

OURO PRETO AND INHOTIM



Ouro Preto and Inhotim, Minas Gerais, Brazil – 5 days.



auroraeco

THE EXPERIENCE

It is indeed a great privilege to be able to explore the Royal Route and unfold all its mysteries. During the 17th and 18th centuries, the gold extracted in the countryside of Minas Gerais was the main economic activity of colonial Brazil; most of the production was sent to Portugal through the coastal cities of Rio de Janeiro. Estrada Real ("Royal Route") is the name of the path that the Portuguese used to transfer enormous quantities of gold from Minas to Rio, three hundred years ago. Also called "Golden" Route, it was built by the Portuguese Crown in the 17th century. Remains of colonial churches, mansions and memorabilia are still found in museums, squares, stone-slab paved streets and dirt roads. Taking the Royal Route is one of the best ways to discover Minas Gerais and its rich colonial background and traditions.

SUGGESTED ITINERARY

DURATION: 5 DAYS /4 NIGHTS

Day 1 - Ouro Preto

Arrival at Belo Horizonte airport (CNF), meet your host and transfer to Ouro Preto (140 km, approximately 2 hours). Check-in at the hotel and enjoy some free time to explore the neighbourhood.

Meals: (No meals).

Day 2 – Ouro Preto

After breakfast, meet our host for a light walk around Ouro Preto's historical center, visiting the major points of interest: Nossa Senhora do Pilar Church, 1733, stands as the church with the most gold in the state of Minas Gerais, with the Silver Museum in its basement; São Francisco de Assis Church, the most famous in Ouro Preto, deemed Aleijadinho's masterpiece; and the Inconfidência Museum. This museum gathers documents and objects related to the Inconfidência Mineira, a separatist movement against Portuguese rule, and several works of art that belong to Minas Gerais' historical and artistic heritage. Lunch at Chafariz Restaurant, synonymous of Minas Gerais cuisine.

After lunch, transfer to Mariana (15 km – approx. 20 minutes) for a half-day tour. The city of Mariana was the first capital and the first diocese of Minas Gerais and this is reflected in its colonial architecture. One of the most important historical cities of Minas Gerais, it was founded in 1711 and is rich in architectural representations of the Baroque style, and preserves works of Antonio Francisco Lisboa, the famous sculptor Aleijadinho. The city's rectangular structure is formed by three main squares, Praça Cívica, Praça da Intendência and Praça da Matriz. One cultural attraction which is worth seeing is the Cathedral Basilica (Basilic Cathedral). A rare organ made by Schnitger in 1701 still offers beautiful moments of classical music in the cathedral that enchants tourists from around the world. Return to Ouro Preto (15 km – approx. 20 minutes).

BEST TIME TO VISIT

During summer the weather is hot and rainy, not all that pleasant for visiting the attractions. During winter the mild temperatures and clear weather are invitations for the enjoyment of outdoor activities and to taste the excellent local cuisine. The average temperature during a typical winter day is 19°C. The best months for visiting are May to September.



COMO CHEGAR

Daily flights to Belo Horizonte (CNF). Upon arrival, 1:50-hour transfer in a private vehicle to the hotel.



Meals: Breakfast and lunch.

Day 3 – Ouro Preto

After breakfast, a morning hike around Itacolomi State Park, crossing trails and dams, observing bandeirista buildings (built by the Portuguese army) and visiting the Tea Museum. There, you can learn about how Manso Farm was central in tea production during the period of industrial mining (the production of tea was specially led by British companies). Have lunch at Lavras Novas village, whose narrow streets and alleys preserve a different story and atmosphere at every corner. Transfer back to the hotel.

Meals: Breakfast and lunch.

Day 4 – Brumadinho

After breakfast, transfer to Brumadinho (140 km – approx. 2 hours) to visit The Inhotim Art Institute and Botanical Garden. With nine galleries and several installations by renowned Brazilian and international artists, Inhotim sprawls over 3,000 acres of preserved native forest and gardens designed according to the guidelines of Burle Marx (1909-1994). Inhotim offers two types of thematic tours: one focused on botanical and environmental aspects, and the other on art. After the visit, transfer to the hotel in Brumadinho.

Meals: Breakfast.

Day 5 – Brumadinho

After breakfast, check-out and transfer to Belo Horizonte airport (90 km – approximately 1h20min).

Meals: Breakfast.

