



SADDLETRAVEL.COM

Brazil

The Coconut Trail Ride

8 days / 7 nights / 6 on horseback

Maximum weight: 90 kg



Overview

Brazil is all about tropical heat and breathtaking nature. But when it comes to beaches, the north-east of the country is the place to be. And that's exactly where Paul, your equestrian guide, will take you to the state of Alagoas, where you'll gallop along endless beaches still unspoiled by civilisation. From day one, you'll understand why this ride is named the Coconut Trail. Alagoas is in fact the country's largest producer of coconuts in the country. From the saddle, you'll be sipping fresh coconut water as you take in some

of the most beautiful scenery in the country.some of the most beautiful tropical scenery you've ever seen.

Riding & Level

During this 8-day trip, 6 of which will be spent on horseback, the itinerary will take you over colourful cliffs, across rivers, up huge sand dunes, through mangroves, Atlantic rainforests and along miles of deserted, immaculate beaches lined with coconut palms. On average, you'll ride for around 4 hours a day - with some early morning rides. Arriving each time around midday at the next pousada or beach house by the sea, where you'll be greeted with a glass of Caipirinha, the national drink. After an exceptionally tasty dinner (seafood being the region's speciality), a good night's rest awaits you, so you're ready for another morning of adventure in the saddle. At breakfast, you'll be served fresh tropical fruit, while the horses are prepared for another magnificent day of riding along 8,000 km of Brazilian coastline.



The walk ends in Penedo, a colonial village at the mouth of the São Francisco river, one of the largest in Brazil. Its baroque churches, convents and houses remind us of the era of Portuguese and Dutch colonisation. A perfect setting for a last night in the Alagoas. Welcome to the liveliest, most colourful and most coconut-like state in the country!

Suitable for intermediate to experienced riders. You need to be confident on a horse at all gaits. The gait is varied and includes walk, trot and canter.

Rider weight limit: 90 kg

Guides and Group Size

The tour leader, Paul, has over 29 years' experience in the equestrian field. He shares the guiding with Simon. Both are passionate about travel and horses. Both are multilingual. Minimum 7 up to 12 riders

The horses

The Mangalarga Marchador is a Brazilian breed of horse renowned for its comfortable gait and docile temperament, making it an excellent choice for riding. Originating in Brazil, this breed was developed from Lusitanian and Andalusian horses brought over by Portuguese settlers and crossed with local breeds. The Mangalarga Marchador is particularly appreciated for its versatility, whether for leisure riding, working competitions or trail rides.



Accommodation and meals

Brazilian cuisine is very rich. The country is a blend of European, Indian, African and Asian cultures, which is reflected in the way Brazilians cook. Italian and African cuisine, in particular, have a strong influence on Brazilian cuisine. It's not just the population that's mixed, but also its habits and customs. Long before Europe was talking about fusion cuisine, Brazil was already combining ingredients from different continents to create a new, typical Brazilian cuisine. Brazilians often serve dishes from different countries at the same table.

Brazilian cuisine is very good, varied and offers many natural dishes. The main dishes are mainly rice, beans (Feijão) and sauces, with lots of meat or fish and salads. Traditional dishes vary from region to region. Along the coast, you'll find more fish and prawn dishes. Churrasco = Brazilian barbecue is very popular.



Itinerary

Day 1 - Arriving in Maceio

There is no compulsory arrival time. You can arrive in Maceio at a time that suits you best. In the late afternoon, meet at the hotel in Maceió. Overnight in a comfortable hotel in Maceió.

Day 2 - Jequiá Beach - 7km / 2 hours

After a delicious breakfast, we set off early to meet the horses on the heavenly beach of Jequiá. We choose the horses, adjust the stirrups and set off for the ride. We immediately set off for one of the deserted beaches, dotted with multicoloured sand cliffs and coconut palms. Our destination today is breathtaking! The Marapé dunes stretch between the river and the sea. In the midst of the unspoilt mangroves, we'll leave the horses behind and enjoy a boat ride along the mangroves, taking a refreshing dip in the river and the sea. The sunset here is breathtaking. Overnight at the Pousada - Dunes de Marapé.

Day 3 - Pontal do Coruripe - 12kms / 3 hours

We will wake up in good spirits and with an incredible view of the natural beauty of this place. Our horses are saddled and ready to take us for another day full of beautiful landscapes and unspoiled nature. We will ride along deserted beaches, lined with coconut trees, and enjoy the lush vegetation of the Atlantic forest. The coral reefs are visible from the saddle. Our destination is Pontal do Coruripe beach with its ever-present lighthouse. The warm water of the sea is perfect for a swim. Late lunch and overnight at the Pousada - Pontal do Coruripe.

