

BRAZIL & ARGENTINA: WILDLIFE & CULTURE

23 Days | Expeditions in: Oct |



DAY 1-2: U.S./Salvador, Brazil

Depart on an overnight flight to Salvador, renowned for its exuberant atmosphere. Settle into our hotel in the historic Pelourinho district. Enjoy a musical performance. (Day 2: D)



DAY 3: Salvador/Embark

Salvador's brilliantly hued center is a living museum of 17th- and 18th-century architecture. Explore the Pelourinho, a UNESCO Site; or choose to hear local music, visit a sea turtle preservation site, or a social project assisting street children. (B,L,D)



DAY 4: Ilhéus

A former cacao capital, Ilhéus is also famed as the setting for Brazilian author Jorge Amado's novel, *Gabriela, Clove and Cinnamon*. Explore the town; visit a sanctuary for slow-moving sloths; and have lunch at a cacao plantation. Go birdwatching in the Atlantic Forest, a UNESCO Site, in search of yellow-rumped cacique, blue-crowned parakeets, the spectacular green-headed tanager, and blue-backed manakin. (B,L,D)



DAY 5: At Sea/Abrolhos Marine National Park

Search for masked boobies and red-billed tropicbirds, as well as humpback whales, which come here to breed and give birth. (B,L,D)



DAY 6: At Sea

This is a day to explore the amenities of our ship and prepare for the adventures ahead. Visit the Bridge (a great place to spot marine life), have a relaxing massage, attend a talk about the history of this storied coast, or settle into a comfy chair in the observation lounge to read or look out over the waves and reflect on what you've seen and what is to come. (B,L,D)



DAY 7-8: Rio De Janeiro

Discover legendary Rio: ascend to the iconic statue of Christ the Redeemer; visit a reserve for the endangered golden lion tamarin; explore the Botanical Garden and the Tijuca Forest, home to more than 200 bird species. Opt to experience a favela (shantytown) to meet the people working to improve conditions. (B,L,D)



DAY 9: Parati

Charming Parati, a UNESCO Site, was once a center of the gold trade. Walk along the cobbled lanes. Alternatively, hike a section of the Caminho do Ouro, the "gold trail"—built to convey gold from the mines. (B,L,D)



DAY 10: Anchieta/At Sea

Visit tiny Anchieta, once a penal colony. Explore the ruins of the prison and swim from the beautiful beaches. (B,L,D)



DAY 11: Curitiba & Paranaguá

Choose to ride the Serra Verde Express train, one of the world's great rail journeys, or hike to a waterfall in the Atlantic Forest. (B,L,D)



**DAY 12: At Sea**

As we voyage, there's time to enjoy a massage in the wellness center, workout in the gym, and browse in the library for books on a new topic of interest or the latest bestseller. Each day our naturalists offer talks that add depth of your experience. (B,L,D)

**DAY 13: Rio Grande Do Sul**

Rio Grande do Sul is a birder's paradise for ibis, maguari storks, and spoonbills. See endearing capybaras, the world's largest rodent. Visit colonial Pelotas, with its 18th and 19th-century architecture, stopping at a family-run *charqueada* (ranch). Back onboard, enjoy a lively music performance. (B,L,D)

**DAY 14: At Sea**

Enjoy the pleasures of being aboard *National Geographic Explorer* with an expert staff. Attend a photo presentation given by the National Geographic photographer and get your photography questions answered. Head up to the Bridge, where the officers will reveal the secrets of navigation. Unwind, read in the excellent library, or listen to music curated by our onboard musicologist. (B,L,D)

**DAY 15: Montevideo, Uruguay**

Capture Montevideo's elegant Parisian-inspired architecture on a photo walk. Head into the country to a family-owned *estancia* (ranch) for a traditional *asado* (barbecue) lunch and stirring gaucho music. (B,L,D)

**DAY 16: Buenos Aires, Argentina**

Experience every facet of this beautiful and sophisticated city. See the city's Bohemian neighborhoods along with its Beaux-Arts palaces and *Evita's* famous balcony. (B,L,D)

**DAY 17-18: At Sea/Bahia Blanca**

After a day at sea, we hike the pampas at Bahía Blanca to view the flora and fauna and enjoy lunch at a marvelous ranch. (B,L,D)

**DAY 19: At Sea**

On this day at sea, our naturalist and undersea team will prepare us for the exciting days to come on the Peninsula Valdes, giving talks on the stars of the area: the southern right whales. (Learn how they got their name.) Keep watch on deck for seabirds and marine life. (B,L,D)

**DAY 20-21: Puerto Madryn/ Península Valdés**

The amazing Península Valdés, a UNESCO Site, is an important breeding ground for the southern right whale. We are there at the height of the breeding season. Observe these magnificent mammals, as well as southern elephant seals and killer whales. On land, look for guanacos, rheas, armadillos, and more. (B,L,D)

**DAY 22-23: Puerto Madryn/ Disembark/Buenos Aires/U.S.**

Disembark in Puerto Madryn. Fly by charter to Buenos Aires and connect with overnight flights home. (Day 22: B,L)

(1) Travel Protection Plan

We strongly recommend our guests to take advantage of our Travel Protection Plan. This plan offers comprehensive coverage to protect you from cancellation fees, costs incurred due to trip delays/interruption, damage or lost of baggage, medical assistance, and evacuation during your travels. Our Travel Protection Plan is available for U.S. and Canadian residents only, and may be purchased any time prior to final payment due date, Travel Protection premiums are non-refundable once plan is purchased.

Learn more about our Travel Protection "Plus" Plan: <https://www.expeditions.com/TravelProtection/>

(2) Cancellation Plan

Review our cancellation plan:

<https://www.expeditions.com/reservations/cancellation-policy/>

