



## *Boat tours*

### ***Vapor Benjamin Guimarães*** *São Francisco river cruise*

A small ship river cruise holiday on the Sao Francisco River out of Pirapora, north of Minas Gerais state. Vapor Benjamin Guimaraes was built in 1913 in Mississippi, USA. She is the only boat in the world that still sails according to its original design despite having been entirely rebuilt. She is currently fueled by reforested wood and sails at a leisurely 17 km/h just like in the old times. This vessel can accommodate 24 passengers in 12 bunk-bed cabins, each with a wall ventilator and sink. (shered bathroom and shower) Observation decks, a living room, bar and restaurant can be found on board.

#### **6 day/5 night cruise**

##### **Day 1: Belo Horizonte/Pirapora (350Km)**

At 10h00am, leave Belo Horizonte, lunch at the restaurant "LEITE AO PE DA VACA". At 17h00pm, arrive at Pirapora -Check-in on board with welcome reception and basic tour information. Dinner -Presentation in full dress by crew.

##### **Day 2: Pirapora/Barra Do Guaicui/Ibiai**

At 8h00am, breakfast onboard. Later take a city tour on Pirapora, where important industrialization lies. Visit the bridge Marechal Hermes with 694 M length, opened in 1922. Visit Carranqueiro Association where the local artisans entail the scary images that are considered protectors against "Bad spirits" from boats in the Sao Francisco River. Return to the boat. After lunch, arrive at Barra Do Guaicui at the crossing of Rio Das Velhas with Sao Francisco, one of the most magnificent spots of the trip and the ruins of the stone church unfinished by slaves from the 17th century (Bom Jesus De Matozinhos church) Visit a rich collection of sacred arts. Later, return to the steamboat. At 7h00pm, arrive at Ibiai. The steamboat will be entered in the port all night. The city has a peaceful beach that only appears in the dry season (April to October). It has a pleasant square with popular bars in its surroundings. Dinner at the Steamboat. The passengers can get off the boat at anytime to visit the city by themselves.



### Day 3: Ibiai/Cachoeira Do Manteiga/Sao Romao

Breakfast onboard. At 12h00pm, arrive at the village of Cachoeira Do Manteiga, District of Buritizeiro. The passengers are free to get off the boat to visit the village. -At 2h30pm, depart. Later, arrive at Sao Romao. -Visit Sao Romao by bus. Sao Romao was founded under the name of Santo Antonio Da Manga in 1668. Its first inhabitants were the Caiapos Indians. It staged violent battles between outlaws from Brazil and Portugal. Its glorious period was in the 19th century, acting as a port to move the gold and as a coin minting location. - Visit the church of Nossa Senhora Do Rosario. The church was built in 1880, yet fully restored. It is one of the first buildings of the city and the public jail. Then return to the steamboat and dinner

### Day 4: Sao Romao/Ibiai

At 7h00am, depart Sao Romao arriving in Ibiai. We embark on a small boat and make a tour around the steamboat. At night, the passengers can get off anytime to visit Ibiai

### Day 5: Ibiai/Pirapora

At 7h00am, depart Ibiai back to Pirapora. During the day, a lecturer with the information on the steamboats of Sao Francisco river and their stories. Dinner. Farewell party.

### Day 6: Pirapora/Belo Horizonte

Breakfast on board. At 9h00am, arrive in Pirapora return to Belo Horizonte. At 17h00pm, arrive at the Airport

*Includes transfer from Belo Horizonte with lunch; accommodation in the steam engine ship and all meals: breakfast, lunch, afternoon tea and dinner. Beverages such as water, soft drinks and beer are also included during the meals. Tipping is not included, it is spontaneous from each passenger and not mandatory.*

Next departures: May 11<sup>th</sup> ; July 20<sup>th</sup> and Oct 12<sup>th</sup>

**In addition to the departures scheduled above, Vapor Benjamim Guimarães can be chartered in other days (prices upon request)**

