

Albuquerque Youth Symphony Orchestra

Companion Tour

Brazil Tour 2006

May 29 – June 9, 2006

Proposed Itinerary

September 9, 2005

Tour Conductor: Ilse Roderick
 Music Director: Dale Kempter Conductor: Amir Kats
 Total Number of Participants: 40
 Total Coach Miles in Brazil:

DATE	ORIGIN/ DESTINATION	TIME	EVENT
May 29 Monday	Albuquerque, NM/ Miami/ En Route		Assemble at Albuquerque airport. Check in flight #. Board the plane and depart Albuquerque. Arrive in Miami. Connect with flight #. Board the plane and depart Miami. Aircraft: Air miles: Actual flight time: Meal(s): Overnight on board the plane.

About the Amazon....For both outsiders and inhabitants of the Amazon, there is a mystical attraction to this legendary region and its two great constants, the river and the jungle. The Brazilian Amazon is the largest tropical rain forest in the world, larger than all of Western Europe and accounts for 60% of the nation's total territory-and yet it is inhabited by only 16 million people, like metropolitan New York. A trip on the Amazon River, especially between *Belem* and *Manaus* is unmatched anywhere in the world. In some spots the Amazon is so wide that neither bank is visible, giving the impression of traversing an inland sea. At night, the only light that can be seen is that of the moon and stars, reinforcing the sense of being in one of the world's greatest wilderness areas.

May 30	Sao Paulo ,	Breakfast on board the plane.
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Tuesday

BRAZIL/
Manaus,
State of
Amazonas

Arrive in Sao Paulo. Claim luggage and instruments. Clear Customs.
Connect with flight #.
Board the plane and depart.
Arrive in Manaus.
Board the coach transfer to the hotel.
Check in time.
Dinner at hotel.
Evening at leisure for independent activities.
Overnight at:
Hotel Tropical
Estrada da Ponta Negra, s/n
69037-000 Manaus, AM
Phone #:
Fax #:

May 31
Wednesday

Manaus/
Lago Salvador/
(By boat)

About Lago
Salvador...

This island in the middle of the *Rio Negro* is one of the two largest confluents that form the Amazon River. The other river is the *Rio Solimoes*.

Breakfast at the hotel.
Assemble at lobby, walk to the pier.
Board the boat and depart Manaus. (Take overnight bag, not suitcase).
Luncheon on board.
Arrive at Lago Salvador.
Indigenous programs such as jungle walk, crocodile spotting, begins immediately upon arrival.
Dinner on the island followed by a short narration of the Amazon region, followed by some beautiful local music played and sung by locals.
After dinner board the boat. Boat will ride all night. Remember, you are still on the Rio Negro, not the Amazon river.
Overnight on the air boat.

June 1
Thursday

Lago Salvador/
Manaus

About the Theater
of Manaus...

The *Teatro de Manaus* is a theater that is copied after the La Scala in Milan, it was built in 1897 during the rubber boom in the Amazon region. Caruso sang there, as did Carreras, Domingo and Pavarotti.

When you wake up, the boat will be in a totally different area, much closer to the Meeting of the waters, where the Amazon river is born.
Breakfast on the boat.
Departure for the big event, *o Encontro das aguas* (the meeting of the waters). Ride for about 2 hours up stream and witness the meeting of two major, major rivers *Solimoes and Negro*.
Paid lunch on the boats.
Boat arrives at pier. Walk back to the hotel.
Check in the hotel.
Board the coach and transfer to the theater, teatro de Manaus, where the AYS will give a full concert.
Concert begins.
Concert ends.
Board the coach and transfer to hotel.
Dinner at the hotel or nearby restaurant.
Overnight at the hotel.

June 2

Manaus/

Breakfast at the hotel.

Friday	Brasilia/ Belo Horizonte (By plane)	Morning at leisure for independent activities. Independent lunch. Board the coach and transfer to the airport. Check in time. Board the plane and depart Manaus. Aircraft: Air miles: Actual flight time: Meal(s): Arrive in Brasilia. Connect with flight #. Board the coach and depart Brasilia. Aircraft: Air miles: Actual flight time: Meal(s): Arrive in Belo Horizonte. Depending on what time flight arrives, commence a short guided sightseeing tour of the third largest city of Brazil. Sightseeing tour ends. Transfer to the hotel. Check in time. Dinner at hotel. Evening at leisure for independent activities. Overnight at: Hotel: Street: City: Phone #: Fax #:
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About Belo Horizonte...

