

ALEXANDER+ROBERTS®

ORIGINAL JOURNEYS SINCE 1947

Enhance Your Stay in Rio with Additional Privately Guided Sightseeing

Ipanema + Lage Park

Experience the vibrant neighborhood of Ipanema and its relaxed atmosphere. Visit famous spots like *Arpoador* Beach, nestled between Ipanema and Copacabana, offering stunning views of both the sea and mountains. You'll also stop by the iconic *Farme de Amoedo*, a cultural hub for locals. Along the way, the guide will share fascinating stories about the area's cultural influence, particularly in music and art. Next, you'll visit the charming *Livraria da Travessa* bookstore in Ipanema, known for its cozy ambiance and great selection of books. Take some time to explore the store and discover a selection of Brazil's literary gems. The tour continues to Lage Park, one of Rio's most beloved green spaces, located at the foot of the famous Corcovado Mountain. You'll enjoy a walk through its lush gardens and visit the historic palace, which is home to the School of Visual Arts (EAV). The guide will provide insight into the park's history and its connection to contemporary Brazilian art. To wrap up, you'll have the option to relax at the terrace café in Lage Park, soaking in the peaceful atmosphere and beautiful surroundings before returning to your hotel. *Tour Duration 4 Hours. Offered daily.*

Santa Teresa + Rio Cultural Gems

Explore the charming neighborhood of Santa Teresa, once the cultural heart of Rio de Janeiro. Known for its narrow streets, historic mansions, and bohemian vibe, you'll have the chance to admire colorful staircases, vibrant street art, and breathtaking city views along the way. A highlight of the tour is a delightful short ride on the iconic Santa Teresa public tram, a classic way to experience the neighborhood's charm. Next, you'll visit the famous *Escadaria Selarón*, one of Rio's most beloved landmarks. Adorned with thousands of vibrant tiles, this staircase was created by artist Jorge Selarón and connects the neighborhoods of Santa Teresa and Lapa, symbolizing the spirit of the city. The final stop is the *Real Gabinete Português de Leitura*, one of Brazil's most beautiful libraries. Founded in the 19th century, this architectural gem is a masterpiece, with a grand façade and an interior filled with intricate wooden bookshelves and stained-glass windows. Your guide will provide fascinating insights into the cultural and historical significance of the building, as well as the important role of Portuguese immigration in shaping Rio's history. At the end of the visit, return to the hotel. *Tour Duration 4 Hours. Offered daily except Saturday and Sunday.*

Rio: Past + Present

Our engaging Brazilian guide will meet you at your hotel for the start of this extensive sightseeing tour. Begin with a narrated walk through the downtown district as you learn about the city – past and present. Explore the harbor area including the historic Valongo Wharf, built in 1811, and see modern city landmarks like the impressive Kobra Street Mural and the Olympic Cauldron that was erected for the 2016 Summer Games. You'll also tour the futuristic Museum of Tomorrow, designed by renowned architect Oscar Niemeyer, and the lavishly decorated interior of the St. Benedict Monastery, a Baroque masterpiece. Explore more chapters of Brazil's past at Praça XV, one of Rio's most historic town squares, before finishing your tour with a delightful coffee and local treat at *Confeitaria Colombo*, a popular café known for its magnificent Art Nouveau interior. Along the way, you will also have the opportunity to explore the famous *Escadaria Selarón*, located between the Santa Teresa and Lapa neighborhoods, which is one of the city's most iconic landmarks, known for its vibrant colors and ceramic mosaics. *Tour Duration 6 Hours. Offered daily except Monday and Sunday.*

