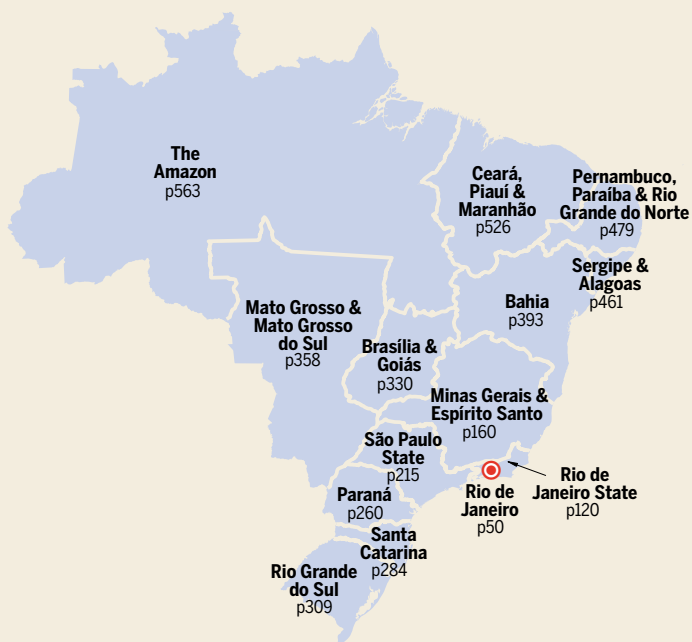


Brazil



THIS EDITION WRITTEN AND RESEARCHED BY

Regis St Louis,

Gary Chandler, Gregor Clark, Bridget Gleeson,

John Noble, Kevin Raub, Paul Smith

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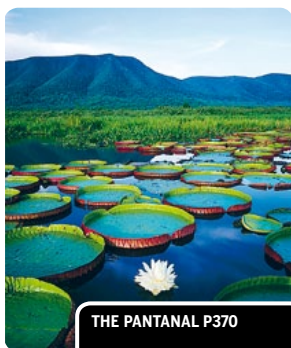
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Brazil



✳️ **BOGOTÁ**

Manaus

Gateway to Amazonian adventure (p600)

VENEZUELA

Mt Roraima (2810m)

GUYANA

PARAMARIBO

FRENCH GUYANA

SURINAME

COLOMBIA

Río Orinoco

Santa Elena

Boa Vista

Pico da Neblina (3014m)

Reserva de Desenvolvimento Sustentável Mamirauá

Manaus

Alter do Chão

Santarém

ECUADOR

Río Putumayo

Iquitos

Río Yavarí

Leticia

Tabatinga

Cruzeiro do Sul

PERU

Río Ucayali

LIMA

Cuzco

Arequipa

Lake Titicaca

✳️ **LA PAZ**

BOLIVIA

Potosí

Sucre

Alta Floresta

Cujabá

Poconé

Pantanal

Brazil's best wildlife watching (p370)

PACIFIC OCEAN

20°S

Tropic of Capricorn

Bonito

River snorkeling, caves and waterfalls (p386)

25°S

Iguaçu Falls

Spectacular waterfalls amid rainforest (p278)

80°W

75°W

Antofagasta

CHILE

Salta

PARAGUAY

Río Pilcomayo

Río Tencó

ASUNCIÓN

Foz do Iguaçu

Iguaçu Falls

Uruguaiana

Santa Maria

Salto

Paysandú

URUGUAY

La Serena

San Juan

Córdoba

Santa Fe

Paraná

Corumbá

Coxim

Campo Grande

Bonito

Ponta Porá

Dourados

Cascavel

Aquidauana

Corumbá

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Dourados

Cascavel

Aquidauana



Manaus
Gateway to Amazonian adventure (p600)

Lençóis Maranhenses
Surreal dunes and lagoons (p559)

Fernando de Noronha
Coral reefs and magnificent beaches (p499)

Olinda
Historic city with vibrant culture (p492)

Salvador
Brazil's Afro-Brazilian soul (p395)

Parque Nacional da Chapada Diamantina
Peaks and valleys (p458)

