Travel with Scott and Curtis

Brazil in Depth: Rio de Janeiro, Amazon Cruise & The Pantanal

November 2029

💃 **Brazil:** Rio de Janeiro, Manaus, 3-night Amazon River Cruise, Brasília, The Pantanal

Discover the extraordinary beauty, vibrant culture, and remarkable biodiversity of Brazil on an unforgettable journey through South America's largest country. Begin in dazzling Rio de Janeiro, where iconic landmarks like Christ the Redeemer and Sugarloaf Mountain overlook golden beaches and a city alive with samba rhythms, colorful Carnival traditions, and infectious energy. Venture deep into the heart of the Amazon for an intimate three-night river cruise, exploring lush rainforests, winding waterways, and extraordinary wildlife while learning about life in remote Indigenous communities. Continue to Brasília, Brazil's fascinating modern capital, renowned for its bold architecture and innovative design, before journeying into the vast wetlands of the Pantanal, one of the world's richest wildlife habitats. Here, enjoy guided nature excursions, scenic boat rides, and opportunities to spot exotic birds, monkeys, caimans, capybaras, and other remarkable creatures. Along the way, savor traditional Brazilian cuisine, experience authentic local hospitality, and connect with the people and cultures that make this country so captivating. From lively cities and architectural wonders to

pristine rainforests and wildlife-rich wetlands, this adventure offers an extraordinary blend of nature, culture, history, and unforgettable experiences.

What to Expect On This Incredible Trip

A magical journey through Brazil's vibrant cities, lush Amazon rainforest, and wildlife-rich wetlands, where breathtaking natural wonders, colorful cultural traditions, and unforgettable adventures come together. From Rio de Janeiro's iconic landmarks to the remote waterways of the Amazon and the extraordinary biodiversity of the Pantanal, you will experience…

- Magnificent landmarks and breathtaking scenery, including Rio de Janeiro's Christ the Redeemer statue, Sugarloaf Mountain, and world-famous Copacabana Beach
- An intimate three-night expedition cruise aboard the M/V Uiara Amazon II, exploring the winding waterways, lush rainforests, and remarkable wildlife of the Amazon region
- Guided wildlife excursions in the Amazon and Pantanal, with opportunities to spot toucans, parrots, sloths, monkeys, caimans, capybaras, and other fascinating creatures
- Scenic canoe excursions, rainforest walks, and nighttime wildlife viewing, including exploration of Anavilhanas National Park and the extraordinary Meeting of the Waters
- Guided explorations of Brazil's diverse cities, including Rio de Janeiro, Manaus, and Brasília, from colorful Carnival traditions to the capital's futuristic architecture
- Authentic cultural exchanges, including a visit to an Indigenous community in the Amazon, dinner with a Brazilian family, and a visit to a traditional Pantanal village
- Traditional Brazilian cuisine and cultural experiences, from Rio's famous churrascarias and samba traditions to regional specialties and the daily lives of local communities
- A memorable blend of guided sightseeing, immersive nature adventures, meaningful cultural encounters, and free time for personal exploration

It balances:

- Iconic city landmarks, vibrant urban culture, and Brazil's colorful Carnival traditions
- Lush tropical rainforests, winding Amazon waterways, and vast Pantanal wetlands
- Extraordinary wildlife encounters, remarkable biodiversity, and unforgettable nature excursions

- Historic cultural traditions, modern architecture, and fascinating regional discoveries
- Authentic cultural connections, traditional Brazilian cuisine, and warm local hospitality
- Adventurous exploration, scenic river cruising, and peaceful moments surrounded by nature



📌 Trip Overview

Brazil: *Rio de Janeiro, Manaus, 3-night Amazon River Cruise, Brasília, The Pantanal*

Exact site order and itinerary subject to final O.A.T. itinerary for the year.

Dates: November 2029
Trip Price (includes airfare from DTW): $10,949 - $11,249 per person*
Single Supplement: $899
Duration: 18 Days

!!Please note: *Prices are subject to change**

🗓️ Expected Itinerary Overview

Day 1: Depart USA

Depart the United States on your overnight international flight to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Begin your unforgettable journey through South America's largest country, where vibrant cities, extraordinary wildlife, lush rainforests, and remarkable cultural discoveries await.

