspots - it's an antiques warehouse, music venue, bar and restaurant all housed in a fantastic colonial mansion. There will be live samba music and DJ's on each floor. We will be hosting a beginners Samba Dance class in the late afternoon, why not sign up and learn some of the basic steps before hitting the town!

Day 21 - Rio de Janeiro (14th February 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

This morning why not glitter up and join us at one of the local 'blocos' or street parties, there will be live music, dancing and plenty of opportunities to get to know Rio and it's people! Blocos are great fun, crowded, hot and lively! The local 'cariocas' will be all dressed up, so make sure you come dressed to impress!

In the evening it's time for the main event of the week - the parade in the Sambadrome. The top samba schools parade their fantastic floats and costumes and the party goes on well into the early hours of Monday morning. You'll be situated in Sector 11, close to the action.

Day 22 - Rio de Janeiro (15th February 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

This morning is free for you to recover from last night in the Sambadrome! It's a great chance to hit the beach, explore the city or simply have a lie in!

In the afternoon you may wish to join us for a walking tour of Copacabana and Ipanema beaches.

Tonight we have the chance to re-visit the Sambadrome, this time in Sector 5 in the centre of the parade runway, to see the last 7 of the elite Samba schools parading. You even have the option to don a costume and take part in the parade itself, dancing your way down the Sambadrome runway - a once in a lifetime experience!

It is important to pre-book these activities early.

Day 23 - Rio de Janeiro (16th February 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Today you have free time to enjoy the activities, sights and sounds of Rio! Join a bloco, hit the beach or ride the tram to Santa Teresa. Rio has so much to offer other than it's carnival festivities. We will be organising some fun water based activities such as kayaking and paddle boarding (prior booking is essential).

Tonight you have a free night to hit the town; head downtown and enjoy a Caipirinha under the iconic Lapa arches or join a bloco.

Day 24 - Rio de Janeiro (17th February 2021)

Welcome to Rio de Janeiro! Today there will be a group meeting day at 18:00hrs, please meet in the hotel reception.

The rest of the day is yours to enjoy Rio. If you would like to book additional nights of accommodation to really explore the city, please contact your Sales agent.

Border information: If you are arriving in Rio, enter Brazil at Rio Galeão International Airport International (IATA code: GIG) Airport.

Day 25 - Ouro Preto (18th February 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will drive to the beautiful old colonial mining town of Ouro Preto.

Along the way we will stop at Petropolis, the cool hill-side hideaway for local Cariocas escaping the heat of Rio. We will have 2 hours to explore the Museu Imperial, the former Imperial Palace, wander the town or visit the Palacio de Cristal, the site where the last slaves of Petropolis were released.

Day 26 - Ouro Preto (19th February 2021)

Today we will enjoy a half day guided tour of Ouro Preto, well known for its colonial architecture and the first Brazilian town to be considered a UNESCO world heritage site. In the afternoon enjoy some free time to explore the town, visit the museum or some of the stunning baroque churches. There are some fantastic cafes and restaurants in Ouro Preto. Don't forget your camera today - Ouro Preto is one of the most picturesque towns on our itinerary!

Day 27 - Tres Marias (20th February 2021)

Meals: Lunch, Dinner

We have a full day drive through the Brazilian countryside. We will find a nice spot and camp for the night near Tres Marias.

Day 28 - Brasilia (21st February 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we arrive in the futuristic capital of Brasilia. In the morning we will enjoy a guided tour of this fascinating city, which was designed and built to be the Brazilian Government's headquarters in 1960. The city is designed to resemble a plane, and is a UNESCO heritage site, housing some incredible, futuristic style Cathedrals and Monuments.

Day 29 - Alto Paraiso (22nd February 2021)

Meals: Lunch, Dinner

After our morning tour of the city, we will drive to the chilled out town of Alto Paraiso, which will be our base for exploring the Chapada dos Veadeiros. Alto Paraiso is crossed by Parallel 14 (in the same way as Machu Picchu) and is at the centre of some fantastic stories of space ships and aliens!

Day 30 - Alto Paraiso (23rd February 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we can explore the National Park. The Chapada dos Veadeiros is one of Brazil's hidden gems, one of the oldest and most beautiful tropical ecosystems in South America and home to incredible waterfalls, rock formations, caves and grottoes.