Brasília
The architecturally dazzling capital (p332)

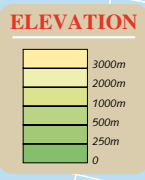
Ouro Preto
Beautifully preserved colonial town (p172)

Rio de Janeiro
Beaches, samba and striking panoramas (p50)

Ilha Grande
Mountainous rainforest-covered island (p121)

São Paulo
Culture, cuisine and great nightlife (p218)

Ilha de Santa Catarina
Forests, beaches, lakes and nightlife (p285)





John Noble

Pernambuco, Paraíba & Rio Grande do Norte; Ceará, Piauí & Maranhão John's second expedition from Recife to São Luís for this title confirmed his conviction that nowhere else on earth has real beaches. An author on around 80 Lonely Planet titles over nearly three decades, John is from the UK and ranks Brazil among his very favorite countries for, among other things, its musical and footballing genius, the scarcely believable euphoria of Carnival, the beautiful Brazilian Portuguese

language – and above all the Brazilian people's innate sense of what makes life good.



Kevin Raub

São Paulo State; Paraná; Santa Catarina; Rio Grande do Sul Kevin grew up in Atlanta and started his career as a music journalist in New York, working for *Men's Journal* and *Rolling Stone* magazines. He ditched the rock 'n' roll lifestyle for travel writing and moved to Brazil. His trek through the South involved way too many encounters with chicken hearts (In pasta? On pizza? No, thanks!) but disappointingly too few with the region's amazing microbrews. This is Kevin's 25th Lonely

Planet guide. Find him at www.kevinraub.net.



Paul Smith

Brasília & Goiás; Mato Grosso & Mato Grosso do Sul From an early age, and with a vague and naive ambition to be the next David Attenborough, Paul dreamed of exploring the remotest areas of the globe in search of wildlife. Then Lonely Planet offered him a more realistic way of doing it. While researching this edition Paul hit Carnival in Piri, stared into the bowels of the earth at the Nascente Azul and burnt his ears on an eternal flame in Brasília.



OUR STORY

A beat-up old car, a few dollars in the pocket and a sense of adventure. In 1972 that's all Tony and Maureen Wheeler needed for the trip of a lifetime – across Europe and Asia overland to Australia. It took several months, and at the end – broke but inspired – they sat at their kitchen table writing and stapling together their first travel guide, *Across Asia on the Cheap*. Within a week they'd sold 1500 copies. Lonely Planet was born.

Today, Lonely Planet has offices in Melbourne, London and Oakland, with more than 600 staff and writers. We share Tony's belief that 'a great guidebook should do three things: inform, educate and amuse'.

OUR WRITERS



Regis St Louis

Coordinating Author; Rio de Janeiro Regis first visited Brazil back in 2003, and he fell hard for Rio de Janeiro: its stunning landscapes, dynamic music scene, and the open and celebratory spirit of the *cariocas*. Since then he's traveled all across the country, celebrating Carnaval in Bahia, Ouro Preto and Rio, watching wildlife in the Pantanal, hunting for the perfect beach in Santa Catarina and traveling the length of the Brazilian Amazon. Regis' articles on Rio and South

America have appeared in the *Chicago Tribune*, the *LA Times*, on BBC.com and elsewhere. He is also the coordinating author of Lonely Planet's *Rio de Janeiro* guide and *South America on a Shoestring*. He splits his time between New York City and the tropics.



Gary Chandler

The Amazon Gary Chandler has covered the Amazon for Lonely Planet for a decade, and has contributed to more than 20 guidebooks to Mexico and the Americas. Few assignments compare to the Amazon for sheer size and variety, from climbing 50m *samaúma* trees outside Manaus to trekking in indigenous lands 500 miles up the Rio Negro. Gary studied Ethnic Studies at UC Berkeley and journalism at Columbia University. He lives in Colorado with his wife and

fellow travel writer Liza Prado, and their two children.



