

Chapter 1 : Tourist Attractions

A tourist attraction is a place of interest where tourists visit, typically for its inherent or a exhibited natural or cultural value, historical significance, natural or built beauty, offering leisure and amusement.

White-sand beaches, tropical islands, music-filled metropolises and charming colonial towns are dotting its 7,400 km long coastline. Inland, Brazil tourist attractions consist of imposing waterfalls, wetlands filled with wildlife, and the untouched wilderness of the Amazon rainforest where several isolated tribes still live without any contact with the rest of the world. Brazil, the largest country in Latin America, became a Portuguese colony in 1500, remaining under Portuguese rule for years. Remnants of this heritage can be seen throughout historic colonial cities even today. Brazil also has gorgeous beaches, famed for their surfing waves and scenic beauty. Great beaches can be found in the Rio area, while others may be so isolated getting there is an adventure in itself. The top tourist attractions in Brazil: So what makes Porto de Galinhas so special? For starters, it boasts pretty white sand beaches, beautiful weather, warm waters, and a nice selection of accommodations in all price ranges. But what truly sets Porto de Galinhas apart is the stunning natural pools that form in the reefs at low tide where visitors can swim with large schools of colorful fish. Campos do Jordao is probably best known for its Winter Festival, a popular classical musical event held in July that draws musicians from around the world. This town is also a popular draw with active visitors, who can choose from a large variety of outdoorsy outings, including horseback riding, jeep tours and cable car rides. But one of its most interesting national parks, Lençóis Maranhenses, is home to massive dunes. But this is not the desert. During July, torrential rains actually create gorgeous clear lagoons that can reach depths of 3 meters 10 feet in some areas. Interestingly enough, even though these pools are temporary “disappearing during the dry season” there are fish in them. Swimming is allowed, but visitors should be prepared for warm waters.

Florianopolis Beaches Where to Stay Also known as Floripa, the 42 beaches of Florianopolis are popular with surfers, partyers and sun worshippers. Arguably, its most popular beach is Joaquina, which boasts huge sand dunes and excellent waves. Travelers who like to hangout with the rich and famous should head to Jurere, which boasts huge homes and some of the best night clubs in the area. One caveat, this beach requires about a two-hour hike to reach it. The town is also known for its vibrant nightlife and offers visitors a slew of activities, including boating and surfing. But as popular as it is, the town, itself, is limited in size as it is surrounded by Environmental Protected Areas. That means that visitors can still enjoy the natural beauty of this area and swim in waters that are teeming with dolphins and turtles. Designed by noted architect Oscar Niemeyer, the museum opened in in the Niteroi suburb city of Rio where it overlooks Rio and the bay. Some visitors say the building itself is more impressive than its contents.

Buzios Where to Stay Travelers who like beaches are likely to gravitate to Buzios, a resort town miles from Rio de Janeiro. Buzios has 23 beaches, catering to a different tourist, i. The waterfront features a fishing village with a harbor filled with colorful boats. Popular activities include snorkeling, scuba diving, hiking, bike riding, shopping for crafts, and dining on the Rua das Pedras. Fringed with subtropical forest, the narrow canyon features sheer parallel escarpments with a depth of almost meters feet. Two waterfalls cascade into a stone plunge pool that spills over into the Rio do Boi, which winds its narrow way along the canyon bottom. It is composed of 16 concrete columns, each weighing 90 tons, which resemble an Indian teepee more than a church. Completed in 1960, statues of the Four Evangelists, designed by Dante Croce, grace the front. Indeed, there is nothing very traditional about this innovative church. This old town is filled with graceful, colorfully painted pastel buildings, music and dancing in the streets. It was first a leper colony and then was home to a maximum security prison that closed in 1960. Consequently, beautiful tropical beaches and virgin Atlantic rainforest abound on Ilha Grande. Motorized vehicles are banned from the island. Many travelers say their visit here was the highlight of their Brazilian trip: They warn, however, that some of the hiking trails are demanding so hikers need to be in good physical condition. They recommend at least two days in the park. A popular activity is watching stunning sunsets from atop the Por do Sol dune. It cuts through the Atlantic rainforest, going through 14 tunnels and crossing 30 bridges on its 84 km mile route between modern Curitiba and historic Paranagua in Parana state. Six days a