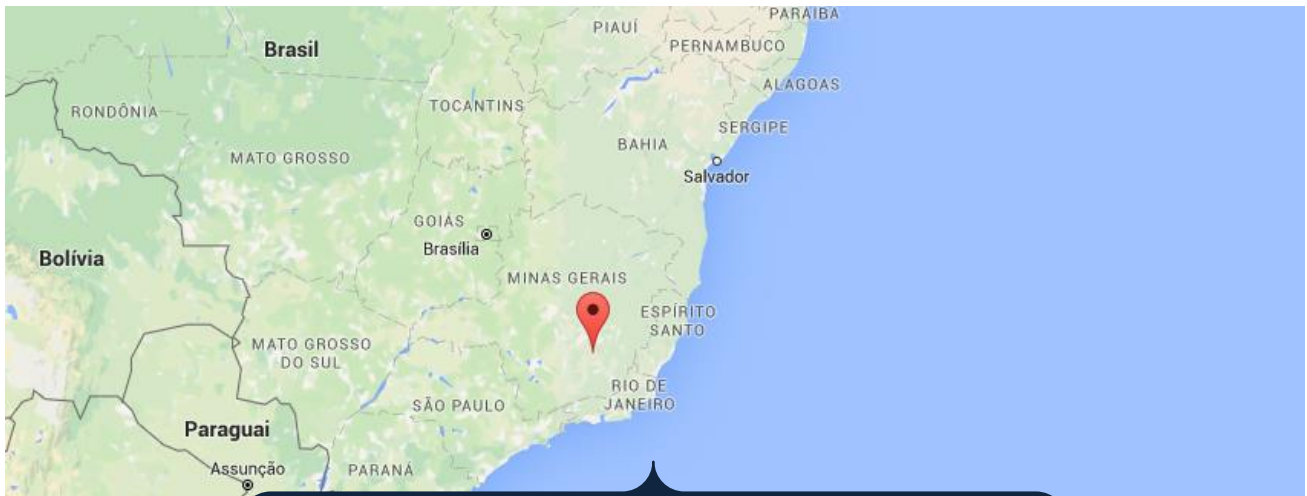
THE HOTELS

| OURO PRETO | BRUMADINHO |
|--|--|
| DAYS 1 TO 4 | DAYS 4 AND 5 |
|  |  |
| Pousada Solar do Rosário | Estalagem do Mirante |
| <p>The hotel's main house, which dates back to the 19th century, shows off original beauties of a solid construction from the golden times, combined with the famous hospitality of people from Minas Gerais. It has a privileged location, next to Rosário Church, with an amazing view of the churches of São Francisco de Paulo, Nossa Senhora do Rosário, São José and of the Itacolomi Peak.</p> | <p>Easy to access, it offers quality and comfort with a charming style and wonderful views. It is a refuge from the hectic urban lifestyle. The inn features a homely atmosphere and delightful cuisine. Located on top of a mountain, it offers panoramic views of the city of Aiuruoca and its natural wonders. The outdoor area is very nice and incites you to relax your body and mind.</p> |
| Category: Standard | Category: Deluxe Cottage |

Ask us about other options.

