



## *Carnival in Brazil*

Each city in Brazil celebrates its own unique Carnival. In many smaller cities, people gather in social clubs, in the streets, and at parties. Many cities hold parades and other community events. Each Carnival reflects the diverse cultures of Brazil. Therefore, Carnival in the north may be completely different from Carnival in the south. Regardless of where you decide to put your endurance to the test, and see just how much festivity you can possibly sustain, you are guaranteed to have an all around unforgettable experience!

### **Carnival in Rio**

Put on a smile, move your feet, loosen up your arms, turn on that twinkle in your eyes, and you are into the Carnival of Rio. There you will be dancing with joy and freedom as the contagious caprioca (Brazilian Drink) spirit affects you and all those who come from different places to visit Rio during the Carnival Time. The Carnival in Rio de Janeiro takes place in the Sambodromo, a half-mile long pathway built specifically to hold the event in 1984. The Carnival in Rio De Janeiro has three main distinct features the school of samba parade, the street parties and the Carnival costume balls.

**School of Samba Parade:** Combined, the extravagance of the floats, the colorful brilliance of the costumes, the magic of the music, the infectious laughter and the energy of the dancers makes it a must for you to go to Rio! Book your seats now!

**Street Parties:** Rio is known for its street parties regardless of whether it is the Carnival season or not. People from all walks of life radiate the joy of Carnival, by creating their own parade by singing and dancing to endless beats of samba on streets.

The streets overflow with exuberance impossible to match. This is the magic of the parade, the urge of letting ourselves go gets stronger, no more serious clothes, people change their habits, and for a little while, just a tiny little while... everything goes wild!!!

**Carnival Costume Balls:** There are two most popular costume balls, the Sugar-Loaf Ball, and the Gala Gay. In these balls, group after group of live artists keep the people moving all night long. The balls generally kick off around 11:00 p.m. and the people don't stop until the early morning!



### **Carnival in Salvador**

Experience the thrill of the biggest carnival party in Bahia! Contrary to Rio Carnival where the schools of samba parade, in Salvador YOU will be among the Parade, surrounded by 2 million people from all over the world. All you need is to buy a Costume (or Abadá which is a T-shirt that identify your group).



If Music and Dancing is your passion, Carnival in Salvador is your paradise. Smile, Love, Happiness and No Stress are the rules! The magic of the music will keep your body moving as you party non-stop! Everyone owes it to themselves to visit Carnival, Salvador, as there is really something for everyone!!

**Trios Elétricos:** introduced in 1950, they are large huge trucks with many speakers, rumbling loudly, carrying the band and singers of the "blocos".

**Blocos:** are thousands of people wearing simple tunic costumes "abadás" who are well protected from the surging masses of spectator participants by security guys holding rope barriers. You can be part of a *bloco*, and you just buy a costume. They are the life of the Carnival. Popular blocos are Olodum, Timbalada, Ilê-Ayê.

**Afoxés:** a group which sings and dances in praise to the Candomblé divinities or orixás.

## Carnival in Olinda

Along with Rio de Janeiro and Salvador, Olinda has one of three most attended carnivals in Brazil; in 2007, more than 2 million people came to the carnival of Recife and Olinda. In Olinda, no place is closed: every street and every corner in the historic center are taken by the parties; the populars organize their own blocks, play their own music, follow their own paths.

The city government provides the infrastructure (transportation, security, marketing), and people do the rest.

The Giant Puppets are an attraction by themselves. Made in papier-maché, dozens of these huge figures (up to 5 meters or 15 feet) parade along the streets every year. The most famous puppet is the Homem da Meia-Noite (Man of Midnight) who, since 1932, at midnight of the Saturday, officially starts the carnival in Olinda; siding the Man, a multitude of rhythms, including frevo, afoxés, caboclinhos and maracatus.



**Frevo:** a creation of Recife carnival, frevo, as a kind of music, has its origins in the repertoires of the military bands in the second half of the 19th century, in Recife.

**Afoxé:** The term afoxé seems to have been restricted between maracatu participants, since the authors who have dedicated themselves to the study of maracatu have never registered the word. In Pernambuco, afoxé reappeared with the Negro Unification Movement at the end of the 70's, as a way of reaching the majority of the population through music, and to amplify the debate on awareness.

**Caboclinhos:** the word in Portuguese to designate the offsprings of marriages between blacks and indians; "caboclinho", literally, means "small caboclos".

**Maracatu:** in the form that it is known today, has its origins in the old institution of the Black Kings, already well known in France and Spain in the 15<sup>th</sup> century and in Portugal as from the 16th century.