Gregor Clark

Rio de Janeiro State; Espírito Santo & Minas Gerais Gregor's love of all things Brazilian began with his first Portuguese class at age 19. In a quarter century of Brazilian travel, he's visited virtually every state from the Amazon to the Uruguayan border. Highlights of this research trip include watching *muriquis* cavort and rediscovering three favorite off-the-beaten-track destinations: Visconde de Mauá, Vale do Matutu and Sao Gonçalo. Gregor contributes regularly to Lonely

Planet's European and South American titles. He lives in Vermont (USA) with his wife and two daughters.



Bridget Gleeson

Bahia; Sergipe & Alagoas After years of living in Argentina, the dream of coconuts and coral reefs finally lured Bridget over the Brazilian border, where she promptly fell in love with the Northeast. She writes about Latin American food, wine, art and culture for *Afar*, *Budget Travel*, *Wine Enthusiast*, *BBC Travel* and *Jetsetter*.

OVER MORE
PAGE WRITERS

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Itineraries



2
WEEKS

Rio & the Southeast

Gorgeous beaches, rainforest-covered islands and colonial towns are just some of the things you'll experience on this loop around the Southeast.

Spend a few days discovering **Rio** and its beaches, restaurants and incredible music scene before heading to **Paraty**, a beautifully preserved colonial town with rainforest hikes and stunning beaches nearby. Next, stop in **Ubatuba** with its jungle-clad mountains and spectacular coastal scenery. **Ilhabela** is a car-free island of beaches, forests and waterfalls. Stop in **São Paulo** for high culture, including the nation's best museums and restaurants.

Head next to exquisite **Tiradentes** and **Ouro Preto**, some of Brazil's finest colonial gems. Afterwards, take in a bit of friendly Mineira hospitality, good restaurants and a burgeoning arts scene in **Belo Horizonte**.

Visit the hiker's paradise of **Parque Nacional de Caparaó**; further east, relish the dramatic beauty of **Pedra Azul** state park. Continue to the coast, for beach action and seafood in **Guarapari**. Further south you'll find the stunning beaches and high-end dining and nightlife of **Búzios**, which makes a great final stop before heading back to Rio.



3 MONTHS

Best of Brazil

On this epic trip you'll experience the rhythm-infused towns of the Northeast, the jungles of the Amazon and the biodiversity of the Pantanal, with beaches, tropical islands and historic towns thrown into the mix.

From **São Paulo**, head east to Rio, stopping at glorious beaches such as **Ubatuba**, **Trindade** and **Paraty-Mirim**. Leave a couple of days for hiking the rainforest paths and basking on the beaches of **Ilha Grande**. Continue northeast to Rio, for a hearty dose of nightlife, beach culture and panoramic views.

From there head north, via bus or plane to **Salvador**, the country's Afro-Brazilian gem that's known for its colorful colonial center, drumming in the streets and lively (and numerous) festivals. Further up the coast visit historic and arts-loving **Olinda** then catch a flight from neighboring **Recife** to the spectacular archipelago of Fernando de Noronha, where you find pretty beaches, snorkeling, diving and a paradiselike setting.

Back on the mainland, travel north, stopping in the backpackers' paradise of **Jericoacoara** en route to the surreal dunes in the **Parque Nacional dos Lençóis Maranhenses**, a stark contrast to the colonial beauty of **Alcântara**. To the west lies **Belém**, a culturally rich city near the lush island of Ilha de Marajó. Catch a boat up the Amazon (or fly) to **Manaus**, where you can arrange multiday jungle trips.

From Manaus, fly to **Brasília** to take in its stunning architecture, then visit **Parque Nacional da Chapada dos Veadeiros**, for waterfalls, canyons and dips in natural swimming pools. Next head to **Cuiabá**, gateway to the breathtaking canyons of **Chapada dos Guimarães**. Spend a few days horseback riding, kayaking and hiking in the Pantanal, one of Brazil's best destinations for wildlife watching. Head south via Campo Grande (another Pantanal gateway) to **Bonito** for crystal-clear rivers, lush forests and caves. Continue south to the awe-inspiring **Iguaçu Falls**. Before completing the circle, explore the secluded beaches and charming Germanic towns around **Florianópolis**.