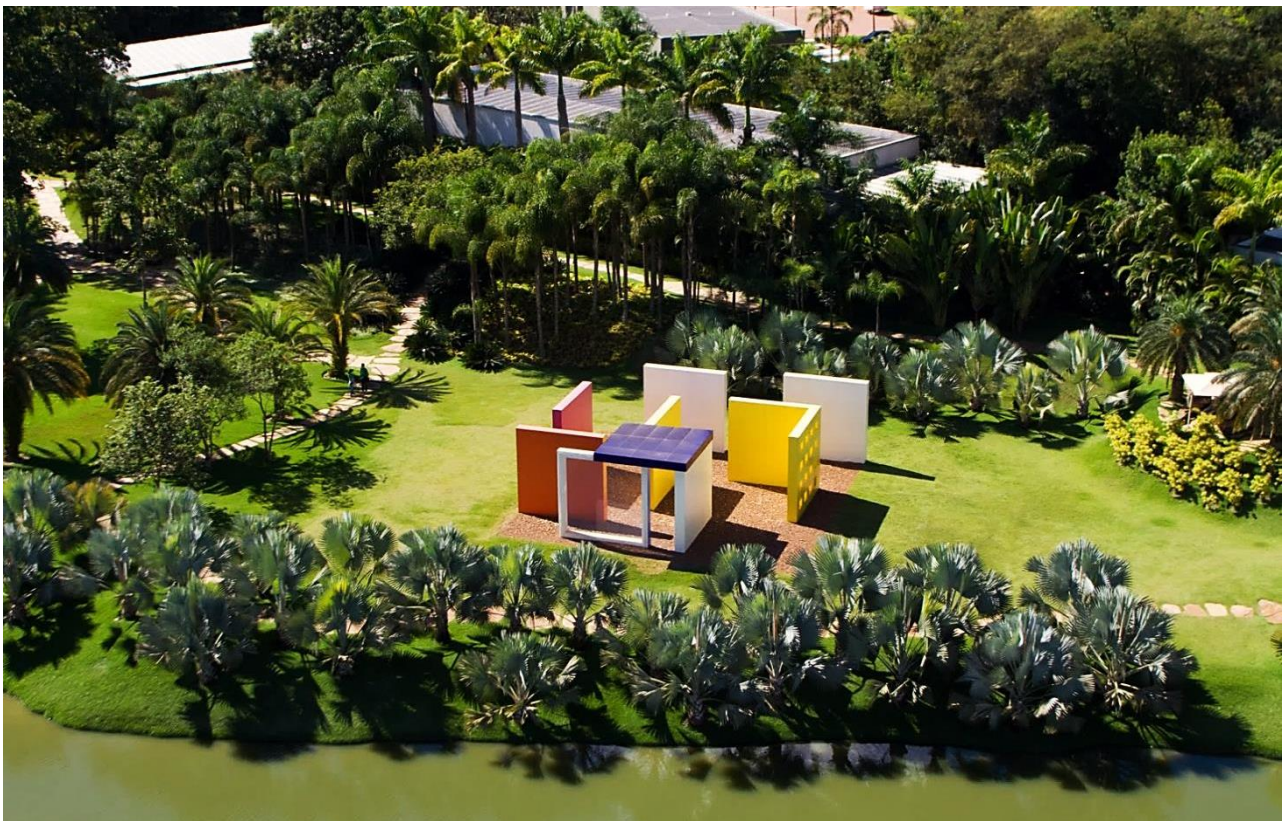
THE REGION

Explore the region using Google Maps. Click on the image below.



AURORAECO DIFFERENTIALS

- + Exclusive, personalized and flexible trip;
- + Trained and experienced hosts and local guides;
- + Constant research into the destination in order to always offer the best options according to each traveler's profile;
- + 24-hour access to a telephone during the trip.



GENERAL INFORMATION

INCLUDED

- 3-night lodging at a Standard Room in Hotel Solar do Rosário in Ouro Preto, breakfast included.
- 1-night lodging in a Superior Room at Estalagem do Mirante in Brumadinho, breakfast included.
- Auroraeco host service during the trip.
- All transfer services described above.
- All activities described above with all the necessary support and admission fees.
- Lunch on day 2 and day 3.

NOT INCLUDED

- Air ticket.
- Travel Insurance.
- Lunches, dinners unmentioned.
- Beverages.
- Personal expenses.
- Tips.

PAYMENT METHODS AND CANCELATION

CREDIT CARD (tax of 2,5%) OR WIRE TRANSFER

In order to secure a reservation, passengers must pay 30% of the total price of the trip via deposit up to 90 days prior to the departure date. Reservations made under 90 days before the departure date will result in the payment of the full cost of the trip upon purchase. The following credit cards are accepted: Visa and MasterCard.

Note that:

- Payments with credit cards are processed in Brazilian Reais with a tax of 2,5% percent.
- Payments via wire transfer are converted from Brazilian Reais to US Dollars at the exchange rate of the day of the transaction.

CANCELATION POLICY

- 10% fine on the amount paid if the cancellation occurs at least 30 days before the beginning of the trip.
- 20% fine on the amount paid if the cancellation occurs during the following period: 30 to 21 days before the beginning of the trip.
- If the cancellation occurs less 20 or less days before the beginning of the trip, there may be a fine greater than 20%, calculated upon proof of Auroraeco incurred expenses.

IMPORTANT

- Our prices are subject to change according to availability and time of year. They are not valid for national holidays, Carnaval and New Year.
- The itinerary may vary according to the need for operational changes, which can be caused by factors such as climate and availability.
- There will not be a refund or discount due to overnight reductions, once the check-in is made.
- Upon confirmation of the trip, a Medical Form and a Responsibility Term will be sent to all travelers, and should be filled in, signed and sent back to Auroraeco at least 30 days prior to the start of the trip. If there are less than 30 days between the dates of purchase and departure, please send the above mentioned documents as soon as possible.