

GARDENS OF ART AND ARCHITECTURE

Roberto Burle Marx, Oscar Niemeyer and Brazilian Modernism

September 8 - 20, 2024



AN EXCLUSIVE TOUR ESCORTED BY
C. COLSTON BURRELL
AND
PATRICIA DA SILVA

ITINERARY

DAY 0, September 7

Departure from Home Cities for Overnight Flights

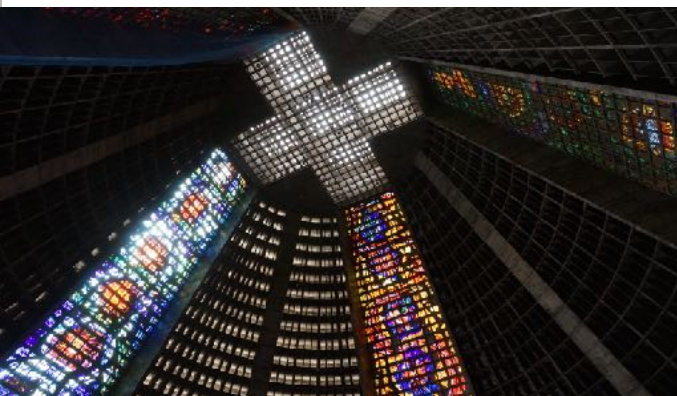
DAY 1, September 8

Burle Marx in Rio and Sugarloaf at Sunset

Upon arrival in Rio de Janeiro, the “Marvelous City”, escort **Cole Burrell** and guide **Patricia da Silva** will meet you in the arrivals hall for transport in an air-conditioned coach to the hotel. After dropping bags, we set out to explore the landscapes, parks, and public spaces of Roberto Burle Marx. Our ftour includes the plaza of the Brazilian Development Bank, park-like grounds of the Petrobras Building, IRB Brazil’s rooftop garden, Flamengo Park, and the Museum of Modern Art. En route, Patricia will give a brief tour of Rio, sharing curiosities about the "marvelous city".

Our city tour includes a welcome lunch at the elegant, storied Confeitaria Colombo, considered one of the most beautiful cafes in the world!

As the day winds down we travel by cable car up the iconic Sugar Loaf Mountain to get a spectacular panoramic view of Rio and Guanabara Bay at sunset. You can even see Copacabana Beach. Dinner is on your own. Miramar Hotel by Windsor. **B, L**



This morning, after a delicious included breakfast, we head along the coastal highway to the former home and gardens of Roberto Burle Marx in Barra de Guaratiba. Sítio Burle Marx was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2021! We will have a walking tour of the garden and house with the landscape architect in charge of the Sítio.

Our tour of the estate, which Burle Marx purchased in 1949 to house his large collection of plants, includes the extensive, artful gardens, his ranch-style house burgeoning with varied art collections, his studio, and a simple chapel dating from the 16th century. Through the years, he collected nearly 3,500 species of rainforest vegetation native to Brazil, as well as from other countries, transforming his property into an incredible garden filled with colorful foliage, flowers, sculpture, and other art.

After our tour, we stop for lunch at a local restaurant.

The evening is at leisure and dinner is on your own. Miramar Hotel by Windsor. **B, L**



We start our day with a stroll the iconic Rio de Janeiro Botanical Garden or Jardim Botânico, founded in 1808 at the foot of Corcovado Mountain, far below the right arm of Christ the Redeemer. Surrounded by the bird-rich restored Tijuca Forest (designated as a biosphere reserve by UNESCO in 1992), the Garden contains more than 6,000 different species of tropical and subtropical plants and trees, including 900 varieties of palms. An astounding 2,000-foot line of 134 palms forms the Avenue of Royal Palms leading from the entrance into the gardens.

After our included lunch, we journey on the cog railway to the top of Corcovado Mountain. At the summit we can stand at the foot of the towering statue of Christ the Redeemer, one of the New Seven Wonders of the World. At 98 feet tall, this art deco statue is visible throughout the city, and its site atop the 2,329-foot mountain makes it the most recognizable feature of Rio. From here, enjoy breathtaking views of the city below.

The evening is at leisure and dinner is on your own. Miramar Hotel by Windsor. **B, L**



This morning is a free to relax on the beach or explore the city at your own pace.

After lunch on your own, we explore the plaza at The Museum of Tomorrow, an innovative cultural space addressing the future of the planet designed by architect, engineer and artist Santiago Calatrava. We have time to views Etnias (or Ethnicities), a visual feast for street art lovers by Eduardo Kobra, a world-renowned Brazilian graffiti artist. Kobra studied the features of people from five continents that represent the black, blue, green, red, and gold rings on the Olympic flag.

