

LIFE IN LATIN AMERICA

We aim to provide an in-depth perspective of Latin America to enhance your visit and share an understanding of local life, people and culture.

CAIMAN TOUR

The Natural World



DAY BY DAY SUMMARY OF YOUR ITINERARY

	<i>Itinerary in Brief</i>	<i>Accommodation Arrangements</i>
<i>Thursday 17 July 2008</i>	Flight from London Heathrow Airport to Rio de Janeiro	Overnight on board the aircraft.
<i>Friday 18 July 2008</i>	Walking Introduction To Rio's Beaches	Rio de Janeiro - Mar Ipanema Hotel.
<i>Saturday 19 July 2008</i>	Corcovado & Tijuca Forest	Rio de Janeiro - Mar Ipanema Hotel.
<i>Sunday 20 July 2008</i>	Day at Leisure	Rio de Janeiro - Mar Ipanema Hotel.
<i>Monday 21 July 2008</i>	Transport to Ilha Grande	Ilha Grande - Manaca Pousada.
<i>Tuesday 22 July 2008</i>	Day at Leisure	Ilha Grande - Manaca Pousada.
<i>Wednesday 23 July 2008</i>	Day at Leisure	Ilha Grande - Manaca Pousada.
<i>Thursday 24 July 2008</i>	Day at Leisure	Ilha Grande - Manaca Pousada.
<i>Friday 25 July 2008</i>	Transport to Rio de Janeiro Airport Flight from Rio de Janeiro to Foz Do Iguassu	Foz Do Iguassu - Tropical das Cataratas Eco Resort.
<i>Saturday 26 July 2008</i>	Day at Leisure	Foz Do Iguassu - Tropical das Cataratas Eco Resort.
<i>Sunday 27 July 2008</i>	Flight from Foz Do Iguassu to Sao Paulo Flight from Sao Paulo to Campo Grande Ms Transport to Pantanal Campo Grande	Pantanal Campo Grande - Caiman Refugio Ecologico.
<i>Monday 28 July 2008</i>	Day at Leisure	Pantanal Campo Grande - Caiman Refugio Ecologico.
<i>Tuesday 29 July 2008</i>	Day at Leisure	Pantanal Campo Grande - Caiman Refugio Ecologico.
<i>Wednesday 30 July 2008</i>	Day at Leisure	Pantanal Campo Grande - Caiman Refugio Ecologico.
<i>Thursday 31 July 2008</i>	Transport to Campo Grande Ms Flight from Campo Grande Ms to Sao Paulo Flight from Sao Paulo to London Heathrow Airport	Overnight on board the aircraft.

YOUR PROPOSED ITINERARY IN DETAIL

Thursday
17 July 2008

Flight: London to Rio de Janeiro

Depart London Heathrow Airport on the TAM flight JJ8085 to Rio de Janeiro. The flight departs at 22:30 and arrives at 09:45 the following day.

Economy Class Seat (2)

Friday
18 July 2008

Rio de Janeiro

Arrival Transfer

On arrival in Rio de Janeiro, once you have cleared any formalities, you will be met by one of our representatives and taken to the Mar Ipanema Hotel for a three-night stay.

Private Service

Rio de Janeiro - Introduction

Rio is a sophisticated cosmopolitan city famed for the Statue of Christ the Redeemer, its fabulous stretches of beaches, the Sugar Loaf Mountain and is known by the Brazilians as a 'cidade maravilhosa' - the marvellous city. The city's setting is stunning with a beautiful huge lagoon, flanked to the east by the Guanabara Bay and to the south by the Atlantic Ocean, Rio extends between enormous granite peaks and wide sandy beaches. From 1808 to 1821 the Portuguese Royal Family lived in Rio, making it the capital of the Empire, holding a Royal Wedding and a Coronation, transforming the city, enhancing its culture, fine arts and architecture. This legacy can still be seen today, away from the famous beaches. The 'cariocas', residents of Rio, are a lively, friendly people and the city is constantly buzzing with life.



