

Southern Brazil: To the Foz do Iguaçu (M-ID: 3580)

<https://www.motourismo.com/en/listings/3580-southern-brazil-to-the-foz-do-iguacu>



from €3,990.00

Dates and duration (days)

11/12/2022 - 11/26/2022 15 days

03/11/2023 - 03/25/2023 15 days

11/11/2023 - 11/25/2023 15 days

From the Brazilian coast of the South Atlantic in a stretched eight through the states of Santa Catarina, Rio Grande do Sul and Paraná to the largest waterfall in the world and back to Florianópolis. Total distance approx. 3,300 km

EXOTIC BRAZIL

To the roaring waters of Foz

It is the largest and most impressive waterfall in the world, the Foz do Iguaçu, and it belongs on every traveler's calendar. And there is probably nothing on this earth more beautiful for us motorcyclists than to approach this natural spectacle on two wheels. And to "experience" the natural beauty of southern Brazil on wonderful routes. From the white beaches of the southern Atlantic, it goes steeply up to the Brazilian high plateau. There are mighty araucaria forests between wide pastures, on which the huge Brazilian cattle herds are ridden by gauchos on horseback, there are crystal clear waters rushing in cataracts over the black granite at every corner, there the plateau drops abruptly and grants deep insights into enormous canyons and wide views up to the wonderful coast of the warm Atlantic Ocean. And again and again, at every single encounter, the always friendly Brazilians enchant us with their wonderful smiles. They are the ones who, more than anything else, make this trip a wonderful experience.

Program - the most important things in a nutshell:

Day 1: departure in Germany
(Flights are not included in the tour price)

Day 2: Arrival in Florianópolis
Arrive on the beautiful southern Brazilian holiday island Ilha de Santa Catarina. Transfer to Riberao da Ilha, a small fishing village with the typical architecture of the Portuguese Azores, whose natives were the first colonialists in this part of the world. A small insight into the way of life at the time of colonization is given by the quaint

museum, which is at the same time our starting hotel and gets us perfectly in the mood for the South Brazilian culture. The hotel is located directly on the water and has its own small beach. After a possible late lunch, we have the opportunity to take a short trip to the most beautiful of the 42 beaches of Floripa, as the island is called by the locals. The stage for the day: Asphalt approx. 60 km.

Day 3: From Florianópolis to Bom Jardim da Serra

In the morning, after a leisurely breakfast, which in Brazil usually consists of fruit, white bread with cooked ham, cheese, and cake, we set off on the first stage of the journey. Unfortunately, we have to drive a bit through the city, which has 450,000 inhabitants after all and thus is rather a small town for Brazil, in order to get to the mainland via the new six-lane bridge. First over a small piece of highway, later it goes curvy into the southern Brazilian hinterland, which is characterized by dense forests and huge fields with agriculture. Until suddenly the Sierra do Rio do Rastro appears like a wall in front of the travelers. A small road with many serpentine climbs in a very short time from about 200 meters to more than 1000 meters above zero. From the very top, from the rugged edge of the plateau, one has a view to the other side of the coastal mountains, which hide the Atlantic Ocean behind their flanks. Now it is only a few more kilometers on good gravel roads until we move into our rooms in a nice and cozy Fazenda (a big farm). The stage for the day: asphalt approx. 220 km; gravel approx. 47 km.

Day 4: From Bom Jardim da Serra to the National Peak of São Joaquim and back

Early in the morning, we will take in a few highlights of this

beautiful mountain landscape. For example, the waterfall "Véu da Noiva", which spreads out like a "bridal veil" over about a hundred meters of fall and is located in a beautiful Araucaria forest. Or the ascent of the 1860 meter high Morro da Igreja, which offers an exciting climb, wonderful rock formations, and a magnificent view. The many hills and mountains of this region belong to the National Park São de Joaquim, through whose beautiful mountain landscapes we will ride today until we return to our comfortable Fazenda in the evening. The stage for the day: Asphalt approx. 165 km; Gravel approx. 43 km.