Day 4 - Feliz Deserto - 25km / 5 hours

We leave the beach heading south towards Feliz Deserto. Feliz Deserto means happy desert, so we decided to spend two happy nights in Feliz Deserto. Shortly after taking the path towards the sea, we will find the mouth of the Coruripe River that gives its name to the place. Ready for adventure? We will cross the river with the horses. Shortly after crossing the river, we will stop to cool off in the sea and meet our support team who are waiting for us with coconut water and tropical fruits. We will continue along deserted beaches, here and there we will pass a beach village and see artisanal fishermen. Just before reaching our place of stay, we find on the beach the wreck of the Swiss cargo ship "The Stockholm". Our exclusive Posada by the sea awaits us for a good caipirinha. Night at the Posada.

Day 5 - Coconut plantations - 20km / 4 hours

After a hearty breakfast, we mount our horses and head inland from the beach towards the dune complex, a protected area with a unique ecosystem and fantastic views from the top of the dunes. We continue the trek through coconut plantations and a small village until we reach the beach again. We end today's trek with a gallop on the beach. We will do our utmost to follow the indicated route, although occasional changes may occur due to unforeseen circumstances. Treks are subject to change depending on the weather, location and difficulty of the terrain. In the unlikely event that this should happen during your trip, we ask for your flexibility and understanding. This is a sporty and adventurous holiday!

Day 6 - Pontal do Peba - 15km / 5 hours

The fishing village of Pontal do Peba, with its seafood bars and restaurants, is the starting point for today's hike. From the saddle, we explore an area of dunes and environmental conservation. Between the coconut groves and dunes, tropical birds, reptiles and mammals can be spotted. We will end the hike today at a traditional coconut farm in the region. Tonight, we will spend the night in a comfortable tented camp on the banks of a river dotted with coconut trees.

Day 7 - São Francisco River - 20km / 4 hours

After a good breakfast, we get on horseback to start our last day of hiking. We cross a coconut forest until we find the immense dune complex. We cross the dunes and before reaching the mouth of the São Francisco River, we pass by the quilombo community of Pixaim (a quilombo is a town of escaped slaves). (In Foz we will enjoy a refreshing swim in the river with the horses and take our time for it. We will drink a fresh coconut and eat some snacks. We will leave the horses behind and board a boat to sail on the mighty river until we arrive at the banks of the river where we will have lunch. The typical seafood of the region will be served in the shade. We will arrive in the late afternoon at the colonial town of Penedo. Overnight at the hotel.

Day 8 - Visit to the historic center of Penedo, farewell lunch in Penedo

After a good breakfast, we will walk around the city to see the beautiful baroque churches, old houses, the theater, the convent and all the other architectural gems of Penedo. Around 11:30 we leave for Maceió - lunch stop en route.

Do not book a return flight from Maceio before 20:00.



Arrivals/departures and airport transfer.

Please do not book your flight tickets before receiving your booking confirmation email.

You can arrive at any time on the first day in Maceió. The hotel can be reached by taxi from the airport (approx. 20 km). or by bus from the airport to the main bus station "Rodoviaria de Maceió" just 2.5 km from the hotel. Check-in at the hotel is possible at 14:00. Official reception at the hotel at 18:00.

For the return: Do not book a return flight leaving Maceió before 20:00. Staying an extra night in Maceió is sometimes the best/cheapest option (large choice of hotels)
Single supplement: 600 USD we cannot guarantee a single room.

Transfer included for day 8 to Maceió and the airport.

Sales tax on reservations: 33.00 USD pp

Your Contact on Site

Your host at this destination is **Paul Coudenys who manages Entre Orelhas S.A. / Gaucho do Brasil**

Here are his contact details, you can share these details with your loved ones (contact by WhatsApp):

+55-47-99789-8001 (WhatsApp)

The best way to stay in touch with your hosts during your visit is via WhatsApp. If you don't already have the app, we suggest downloading it before your arrival and adding us as a contact.