Highlights available to enhance your visit:

- Walking Introduction to Rio' Beaches
- Historic Tour of Rio's Royal Palaces, Churches, Monastery & Heritage
- Our Special In-depth Tour of Rio including Santa Teresa, Tram and walk in the Centre
- Statue of Christ the Redeemer at Corcovado Mountain
- Botanical Gardens, Lagoon & Sugar Loaf Mountain



- Football at the Maracana Stadium
- Private Museums & Art Galleries
- Horse Racing at the Jockey Club
- Summer Residence of the Emperor & Royal Family at Petropolis
- Guanabara Bay and/or Tropical Islands by Schooner
- Shopping for Clothes, Paintings, Pottery, Woodwork, Interior Decorations
- Craftsmanship of Brazilian Precious Stones & Jewellery
- Music of Brazil: Bossa-Nova, Samba, Forro, Pagode, MPB and others
- Classical Music, Gregorian Choir & Opera
- Three Eco-systems: Atlantic Forest, Mangroves & the Botanic Gardens
- Carnival Parade at the Sambadrome, Show at Samba City and/or Samba Rehearsal
- National History, Fine Arts, Modern Art, Folklore & Republic Museums
- Landscape Gardens & Niemeyer architecture

Mar Ipanema Hotel

Tourist Class

Three Nights

The Mar Ipanema is located in the heart of Ipanema, the upmarket residential area of Rio, and 5 minutes from Copacabana. All 77 rooms are complete with air conditioning, mini bar, telephone, safe, facilities for internet connections, and cable TV. The hotel also has its own bar and restaurant serving Brazilian and international cuisine.

Room Characteristics: air conditioning, mini-bar, individual safe, acoustic insulation with double glass in all windows, telephone, facilities for Internet connections, FM tuner and cable TV.

For photographs and additional information please refer to the Veloso Tours brochure page 40 and our website: <http://www.veloso.com/riohotels>

Double Occupancy - Standard Room
with a view of the city

Veloso Tours Guide - Luciana Dumphreys

Luciana was born and brought up in Brazil and educated in Brazil and Britain, obtaining a degree in Latin American Studies. Upon graduation she moved to Mexico to live and work and whilst there took up the opportunity to travel in Guatemala and Belize as well as Mexico. Luciana returned to Rio in 2002 and is now a qualified Tourist Guide, taking pride in showing people around the "Marvellous City".

She speaks English, Portuguese and Spanish fluently and has also travelled extensively in Brazil and Europe. Luciana has a keen interest in photography as well as archaeology, and is always searching for new and interesting places to visit.

The VELOSO TOURS GUIDE in Rio de Janeiro provides an insight into the life, customs and history of Brazil, in a way that our clients may otherwise miss. Our aim is to provide an in-depth perspective to enhance your visit and share an understanding of local life, people and culture. Our guide has the knowledge to take you to the main tourist attractions but, in addition, show you what the "locals" do, where they go, how they live, what they like. We will also provide information on theatres, restaurants, local cuisine, music, excursions and sightseeing.

Private Service - Guide Leader

Excursion - Walking Introduction To Rio's Beaches

Our guide will take you on a walk along the promenade of Copacabana and Ipanema beaches in order to gain a real feel of Rio de Janeiro's city life - the people, the beach

culture, the apartments of the city's affluent, all that makes up the typical "Carioca" life. This short introduction to Rio (up to two hours) will help with your orientation of the area surrounding your hotel. This option is offered together with your arrival transfer after checking in at your hotel in Rio, when you may be feeling tired but are willing to take your first look at the city. It is also an opportunity for our guide to provide advice, explain your programme, answer any questions you may have; and to make suggestions about where to go, restaurants, and places to visit that may be of particular interest to you.

Private Service

*Saturday
19 July 2008*

Excursion - Corcovado & Tijuca Forest

A half day excursion with a local guide taking the train up Corcovado Mountain to gain a closer view of the statue of Christ the Redeemer. From this vantage point you also get a magnificent 360 degree view of Rio de Janeiro - the beautiful bay, the lagoon, the famous Copacabana, Ipanema and Leblon beaches and the massive granite peaks that dwarf the tall buildings. You will also have the chance to get a closer look at the city itself, once the capital of Brazil for over 200 years. After visiting Corcovado you will visit the nearby lush Tijuca Forest.