This morning we will have an included visit to the Vale da Lua or the Valley of the Moon, so called due to the rock formations giving it an appearance similar to the moon.

This area is perfect for hiking, horse and bike riding and of course swimming in natural pools and soaking up the parks atmosphere. It is said that due to the high amount of quartz in the ground, that this Chapada is glows from space!

Day 31 - Central Brazil (24th February 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Over the next two days we will travel overland across the central Brazilian countryside.

Day 32 - Lencois (25th February 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Overlanding through Central Brazil to Lencois.

Day 33 - Lencois (26th February 2021)

We will spend 2 full days in Lencois, the gateway to Chapada da Diamantina National Park. A former diamond-mining town in Bahia. Lencois's friendly inhabitants, great restaurants, cobbled streets and brightly coloured buildings make it a great town to explore.

Day 34 - Lencois (27th February 2021)

Go hiking, kayaking, riding, explore the town, or simply kick back and relax!

Day 35 - Itacare (28th February 2021)

Meals: Lunch, Dinner

We head to the coast today, to the beautiful beach town of Itacare, with its stunning Atlantic rainforest, laid back eco-friendly cafes and bars, and the opportunity to surf, relax and explore.

Day 36 - Itacare (1st March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Time to relax and enjoy some beach time!

Day 37 - Itacare (2nd March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we have a free day to explore the area, enjoy the beach, take part in some of the many adventure activities available here, or visit the stunning Peninsula de Marau, stopping off at Praia Taipus de Fora and Lagoa Azul.

Day 38 - Salvador (3rd March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we drive to the beautiful town of Salvador da Bahia. Salvador is a vibrant and exciting place to visit, with its bright colonial architecture, tasty street food scene, great music and impressive Capoeira, there's plenty to keep us busy for 2 days.

Day 39 - Salvador (4th March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Free time to explore the energetic and vibrant city of Salvador, known around the world for its Carnival festivities. Salvador is home to over 300 churches, the historic centre is recognised by UNESCO and full of interesting architecture, brightly coloured buildings and cobblestone streets. It's an excellent place to witness the African culture in music and dance and enjoy some delicious street food.

Day 40 - Salvador (5th March 2021)

Welcome to Salvador! Today there is an important group meeting at 18:00hrs, please meet at the Hotel reception. The rest of the day is yours to enjoy Salvador.

Border information: If you are starting in Salvador, enter Brazil at Deputado Luís Eduardo Magalhães International Airport ([IATA code: SSA](#))

Day 41 - Aracaju (6th March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we head north up the coast of Bahia, into the state of Sergipe. Along the way we will make a stop at the Projeto Tamar - a research station involved in the protection of Brazil's five species of turtle, which spans 1000km and 9 of Brazil's states. The best time to visit is September to March when the spawning occurs.

Afterwards we will continue our journey north to Aracaju, where we can chill out in one of the town's seafront eateries, listen to some traditional forró music and enjoy the fresh crabs that the town is known for.

Day 42 - Olinda (7th March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

We have a full day drive to the stunning colonial gem of Olinda, considered one of Brazil's most important historic sites.

Day 43 - Olinda (8th March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Explore the beautiful town of Olinda, once known as 'small Lisbon' and the richest town in Brazil. Enjoy wandering the cobblestone streets, check out some of the exquisite churches and definitely make time for lunch at Alto da Se to enjoy the views!

Day 44 - Praia da Pipa (9th March 2021)

Continue the journey to the cool seaside town of Praia da Pipa.

Day 45 - Canoa Quebrada (10th March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we have a drive day to the pink sands of the Canoa Quebrada beaches.

Day 46 - Canoa Quebrada (11th March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Huge pinkish sand dunes dominate the area of Canoa Quebrada, it's a fantastic spot to kick back and relax after a week of overlanding, or for the more energetic; try your hand at kite surfing, take an evening horseback ride along the beach, head out on a beach buggy. There's a laid back small town to explore too.

Day 47 - Jericoacoara (12th March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

An all day drive brings us to the laid back beach town of Jericoacoara, or 'Jeri' as it's affectionately known. Access to Jericoacoara is only by 4x4 through unpaved tracks through the dunes, making it a wonderfully hard to reach place.