Included in the price:

- Nights in authentic and comfortable Pousadas, hotels and beach houses. Hotels and Pousadas are based on double rooms.
- The Beach house (2 nights) based on double and triple rooms.
- Full board. From breakfast on day 2 to lunch on day 8.
- All drinks
- The guides (Paul, Simón or Chalas)
- Emergency vehicle: transport of your personal luggage to the daily accommodation/pousada.
- Transfer on day 8 to Maceio and the airport
- All alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages (except champagne and foreign brands of soft drinks)

Excluded from the price

- Travel insurance and trip cancellation insurance are mandatory:
- Flights
- Single person supplement: only possible if we have a single room.
- Dinner on Day 8
- Transfer on Day 1: From Maceió Airport to Maceio Hotel
- Tips
- Sales Tax on Reservations: USD 33.00 per person

Travel Checklist:

- ☐ Valid international passport
- ☐ Travel insurance
- ☐ Pocket money (you can exchange money at the airport upon arrival)
- ☐ A sweater and a jacket
- ☐ 4-5 t-shirts or shirts. Long-sleeved shirts are best. (Take at least 3 long-sleeved shirts!)
- ☐ Riding pants or jeans
- ☐ Riding boots/shoes, with half-chaps or long chaps. (Your boots/shoes will get damp every day.)

- ☐ Cotton socks
- ☐ A spare pair of shoes for the evening
- ☐ Swimsuit/bikini/shorts
- ☐ Flip-flops/sandals
- ☐ Comfortable summer clothes
- ☐ Hat
- ☐ A towel
- ☐ Toiletries
- ☐ Sunscreen
- ☐ Mosquito repellent spray/lotion

It is recommended that you pack your belongings in a duffel bag rather than a hard suitcase. 10 bags are easier to fit in the support vehicle than 10 suitcases. (Thanks!)

Health

For a peaceful holiday abroad visit: <https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/brazil>

Consult your doctor at least 8 weeks before leaving so that he can advise you and carry out, if necessary, the necessary vaccinations adapted to your age and state of health.

National currency and tips

The local currency in Brazil is Brazilian Real.

Cash: although still very widespread, cash has been used less and less in recent years, in favor of PIX. Today, it can be particularly difficult to change or pay with large bills, as a large number of taxis and merchants do not have small Brazilian currency. If you have 50 reais or 100 reais notes, remember to change them at the airport (at the baggage handlers for example) or at exchange offices.

Credit card (credit or debit): Credit cards are very popular in Brazil. It is also the safest method of payment for tourists, as most businesses in major cities have a payment terminal. When paying by card, the seller will often ask you “credit or debit” (“E debito ou credito?”).

You can leave tips at your discretion.

Tipping is common in Brazil for most services, especially if you feel the service is of good quality.

Are you alone?

Don't worry, you can register individually and join a group. Most participants are people who register individually and who, like you, may not know the other riders in your group. Since everyone has the same interests (horse riding, nature, travel, culture), there is always a good atmosphere and understanding between the participants. Participants come from all over the world, so you can be part of a group with riders from the UK, Belgium, Spain, France, Sweden, Canada, USA, Australia and many other countries. Your friends are suddenly much more international :) A standard group consists of 6 to 15 riders. Usually there are as many women as men.

Visa:

Most European and South American citizens do not need a visa to travel to Brazil. Citizens of the United States, Canada, Australia, and Japan require a visa for Brazil. Contact a visa agent or the Brazilian consulate/embassy in your country for more information. Other countries; contact the Brazilian consulate/embassy in your country for more information and to check if you need a visa.

Please visit the official UK government website for visa recommendations:

<https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/brazil>

Saddletravel.co.uk Cancellation Policy and Conditions**Payment and Cancellation Policy**

Your holiday is confirmed with a 20% non-refundable deposit.

The full amount is due 56 days before the departure date.

If you cancel your booking less than 56 days before the departure date of your holiday, Saddletravel.co.uk is entitled to request payment of the full amount, less a refund from the customer as follows:

Cancellation 42 days or more before departure: 50% refund possible.

Cancellation 30 days or more before departure: 30% refund possible.

Cancellation less than 30 days before departure: no refund, full amount due.

Medical / Travel Insurance

All Saddletravel.co.uk customers must take out medical and travel insurance that covers horse riding and trekking as well as cancellation of the holiday. Proof of insurance will be required during the booking process.

Contact details

WhatsApp: +44 1497 888 228
trails@saddletravel.com

saddletravel.com
5 Brayford Square
London
E1 0SG
United Kingdom

CN: 05411320

<https://saddletravel.com>