



Explore, Experience, Enrich™

BZoo8 Soaking in Salvador 12 Days



Your “Taste of Volunteering” Project:
Environmental

You will be exposed to the realities of agriculture and conservation in the developing world. With excursions to farming communities of wildly divergent scales, all in precarious co-existence with shrinking rainforest remnants, the participant will witness the struggle for sustainable development and the challenges it produces.

After this project you will be better equipped to understand the intricate global links between peoples, and how consumer decisions in one place have a direct impact on the ecological and economic conditions of another.



Trip Highlights:

- Salvador’s pulsating city
- Capoeira class
- Atlantic rainforest



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- Pancada Grande waterfall
- Fantastic rock formations in Lençóis

Trip Description:

Upon arrival in Salvador we relax before a tour of this vibrant city the next day, ending up in the Pelourinho historical district for lunch. In the afternoon we have percussion and capoeira classes. For dinner we have one of Brazil's famous churrascarias!

Located between mangroves and rain-forested hills, Ituberá, our next destination, is a perfect laboratory to study the complex problem of maintaining tropical ecosystems in rural landscapes. We will be based here and make field trips out into the countryside to observe the different biomes and the people who inhabit them.

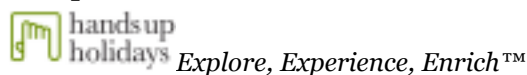
Firstly, we visit a small settlement of subsistence farmers in the Atlantic Rainforest. We spend the day working in their 10-hectare plots. We spend the night in tents on one of the farms.

We spend another day working in the fields collecting cacao with the farmers, returning to Ituberá the next morning and visit the spectacular 60-meter Pancada Grande waterfall.

For the next two days we work on the **Jacaranda Farm**, named after one of the prized hardwoods of the region. Its owner, the transplanted Briton Ian Walker preaches and practices his creed of agro-forestry and rainforest preservation. At his beautiful site, Walker has recuperated land totally degraded by abuse and mismanagement and made it productive.

He has also planted many fast-growing trees in an effort to relieve pressure on the native forest from the unending demand for wood. He has a large nursery of native trees and is actually trying to recompose the rainforest through replanting. In this he is a pioneer. He also spent half his life savings in the purchase of a 750-acre piece of rainforest that is now a permanent reserve.

On Day 10 we have a four hour hike in the morning in the Atlantic Forest Reserve, and in the afternoon depart for Lençóis, a small town in the heart of the Chapada Diamantina National Park. In the 19th century this was an area rich in minerals and diamonds in particular.



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The town's name is the Portuguese for "sheets", and comes from the makeshift camps put up by diamond prospectors after their fortune. Today, it has become a haven for trekkers and people drawn by the spectacular scenery of waterfalls and fantastic rock formations.

The next day we have a grand tour of the region accompanied by former Peace Corps volunteer Roy Funch who has lived in the area for 25 years and is responsible for making it a world tourist center that is sustainable. We will visit waterfalls, caves and the lookout mountain Pai Inácio.

We then have a six-hour hike to another magnificent waterfall Cachoeira do Sossego (peaceful waterfall) and then on the way back visit a natural water slide called Riberão do Meio. We will be accompanied by Roy on this day also.

We depart Lençóis in the early morning and catch an afternoon flight from Salvador to São Paulo and further afield.

Day by Day Itinerary:

Day 1	Arrive in Salvador	(L,D)
Day 2	Salvador City Tour; Percussion and Capoeira Classes	(B,L,D)
Day 3	Transfer to Ituberá	(B,L,D)
Day 4-5	Subsistence farming Community Development Project	(B,L,D)
Day 6	Return to Ituberá; Pancada Grande waterfall	(B,L,D)
Day 7-8	Jacaranda Farm Community Development Project	(B,L,D)
Day 9	Morning hike in Atlantic Forest Reserve; transfer to Lençóis	(B,L,D)
Day 10	Lençóis tour - waterfalls, caves and mountains	(B,L,D)
Day 11	Six hour hike – Cachoeira do Sossego waterfall and Riberão do Meio waterslide	(B,L,D)
Day 12	Depart Lençóis, transfer to Salvador; trip ends	(B)

B = Breakfast, L= Lunch, D = Dinner

Comfort Level: 3/5
Activity Level: 2/5

Min. Travellers per Group: 2
Max. Travellers per Group: 12

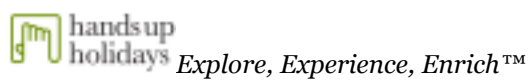


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Police Check Required? No



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