Brazil's third largest city with a population of 2.5 million, Belo Horizonte is the capital of the state of Minas Gerais, a state known for its conservative traditions as for its gold, gemstones, and iron ore. Tradition is very important in Minas Gerais. In terms of family values and politics, the Mineiros are considered the most conservative of all Brazilians. The city itself is very young (founded in 1897), therefore, it does not have the historical value that Ouro Preto offers. Ironically, while tourists come to Belo Horizonte to visit the nearby historical region, one of the principal attractions of the city is the Pampulha neighborhood, famous for its examples of modern Brazilian architecture. Among the most famous sites is the Chapel of Sao Francisco, completed in 1943 and considered one of the most important works of Brazil's famed architect, Oscar Niemeyer (who designed Brasilia).

June 3	Belo Horizonte	Breakfast at the hotel.
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Saturday		Morning at leisure for independent activities. Independent lunch. Afternoon at leisure for independent activities. Board the coach and transfer to the Hendrix theater, where the Albuquerque Youth Symphony will give a full concert. Beginning of concert. Concert ends. Board the coach and transfer to (tba) restaurant. Dinner at <i>Faz de Conta</i> churrascaria. Board the coach and return to the hotel. Overnight at the hotel.
June 4 Sunday	Belo Horizonte/ Ouro Preto (100kms/62 miles)	Breakfast at the hotel. Board the coach and depart Belo Horizonte. Arrive in Ouro Preto. Independent lunch. After lunch commence a guided sightseeing tour of the city. Guided sightseeing tour ends. Board the coach and transfer to the hotel. Dinner at the hotel. This evening the Albuquerque Youth Symphony will give a full performance at the (tba). Concert begins. Concert ends. Overnight at: Hotel SESC Street: City: Phone #: Fax #:

June 5 Ouro Preto
Monday

The restaurant **Casas dos Contos** dates back to the slavery days of Brazil, about 200 years ago. Remnants of that era can be seen very vividly to this day.

Sleep-in time.
Breakfast at the hotel.
Board the coach and depart Ouro Preto.
Arrive at the gold mine.
Commence a 1 to 2 hours guided tour of the mine.
Independent lunch in the gold mine area.
Board the coach and return to Ouro Preto.
Arrive in Ouro Preto, transfer to the bus stop.
Walk downtown.
Afternoon at leisure for independent activities. Great town for shopping for precious stones, gold, etc....
Assemble at center plaza of Ouro Preto. Group walk to the restaurant.
Dinner at restaurant *Casas dos Contos*.
Dinner ends.
Group walk to the bus stop at the *rodoviaria*.
Board the coach and transfer to the hotel.
Walk to the "tennis court" and attend a friendly (but fierce) game of Volleyball between the Albuquerque Youth Symphony Orchestra and their Brazilian "counterparts". The game will take place on the grounds of the hotel.
Volleyball game begins.
Volleyball game ends.
Overnight at the hotel.

June 6 Ouro Preto/
Tuesday En route/
 Rio de Janeiro
**State of Rio
de Janeiro**
(1201 - 264 - 31)

About the Samba Show...

If you have never seen carnival in Rio de Janeiro, then this show is an absolute must-see. This 2 and half hour show will give you some idea what carnival in Brazil is all about. The costumes with its abundance of feathers and beautiful colors are unique.

Breakfast at the hotel.
Board the coach and depart Ouro Preto.
While riding on the coach you will see some of Brazilian's most beautiful scenery. You will enjoy every minute of this wonderful trip to Rio de Janeiro.
Paid luncheon at restaurant *Fartura*.
Board the coach and depart.
Arrive in Rio de Janeiro.
Transfer to the hotel.
Check in the hotel.
Board the coach and transfer to the *Clube Plataforma..*
Dinner begins.
Dinner ends.
Walk upstairs and attend a Samba Show (live).
Beginning of show.
Show ends.
Board the coach and transfer to hotel.
Overnight at:
Othon Hotel Copacabana
Avenida Atlantica 3264
Rio de Janeiro, RJ Brazil
Phone #: 011 (55) 21 2525 1500
Fax #: 011 (55) 21 2522 1697

June 7 Rio de Janeiro
Wednesday

About the Vendors.....

