

# 16 NIGHT/17 DAY LUXURY CONSERVATION JOURNEY A TAILORMADE JOURNEY DISCOVERING THE BRAZILIAN AMAZON, NORTH AND SOUTH PANTANAL AND RIO DE JANEIRO



This comprehensive itinerary showcases the very best of the Brazilian Amazon, both North and South Pantanal – and ends in Rio De Janeiro.

Your adventure starts in Cuiabá - the gateway to the northern Pantanal - where the rhythm of Brazilian life blends with the proximity to one of the world's most vital ecological sanctuaries. During this journey you will stay at lodges chosen for thier involvement in conservation of the fragile ecosystems surrounding them.

Your first stop is to the heart of the Amazon, staying at Cristalino Jungle Lodge situated in a private reserve known for its critical role in the Amazon's biodiversity. The lodge is surrounded by a vast tract of pristine rainforest that serves as a refuge for countless species, including rare birds and elusive wildlife,

offering you a front-row seat to the Amazon's ecological abundance. Engage in activities such as canoeing on mirror-like waters and hiking through trails rich with flora and fauna, enhanced by the knowledge that this lodge actively participates in conservation efforts.

Continue to the Pantanal, the world's largest tropical wetland area. Here you will enjoy 3 nights at Porto Jofre staying on a unique houseboat on the river with two daily water safaris. This region is crucial for the study of ecological processes, and it boasts the highest concentration of wildlife in South America. Here, you can spot jaguars, caiman, capybaras, tapir, oceslot, giant river otters and hundreds of bird species in their natural habitats, making it a truly extraordinary destination for nature lovers. Both your accommodations are actively involved in conservation

Conclude your journey in Rio de Janeiro, a city that pulses with energy and beauty. From the aweinspiring views atop Corcovado Mountain, where the iconic Christ the Redeemer statue resides, to the panoramic vistas from Sugarloaf Mountain, Rio offers a stunning array of natural and man-made highlights.

This journey through Brazil isn't just a travel itinerary; it's a deep dive into some of the planet's most significant and spectacular environments. Each destination is carefully chosen not only for its beauty but also for its importance to global biodiversity and cultural significance.



#### Day 1: Cuiabá

On arrival in Cuiabá, a private transfer will escort you from the airport to the luxurious Hotel Deville Prime. As you settle into your deluxe room, enjoy the comfort and elegance designed to provide a restful start to your adventure. Here, you can relax and rejuvenate after your journey, looking forward to a delicious breakfast the next morning that will prepare you for the exciting days ahead.

#### **Overnight at Hotel Deville Prime Campo Grande with breakfast**

Hotel Deville Prime Campo Grande is a luxurious haven nestled in the heart of Campo Grande, Brazil. Known for its elegant accommodations and exceptional service, the hotel offers a blend of modern amenities and sophisticated

comfort. Guests can enjoy spacious, well-appointed rooms, a refreshing swimming pool, a state-of-the-art fitness center, and exquisite dining options.

### Day 2: Cuiabá - Amazônia

This morning a private transfer will meet you at the hotel and transfer to to the airport in time for your flight to Alta Floresta,. On arrival you will be met and enjoy a scenic transfer to the Cristalino Jungle Lodge – a 1-hour road trip through the lush landscapes followed by half-hour boat trip along the Teles Pires and Cristalino rivers.

Nestled deep within the Amazon, the lodge offers a tranquil retreat and your evening will be spent enjoying dinner and settling into your room listening to the sounds of the rain forest. **Overnight at Cristalino Jungle Lodge on a full board basis** 

Nestled in the heart of the Amazon rainforest, Cristalino Jungle Lodge offers a serene retreat amidst unparalleled biodiversity. Surrounded by pristine wilderness, the lodge provides guests with immersive experiences including guided canoe trips along the Cristalino and Teles Pires rivers, nature hikes through diverse ecosystems, and birdwatching from towering observation towers. The lodge's commitment to conservation and sustainability ensures a harmonious coexistence with the environment, while offering luxurious accommodations and exceptional hospitality.



# Days 3, 4 and 5: Amazônia

Immerse yourself in the rich tapestry of the Amazon at Cristalino Lodge, where each day is tailored to enhance your experience and knowledge of this area. The lodge's daily activities are thoughtfully designed considering the season, weather conditions and your interests.

**Canoeing on the River Cristalino:** Enjoy a tranquil canoe journey where the calm waters provide a perfect setting for spotting an array of wildlife. Glide silently past birds such as the striking capped heron and the elusive tiger heron, and keep an eye out for the playful antics of white-whiskered spider monkeys in the canopy overhead. These canoe trips often include hikes, allowing you to explore the rich biodiversity both on water and land.

**Exploring Nature Trails:** Wander through 30 kilometers of meticulously preserved trails within the reserve. These paths will take you through diverse ecosystems, from evergreen terra firma forests to vibrant wetland forests and

tropical campinarana. Each trail offers unique landscapes and the opportunity to observe the seasonal blooms of beautiful bromeliads and other flora.