week, the ride ends in Morretes, only continuing to coastal Paranagua on Sundays. Centuries ago, this 16th century colonial town was a major exporter of gold to Europe. It is approximately two miles long and lined with hotels and expensive homes, though there are also much more modest residences scattered in between. A beautiful boardwalk with a black-and-white checked pattern of Portuguese stone flanks the sand. It quickly became the epicenter of a new gold rush in the state of Minas Gerais. The city contains well preserved Portuguese colonial architecture, while modern buildings must adhere to historical standards maintained by the city. It was built during the heyday of rubber trade using materials from all over the world, with furniture from Paris, marble from Italy, and steel from England. On the outside of the building, the dome was covered with 36, decorated ceramic tiles painted in the colors of the Brazilian national flag. The first performance was given on January 7, , with the Italian opera La Gioconda. The opera house was closed down soon after however as the rubber trade declined and Manaus lost its main source of income. Fernando de Noronha Where to Stay Fernando de Noronha is a beautiful archipelago with pristine beaches, landscapes and wildlife, situated km miles off the northeastern coast in Brazil. The archipelago was discovered by Amerigo Vespucci in and temporarily occupied by the Dutch and French before Portugal established dominion in Today only the largest of the 21 islands is inhabited with a population of about 3, The islands are a Mecca for divers and snorkelers with warm waters year-round and very good visibility even at depths of 50 meters. However, its most popular draw is its extremely clear waterways, where you can swim with fish. And for the most adventurous, there is Abismo Anhumas, where visitors can rappel to the bottom of a cavern and walk among stalagmites and other cave formations. The city features a number of major touristic attractions, such as a historic downtown area, churches, and the famous Carnival of Olinda. Many bars, restaurants, artist and craftspeople studios add charm to the old-town setting. The beaches range from calm inlets, ideal for swimming, diving and sailing, as well as open sea inlets with strong waves, popular with surfers. There are also beaches surrounded by reefs, forming natural pools of stone, ideal for children. Unlike the Amazon rainforest, in the Pantanal you are virtually guaranteed to actually see the wildlife. Capybara and the Yacare Caiman are present in the millions. The Pantanal is also home to one of the largest Jaguar populations in the Americas. But the biggest and most famous carnival is undoubtedly the Carnival in Rio de Janeiro. The Rio Carnival attracts two million people per day on the streets and almost half a million foreigners during its 4 day celebration. The Carnival is all over the place, in the streets and squares, bars, clubs and all other venues in Rio, concluding in the spectacular Rio Samba Parade at the Sambadrome. Amazon River At approximately 6, km 4, miles the Amazon River is the second longest river in the world, just slightly shorter than the Nile, and the largest river by volume. The Amazon has over 3, recognized species of fish and new species are still being discovered. The waterfall system consists of falls along the Iguazu River. Located at the peak of the meters 2, ft Corcovado mountain, it provides a sweeping panorama from the interior of Guanabara bay to the north, to Lagoa Rodrigo de Freitas to the south. The Christ the Redeemer statue stands You Might Also Like.

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Constructed in the early 20th century, Mount Rushmore depicts the faces of four former American presidents, each of which is carved and blasted from the side of a rock face. The short Presidential Trail at the base of Mount Rushmore provides better views and an interesting perspective on the landmark. Opened in 1907, the market is now a historic, iconic part of the city. Pike Place Market is the ultimate place to shop in Seattle, because it is full of the oldest establishments in the region. There are markets where fresh fish straight from the Puget Sound gets tossed dramatically, cheesemongers who offer tastings of locally made brie and camembert and then there is the site of the original Starbucks coffee shop. Its canals and beaches are spectacular, but the biggest hit is undeniably the Venice Beach Boardwalk. This is a truly entertaining spot where street performers juggle, dance, sculpt and sing for passersby. Shop for souvenirs, grab a refreshing drink and bring some small bills for a stroll on the boardwalk. After stopping to admire a live performer, many visitors tip a dollar or two to show appreciation. Many of these homes, which are carved right from caves and rock faces, date back to the early 13th century. Today, it is possible to walk beneath the overhanging cliffs and tour these ancient abodes. The Balcony House is especially well preserved, and it boasts 40 rooms that are accessible exclusively by ladder. The nearby Cliff Palace is even bigger, and it is believed to have housed more than 100 people in its original rooms. Also known as the Cradle of Liberty, this early 18th century structure served as a space where early leaders gathered to fight against oppression in the years before and during the American Revolutionary War. Today, touring Faneuil Hall Marketplace means lots of opportunity to shop for local produce and desserts in the indoor and outdoor marketplace. One of the best is the Kennedy Space Center, which has been the launch site for every US human space flight since and currently operates as a launch site for unmanned rockets. Visitors can learn more about the early pioneers into space, and they can also experience the tension and excitement over the rush to the moon. There is even the chance to participate in the Shuttle Launch Experience, which replicates the experience of space travel. Within the pier, there are countless attractions suited to the whole family. Beautifully manicured gardens are the ideal place for a scenic stroll, and lots of souvenir shops are a wonderful way to snag gifts on a vacation to Chicago. The park is the most visited in the entire country, thanks in large part to its enormous size and its incredible scenery. Visitors can hike through old growth forest, spot hundreds of species of birds and check out the two visitor centers. Reserved for pedestrians, the revitalized area is packed with fascinating architecture, lush greenery and water views. The River Walk is a hub for dining and culinary exploration in this Texan city. It is possible to dig into Tex-Mex cuisine, upscale French fare and everything in between in this one easily navigable destination.

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The Glen Canyon National Recreation Area is a stunning region of blue water, desert landscape, and dramatic stone walls. Home to Lake Powell, one of the largest manmade lakes in the United States, this area is known for both land-based and water-based recreational activities.