Day 5: From Bom Jardim da Serra to Cambará do Sul

Today we drive mainly on a well-prepared gravel road over the Serra, which is covered with Araucaria forests and dominated by cattle pastures. In this part of Brazil, where the cowboys, called gauchos, still ride horses, this track easily passes for a highway. It does get a little dusty, but you can see the approaching traffic, especially the trucks, from a distance. But this eternal vastness and the originality that this region radiates compensate for all hardships. One feels almost transported into another, long gone time. In Cambará do Sul the national park "Aparados da Serra" attracts unique views and insights. From the top of the cliff, you have a wonderful overview and can see far into the distance along the 800-meter-high cliff face. In the narrow canyon below, waterfalls pour over several steps into the dense and pristine jungle at our feet. A natural spectacle that you can hardly get enough of. In the evening we have dinner in a cozy restaurant, which is completely built of wood like in the early days of colonization. Here we are offered a "Buffet à la Gaucho". After a long, dusty ride through the Serra on our steely steeds, it's time to eat like cowboys! Bon appetite. The stage for the day: asphalt approx. 54 km; gravel approx. 150 km.

Day 6: From Cambará do Sul to Piratuba

Today takes us out of the Serra and into the "lower" regions of the so-called "Interior". This refers to the regions that lie beyond the coastal mountains in the interior of the country. Here, the focus is more on agriculture and the country looks like Southern Europe due to the German, Polish and Italian immigrants, if it weren't for the araucaria forests and the typical subtropical vegetation. Just let the names of the places Alfredo Wagner or Frederico Westphalen melt on your tongue. The stage for the day: asphalt approx. 315 km; gravel approx. 60 km.

Day 7: From Piratuba to Ametista do Sul

After an extensive breakfast today we will visit another attraction of the south worth seeing, which even most Brazilians do not know. Ametista do Sul is a small provincial town where perhaps the most famous semi-precious stones in the world are found: the amethysts - after which this small town was named. There is a former mine here that has been turned into a nice, interesting museum. Besides the stones found here, gemstones from all over Brazil are exhibited. Even in the church of Ametista the walls inside are decorated with these stones, which makes the whole church a total work of art - quasi to the jewel of the whole region.

Today we will pass for the first time villages of the indigenous people, called "Indígenas". As former hunters and gatherers, they earn their living nowadays with handicraft work. If you feel like it, you can buy one or the

other souvenir. Today we spend the night in a small typical Pousada - a Brazilian farm - which is located in the middle of the beautiful nature, situated at a romantic little river surrounded by dense forests. For dinner, our guide Mauricio and his team will prepare a typical Brazilian Churrasco for you. Just like the Brazilians do every Sunday to celebrate. And if there is nothing special to celebrate in the family, then there will surely be some reason, the Brazilians are very inventive ;-). Of course, there's one thing you can't miss at a real barbecue party: the national drink Caipirinha. And who could make it better than Mauricio (El Pescador) himself? See for yourself. The stage for the day: asphalt approx. 227 km; gravel approx. 50 km.

Day 8: From Ametista to Salto de Yacumá and on to Sao Miguel D'Oeste

The way to one of the most worth seeing waterfalls of Brazil leads us to the outermost border of the country. The Rio Uruguai separates Brazil's south from Argentina's north. A ruler-like edge of about 10 to 15 meters in height divides the river in two so that one of the longest waterfalls in the world falls to the Brazilian side at a height of more than 1700 meters. A breathtaking natural spectacle, if the water level allows it. Unfortunately, when the power station further up floods, there is nothing to see of the waterfall. In any case, the trip into the jungle down to the river bank is worthwhile. And it is rewarded: our crew is waiting for us with a cozy picnic in the middle of the green. Later we meet the Rio Uruguai again at its upper reaches to cross it by ferry. Here it separates the two Brazilian states the Rio Grande do Sul and Santa Catarina. Back in Santa Catarina, we drive to the small town of Sao Miguel D'Oeste. In this sleepy nest near the Argentinean border, there is, thank God, a good pizzeria where we will treat ourselves to the pizza roulette (rodizio de pizza), which is very popular in Brazil. The whole evening the waiters come with different pizzas and kinds of pasta and everybody can take everything that they want and as much as they want. The stage for the day: asphalt approx. 160 km; gravel approx. 75 km.