**Observation Towers:** For a panoramic view of the Amazon's vast canopy, climb up to one of the lodge's 50-meter high observation towers. Positioned strategically within the reserve, these towers offer a unique vantage point to observe canopy-dwelling birds like macaws, toucans, and parrots. The multi-level platforms allow you to experience the forest from various heights, providing a comprehensive view of this dynamic ecosystem.

**Wildlife and Flora Watching:** Cristalino Lodge is a sanctuary for numerous iconic species. Keep an eye out for majestic creatures such as the harpy eagle, the secretive tapir, and the sociable giant otter. The reserve is also home to fascinating flora, including the mighty Brazil nut tree, integral to the forest's ecology. **Overnight at Cristalino Jungle Lodge on a full board basis** 



# Day 6: Amazônia - Cuiabá

After an early breakfast at Cristalino Lodge you will depart and transfer Alta Floresta at 10am. From Alta Floresta, a private transfer will take you back to Cuiabá where you will check into the Hotel Deville Prime on a bed and breakfast basis. If you would like to explore the city further we can arrange a city tour – please ask! **Overnight at Hotel Deville Prime Cuiabá in deluxe room with breakfast.** 

#### Day 7: Cuiabá - Pantanal Norte

This morning you will have an early start - you will be met at your hotel and transfer to Porto Jofre along the Transpantaneira Park Road which is Around 6 hours – stopping to view any interesting sightings. On arrival into Porto Jofre you will board your boat to your luxurious houseboat and check into your Jaguar Suite overlooking the Piquiri River – home for the next 3 nights.

After lunch and a siesta you will meet your guide for a 4 hour evening boat safari in search of jaguars and other widlife and birdlife along the rivers.

#### Overnight at Jaguar Suites on a full board basis

Jaguar Suites is a purpose-built, air-conditioned, floating hotel with WIFI, anchored on the banks of the Piquiri River with no commuting time to see the Jaguars and wildlife. In fact, Jaguars walk by the floating hotel as they patrol both banks of the 100-meter-wide River in their daily hunt for sunning caimans and grazing Capybaras. There are 12 spacious Jaguar Suites, all of which feature four-meter-wide, floor-to-ceiling, sliding glass doors that face the wild forests of the famously-Jaguar-rich, 270,000-acre Meeting-of-the-Waters State Park.



# Days 8 and 9: Porto Jofre

Enjoy two full days on the water exploring the rivers and tributaries in search of wildlife and birdlife with your professional guide on two four hour river safari per day with a lunch break and siesta time in the middle of the day. In the evening enjoy presentations on the local wildlife from the onboard naturalista after Dinner. **Overnight at Jaguar Suites on a full board basis** 

#### Day 10: Araras Eco Lodge

Today you will catch your last views of the river as you transfer by boat back to Porto Jofre where you will be met and transfer to Araras Eco Lodge for 2 nights on a full board basis. Arriving in time for lunch, you will enjoy some free time to rest, swim or explore the grounds before meeting your guide for your afternoon activity.

# Overnight at Araras Lodge on a full board basis

#### Day 11: Pantanal Norte

A full day at Araras Eco Lodge to enjoy the varied activities on offer. To optimize your experience and comfort the experiences are scheduled for the cooler early mornings or late afternoons, which are also prime times for wildlife observation.

Your stay will include a choice of the following activities:

- Rowing Boat Trip with Piranha Fishing: Spanning 3 to 4 hours, this moderate activity takes you along 13 km of waterways.
- Visit to Bugio Tower: Enjoy panoramic views of the plains during this 1-hour visit.

- Night Spotting Safari: Travel by safari truck for 1 to 3 hours in the evening, searching for nocturnal wildlife.
- Morning Horseback Riding: Traverse the landscapes of the Pantanal on horseback.
- Photo Safari: Spend 2 to 3 hours in a truck enjoying the region's flora and fauna.

Overnight at Araras Eco Lodge on a full board basis



# Day 12: Pantanal Sul

Begin your day at Araras Eco Lodge with an early morning walk with the awakening of the Pantanal's diverse ecosystem. After soaking in the tranquil dawn and enjoying a hearty breakfast, prepare for a spectacular journey ahead.

Your next adventure starts with a private flight from Araras Lodge to Caiman Ecological Refuge. Board the single-engine plane, suitable for up to three passengers and accommodating 20kg of luggage each, for an unforgettable flight soaring above the Pantanal – you will have a bird's-eye view of this vast wetland. The flight offers a unique perspective of winding rivers, sprawling landscapes, and lush vegetation, beautifully interspersed with water bodies that reflect the sky.