Niteroi Highlights

Spend the day exploring Niterói, the vibrant seaside community situated on Guanabara Bay across from Rio de Janeiro. Leaving Rio behind, you'll drive across the impressive Rio-Niterói Bridge to visit the Niemeyer Pathway, an ensemble of contemporary landmarks designed by the famed Brazilian architect Oscar Niemeyer. Here you'll discover the Teatro Popular with its sinuous silhouette, the Roberto Silveira Memorial, and the headquarters of the *Oscar Niemeyer* Foundation. Then visit the Museum of Contemporary Art, another Niemeyer-designed building dramatically set on a promontory overlooking Guanabara Bay. Then continue along the waterfront, stopping for a buffet lunch along São Francisco Beach before ascending to the top of City Park for sweeping views of Guanabara Bay. *Tour Duration 8 Hours. Offered daily except Monday and Sunday.*

Behind the Scenes of Rio's Carnival Experience

Get an insider's look at Rio's legendary Carnival celebrations with this behind-the-scenes tour of the City of Samba. You'll be privately transferred, accompanied by your guide, to a specially designed warehouse used by Brazil's top Samba Schools to prepare their elaborate floats and costumes in the days leading up to Carnival. This experience also takes you through Grande Rio's Samba Factory, where you'll have the chance to try on an authentic Carnival costume. Enjoy an introductory Samba dance class shared with other travelers and finish the experience with a *Caipirinha*, Brazil's national cocktail. At the end of the visit, you'll return to the hotel. *Tour Duration 3 Hours. Offered daily except Sunday.*

Tijuca Forest by Jeep

With an expert guide and driver, this half-day adventure in an open-top jeep is a fun and enriching way to experience Tijuca National Park, in the company of other travelers. Encompassing 13 square miles along the rugged slopes of Mt. Corcovado, this dense and verdant rainforest is a unique urban jungle; all that remains of a vast Atlantic jungle that surrounded Rio de Janeiro until the 19th century. With fascinating insight from the guide, you'll see the beautiful *Cascatinha Taunay* Waterfall and stop to admire the charming Mayrink Chapel, erected here in the forest in 1855. With sharp eyes and a bit of luck, this exciting excursion also offers a chance to observe indigenous rainforest creatures including coatis, ocelots, howler monkeys and hundreds of tropical bird species. *Tour Duration 4 Hours. Offered daily.*

Brazilian Flavors + Cooking class

Discover the vibrant heart of Brazil not through its streets, but through its flavors! Embark on a unique half-day cooking class, master seven authentic Brazilian recipes and savor refreshing *Caipirinha* cocktails, all while immersing yourself in the rich culture of Rio. Laugh, learn and enjoy the aromas and the rhythms of Brazil in a lively kitchen setting, shared with fellow travelers. Step beyond the restaurant scene and truly taste the soul of Rio. *Tour Duration 4 Hours. Offered daily except Sunday.*

Guanabara Bay Cruise

Sail through the picturesque Guanabara Bay on a shared boat tour, offering spectacular views of Rio's iconic mainland attractions from the water. This guided tour will take you past historical forts and the beautiful islands of Guanabara Bay, all just a short distance from the city's coastline. Departing from Rio's harbor, you'll set sail on a schooner (a traditional covered boat) and spend the next two hours cruising around the bay's islands, admiring breathtaking views of Rio's most famous landmarks such as Sugarloaf Mountain, Christ the Redeemer, and Copacabana Beach. Relax on board and soak up the sun while enjoying a unique perspective of Rio's mainland and neighborhoods like Botafogo, Flamengo, Urca, and attractions like Fort São João, Flagstone Island, Santa Cruz Fortress, and the Rio-Niterói Bridge. *Tour Duration 4 Hours. Offered daily.*

Dinner + Samba Night Experience

Regarded as one of the city's top venues for authentic cultural entertainment, the show at Ginga Tropical offers more than just the captivating Afro-Brazilian rhythms and moves of Samba. It showcases a variety of Brazilian dance and music styles, including Lambada, Bossa Nova, and Forró. Your evening will take you on an enthralling cultural journey across Brazil, starting with an exciting Samba class! For dinner, indulge in a delicious Brazilian barbecue at a traditional *Churrascaria*. The experience includes roundtrip private transfers from your hotel.

Tour Duration 5 Hours. Offered on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.