Day 48 - Jericoacoara (13th March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Jericoacoara is a magical place to spend some time; wander the sandy lanes, enjoy the sunset with a caipirinha on the dunes whilst the locals practise their Capoeira, head out on a quad bike adventure to remote lagoons where you can take a dip, laze in a hammock and enjoy a seafood lunch. Jeri is also one of the prime spots for surfing, windsurfing and kite surfing!

Day 49 - Barreirinhas (14th March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we drive to the town of Barreirinhas, the gateway to the Lencois Maranhenses National Park.

Day 50 - Barreirinhas (15th March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we adventure into the Lencois Maranhenses National Park begins.

Seen from the sky, the meeting point of the Rio Parnaiba and the Atlantic Ocean looks like a giant puzzle, made up of 85 tiny islands.

Day 51 - Barreirinhas (16th March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will head out to the protected area of Pequenos Lencois, along the way, we will visit a small fishing village, take a short walk & enjoy views of the dunes and the Preguicas River.

Day 52 - Sao Luis (17th March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

This morning we will continue our journey to the beautiful UNESCO town of Sao Luis.

Day 53 - Sao Luis (18th March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we can enjoy the UNESCO world heritage site of Sao Luis, the only city of Brazil to be founded by the French. The city is full of interesting museums and the historic centre houses beautiful, pastel coloured colonial mansions. You can take a boat trip to the more laid back town of Alcantara, you may spot the Scarlet Guara birds on your way.

Day 54 - Belem (19th March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Our final drive day brings us to Belem where the mighty Amazon River meets the Atlantic.

Day 55 - Belem (20th March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Today is yours to enjoy the port town of Belem, one of the first Portuguese settlements. Explore the historic centre which houses various museums and cathedrals and be sure to visit the Ver-o-Paso Market, considered the largest in South America, with its stalls scattered with Amazonian fish, baskets of Acai, herbs and crafts.

Day 56 - Amazon River (21st March 2021)

The next four days of our itinerary will be flexible to suit the sailing times of our ferry and the road conditions.

Day 57 - Macapa (22nd March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

We hope to board the Amazon passenger boat today or tomorrow at 10am, sailing to the port of Macapa - this crossing usually takes around 24 hours and is a real local experience. Be sure to bring some snacks, playing cards and a good book for the journey. Meals will be provided on the ferry but these are quite basic. Snacks and drinks are sold on board.

The truck will depart on a separate ferry the night before, as it takes around 36 hours to reach Macapa.

Whilst on board we sleep in hammocks on deck. It is possible to upgrade in advance to a cabin, please contact your Sales agent for further information.

Day 58 - Oyapoque (23rd March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Overlanding day towards French Guiana

Day 59 - Cayenne (24th March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

We will likely spend a night in Macapa on arrival, followed by 2 days overlanding to the city of Cayenne in French Guiana. Our itinerary will depend on road conditions and the arrival times of the passenger and truck ferries.

Day 60 - Cayenne (25th March 2021)

Welcome to French Guiana!, today there is an important meeting at 18:00, please meet in the hotel reception. The rest of the day is yours to enjoy Cayenne.

Border Information - If joining the trip at Cayenne, you will fly into Cayenne Félix Eboué International Airport (IATA code: CAY)

Day 61 - Cayenne (26th March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will enjoy a half day walking tour around Cayenne. The rest of the day is yours to enjoy, perhaps even take a Kayaking trip to the Ilets du pont. Depending on departure days we may choose to visit the Space station at Kourou this morning.

Day 62 - Kourou (27th March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will head out to the town of Kourou; the site of the European Space station and the starting point for boat trips around the former penal colony on Devil's Island, one of the infamous Iles du Salut, off the coast of French Guiana. The ordeal of Frenchman Henri Charriere, who spent 12 years here, would later inspire the book Papillon.

Day 63 - Plage Les Hattes (28th March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will visit the European Space Centre near Kourou, en route to the town of Saint Laurent du Maroni.

During Turtle viewing season (March to August) we will spend tonight at Plage les Hattes, in the hope of spotting a Olive Ridley or Leatherback Turtle.