Day 9: From Sao Miguel D'Oeste to Foz do Iguacu

Today we collect another country point. After several kilometers along the Argentinean border, we finally cross it to ride across the Argentinean part of the huge Iguazu National Park. If we are lucky, we see tame emu running around at the forest station or a flock of small parrots sitting in the trees. But even if the latter is still tens of meters away, you can hear the flocks of several hundred birds clamoring endlessly from afar. For 45 kilometers, the road goes through the dense subtropical jungle on a natural track, which, as long as it is dry, is not more demanding than a well-maintained gravel road. However, if it rains, get ready for a muddy ride. But don't worry, our guide knows an alternative route, which will then be much further and not nearly as exciting, but well-paved. In the evening we have dinner in a very interesting restaurant with Brazilian, Argentinean and Paraguayan folklore. The stage for the day: asphalt approx. 200 km; gravel approx. 45 km.

Day 10: The roaring waters of Foz

Today is dedicated to the largest waterfall in the world. In rainy seasons, 6.5 million cubic meters of water per second go over the almost three-kilometer-long break-off edge here. As much as about 100,000 people consume water in

the whole year. Because of this natural spectacle, the US president's wife Eleonore Roosevelt once exclaimed: "Oh, you poor Niagara!" The most exciting way to approach the Foz is by water. A 450 HP powerboat takes you over the meters high rapids further and further into this damp, roaring inferno. However, you cannot approach the roaring center, the so-called Devil's Mouth, completely. For safety reasons, the boat turns off beforehand. But enough adrenaline is already provided at that point. (This excursion is not included in the tour price and has to be paid on the spot).

Without getting bored, you can spend the whole day here in the national park. A small lunch in between can work wonders and strengthen you for further explorations. At the end of an eventful day, those who want can fly with a helicopter over the fantastic waterfalls for approximately 90 US dollars (not included in the price of the tour and therefore to be paid by the rider themselves!). The bird park, which we will visit in the evening, shows vividly which birds are native to the national park. And some toucans or parrots are so tame that they even let themselves be stroked or fly onto your shoulder in the large aviaries. In the evening we recover from an exhausting day in a fish restaurant with a view of the Rio Iguacu and eat what the river offers us.

Day 11: From Foz do Iguacú to Francisco Beltrao

Today we will be able to rest a bit during the long drive along endless pastures and huge fields. Some of the roads are reminiscent of the endless dead-straight highways of America's Great Plains. Over gently rolling hills we drive to the provincial town of Francisco Beltrao and go to a hearty Churrasqueria or let us spoil ourselves with good cuisine in the evening in the hotel's restaurant. Just let the mood take you... The stage for the day: Asphalt: approx. 295 km; Gravel approx. 45 km.

Day 12: From Francisco Beltrao to Aberlardo Luz

After a good breakfast, we continue similarly as the day before. The landscape is dominated by agriculture. But when the weather is right, driving straight ahead is fun, because then you can at least have a look. The hotel is quickly reached and is idyllically situated above a beautiful, romantic waterfall, which we can view from our rooms. On cataracts, the calm river can be "swum" refreshingly and, next to a table football, there are small snacks to satisfy the hunger. If this is too boring for you, you can go rafting with at least three like-minded people (but this only works if the river has enough water!). All others can also use the day to simply rest. The stage for the day: Asphalt: approx. 145 km; gravel approx. 13 km.

Day 13: From Abelardo Luz to Treze Tílias

Treze Tílias means thirteen lime trees and is the name of a village that could also be located at the foothills of the High Tauern. It is an Austrian enclave of immigrants from Tyrol, where the inhabitants guard the old traditions of the former homeland more closely than is the case in the homeland itself. Typical of a homeland far from home. This small alpine village, which now has 4500 inhabitants, was founded in 1933 by the Austrian Minister of Economics of the 1920s, Andreas Thaler, who offered impoverished Tyrolean families a new livelihood and a better future in southern Brazil. Today, Treze Tílias is known for its woodcarvers, famous throughout Brazil. Also, a tradition

that has been preserved over time. Like the delicious Austrian cuisine, for which you will surely feel an increased appetite after 12 days in Brazil. The stage for the day: asphalt approx. 317 km.