Shared Group Regular Service (2)

*Monday
21 July 2008*

Transport Rio To Ilha Grande

Transport from Rio de Janeiro to You will be collected from your hotel in Rio de Janeiro and taken on a two hours journal to Angra dos Reis Pier, where a Ferry boat departs to Ilha Grande at 15:30 (Monday to Friday) or 13:30 (Saturday, Sunday and holidays). The Ferry takes 90 minutes to Ilha Grande.

Private Car And Shared Ferry Boat



Ilha Grande

Manaca Pousada

Four Nights

This charming Pousada has a privileged location on the sea front only a few steps away the centre of the village and the best restaurants in town.

Gerard, its French owner, devotes a personal attention to all guests. He believes TV disturbs the peace of that special place, so no TV available. The rooms are spacious and have air conditioning, ceiling fan, minibar, telephone and balconies with hammocks to rest while enjoying the magnificent view of the Abraao Bay. Guests can also use the Sauna.

Double Occupancy - Standard Room

Friday
25 July 2008

Transport Ilha Grande - Rio

Transport from Ilha Grande to. You will be collected from your pousada to take a Ferry boat departing to Mangartiba at 17:30, arriving at 18:40, where you will be met and taken on a private car to Rio de Janeiro airport.

Private Car And Shared Ferry Boat

Rio de Janeiro

Flight: Rio de Janeiro to Foz Do Iguassu

Depart RIO on the TAM flight JJ3187 to Foz Do Iguassu. The flight departs at 17:05 and arrives at 19:10.

Economy Class Seat (2)

Foz Do Iguassu

Arrival Transfer

On arrival in Foz Do Iguassu, once you have cleared any formalities, you will be met by one of our representatives and taken to the Tropical das Cataratas Eco Resort for a two-night stay.

Private Service

Foz Do Iguassu - Introduction

This spectacle of the Iguazú Falls is one of South America's most extraordinary sights. Vast torrents of water thunder over the various cascades, a truly awe-inspiring sight. The falls are divided between Brazil and Argentina - while the Brazilian side is arguably the most spectacular, with a much more panoramic view of the immense cascade; the Argentine side is more suitable for exploring. To really experience the falls however, one must visit both sides and a stop at the Argentine Interpretive Centre can provide much useful information about the falls and surrounding flora and fauna.



Tropical das Cataratas Eco Resort

First Class

Two Nights

This hotel, overlooking the falls and within Iguassu National Park, offers superb views and is ideally situated for taking strolls in the area, taking in the breathless beauty of the falls and spotting the many species of butterflies and other wildlife. The rooms are all equipped with cable TV, air conditioning, telephone and safe. The hotel has a swimming pool, tennis court and a couple of restaurants, bars and shops.

Double Occupancy - Standard Room
located in the main building and with a view of the garden and forest.

Sunday
27 July 2008

Departure Transfer

You will be collected from the Tropical das Cataratas Eco Resort in time for the journey to Foz Do Iguassu Airport for your Flight to Sao Paulo.

Private Service

Flight: Foz Do Iguassu to Campo Grande Ms via Sao Paulo

Depart Foz Do Iguassu Airport on the TAM flight JJ3556 to Sao Paulo. The flight departs at 06:25 and arrives at 08:00. From there connect with the TAM flight JJ3804 to Campo Grande Ms. The flight departs at 09:00 and arrives at 09:40.

Economy Class Seat (2)

Campo Grande Ms

Transport Campo Grande Airport to Refugio Ecologico Caiman

Transport from Campo Grande Ms to the Pantanal Campo Grande

Pantanal Campo Grande

Caiman Refugio Ecologico

First Class

Four Nights

Accessible by road or by air the Refugio Ecologico Caiman is a ranch of 53,000 hectares, located in the Southern Pantanal, 236 km west of Campo Grande, with a balanced combination of activities in cattle breeding, ecotourism and nature conservation. There are four comfortable rustic lodges, each with their own style and features, which offer charming bedrooms, a dining room, sitting room and a delightful swimming pool to enjoy after excursions and in the heat of the day when there is little or no wildlife activity. There are also two retreat structures where overnight tours sleep in hammocks.