Day 2: Arrive Rio de Janeiro, Brazil • Welcome Dinner

Arrive in Rio de Janeiro, one of the world's most spectacular cities, known for its golden beaches, dramatic mountains, colorful Carnival celebrations, and infectious energy.

Upon arrival:

- *Transfer to your hotel in Rio de Janeiro*
- *Settle in and relax after your international journey*
- *Meet fellow travelers, including those arriving from the optional Buenos Aires & Uruguay pre-trip extension*
- *Enjoy an orientation walk with your Trip Experience Leader*
- *Attend a Welcome Briefing to learn about your upcoming Brazilian adventure*

Afternoon and evening:

- *Stroll along the shoreline of world-famous Copacabana Beach*
- *Admire Rio's breathtaking coastal scenery*
- *Enjoy a traditional Brazilian Welcome Dinner at a churrascaria*
- *Experience Brazil's famous barbecue tradition, featuring a variety of grilled meats served tableside*

Evening at leisure to relax or explore Rio independently.

Meals: *Dinner*

Day 3: Rio de Janeiro • Christ the Redeemer • Optional Favela Tour

Discover Rio de Janeiro's extraordinary natural beauty, iconic landmarks, and rich cultural traditions.

Morning visit to Corcovado Mountain:

- *Travel to one of Rio's most famous landmarks*
- *Marvel at the magnificent Christ the Redeemer statue*
- *Admire the towering monument overlooking the city*
- *Enjoy spectacular panoramic views of Rio's mountains, beaches, and coastline*
- *Learn about the history and significance of this beloved Brazilian symbol*

Continue through Rio:

- *Experience local transportation aboard traditional moto-taxis*
- *Travel toward the charming Santa Teresa neighborhood*
- *Discover a different side of everyday life in Rio*

Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant featuring feijoada, Brazil's beloved national dish made with black beans and meat, traditionally accompanied by rice, greens, and farofa.

Afternoon free for independent exploration.

Suggested discoveries:

- *Relax along the beautiful shores of Ipanema Beach*
- *Explore Rio's lively neighborhoods*
- *Enjoy the city's cafés, restaurants, and local shops*
- *Take in the breathtaking coastal scenery*

Optional Life in Rio's Favelas Excursion:

- *Explore another side of Rio's diverse communities*
- *Gain insight into everyday life in the city's favelas*

Dinner on your own.

Evening at leisure.

Meals: *Breakfast & Lunch*

Day 4: Rio de Janeiro • Carnival Experience • Sugarloaf Mountain

Immerse yourself in Rio's colorful Carnival traditions before enjoying breathtaking views from one of the city's most iconic mountains.

Morning Carnival Experience:

- *Discover the fascinating history of Rio's world-famous Carnival*
- *Learn about the African, European, and Brazilian influences behind this beloved celebration*
- *Visit a Carnival warehouse where samba schools prepare for the annual festivities*
- *See the elaborate costumes, colorful floats, and decorations that make Carnival so spectacular*
- *Learn about the creativity, craftsmanship, and preparation behind the celebrations*

Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant.

Afternoon visit to Sugarloaf Mountain:

- *Travel to one of Rio de Janeiro's most recognizable natural landmarks*
- *Ride a cable car toward the summit of Sugarloaf Mountain*
- *Admire the dramatic granite peaks rising above the Atlantic Ocean*
- *Enjoy panoramic views of Rio's beaches, mountains, and beautiful coastline*
- *Capture unforgettable photographs of the city's spectacular setting*

Return to your hotel.

Dinner on your own.

Enjoy your final evening in Rio at leisure.

Meals: *Breakfast & Lunch*

Day 5: Rio de Janeiro • Fly to Manaus • Gateway to the Amazon

Leave Rio behind and journey into the heart of the Brazilian Amazon, home to one of the world's most extraordinary tropical ecosystems.

Morning:

- *Transfer to the airport for your flight to Manaus via São Paulo*
- *Travel north toward the vast Amazon region*

- *Begin discovering the remarkable geographical and cultural diversity of Brazil*

Upon arrival in Manaus:

- *Transfer to your hotel*
- *Settle in and relax after your journey*
- *Discover the city known as the "Heart of the Amazon"*
- *Learn about Manaus' location near the meeting of the Rio Negro and the upper Amazon River*

Amazon Cruise Briefing:

- *Meet with your Trip Experience Leader*
- *Learn about the upcoming three-night river expedition*
- *Discover what to expect during your rainforest and wildlife excursions*
- *Prepare for an unforgettable journey through the Amazon's remote waterways*

Enjoy dinner at your hotel.