Day 14: From Treze Tílias to Urubici

Immediately after a hearty "Austrian breakfast" we set off on a demanding and particularly impressive stage to the highest mountains of the southern Brazilian Serra. Past wonderful rock formations of red sandstone and through densely overgrown araucaria forests, the exciting trail leads us to the mountain town of Urubici. It is nestled in a lovely valley between the flanks of the surrounding mountains and is Brazil's "coldest village"! In winter, temperatures of 17° below zero have been measured here at night - and sometimes the snow falls here in winter and even stays there for a while! The stage for the day: asphalt approx. 270 km; gravel approx. 50 km.

Day 15: From the heights of the Serra to the beaches of Florianópolis

The first thing in the morning is to take in a few highlights of this beautiful mountain landscape. For example, the last waterfall of this trip, the "Véu da Noiva", spreads out like a "bridal veil" over a drop of about a hundred meters and is located in a beautiful araucaria forest. Or the ascent of the 1860 meter high Morro da Igreja, which offers a thrilling climb, wonderful rock formations, and a magnificent view. Since you certainly can't do both, the tour guide will decide on the spot which visit makes sense. Eventually, we arrive at the breakaway edge of the Serra, from which you could almost see all the way to the coast. The cliffs drop hundreds of meters to almost sea level. At the beginning of our trip, we already stood at this edge - only a few kilometers further. A small road hangs cheekily on the cliffs of the Serra do Corvo Branco (Serra of the white raven) down to the plain. We follow it through a gentle hilly landscape until we finally reach one of the beautiful beaches of Floripa at the end of an exhausting day. The stage for the day: asphalt approx. 249 km; gravel approx. 85 km.

Day 16: One last time Floripa and the flight back home

Today you can simply rest a bit and gather strength for the long flight back home. After lunch and packing our suitcases, we will take the van to the "little capital", where everyone can go shopping at their leisure. Finally, there is a cool beer and possibly a delicious shrimp specialty, for example in the famous Box 32 in the middle of the market hall of Florianópolis, before it goes to the airport.

Day 17: Arrival in Germany in the morning

As with all trips to exotic, touristically less structured travel countries, it may be necessary to adapt the program to current conditions.

We, therefore, reserve the right to make changes!

Category	Motorcycle Tour
Terrain	Combo On-/Offroad
Vehicle	motorcycle rent incl.
Tourguide / Coach	yes (guided)
Accommodation	Hotel / B&B or similar
Flight to / from	no, not incl.
Ferry	no, not incl.
Bus to / from	no, not incl.
Support vehicle (luggage/service)	yes
Level of difficulty	medium
Customer payment protection	no
Countries	Brazil
* PRICING	Minimal without optional extras, see pricing

Pricing

per rider in a double room	€3,990.00
per pillion in a double room	€1,990.00
per person single room (surcharge)	€490.00

Included

- 14 nights in a double room in hotels or guesthouses
- Half board
- Rental motorcycle Yamaha XT 660R
- Experienced English and German speaking tour guide during the whole trip
- Escort vehicle for luggage transport
- Mechanic in the escort vehicle
- Entrance fees (excluding camera and video fees) for example to Foz do Iguacu National Park and Parque de Aves and others
- Road and bridge tolls, parking fees
- Road map
- Airport transfers within the regular arrival times

Not included

- Everything that is not specified under features

Flight to/from Florianopolis

Lunch, drinks and coffee breaks

Petrol

Travel cancellation, interruption and repatriation insurance

Powerboat ride in the national park to the waterfall of Foz do Iguacu

Special optional activities e.g. helicopter flight over the waterfalls, river rafting in Abelardo Luz, etc.

Health insurance abroad

Personal expenses

More details

Minimum number of participants: Five riders. If the minimum number of participants is not reached, we reserve the right to cancel the tour up to 28 days before the start of the tour.

