



Rio de Janeiro Unbound: City, Jungle, Sea

Ten days through Rio de Janeiro, Ilha Grande and Paraty — private access, local culture, and a group that feels like yours from day one.

Rio de Janeiro • Ilha Grande • Paraty

Departures: 15–24 January 2027 • 20 February – 1 March 2027

Brazil doesn't reveal itself in one register either. It moves — from the roar of Rio's icons and its Carioca street culture, to the car-free jungle stillness of Ilha Grande, and finally into the quiet cobbled streets of a colonial town built for slowing down. Five nights in Rio, three on the island, one in Paraty. What makes it ours is the parts of Rio most itineraries drive past: the port district where nearly a million enslaved Africans first landed, a favela walked with its own residents, and a quilombola community on the road south who have been on that land since their ancestors freed themselves.

Day by day

DAYS 1-5: RIO DE JANEIRO

Day 1 Arrival Ipanema/Copacabana; orientation walk past Posto 9; welcome dinner.

Day 2 Christ the Redeemer at Corcovado, early; free afternoon — group beach at Ipanema, Sugarloaf at sunset, or a Tijuca waterfall hike.

Day 3 Santa Teresa and the Selarón Steps; free afternoon — samba class, caipirinha session, museums or the beach.

Day 4 Little Africa port district with a community guide — Cais do Valongo, Instituto Pretos Novos, Pedra do Sal; evening roda de samba on the steps.

Day 5 Morro da Providência, the first favela in Brazil, walked with the resident-led project that guides there; free afternoon and evening.

DAYS 6-8: ILHA GRANDE

Day 6 Road to Angra dos Reis and boat across to Ilha Grande — no cars on the island at all; free afternoon.

Day 7 Guided rainforest trek to the former prison-colony ruins, then Lopes Mendes beach; free evening.

Day 8 Full-day boat around the island — beaches and islands reachable no other way, swimming, lunch on board; optional caipara meal in the evening.

DAYS 9-10: PARATY

Day 9 Boat back to the mainland, then the quilombola community on the coast road — trail, drum-led dance and community banquet; Paraty old town; farewell dinner in a 300-year-old townhouse.

Day 10 Departure from Paraty. Private transfers to Rio de Janeiro or São Paulo available as add-ons.





What's included

- ✓ Small Group Travel: never more than 15 people
- ✓ A Lead Explorer for the whole trip
- ✓ 9 Nights in upper-scale hotels and eco-lodges, double room to share, breakfast included
- ✓ Welcome Dinner in Rio & Farewell Dinner in Paraty
- ✓ All ground and boat transport from Rio to Angra dos Reis, Ilha Grande and Paraty
- ✓ Rio: Christ the Redeemer at Corcovado
- ✓ Rio: Santa Teresa and the Selarón Steps
- ✓ Rio: Little Africa port district route with a community guide
- ✓ Rio: roda de samba at Pedra do Sal with a local guide
- ✓ Rio: resident-led visit to Morro da Providência
- ✓ Ilha Grande: guided rainforest trek, prison colony ruins and Lopes Mendes
- ✓ Ilha Grande: full-day boat tour of the beaches and islands, with lunch
- ✓ Paraty: quilombola community trail, drum-led dance and community banquet
- ✓ Paraty: guided walk of the colonial centre

What's not included

- ✗ International flights to and from Brazil
- ✗ Transfer to/from the airport on the first and final day
- ✗ Meals not mentioned in "what's included"
- ✗ Travel insurance, which is a condition of joining
- ✗ Departure transfers from Paraty to Rio or São Paulo (available as add-ons)
- ✗ Extra activities or optional add-ons suggested by Lead Explorer

Available add-ons

- + Sugarloaf Mountain cable car at sunset (Rio)
- + Guided hike to a Tijuca Forest waterfall (Rio)
- + Samba dance class — samba no pé and gafieira, taught in English (Rio)
- + Caipirinha-making session with a local bartender (Rio)
- + Dinner cooked by a local host in their own home (Rio)
- + Samba school rehearsal, a working school preparing for Carnival (Rio, January departure only)
- + Kayaking, diving or a second guided trek (Ilha Grande)
- + Caiçara family meal (Ilha Grande)
- + Artisanal cachaça distillery tasting (Paraty)
- + Schooner trip around the bay and its islands (Paraty)
- + Private departure transfer, Paraty to Rio de Janeiro
- + Private departure transfer, Paraty to São Paulo

Pricing

1 person in Double Room (sharing)	£1,870	(deposit £281)
1 person in Private Room	£2,300	(deposit £345)

Group size: 10–15 travellers. **Lead Explorer:** included on every departure.