We will stay in a local guesthouse or sleep in hammocks if we visit Plage Les Hattes

Day 64 - St Laurent du Maroni (29th March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we have a free day to explore the border town of Saint Laurent du Maroni, located on the Maroni river, with its interesting and dark history as an arrival point for prisoners during the 19th Century.

Day 65 - Paramaribo (30th March 2021)

We continue our journey west to the lively capital Paramaribo.

This evening we may choose to take an evening sunset boat trip in the hope of seeing some Dolphins playing in the Suriname River.

Day 66 - Paramaribo (31st March 2021)

Today we have a full day to explore Paramaribo's historic inner city and the Commewijne area. You can easily explore the historic centre on foot, visiting Fort Zeelandia and the Suriname museum, and enjoying the fantastic architecture of Saint Peter and Paul Cathedral, one of the largest wooden buildings in the western hemisphere, or hire a bike and take a boat across the river to cycle the peaceful Commewijne Plantation Loop, visit the star shaped fort at Neiu Amsterdam. There are plenty of bars and restaurants to choose from.

Day 67 - Upper Suriname Area (1st April 2021)

Meals: Lunch, Dinner

This morning we leave the truck behind and set off for an unforgettable adventure into the interior of Suriname. We will travel by minibus for approximately 190km to the port at Atjoni, we then hop on a boat for approx 1hr trip along the Suriname River, deep into the rainforest where we will stay for two nights on our own private island!

Be sure to pack light for this excursion, as we can only take a small bag each with us.

We will stay in comfortable cabins and enjoy our own pool. All meals are provided during our visit, though you will need a small amount of money for drinks and tips for our local guide.

Day 68 - Upper Suriname Area (2nd April 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

During our stay we can visit local villages, walk around the island in the hope of meeting some of its furry inhabitants and learn about the medicinal plants, try to spot Caiman on a night time canoe trip, take a dip in the river at the Ferulassi rapids - a natural Jacuzzi, and relax on the island by our pool, spot the kingfishers on the banks of the river and enjoy the tranquillity of the Amazon Rainforest.

All meals are provided.

Day 69 - Paramaribo (3rd April 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

This morning is free for you to enjoy how you wish, walk, swim or relax and after lunch we will transfer back to Paramaribo.

Day 70 - Bigi Pan (4th April 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Paramaribo and its surroundings definitely deserve at least one more day for exploration. Today is yours to spend as you wish; take a boat trip to Jordensavanne, take part in a Moengo Cultural experience, go walking in the Peperpot Nature reserve or Brownsberg Nature Park, learn the art of Surinamese cookery, or take part in one of the many day tours available.

Day 71 - Nieuw Nickerie (5th April 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will leave the bright lights of Parbo behind and head to the Bigi Pan, designated an 'Important Bird Area' for its spectacular bird life, particularly the country's largest colony of Scarlet Ibis.

Day 72 - Georgetown (6th April 2021)

Today we head across the border by Ferryboat to the Guyana Capital, Georgetown.

Border information: Exit Paramaribo, Enter Guyana

In Georgetown we stay in a central located, basic but cosy, locally run hostel, with shared bathrooms in a combination of twin and dorm rooms.

Day 73 - Georgetown (7th April 2021)

Take a morning tour of the city, explore the old canals and great sea wall, visit incredible wooden cathedrals, the huge market and try to spot the manatees swimming in the National park's lake. Georgetown is a busy place, and feels happily free from mass tourism. Be sure to take your camera!

Day 74 - Georgetown (8th April 2021)

Today we have a second free day in the city.

Perhaps one of the greatest highlights of Guyana is the spectacularly remote and impressive Kaieteur Falls, one of the tallest single drop waterfalls in the world, and reachable only by light aircraft. Take a half day flight to the falls and then enjoy a walking tour to the Falls and search for the tiny golden rocket frogs, hiding in the tank bromeliads leaves, as well as an impressive variety of butterflies, you may also be lucky enough to spot the bright orange Guayanan Cock of the Rocks.