On arrival at the Caiman Ecological Refuge, check into your en suite room for a 4-day, 3-night stay on a full board basis. This refuge is dedicated to the preservation of the Pantanal's biodiversity and offers a range of activities that immerse you in the natural environment. Engage in day and night safaris to explore the diverse fauna, paddle through serene waters on Canadian canoes, and traverse the lush trails that crisscross the area.

Your stay also includes opportunities to participate in notable conservation efforts such as Onçafari and the Blue Macaw Institute, contributing to the protection of local wildlife. Optional activities like horseback riding and bird watching are available, providing deeper insights into the Pantanal's rich ecological tapestry. During May to November the lodge has fixed durations:

• Thursday to Sunday (minimum 3 nights)

• Sunday to Thursday (minimum 4 nights) Outside these months, check-in is flexible, available daily.

# Overnight at Caiman Ecological Refuge on a full board basis

Discover the tranquility and allure of Refúgio Ecológico Caiman, perfectly nestled within the green Southern Pantanal. This oasis offers not just cozy accommodations but a serene retreat designed to harmonise with the surrounding natural habitats. Enjoy a range of tours - from exhilarating horseback rides across the floodplains to bird watching – each activity is designed to deepen your connection with this unique ecosystem.

Take part in conservation initiatives such as Onçafari and Instituto Arara Azul. Your participation helps preserve the Pantanal's rich biodiversity, making your stay at Refúgio Ecológico Caiman not just a visit, but a contribution to environmental stewardship. Embrace this chance to make a positive impact while enjoying an unforgettable retreat in one of the world's most beautiful and diverse natural habitats.



# Days 13 and 14: Pantanal Sul

Two full days to enjoy exploring the immersive activites offered at Refúgio Ecológico Caiman. Each day begins at dawn, taking full advantage of the early morning coolness to observe the Pantanal's wildlife.

Following the morning activites return to the comfort of the lodge for lunch and some well-deserved downtime, recharging for the afternoon's activities. As the day cools, set out on an afternoon excursion, perfectly timed to see wildlife at its most active. As the sun sets return to the lodge for dinner and overnight. **Overnight at Caiman Ecological Refuge on a full board basis** 

# Day 15: Pantanal Norte - Rio de Janeiro

After breakfast at Refúgio Ecológico Caiman, check out and join the scheduled transfer - a 5-hour journey to Campo Grande. This drive offers one last chance to soak in the stunning vistas of Brazil's expansive wetlands, reflecting on the unforgettable experiences and connections made during your stay.

On arrival in Campo Grande, a private transfer will take you to the airport for your next destination - Rio de Janeiro, where another private transfer awaits. Accompanied by a guide, you'll be transported from the airport to your hotel in Rio. This guided transfer ensures a smooth transition, providing an opportunity to receive insights about the city's highlights and cultural landmarks en route to your accommodation.

Overnight at Belmond Copacabana at suite 1 bedroom ocean view room with breakfast.

The Belmond Copacabana Palace is an iconic hotel located on the famous Copacabana Beach in Rio de Janeiro. Built in 1923, it is renowned for its classical and luxurious architecture, offering a sophisticated and historic lodging experience. The hotel features elegantly decorated rooms and suites, many with breathtaking ocean views. It boasts a variety of renowned restaurants, a world-class spa, an outdoor swimming pool, and direct beach access. Additionally, the Belmond Copacabana Palace is a meeting point for celebrities and international personalities, blending historic charm with modern comforts for an unforgettable stay in Rio de Janeiro.



#### Day 16: Rio de Janeiro

Today you will enjoy a private, full-day guided tour that showcases the iconic sights of Rio de Janeiro, blending natural landscapes with rich cultural heritage. Your journey begins with a 30-minute tram ride through the lush Atlantic Forest up to the summit of Corcovado Mountain, where you can view Christ the Redeemer statue – this vantage point also offers amazing views of the entire city.

After lunch, starting from Praia Vermelha beach, a 40-minute trail leads you through forest to a lookout point offering spectacular views of the Atlantic Ocean and surrounding mountains. Keep an eye out for local wildlife, including monkeys and colorful birds. The hike ends at Morro da Urca, from where a cable car carries you to the summit of Sugarloaf, presenting a 360-degree panorama of Rio's breathtaking landscape.

The tour also includes a visit to Santa Teresa, which offers sweeping views over Rio, including landmarks like Guanabara Bay and Sugarloaf Mountain. Renowned for its colonial architecture, Santa Teresa's narrow, winding streets are lined with vibrant cultural centers, lively bars, and restaurants, making it a hub for artists and musicians. Enjoy the unique experience of riding an historic streetcar - this comprehensive 8-hour tour of Rio de Janeiro not only highlights the city's most iconic landmarks but also immerses you in the local culture and natural beauty in one of the world's most picturesque cities.

Overnight at Belmond Copacabana at suite 1 bedroom ocean view room with breakfast.

#### Day 17: Rio de Janeiro

After breakfast you will bem et at the hotel for your private transfer to the Rio de Janeiro airport.



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