The main building is close to the staff's village area, allowing visitors to observe the daily routine of the pantaneiros' lifestyle. The lodges serves a delicious blend of local and international food, prepared by chefs from the region, and gives you the opportunity to sample local meat and fish, as well as manioc, black beans and tropical fruit. All meals, transport, activities, guides and excursions are included. (Drinks, laundry and tips are extra).

Excursions to observe the Pantanal fauna and flora with a specialist graduate bilingual guide are offered every morning and afternoon with a slide or video presentation in the evening. These excursions vary depending on the weather conditions and the season. A specially adapted open truck with seats and binoculars is used for some excursions while horseriding is the best way to get off the beaten track into the heart of the Pantanal. Rowing boats are available at the lake and the guides will also take you on walks to observe the wildlife, which includes caimans, giant otters, capybaras, anacondas, storks, spoonbills, armadillos and many others.



Depending on your flight schedule, you will be collected from Campo Grande at either 12.30 pm. Or 5.00p.m. And depart Caiman to return to Campo Grande at 9.00a.m. or 12.00 noon. (The journey time is four hours).

For photographs and additional information please refer to the Veloso Tours brochure page 50 and our website: <http://www.veloso.com/caiman>

Double Occupancy - Standard Room

Air conditioning in the rooms, ceiling fans and private bathrooms with hot water

Pantanal Campo Grande - Introduction

Due to intense rainfall from December to March, the Pantanal floods, the vegetation that is still above water is lush and green and the temperature high. Mammals seek refuge on high ground but caimans and capybaras take advantage of the increased volume of water and are spread over a wide area.

In April, as the water level starts to recede, small fish become trapped in ponds and lakes attracting large numbers of birds. It is a time of plenty and many species of birds nest in the Pantanal from March to July and sometimes into August. The dry season lasts from June to October, the peak being October just before the Pantanal floods again when the water levels are greatly diminished and all animals, including caimans, congregate by the remaining rivers and lakes. This is the best time to observe the wildlife of the Pantanal.

Exploring the Pantanal on foot, horseback or by boat you are sure to see an impressive array of wildlife, ranging from caimans and capybaras, anacondas and anteaters to hyacinth macaws and toucans and possibly even a jaguar. The area of the Pantanal located near Campo Grande is generally a more open landscape with a greater focus on cattle farming than in other parts of the region.

*Thursday
31 July 2008*

Transport Refugio Ecologico Caiman to Campo Grande Airport

Transport from Pantanal Campo Grande to Campo Grande Ms

Standard Service

**Campo Grande
Ms**

Flight: Campo Grande Ms to London via Sao Paulo

Depart Campo Grande on the TAM flight JJ3805 to Sao Paulo. The flight departs at 18:45 and arrives at 21:25. From there connect with the TAM flight JJ8084 to London. The flight departs at 23:45 and arrives at 15:35 the following day.

Economy Class Seat (2)

*Friday
01 August 2008*

Arrive London Heathrow Airport

Quotation

The price for the arrangement as specified above is £ 2,526.00 [per person](#)

Included in the Price

- All Flights listed on the itinerary in the class of travel shown.
- Taxes payable in London (some local airport taxes are payable locally at check-in)
- Accommodation in a Standard Room throughout (unless otherwise stated on the itinerary) including local tax (except in some areas of Brazil where a small amount of city tourist tax is payable locally) and service charge.
- Breakfast at all the accommodation listed unless otherwise stated.
- Meals as shown on the itinerary.
- All transfers listed, to and from airports with transport and guide and reconfirmation of your flight.
- Excursions with transport and English speaking guide-driver.
- Guides who will provide you with an in-depth perspective of local life, culture, history and customs.
- Local Entrance Fees and permits where required.
- All transport arrangements listed.
- Driver and guide's meals, accommodation and their personal expenses.
- Contact information, services, support and the assistance of the Veloso Tours agents and representatives in each of the countries you visit.
- Contact information for all hotels.
- Travellers Guide on how to prepare for your journey including money, clothing, health and more.
- Restaurant suggestions with Menu Vocabulary

Due to the complex nature of the itineraries we arrange it can sometimes be difficult to present exactly what is or is not included in the price. If you are at all unclear, please call us and we will be pleased to go through all the details and clarify any questions.