Evening at leisure.

Meals: *Breakfast & Dinner*

Day 6: Manaus • Historic Market & Opera House • Embark Amazon Cruise

Explore Manaus' fascinating history before beginning your intimate three-night expedition cruise along the Rio Negro.

Morning discoveries in Manaus:

- *Visit the bustling Mercado Municipal*
- *Explore colorful stalls selling fresh produce, tropical fruits, spices, fish, and local handicrafts*
- *Learn about Manaus' prosperous rubber-boom history*
- *Discover the city's unique blend of European influences and Amazonian culture*

Visit Teatro Amazonas:

- *Explore Manaus' magnificent historic opera house*
- *Admire its elegant architecture, decorative interiors, and famous colorful dome*
- *Learn about the city's extraordinary wealth during the 19th-century rubber boom*

- *Discover how European cultural traditions reached the heart of the Amazon*

Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant.

Afternoon Amazon River Cruise:

- *Board the privately chartered M/V Uiara Amazon II for your three-night expedition*
- *Settle into your cabin aboard the intimate 25-passenger vessel*
- *Meet the naturalist guides who will accompany your rainforest explorations*
- *Begin cruising along the extraordinary waterways of the Amazon region*

Experience the Meeting of the Waters:

- *Witness the fascinating convergence of the dark Rio Negro and lighter Rio Solimões*
- *Observe the dramatic contrast as the two rivers flow side by side without immediately mixing*
- *Learn about the natural conditions that create this remarkable phenomenon*

Additional Nature Discovery:

- *Visit the Januari Ecological Park*
- *Opportunity to see the Amazon's giant Victoria water lilies, depending on seasonal water levels*

Enjoy dinner aboard the ship.

Evening at leisure to relax on deck and take in the extraordinary river scenery.

Meals: *Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

Day 7: Amazon River Cruise • Rainforest Walk • Anavilhanas National Park

Experience the remarkable biodiversity and natural beauty of the Amazon rainforest through guided excursions by canoe and on foot.

Early Morning Wildlife Exploration:

- *Depart before sunrise for a canoe excursion*
- *Experience the rainforest as the natural world comes to life*
- *Watch for colorful parrots, toucans, and other tropical birds*

- *Learn about the unique plants and wildlife along the riverbanks*
- *Enjoy the peaceful atmosphere of the Amazon at dawn*

Return to the ship for breakfast.

Morning Rainforest Discovery:

- *Join naturalist guides for an interpretive walk through the rainforest*
- *Discover the extraordinary diversity of Amazonian plant life*
- *Learn about the rainforest's complex ecosystem*
- *Gain insight into the importance of preserving this remarkable environment*

Enjoy lunch onboard.

Afternoon exploration of Anavilhanas National Park:

- *Travel by canoe through one of the world's largest freshwater archipelagos*
- *Navigate a fascinating network of waterways and islands*
- *Discover a protected landscape featuring approximately 400 islands*
- *Watch for wildlife along the forested riverbanks*
- *Experience the tranquility of this remarkable natural setting*

Evening Wildlife Adventure:

- *Enjoy dinner aboard the ship*
- *Set off on a nighttime excursion in motorized canoes*
- *Listen to the distinctive sounds of the rainforest after dark*
- *Watch and listen for nocturnal wildlife along the riverbanks and waterways*

Return to the ship for the night.

Meals: *Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

Day 8: Amazon River Cruise • Indigenous Village • Ariaú River Wildlife

Continue your Amazon adventure with meaningful cultural encounters and opportunities to discover the rainforest's remarkable wildlife.

Early Morning Canoe Excursion:

- *Venture out onto the river as the sun rises*
- *Enjoy the peaceful beauty of the Amazon at dawn*

- *Watch for birds and other wildlife along the waterways*
- *Experience the rainforest during one of its most active periods*

Return to the ship for breakfast.

