

Brazil Agribusiness and Cultural Market Study Tour February 28 - March 8, 2020

Day 1 (Friday, February 28) -

Depart Iowa for your flight to the heart of the Amazon (Manaus, Brazil) arriving late in the evening.

Overnight Manaus

Day 2 (Saturday, February 29) -

Enjoy a free morning as you decompress from the long flights on the previous day. After lunch, enjoy a trip on the Amazon River to see the pink dolphins that call the Amazon home.

(B,L,D)

Overnight Manaus





Day 3 (Sunday, March 1) -

Following breakfast in the hotel, explore by boat, the Amazon, the largest tropical forest that covers around 40% of South America. Crossing nine nations, the majority of Amazonia is housed within Brazil and Peru. An excellent area of the Amazon to visit is the rainforest along the edges of the Rio Negro, the Amazon's largest tributary. After

lunch, spend the afternoon discovering the beautiful city of Manaus. Take a walk around the Mercado Adolpho Lisboa, founded in 1882, the city's oldest marketplace. Visit the Amazonas Opera House, built in 1896, or take a stroll through one of the city's large, lush parks.

Overnight Manaus (B,L,D)

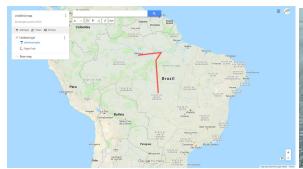




Day 4 (Monday, March 2) -

After breakfast, depart for a private charter flight from Manaus to Santarem to visit a port and learn about their important location on the Amazon River. You will also have lunch in Santarem. Next, hop back on the private charter and fly to Sinop, Mato Grosso, flying over Itaituba to inspect the new terminals on the Tapajos River which flows into the Amazon River. Settle in to your hotel after traveling through 3 of the largest states of Brazil, covering nearly 50% of the land (State of Mato Grosso, State of Para and State of Amazonas). Link to flight path.

Overnight Sinop (B,L,D)







Day 5 (Tuesday, March 3) -

In the morning, visit with the Mato Grosso Foundation which started in 1993. The main purpose was to transform Mato Grosso into an agriculture state and play an important role in agribusiness development. Today, Mato Grosso is one of the largest grain producers and MT Foundation played a role in that development. Enjoy lunch next before visiting the local Sinop Ag University to look at their experimental farm, understand their research, and learn about future projects.

Overnight Sinop (B,L,D)





Day 6 (Wednesday, March 4) -

Following breakfast, depart for Lucas do Rio Verde and travel south to the city of Sorriso. The name of the city literally means "smile", but it actually came from Italian immigrants who only cultivated rice in the region ("only rice" = "só riso".) The words ended up merging to form the name of the city. Tour a local agricultural cooperative and learn about farming in the area. After lunch, visit a cotton farm. Continue an hour north to Sinop, its economy is largely driven by livestock, timber production, and cotton and grains. Spend the afternoon touring the area, visiting historic monuments, parks and churches. Enjoy dinner and overnight in your hotel.

Overnight Lucas do Rio Verde (B,L,D)





Day 7 (Thursday, March 5) -

Depart the hotel after breakfast and travel to Nova Mutum, which is largely the beginning of the agricultural area in Mato Grosso north of the capital, Cuiabá. Tour a local feedlot and learn about why soybeans are so important to the local economy. Continue to the town of Lucas do Rio Verde, a town in the nation's biggest grain belt. Tour a local grain farm and meet with producers who are turning the area into a worldwide grain producer and exporter. Enjoy dinner and overnight stay in your hotel in the capital of Mato Grosso state, *Cuiabá*.

Overnight Cuiabá (B,L,D)









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Day 8 (Friday, March 6) -

Following breakfast, visit the Federation of Agriculture Mato Grosso to learn about agriculture in the region and speak with local experts. After a local lunch, visit a Brazilian grain association (Aprosoja). The grain association promotes cooperative farming and economics. Learn about the importance of soybeans in the economy of Brazil and the export process. In the afternoon, visit the Brazilian Beef Cattle Association. The association represents beef cattle farmers, works with national and local governments, and promotes Brazilian cattle worldwide along with educational campaigns. Spend free time in Cuiaba and return to your hotel for dinner and overnight stay.

Overnight Cuiabá (B,L,D)



Day 9 (Saturday, March 7) -

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for your mid-morning flight to Sao Paulo, the 4th largest city in the world. Greater Sao Paulo population has nearly 22 million citizens. Upon arrival check-in for your overnight flight back home.

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