6
WEEKS

Bahia & the Northeast

Those looking for the soul of Brazil would do well to focus on the Northeast. A confluence of music, history and culture amid spectacular natural scenery makes for an unforgettable journey.

Catch a flight to Porto Seguro, then quickly make your way to the pretty towns of **Arraial d'Ajuda** and **Trancoso**, both blessed with great guesthouses and restaurants, festive nightlife and access to walks on a seemingly endless cliff-backed beach. Continue north to **Itacaré**, a lively town with great surf and cove beaches reached via trails through hilly rainforest. Then head on to rhythm-filled **Salvador**, Bahia's most vibrant and colorful city. From there, catch a boat to **Morro de São Paulo**, an island with enchanting beaches and a laid-back vibe. Don't miss boat rides around the island - taking in mangroves, reefs, oysters and the quiet village of Boipeba.

Detour west to the tranquil diamond mining town of **Lençóis**, which has pretty outdoor cafes, cobblestone streets and caves, rivers and waterfalls nearby. From here, head into the **Parque Nacional da Chapada Diamantina** for crisp mountain streams, panoramic views and an endless network of trails. Back on the coast, go north to Macaíó, a vibrant, youthful city with gorgeous beaches nearby. Keep going north to reach **Olinda**, one of Brazil's best-preserved colonial cities and a Unesco World Heritage site. From Olinda's buzzing neighbor **Recife**, fly out to **Fernando de Noronha**, an exquisite archipelago of rich marine life and splendid beaches.

Returning to the mainland, visit **Praia da Pipa**, then hit the coastline from **Natal** to **Jericoacoara**, including the coastal spots of **São Miguel do Gostoso** and **Galinhos**. In the sandy-street village of **Jericoacoara**, try your hand at sandboarding, kitesurfing and beachfront capoeira, and watch a memorable sunset. West of Jericoacoara, **Parque Nacional dos Lençóis Maranhenses** is a striking landscape of dunes, lagoons and beaches. Continue west to the reggae-charged **São Luís**, home to 18th-century buildings, seafood restaurants and buzzing nightlife. It's worth planning a trip around one of the town's folkloric fests. The last stop is the colonial gem of **Alcântara**.



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Top: Parque Nacional da Chapada Diamantina (p458) Bottom: Praia do Parracho (p445)



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4
WEEKS

Waterways of the Amazon

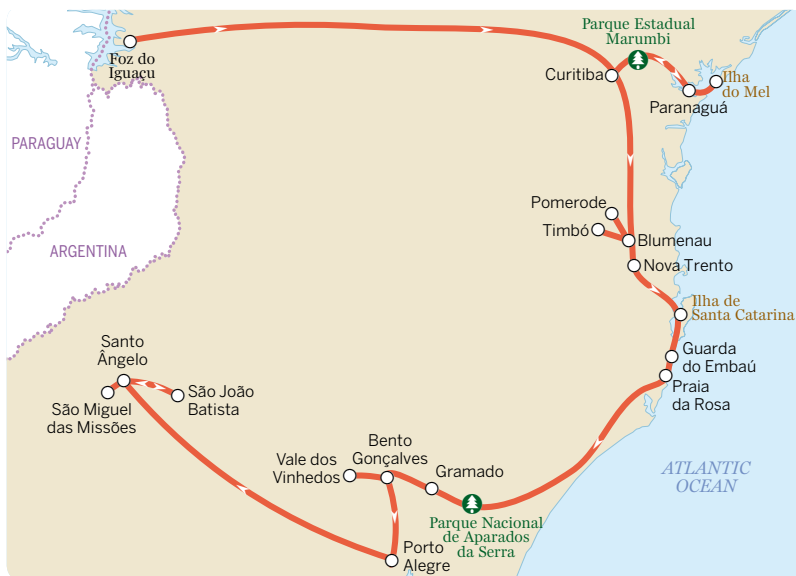
Few places ignite the imagination like the Amazon. The largest forest on the planet has an incredible array of plant and animal life. These wetlands also contain historic cities, river beaches and one of the most important archaeological sites in South America.