Morning Cultural Experience:

- *Visit a local Indigenous community*
- *Meet residents and learn about everyday life in the remote Amazon*
- *Discover how local traditions and lifestyles are connected to the surrounding rainforest*
- *Gain firsthand insight into the people and cultures of the Amazon region*

Enjoy lunch aboard the ship.

Afternoon Ariaú River Wildlife Exploration:

- *Board motorized canoes for an excursion along the Ariaú River*
- *Discover the lush vegetation and rich biodiversity of this Rio Negro tributary*
- *Watch for howler monkeys, sloths, and colorful tropical birds*
- *Admire the towering Samaúma tree, one of the Amazon's most impressive rainforest giants*
- *Learn about the diverse plant and animal species that inhabit the region*

Evening Farewell Celebration:

- *Enjoy a special Farewell Dinner aboard the ship*
- *Reflect on your unforgettable Amazon discoveries*
- *Relax on deck and admire the river at night*
- *Sail beneath the impressive Rio Negro Bridge*

Meals: *Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

Day 9: Disembark Amazon Cruise • Fly to Brasília • Dinner with a Local Family

Conclude your Amazon expedition and journey to Brasília, Brazil's fascinating modern capital, renowned for its futuristic architecture and innovative urban design.

Morning:

- *Enjoy breakfast aboard your river vessel*

- *Disembark in Manaus*
- *Transfer to the airport for your flight to Brasília*
- *Bid farewell to the extraordinary landscapes of the Amazon*

Afternoon arrival in Brasília:

- *Discover Brazil's purpose-built capital, established in 1960*
- *Learn about the city's distinctive airplane-inspired layout*
- *Admire the striking architecture and carefully planned neighborhoods*
- *Discover how Brasília represents a bold vision of modern Brazilian life*

Exclusive Cultural Experience:

- *Visit a local Brazilian family*
- *Enjoy dinner together in a welcoming home setting*
- *Share conversations and learn about everyday life in Brazil's capital*
- *Experience authentic Brazilian hospitality*

Evening at leisure.

Meals: *Breakfast & Dinner*

Day 10: Brasília • Modern Architecture • Optional Lake Paranoá Canoeing

Discover the architectural wonders of Brasília, a UNESCO World Heritage Site celebrated for its distinctive modernist design.

Morning guided city tour:

- *Explore Brazil's remarkable planned capital*
- *Learn about the vision of architect Oscar Niemeyer and urban planner Lúcio Costa*
- *Discover the city's futuristic buildings and spacious urban layout*
- *Admire the striking twin towers of the National Congress*
- *See Brasília's extraordinary modernist Cathedral*
- *Learn about the city's development as Brazil's new capital in the 20th century*
- *Discover why Brasília is recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site*

Lunch on your own.

Afternoon free for independent exploration.

Optional Lake Paranoá Outrigger Canoeing Experience:

- *Enjoy a paddling excursion along the tranquil waters of Lake Paranoá*
- *Experience Brasília from a different perspective*
- *Admire the scenic lakefront surroundings*
- *Relax and enjoy a snack overlooking the water*

Alternatively, spend the afternoon discovering more of Brasília or relaxing at your hotel.

Dinner on your own.

Evening at leisure.

Meals: *Breakfast*

Day 11: Fly to the Pantanal • Wetlands Exploration • Nighttime Wildlife Safari

Journey into the spectacular Pantanal, one of the world's largest tropical wetlands and an extraordinary destination for wildlife enthusiasts.

Morning:

- *Depart Brasília and fly to Cuiabá*
- *Travel overland through the Brazilian countryside toward the Pantanal*
- *Begin discovering the region's vast wetlands, grasslands, and remarkable natural beauty*

Arrive at your Pantanal lodge:

- *Enjoy lunch surrounded by nature*
- *Settle into your accommodations*
- *Meet your local naturalist guides*
- *Learn about the wildlife and ecosystems of the Pantanal*
- *Prepare for your upcoming nature excursions*

Evening Wildlife Adventure:

- *Board specially equipped vehicles for a nighttime wildlife-viewing excursion*
- *Explore the Pantanal after dark*

- *Discover how the wetlands come alive with nocturnal animal activity*
- *Watch for caimans, capybaras, and other fascinating creatures*
- *Learn about the region's incredible biodiversity*

Return to the lodge for the night.