Day 75 - Iwokrama Forest (9th April 2021)

Meals: Lunch, Dinner

Today the adventure really begins, as we travel south into the Guyanan Interior. We enjoy the comforts of a tarmac road for around 120km, as far as the town of Linden, and then the dirt road begins! it's the only road that connects Georgetown to Brazil, at some times of the year it becomes impassable due to the rains, but most of the time you'll find trucks and minibuses happily bumping along the road transporting people to and from Lethem. Many people choose to fly to the jungle resorts, but as overlanders we will get to enjoy the pristine rainforest - keep your eyes peeled in case of the illusive jaguar road crossing!

Please note we will likely set off very early today in order to make the most of the cooler parts of the day.

Day 76 - Iwokrama Forest (10th April 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

This morning we will cross the River on a small barge and head deep in the Guyanan rainforest, which gives us some unique wildlife spotting opportunities in one of the most pristine and untouched eco-systems in the world. We have a variety of options for us including walking, bird watching, canoeing trips, nocturnal wildlife spotting and even a spot of swimming (if the watre is low enough).

Today we will have an opportunity to visit the Iwokrama Forest Canopy Walkway, set 30metres above the forest floor and providing a unique opportunity to experience the jungle's mid-level canopy through a series of suspension bridges and decks. Visits during dusk or dawn are best for bird spotting of Macaws and Tucans, you may even be lucky enough to see Red Howler Monkeys.

Day 77 - Rupununi (11th April 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we leave the dense rainforest behind and head towards a village settlement in an area of Savannah, where we will take a walk in the village and a short river trip in Canoes on the Burro Burro River. Afterwards we will head to our camp, which is a little further south further into the Savannah region.

Day 78 - Rupununi (12th April 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we have a free day for activities such as horse riding, hiking and further opportunities for spotting wildlife.

Day 79 - Boa Vista (13th April 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

This is our final day in Guyana, we will head south past the town of Lethem and onto the city of Boa Vista in Brazil

(Please note that it is possible to fly from Lethem to Georgetown for approximately 150USD, for outbound international flights).

Day 80 - Boa Vista (14th April 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Today is the final day for passengers finishing their trip in Boa Vista. Please note there is no accommodation included on the trip tonight - please contact your sales agent if you are interested in booking an extra night of accommodation in order to fully explore the area.

Border Information: if you are finishing in Boa Vista, you will most likely exit Brazil at Boa Vista-Atlas Brasil Cantanhede International Airport (AITO code: BVB)

Accommodation:

ITINERARY DISCLAIMER

The routes, activities and places visited described in these notes are intentions and are meant as a rough guide only. By their very nature, overland itineraries need to be flexible and the regions that we are travelling through are often unpredictable. We intend to follow the planned route but exact night stops and inclusions cannot be guaranteed and it sometimes happens that we decide to make a change to our planned itinerary. This may be for a variety of reasons; climatic, road or bureaucratic conditions may demand it. Changes to the itinerary may occur with little notice so please be prepared for modifications to your trip.

Drive Times

Drive times are listed in the day-to-day itinerary. These are the approximate number of hours that the vehicle will be in motion, and does not include any time taken for coffee or lunch stops, border crossings, photo stops, activities en route, comfort breaks, shopping stops, toilet stops, etc. The times given are approximate estimates only and whilst given with the best of intentions, the drive times are heavily dependent on traffic, road conditions, weather, police roadblocks, and many other factors.

Accommodation and Meals Included

The type of accommodation and included meals are listed for each day of the itinerary. These listings show our intention and on most departures the listings will be accurate. However due to the flexible nature of overland itineraries, climatic, bureaucratic or road conditions may demand changes to our listed intentions or groups may simply decide to amend the plans from time to time.

Optional Activities

A selection of optional activities is listed in the day-to-day itinerary. This list is designed to be a helpful guide as to what is commonly available in each location, and is neither an exhaustive list, a guarantee that the activity is available, or an endorsement or recommendation. Certain activities may not be available on your particular visit and it may not be possible to do all the activities listed in the time available at each destination. It is recommended to give yourself extra time in your joining or ending city if you would like to participate in some optional activities there. Prices listed are for entrance only and do not include transport costs to and from the sites or local guides unless indicated. The prices are displayed according to our latest information and in the best faith, but prices do fluctuate due to exchange rates, season, numbers of participants, and simple increases from the operator, and therefore any prices listed are a guide only and cannot be guaranteed. If you partake in any optional activities, you do so at your own risk and it must be clearly understood that your participation is your own decision and does not form part of your contract with Dragoman. You may be required to sign/complete a waiver form or optional activity form for some optional activities. For more information around activity safety and insurance, please see the Essential Information document.