Begin in **Belém**, a culturally rich city at the mouth of the great river. Explore the revitalized riverfront docks, visit the waterfront market, sample Amazonian dishes and catch a performance at the lavish Teatro da Paz. From here explore the forest-covered island of **Ilha de Marajó** which has bird-filled forests, friendly locals and itinerant water buffalo roaming the streets. Back in Belém, head northeast to **Algo-doa**, a rustic fishing hamlet with windswept beaches and a remote feel.

Get a hammock and prepare yourself for a few hardy days of boat travel up the Amazon River. Stop in **Monte Alegre** to see ancient rock paintings, the oldest-known human creations in the Amazon, which are sprinkled among sandstone hills beyond town. Upstream is **Santarém**, a pleasant city with many nearby attractions. Across the river, **Alenquer** is near beautiful, rarely visited countryside, complete with scenic valleys, waterfalls and unusual rock formations. Also reachable is the virgin rainforest of the **Floresta Nacional (FLONA) do Tapajós**, where you can lodge with local families and take canoe trips on peaceful *igarapés* (inlets) while looking for wildlife. It's also worth stopping in **Alter do Chão**, a picturesque lagoon with startling white-sand beaches.

Continue upriver to **Manaus**, Amazonia's largest city. Visit the city's opera house, market, indigenous museums and nature parks, and the Encontro das Águas. From here, arrange jungle trips out into the rainforest or visits to the remote **Reserva Xixuaú-Xipariná**. You can also travel to **Santa Elena de Uairén**, Venezuela, for six-day treks up **Mt Roraima**. West of Manaus lies the fairly unexplored **Parque Nacional do Jaú**.

You'll see a variety of wildlife at the **Mamirauá Reserve**, outside of **Tefé**. From there, continue by river to **Tabatinga**, and into **Leticia** in Colombia for excursions into the **Parque Nacional Natural Amacayacu** or for stays at jungle lodges along the **Rio Javari**.

3
WEEKS

Southward Bound

This trip through Brazil's southernmost states takes in forested islands and scenic beaches, mountainous national parks, historic missions and Bavarian-style towns.

Start in **Foz do Iguaçu** to gaze at the most impressive waterfalls on the planet. Take short day trips to Argentina and Paraguay to get a taste of lush rainforests before heading east (by overnight bus or quick flight) to **Curitiba**, a city with an intriguing environmentally friendly design, plus pretty botanic gardens and an Oscar Niemeyer museum. Visit **Parque Estadual Marumbi**, a lush setting with well-signed trails. Next, take the scenic train ride to **Paranaguá**, a sleepy waterfront town that's the jumping-off point to car-free **Ilha do Mel**. The forest-covered island has lovely beaches and low-key guesthouses, and is skirted by some pretty trails.

Next head to **Blumenau** and nearby **Vale Europeu**, where **Pomerode**, **Timbó** and **Nova Trento** boast Teutonic architecture, blond-haired residents and a local brew more Bavarian than Brazilian. Head back east to the coast and continue south to **Ilha de Santa Catarina**, a forest-covered gem of sand dunes, sparkling beaches, pretty lagoons and sleepy fishing villages. Keep going south to **Guarda do Embaú**, a seaside bohemian town with excellent surf. A short jaunt south is **Praia da Rosa**, which has pretty beaches and memorable whale watching.

On into Rio Grande do Sul, stretch the dramatic canyon and waterfalls of **Parque Nacional de Aparados da Serra**. Inland, it's worth heading further inland to **Gramado**, a charming mountain resort where gourmet chocolates, fondue and excellent infrastructure might make you feel like you've stepped into a Swiss portal. Continue west to **Bento Gonçalves**, gateway to the award-winning vineyards of the **Vale dos Vinhedos**, set amid the rolling hills of the Serra Gaúcho.

Head south to **Porto Alegre** for transport links to **Santo Ângelo**, which leads on to the Jesuit missions. From there, visit **São Miguel das Missões**, **São João Batista** and other holy sites; true grail-seekers can cross into **Paraguay** or **Argentina** for a look at even more haunting Jesuit missions. Return to Porto Alegre for an onward flight.