Equipment: Please bring your motorcycle clothing, including a helmet. Don't forget rain gear, then it certainly won't rain. What else you should bring: A flashlight, at best a headlamp. Useful aids are a multitool or a pocket knife, but sunglasses are a must. If you are often thirsty on the road, a water bottle is a good idea. The Yamaha XT 660R has no saddlebags. For carrying the most important utensils, a waterproof backpack or a luggage roll with the appropriate fastening straps is recommended. This way you can detach everything from the bike at any time and take it with you if necessary. Medication (diarrhea and cold remedies, vitamins, etc.) and drugstore items (sunblock and mosquito repellent) absolutely belong in the luggage.

Foreign exchange: The Brazilian currency is the Real (BRL). As of November 2020, one euro was worth 6.35 reals. It is best to equip yourself with about 400 euros in cash and later get any additional real needed with the help of your normal EC card from the machine, this is the cheapest. Your tour guide will take you to appropriate working machines. Our guide may be able to exchange your cash for you if you are unable to withdraw it. For drinks, lunch and possible tips you will need about 1000 Real for the duration of your stay (without petrol about 550 Real). In addition, there are the expenses for gifts and souvenirs.

Documents: Please bring copies of all your travel documents such as passport, driver's license, and airline ticket as well, just in case.

Entry: For EU citizens it is sufficient if the passport is still valid for at least six months upon entry. Participants of other nationalities should inquire at their own or the Brazilian embassy about special entry requirements.

Driving skills: A motorcycle should be safely controlled on paved roads, even in hairpin turns. Unpaved sections or sometimes potholed gravel roads should not be a problem. Approximately 30% of the roads are not asphalted.

Flights: The flights to Florianopolis are not included in the tour price. You can book this yourself or have it booked at a travel agency you trust. We will also be happy to put you in touch with one as soon as the minimum number of participants has been reached. In any case, we recommend that you book the flight only after we have given the green light for the implementation, i.e. that the minimum number of participants has been reached, as otherwise you may incur high cancellation costs.

Driving licence: Participation in the tour requires a valid class A or A1 driving license. Please bring your European driving license as well as your international one.

Luggage: The luggage is carried in the escort vehicle. Please do not take too much with you, the motto is: less is more. Basically, the equipment is enough for a little more than a week, because we have pretty much halfway through the tour during the double night at Foz do Iguacu the possibility to have our laundry washed. Also the motorcycle clothes, because the day is motorcycle free. Your luggage is not insured, please take out luggage insurance if necessary. Your day luggage is best kept in your personal rucksack. Enduro tank bags fit well on the XT 660, but you must bring your own.

Health: Since southern Brazil has more of a southern European standard than that of a third world country, some of the vaccinations that are essential for the north and northeast are not mandatory for the south. However, immunizations, especially against the various forms of hepatitis and against cholera, can never hurt. In any case, immunization against tetanus and polio is important. In addition to medicines for personal use, we recommend medicines against stomach problems, diarrhoea, insect bites, fever and colds. Since the south of Brazil is located in subtropical regions and the travelled areas are rather dry, malaria is not a problem in this part of Brazil. Only in the jungle around the waterfall Foz do Iguacu there could be a small residual risk. Therefore, acute treatment rather than prophylaxis is recommended here. Unfortunately, there is a minimal risk of infection with yellow fever in the area of the Iguacu Falls. The yellow fever vaccination works after 10 days and lasts for 10 years, the newest preparations even for a lifetime. This vaccination is sensible and generally recommended, as this fever is fatal in most cases. In addition, some countries only allow entry after travelling to countries with a yellow fever risk with proof of such a vaccination. A good mosquito protection should always be carried out, this also applies as a measure against malaria. Concerning yellow fever vaccination and malaria protection, please consult your doctor or a tropical institute again regarding the problem of whether prophylaxis or acute treatment is more sensible in the event of an infection. This can also not harm concerning the other vaccinations recommended above. In any case, it is important that you take care of your entire vaccination protection in time, so that you do not get all vaccines injected at the same time! Please also pay attention to the deadlines until the onset of effectiveness.

Deposit: Before departure, our team must receive the signed deposit contract. This will be sent to you with your travel documents approx. 2 weeks before the start of the trip. With this contract you confirm to pay the amount up to the deductible of 2.500 Euro in case of damage to your motorcycle. More details under Motorcycles.