Meals: *Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

Day 12: Pantanal • Horseback Riding • Motorized Canoe Exploration

Experience the extraordinary natural beauty of the Pantanal through immersive wildlife excursions on horseback and by boat.

Morning Horseback Adventure:

- *Explore the wetlands on horseback, following the traditions of local Pantanal cowboys known as Pantaneiros*
- *Ride along scenic trails through grasslands and wetland landscapes*
- *Discover the region's distinctive natural environment*
- *Learn about traditional rural life in the Pantanal*

Continue with a guided boat excursion:

- *Explore the region's waterways*
- *Watch for colorful birds and fascinating aquatic wildlife*
- *Enjoy beautiful views of the surrounding wetlands*
- *Learn about the plants and animals that thrive in this remarkable ecosystem*

Return to the lodge for lunch.

Afternoon Motorized Canoe Exploration:

- *Venture deeper into the Pantanal's waterways*
- *Discover additional wildlife habitats*
- *Observe the wetlands from a different perspective*
- *Watch for caimans, monkeys, capybaras, and native birdlife*
- *Enjoy the tranquility of this extraordinary natural landscape*

Return to the lodge for dinner.

Evening at leisure to relax and enjoy your peaceful surroundings.

Meals: *Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

Day 13: Pantanal • Sunrise Wildlife Cruise • Traditional Village Experience

Enjoy another remarkable day exploring the Pantanal's extraordinary wildlife and discovering the traditions of a local rural community.

Early Morning Sunrise Boat Excursion:

- *Depart before sunrise for a peaceful boat ride through the wetlands*
- *Watch the sun rise over the Pantanal's beautiful waterways*
- *Observe wildlife during one of the most active times of day*
- *Look for exotic birds and other native animals*
- *Experience the stillness and natural beauty of the region*

Return to the lodge for breakfast.

Morning Exclusive Cultural Experience:

- *Visit a traditional Pantanal village*
- *Meet local residents and learn about their daily lives*
- *Discover how communities adapt to life in this unique wetland environment*
- *Visit a local school, when in session, and meet some of the children*
- *Learn about the region's fishing and food traditions*
- *Participate in preparing and tasting traditional piranha soup*
- *Share conversations with villagers and gain firsthand insight into their customs*

Return to the lodge for lunch.

Afternoon Fishing Experience:

- *Set off on a boat excursion through the Pantanal waterways*
- *Learn about traditional piranha fishing practices*
- *Try your hand at fishing for piranha, when permitted by local regulations*
- *Discover the importance of fish to the local environment and economy*

Note: Piranha fishing is prohibited from September through November to protect the ecosystem. An alternative activity will be provided during these months.

Return to the lodge for dinner.

Enjoy your final evening in the Pantanal surrounded by the sights and sounds of nature.

Meals: *Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*

Day 14: Pantanal • Return Home

Enjoy breakfast at your lodge before departing for the airport and beginning your return journey to the United States.

Travelers wishing to extend their South American adventure may continue with the optional Iguassu Falls: Thundering Cascades of Argentina & Brazil post-trip extension.

Return home with unforgettable memories of Rio de Janeiro's vibrant culture, the Amazon's extraordinary rainforests and winding waterways, Brasília's architectural wonders, and the spectacular wildlife of the Pantanal.

Meals: *Breakfast*

***Exact details for this tour will be updated on the O.A.T. travel site once the official itinerary is confirmed. This more detailed O.A.T. itinerary can be found by [clicking here](#).*



✅ What's Included

- 13 nights' accommodations
- 31 meals—13 breakfasts, 9 lunches, and 9 dinners
- All transportation, including internal flights and transfers
- International airfare, airport transfers, taxes, fees, and fuel surcharges
- Services of a local O.A.T. Trip Experience Leader
- 24 activities, including a rainforest walk and A Day in the Life of a Pantanal village
- Gratuities for local guide and drivers

✈️ Flight Booking Notes

When confirming your deposit, please specify:

- Travel class preference (Coach, Premium Select, Business)
- Aisle or window seating
- Any special requests or meal preferences

ℹ️ Additional Notes

- **Prices subject to change**, especially airfare and fees.
- Customizations and optional extensions are available.
- Physical Requirements: Activity level is **moderate (Level 3 out of 5)**





Online Reservations: www.TravelwithScottandCurtis.com
Phone Reservations: (269) 209-5889