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

In the event of a real emergency once you have left your home country, please contact us on our out of office hours number. If you cannot get through on the phone, please leave a message with your name, reference number, contact details and a message with the help that you need and we will get back to you. Please bear in mind that real progress or action may not be possible until normal office hours, depending on the issue.

If your flight is delayed, please inform us as soon as you can and then make your way to the joining hotel as instructed in the Joining Point section of these notes.

Out of hours Number: +44 (0) 7985 106564

A FEW RULES

We expect all group members to act respectfully towards our staff and other group members. Bullying will not be tolerated.

Engaging in commercial or exploitative sexual activities, committing acts of violence or threatening violence towards local people, other group members or any member of our staff is not allowed. Any customer engaging in such activities will be required to leave the trip immediately with no refund of the trip price.

You must at all times comply with the laws, customs, foreign exchange and drug regulations of all countries visited and conduct yourself in accordance with our responsible travel policy. Any customer found contravening such laws or regulations will be required to leave the trip immediately with no refund of the trip price.

Although we are aware that in some parts of the world taking, carrying or selling drugs, or carrying weapons may be legal, it is not acceptable for Dragoman customers and our tour leaders have the right to ask you to leave the trip immediately with no refund of the trip price if you are found to be engaging in such activities.

ISSUES ON THE TRIP

While we always endeavour to provide the best possible holiday experience, due to the nature of travel and the areas we visit sometimes things can and do go wrong. Should any issue occur while you are on your trip, it is imperative that you discuss this with your group leader or our local partner straight away so that they can do their best to rectify the problem and save any potential negative impact on the rest of your trip.

We recognise that there may be times when your group leader may not be able to resolve a situation to your satisfaction. If this is the case please contact our customer relations department on customer-relations@dragoman.co.uk.

You may also choose to provide details in your feedback questionnaire which we ask you to complete at the end of your trip, but we do ask you to be aware that it is very difficult for us to provide any practical help after the trip is complete.

IMPORTANT NOTES

OVERLANDING LIFESTYLE

Dragoman was founded in 1981, and has had many years of experience of leading overland trips across 4 continents. Overlanding is all about sharing a great travelling experience with like-minded people. On your trip you'll travel in one of Dragoman's purpose-built iconic expedition vehicles on an off-the-beaten-track adventure along rugged roads, experiencing the sights, sounds and smells of the world up-close. Your journey will be overland, sometimes across vast distances, so some long days spent driving are inevitable - but these will be interspersed with breaks of a day or two at a destination or activity.

On an overland journey, you are more than just a passenger and everyone gets involved setting up camp - we supply the tent but it's up to you to pitch it! As part of your trip, you will be assigned a truck job which could be collecting firewood or water, luggage loading, organising food, stores, etc. Like all great adventures, the more you put in the more you'll get out! For more details of how an overlanding trip works, please see the Essential Information document.

SAFETY STANDARDS

We run adventure journeys in off the beaten track areas, which often have poor infrastructure. You should expect that some of these areas do not adhere to 'Western' safety standards. For more information, please see the Essential Information document

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE IN REMOTE AREAS

We will be travelling to areas in remote locations where medical assistance will not be available, and communications may be sparse. We do not carry satellite phones on our regular trips. Therefore, if you have a medical condition such as a heart condition that would put you at risk, we would suggest that this is not the trip for you. Also, please be aware that should an emergency occur, there is likely to be a considerable delay in accessing medical care, and by joining our trip you accept this risk.

VISAS, HEALTH, INSURANCE & MONEY

Before you travel there are vital things to consider such as:

- Any visas needed for your trip
- Any vaccinations needed (please consult your GP or travel clinic)
- Organising your local payment (the kitty)
- Buying travel insurance (insurance is compulsory to be allowed to join our trips)

For more information on these topics, please see the Essential Information Document.

CARNIVAL NOTES

Optional activities - All optional activities need to be booked prior to arrival at Carnival and by 5th January 2019. This can be done by contacting Dragoman's sales team or your agent. More details can be found [here](#).

