



“Dinosaurs’ Valley”

4 days / 3 nights

1st Day - Seridó - "Dinosaurs’s Valley"

Departure at 7:00 a.m. for the Seridó region, renowned for its tidy towns and hospitable people. There, we will visit the Brejuí Mine which was one of the world’s largest producers of scheelite, a mineral from which tungsten is extracted. We will explore a couple of hundred meters of the mine’s 60 kms of galleries – a world record – and be able to observe the finer point of mining at first-hand.

Continuing on the tour, we will visit the Acari Historical Museum, to see objects used by the “sertanejos” (backlanders) and their way of living in the traditional Seridó region. We will have lunch on the banks of the beautiful Gargalheiras Dam, before moving on to the “Dinosaurs’s Valley” region.



The afternoon ends with an unforgettable sunset. After this, we check in at a nearby hotel, where we will have dinner and spend the night.



2nd Day - "Dinosaurs’s Valley" - Cariri

We leave at 7:30h to visit the fascinating "Dinosaurs’s Valley". Various dinosaur species, of different sizes, lived here 120 million years ago, on the banks of a large, shallow lake. Their tracks and footprints are visible throughout the area.

We will also visit the scientific exhibition at the local museum, and then leave for Cariri, having lunch on the way to this fantastic region. On our arrival there, we will first visit the “Sítio do Bravo”. Prehistoric man and animals such as the mastodon and saber-toothed tiger inhabited this exotic region. Hills and granite outcrops, encrusted with small rainwater-filled pools, make this one of the most beautiful landscapes in the Northeast.

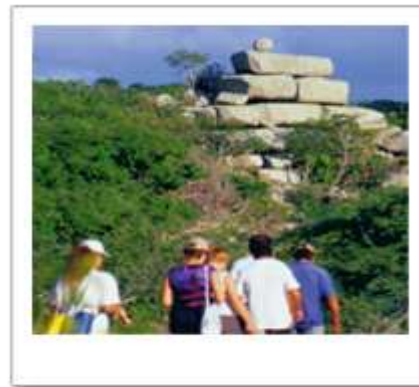
This presents a good opportunity to try to decipher the mysterious prehistoric paintings and petroglyphs. Next, we proceed to the Hotel Fazenda Pai Mateus.

Before dinner, there will be an opportunity to relax in the swimming pool and wood-fired sauna there. The dinner served will be typical Cariri local fare. The evening program is to view the pristine, star-spangled Sertão night sky and count the shooting stars. Our overnight accommodation is at this ranch.

3rd Day - Cariri

After breakfast, we will take a short, pleasant walk to the “Saca de Lã” site. This unique rock formation resembles an enormous pile of wool bales. Is it a natural or man-made formation? We invite you to unveil this secret. Subsequently, we will visit Cabaceiras - a typical Sertão village. Stroll through the streets and meet the hospitable, local people. This is also an opportunity to buy interesting goat-leather handicrafts.

We then return to the Ranch for a special regional meal cooked according to a traditional indigenous ritual – in a pit-oven, dug into the earth (this special meal will only be available for groups larger than 10 guests).



After a short postprandial rest, we will visit a fantastic rocky landscape where 70 huge boulders are found scattered over an area once inhabited by early tribes and a 18th century “shaman”, known as “Pai Mateus”. The mystical landscape evokes different thoughts and emotions in everyone experiencing the spectacular sunset at this privileged location. We return to the Ranch for dinner. Following dinner, there will be a presentation of the typical “forró”, giving guests the opportunity to learn this sensual Northeastern dance (the “forró” show will only be presented for groups larger than 10 guests). Overnight at the ranch.



4th Day - Cariri - Ingá – Areia - Natal

After a typical local breakfast meal, we depart for Ingá, to visit Brazil’s principal archeological monument. This is a 23 meter-long granite monolith, covered with enigmatic inscriptions, carved by indigenous people thousands of years ago.

Then we go on to Areia. This small town has well-conserved 19th and early 20th century dwellings, as well as sugar mills from that period. There, we will visit an old theater built of cedar, imported from Europe, and a “rapadura” sugar mill, which continues to use centuries-old methods and machinery in manufacturing this important foodstuff from sugar cane. We lunch in a restaurant in the town and depart to Natal.

On the way, we will have a short stop in Passa e Fica to view, from a distance, the Pedra da Boca, a prehistoric shelter which enhances the beauty of the Rio Grande do Norte and Paraíba state border. Arrival in Natal is scheduled for 19:00h. End of our services.

“The remote is a universal passion. It reminds us of all that is unknown in the world and of ourselves”