Travel Insurance

Travel Insurance is required when you travel in Latin America. You can use your own insurance but the level of cover needs to be equivalent to the cover provided in our travel insurance so that you are adequately protected for the circumstances prevailing in Latin America. The insurance premium is listed separately so that it can be excluded when you have your own insurance and provide us with a copy of your certificate showing the level of cover and the 24-hour emergency assistance number.

Price Policy

We aim to provide a quality service at a price that offers our clients excellent value. We are constantly reviewing the price of our tours and services to ensure that they are competitive. We will be happy to examine in detail any alternative quotation, should you find what appears to be a lower price from any other source. Most of the time we find that apparent alternatives are not comparable "like for like" but please send a copy of any quotation you may have and we will be happy to examine it in details and send you a reply.



WHY TRAVEL WITH VELOSO TOURS

The visible – Our Service “Face to Face”

Travel Consultants - Our expert specialist consultants will prepare travel arrangements and tailor-made, bespoke itinerary planning. We have all travelled extensively throughout Latin America using our first hand knowledge, our deep understanding of the culture and boundless enthusiasm for “Life in Latin America”. You will find an honest approach to planning an itinerary, advising you of “pros and cons”, suggesting sights and selecting accommodation. We believe this approach ensures you have the best possible service.

Individual Interests - We focus on your own interests through our Client Questionnaire analysis so that these can be applied to the planning of your holiday and enhance your experience during the excursions on tour.

Guides – They will look after you face to face, bringing places to life by conveying their knowledge and enthusiasm. Our local tour guides are experts in their own field with a wealth of information to enhance your visit and some work exclusively for us. They also have excellent communication skills to ensure that you are provided with the information that interests you, in a way that holds your attention.

Travellers Guide & Restaurant List – We provide all our clients with our Travellers Guide and Restaurant suggestions providing helpful information on what you will need and where to go while you are away.

Final Itinerary with all Contact Details – With your tickets we will provide you with a Final itinerary with the address, telephone number and contact details of all the hotels and our representatives and/or guides who will look after you in the Veloso Tours organisation should you have any questions or need any help.

The invisible – “We provide behind the scenes benefits you do not see”

Operations Department

Dedicated Duty manager on call 24-hours a day. You will be given the emergency telephone number. Monitor the progress day-by-day, step-by-step of all clients away on tour. We have personal mobile phone numbers and emergency numbers for all our local agents. Spanish and Portuguese speaking staff can get in contact with everyone in Latin America. We reconfirm all flights for you.

Partnership with local representatives – “It’s who you know”

We develop strong, business relations with our partners in Latin America: hotels, lodges, local agents and tour operators; as well as all the main airlines. Our representatives in Latin America are one of our main strengths as a result of their dedication to service, understanding of our requests and quality of staff.

We are completely objective in the choice of hotels and lodges which we plan into each itinerary with the independence and versatility to do what is right for each individual’s preferences. We recommend and execute every itinerary based upon our current knowledge and driven entirely by what is right for each client.

Financial Security – ATOL – ABTA – AITO - IATA

Veloso Tours is well capitalised to the level required by the UK Government through the Civil Aviation Authority and the Association of British Travel Agents, and our financial performance is regularly monitored so that clients can be certain that their money is safe with us. In order to maintain our Air Travel Organisers License, we have to keep a strong balance sheet and publish Annual Certified Accounts, available for public inspection at the UK Companies House, Crown way, Cardiff, CF4 3UZ, Telephone 01222 380801. We are also members of the Association of British Travel Agents, the Association of Independent Tour Operators and the International Air Transport Association to issue airline flight tickets.