



German immigration in Southern Brazil

The German immigration in Rio Grande do Sul, began in 1825, 50 years before the Italian. The conditions and circumstances were very similar, either the economical and the politic ones. The installation of the German immigrants' colonies has extended From São Leopoldo and the whole Vale do Sapateiro, up to the Nova Petrópolis Mountains, Gramado and Canela,. Besides the industrial development, mainly of the leather and shoes, the Germans cultivated until nowadays their traditions and habits.

In São Leopoldo, cradle of the German immigration, and all the other cities populated by the Germans, the music, the dance, the Clubs continue to be the reason for their parties and gatherings, with the typical gastronomy.

NOVA PETRÓPOLIS, GRAMADO E CANELA

1° Day – PORTO ALEGRE /SÃO LEOPOLDO/GRAMADO CANELA (135 KM)

Reception at Salgado Filho airport and transfer to São Leopoldo, in order to visit the German immigrant museum and the Immigration's Monument. Then, we'll visit Gramado and Canela, mountain cities that gather the flowery charm of the German villages, the houses were built in " enxaimel" style, the inherited culinary traditions of the Germans and Italians immigrants in a subtle mixture with peculiar charm. Accommodation. We'll have lunch at the restaurant Nono Mio. We'll have dinner at Belle du Valais (traditional cheese fondue). After that, we'll return to the hotel.

2° Day – GRAMADO /NOVA PETROPOLIS (40 KM)

After breakfast, departure towards Nova Petrópolis, visits to Republic Square (Flowers Square), to the German Immigrant's Aldeia Square, which is the reconstruction of a small village, with their original buildings, from the beginning of the XIX century. The park offers other attractions such as lake, botanical trail, restaurant and bar. Nova Petrópolis is probably the most German place, out of Germany. It's where 90% of the population still speak the German language and there are local radios that transmit their programs in this language. In Nova Petrópolis you can hear small talks at the door's houses and you can listen a lot of histories that the current ones have to count of their lives and of their ancestors. (When it comes to groups, it can be organized an encounter with some local community that will receive the visitors with their traditional tidbits). In the afternoon we return to the Hotel.

3° Day – GRAMADO

Morning free.

In the afternoon, departure to a Colonial Roots Tour, in this trip we will know the place where began the settlement of Gramado – Linha Nova and Linha Bonita. Going by these beautiful colonies, we will visit the Centennial House, the Factory of Mate Herb Marcon, the Moinho Cavichion (mill), the Rural Museum Fiorezze and at the end we will have a tasting of colonial products and fruits of the station offered by Madame Zulmira.

4° Dia – GRAMADO /PORTO ALEGRE (135 KM)

Transfer to the airport.