Accommodation - This is on a shared basis (twin or triple) with breakfast included daily but no other meals. All rooms are en-suite with air-conditioning, TV, fridge and safe. There is a single supplement available at an additional cost. Please enquire with your sales agent at the time of booking if you should wish to purchase the single supplement.

Money changing - Banks will be closed over most of Carnival but some money changers stay open although exchange rates are not always that good. Cash will give you the best exchange rates - usually USD, GBP and EUR are easily exchanged. Travellers Cheques are not generally accepted. American Express Office is open through Carnival for exchange. Cash machines are located nearby to the hotel but can run out of money, so plan in advance and be very aware of theft and fraud.

You may wish to consider bringing the following items with you to Rio Carnival:

- Binoculars to help see the detail of the parades at the Sambadrome
- A disposable raincoat (can also be bought in Rio)
- A compact camera
- A money belt

THE GUIANAS

GETTING AROUND

The road across the coastal strip from Cayenne to Georgetown is sealed. Border crossings will often involve a ferry crossing, so be prepared to wait a little while for the ferry to arrive and for customs to check everyone through. In the interior of Guyana there are very few sealed roads, and the main route to Brazil is on a very bumpy dirt track, which can become impassable during the rainy seasons. Travellers should be prepared for some bumpy journeys in this region!

CURRENCIES AND MONEY MATTERS

French Guiana - Euro

Suriname - Surinamese Dollar - (1 USD = 8SRD)

Guyana - Guyanese Dollar - (1 USD = 200GYD)

Generally French Guiana is the most expensive of the three countries, followed by Suriname and then Guyana.

ATMs are available in Cayenne, Paramaribo and Georgetown and some smaller towns. Credit cards are only accepted in certain hotels, shops and restaurants. You should have local currency with you, especially in the interior of Guyana and Suriname. Cambios offer the best exchange rates. USD and Euros are easy to exchange and widely accepted as payment in major cities.

CLIMATE

The climate in the Guianas is equatorial, meaning hot all year around, with an average temperature of 27.5°C. Humidity is generally high all year, but noticeably so during the rainy seasons. The coast is cooled by sea breezes, and feels much more comfortable, as are the areas of the rainforest near the rivers.

The wet season is November to January and May to July, our trips are designed to run during the dryer seasons, but please be aware that there is rain year round, therefore waterproofs are a must!

CLOTHING

Long sleeves and collars are great for keeping off the sun and the mosquitoes. Comfortable, light clothing is recommended, as are comfortable walking shoes or boots and sandals. A sun hat and sunglasses are essential.

LOCAL FOOD AND DRINKS

Food in Guianas has strong influences from around the world, leading to some unique creations. Influences from Europe, East India, China, Indonesia, Africa and Amerindian cuisine have fused together in this tiny corner of South America. Chicken, Fish and Meat are commonly on the menu, along with vegetables, rice and cassava. In French Guiana you should try the Bouillon d'aura - a blend of crab, smoked fish, chicken, vegetables and aurora fruit. In Guayana some great snacks include Foo-foo - plantains made into cakes and fried and Pepperport, an Amerindian meat stew with cassava and hot pepper sauce. In Paramaribo, try the Parbo beer and of course Guayana blends excellent local rums. Bottled water is recommended.

TIPPING

Local Guides do not expect, but greatly appreciate a tip. In the interior it is recommended that any tips are given in local currency. For meals, 10% at hotels and restaurants is generally expected.

LANGUAGES

Guyana is South America's only English speaking country. Dutch is the main language of Suriname and French in French Guiana. There are also a number of Amerindian communities who speak their own indigenous language.

SAFETY

In general you will find the people of the Guianas to be very friendly, helpful and welcoming, many are interested to meet travellers. Whilst in any city, we recommend that you check with the reception of your hotel if there are areas to avoid after dark, and that you only take with you the money that you need for the day and leave valuables, spare cash cards and passports in the truck or hotel safe. There are some mosquitoes, we recommend that you use repellent and the mosquito net provided in hotels.

ARGENTINA NOTES

BRAZIL NOTES

FRENCH GUIANA NOTES

SURINAME NOTES

GUYANA NOTES

Please ensure you have an up to date version of these notes. **These notes were printed on the 27th September 2020**