Clothing: Everything you need for temperatures and motorcycling between 15° and 30° Celsius including swimming trunks. Also for the sometimes quite cold nights in the altitudes of the Serra (very rarely times below 15 ° C) should be provided. The clothes should be hard-wearing for the trip. Definitely no need for the tuxedo and the "little black dress".

Mobile phones: Common cell phones also work in Brazil. However, calling home or being called from there is immensely expensive. In all hotels, there is free WiFi. And most of the time it works very well.

Hotels: The hotels we stay in are mostly typical for the country, often with a nice, stylish atmosphere and vary from simple to upper-middle class. Some have a special comfort or a beautiful location, the other attracts with exceptional cuisine or atmosphere, but always we are welcome as motorcyclists on cordially. All rooms have their own bathroom.

Climate: It is predominantly sunny with daytime temperatures of 15 - 30° C, night temperatures of below 10° C - 25° C, depending on altitude and weather conditions. The probability of rain in February, March, October, and November is 5 - 10 % with mostly good to very good visibility. There can be weather outliers in every direction. Due to the clear air, the UV radiation is very high. Do not forget to bring sufficient sun protection.

Motorcycles: Yamaha XT 660 R The motorcycles are only insured against third-party liability. In Brazil, it is generally not possible to take out comprehensive insurance for motorcycles. In case of a total loss, a maximum of 2.500 Euro will be charged. These 2.500 Euro have to be guaranteed by a signed contract with our team before departure. However, no amount has to be deposited, you only guarantee by signature the payment of the amount "in case of the case". For smaller damages the correspondingly reduced sums will be collected - minor damages can be settled more easily on-site. The damage is guaranteed to be assessed very fairly on-site by our tour guide, our team stands for this. For a dent in the tank we will certainly not charge the whole tank but only the resulting loss in value or the working time for the repair, for a broken clutch lever only its material value. However, all damages, especially if they exceed a few hundred Euros, are not financially absorbable even for our partners, especially since the motorcycles represent an equivalent value of 5,000 Euros and there is no insurance company in Brazil that would fully ensure these motorcycles. The entire risk above the 2,500 euros is therefore borne by our partner in Brazil. In the worst case, our local partner would have to lament a loss of 2,500 euros in the event of total damage. Therefore, we ask for your understanding of this measure of protection. In this context, it is important to note that the deductible in the amount of the deposit must also be borne by the renter/driver of the motorcycle for damages that are not his fault, for example, due to an accident with a third party. This is because in Brazil there is a so-called No-Fault - System, where everyone bears his own material damage. Only personal injuries to third parties are minimally insured.

Road condition: Over 70% surprisingly well-paved country roads and narrow, sometimes dizzying pass roads. In between also sometimes older asphalt surfaces in an advanced state of decay. The gravel and natural roads are usually in very good condition and can be ridden quite well. However, it is important to always ride with sufficient foresight and correspondingly cautiously on these. Some enduro experience or even a bit more can't hurt, of course. In any case, gravel roads should not be a problem. But even on the well-built country roads, you should always be prepared for occasional potholes, bumps, or sand on the curves.

Daily routine: Normally, a travel day begins at 8 a.m. with breakfast. At about 9 o'clock, after a short briefing by the tour guide, it then goes on the differently long daily stages. Lunch and coffee breaks will of course not be missing.

Insurances: The sensible insurances to be taken out have already been mentioned under the respective headwords. However, it is very important in this context that you should have good international health insurance for this event in any case. Regarding the above-mentioned insurances, please contact your insurance agent in case of doubt. Or simply and conveniently take out your travel insurance with ALLIANZ Reiseversicherungsgesellschaft. With your booking confirmation, you will receive information on the various insurances with the corresponding premiums and contract applications.

Time: Brazil is 5 hours behind in our summer and 3 hours behind in our winter. Without the daylight saving times on both sides being advanced by one hour, there would be a time difference of 4 hours throughout.

Group size: The minimum number of participants is 5, the maximum of 10 riders plus a tour guide. Accompanying persons can ride in the escort vehicle.

Total distance: About 3.300km (depending on the activities on the "motorcycle-free" days).

Daily stages: Between 60km and 380km.