Each evening after 19:00 o'clock the street vendors set up their booths at the Avenida Atlantica (in front of your hotel). They close at midnight. Some of the most beautiful crafts, clothes paintings sculptures imaginable can be purchased at extremely fair prices. Do not forget to bargain, the vendors expect it.

Breakfast at the hotel.

Enjoy the location of the hotel. Across the street from the hotel, you will find the most famous beach in the world, *praia de Copacabana*, (Copacabana beach). In the evening the beach is illuminated with neon lights, which whiten the waves of the Atlantic ocean even more. The life on the beach at night is as busy as during the day.

Independent lunch in the area.

Board the coach and transfer to the *Corcovado* mountain.

Ascent to the mountain (entrance fee included in tour price).

Board the coach and return to the hotel.

Dinner at hotel.

Board the coach and **transfer to the Candelaria Cathedral where the Albuquerque Youth Symphony will give a full concert tonight.**

Concert begins.

Concert ends.

Board the coach and return to hotel.

Overnight at hotel.

About the Corcovado...

The sheer 1000 ft granite face of *Corcovado* (the name means "hunchback" in Portuguese and refers to the mountain's shape) offers a beautiful view of Rio and surroundings. A railroad was constructed in 1885, later joined by a road. It was not until 1921, the centennial of Brazil's independence from Portugal, that someone had the idea of placing a statue on top. The idea was to build a statue of Christ with his arms apart as if he were embracing the city. It took 10 years, but finally on October 12, 1931, the *Cristo Redentor* (Christ the Redeemer) statue was inaugurated.

About Rio de Janeiro...

Rio, the city most known outside of Brazil, is one of the former capitals and an important tourist and Latin American cultural center. With graceful urban architecture, mountain resorts and beaches lying between the rolling hills and Guanabara Bay, Rio has one of the strongest hotels systems in the country uniting the two principal forms of leisure sought by the tourist; sunny beaches and tropical evenings.

June 8 Thursday	Rio de Janeiro/ Petropolis/ Rio de Janeiro (200kms/123 miles) (by coach) International airport/ Sao Paulo/ Overnight flight	Breakfast at the hotel. Board the coach and depart Rio de Janeiro. Arrive in Petropolis, a very historic city, dating back to the Imperial time of Brazil. Commence a guided sightseeing tour. Guided sightseeing tour ends with a visit to the Imperial museum (entrance fee included in the tour price). Independent lunch in Petropolis. Board the coach and return to Rio de Janeiro. Arrive in Rio de Janeiro, transfer to the Santos Dumont Airport. Check in time. Board the plane and depart Rio de Janeiro. Aircraft: Air miles: Actual flight time: Meal(s): Arrive in Sao Paulo's Congonhas International airport. Board TAM's coach and transfer to Guarulho's International airport. Check in TAM Brazilian Airline's flight #. Board the plane and depart Sao Paulo. Aircraft: Air miles: Actual flight time: Meal(s): Dinner on board the plane.
June 9 Friday	New York/ Albuquerque	Breakfast on board the plane. Arrive in New York. Claim luggage, clear Customs. Connect with flight #. Board the plane and depart New York. Arrive in Albuquerque.

MANY HAPPY MEMORIES

PLEASE NOTE:

All times listed are approximate and subject to change depending on airline schedule, road conditions, etc. Times are based on the average traveling speeds and are local.

Each participant is limited to one suitcase not to exceed 62 dimensional inches (length+width+height) and not to exceed 50 lbs. Any charge levied by the airline and /or coach company for excess baggage must be borne by the participant(s).

All hotels and concert sites are tentative, subject to approval. In the event that such hotels and concert sites are not available, a suitable replacement will be offered.