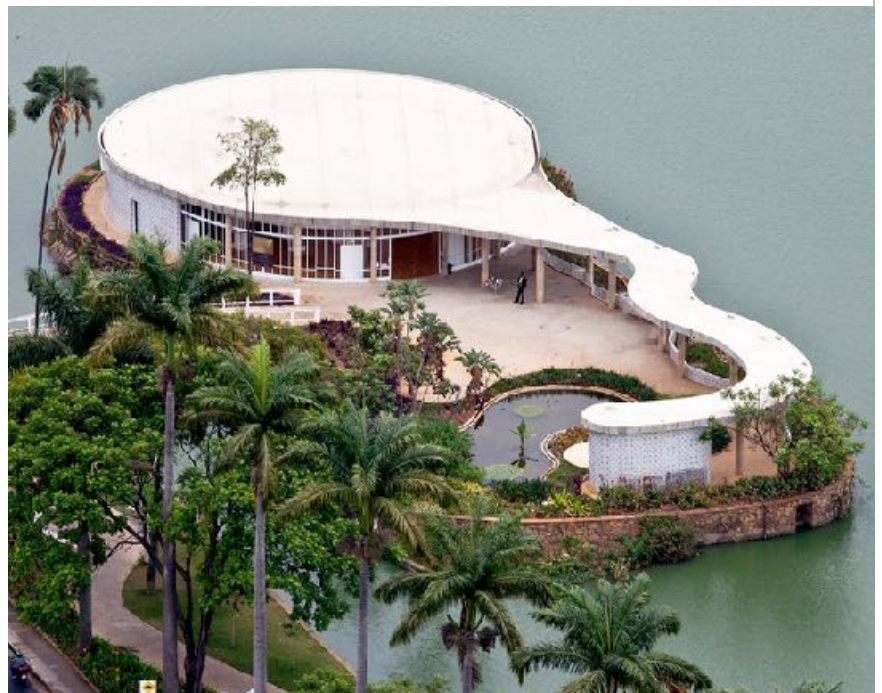
On our last night in Rio, dinner is on your own. Miramar Hotel by Windsor. **B**



After breakfast we catch our short flights to Belo Horizonte, nestled amidst the gentle hills where the Cerrado meets The Atlantic Forest. The city's unique architecture can be attributed to the import of French designs at the turn of the 20th century coupled with the modernity of Niemeyer in the 1940s, marking the birth of a new urban design in Brazil. It is described as fresh and traditional, aristocratic and unrefined, classic and modern.

Upon arrival, we have lunch and an afternoon tour of the iconic Pampulha Complex, including early works by architect Oscar Niemeyer, landscapes by Burle Marx and paintings by Portinari. Places of interest are the Church of Saint Francis of Assisi, the Museum of Art and the Minerao football stadium. After our tour, we have an hour transfer to our hotel in Brumadinho. The evening is at leisure and dinner is on your own. Pedra Lisa Boutique Hotel

B, L



After breakfast we depart our hotel for a scenic drive to the Inhotim Contemporary Art Center, a place for education, meditation and delight. Instituto Inhotim permanently exhibits a contemporary art collection of internationally acknowledged excellence. To travel over its gardens, galleries, and outdoor pieces amid the landscape is an experience that provides artists and visitors with a singular kind of exhibition, one in which art and landscape design commingle to create a joint and unique experience.

The curatorial project of Inhotim is the fruit of continuous research that, by means of documentation, bibliographic material, and visual records, aims at understanding the particularities of the collection, as well as its different approaches and concepts. The curatorial mission is to produce and disclose knowledge, whether through exhibitions, publications, or online activities. Commissioning is one of the main curatorial vectors of the institution. Periodically, artists are invited to create works especially for Inhotim or thought to take art outside of the museum space, so as to foster and spread the artistic production. The possibility of making ambitious works in permanent exhibition is at the core of Inhotim, thus creating a long-term partnership with the artists of its collection.

Lunch will be served in the Center's restaurant. Enjoy your evening at leisure with dinner on your own. Pedra Lisa Boutique Hotel. **B, L**



After breakfast we return to Inhotim to explore the landscape. Walking in the gardens of Inhotim is more than simply contemplating their luxuriance. Inserted in a remaining woodland area of Atlantic Forest and the tropical savanna of Cerrado – two of the most threatened biomes of the planet and, at the same time, among the richest ones in terms of biodiversity –, the Institute is a pulsating field for scientific research, as well as a tool for environmental preservation and education.

In 2010, Inhotim was recognized as a Botanical Garden by the National Commission of Botanical Gardens. With a project by Pedro Nehring, responsible for the landscape design of Inhotim yet today, the gardens started to be built back in the 1980s. Between 2000 and 2004, Luiz Carlos Orsini signed the landscape design of 25 hectares. Nowadays, the Institute is a national and international reference in tropical contemporary landscape design.

In total, there are more than 140 hectares for visiting, in addition to 250 hectares of Private Natural Heritage Reserve. The Botanical Garden of Inhotim manages the botany collections composed of more than 4.3 thousand native Brazilian species and other exotic specimens from several parts of the world, in addition to activities of research and monitoring the Institute's natural heritage.

Lunch will be served in the Center's restaurant. Enjoy your evening at leisure with dinner on your own. Pedra Lisa Boutique Hotel. **B, L**



After breakfast, we board our coach for the drive to Petropolis. En route, we stop for a visit and lunch in Ouro Preto, a UNESCO world Heritage site. Petropolis, Brazil's former imperial city, is now a popular resort with a moderate year round climate and stunning views, Petropolis holds many adventures for the group.

We end our day of touring as we check into Pousada da Alcobaca, only 15 minutes from Petrópolis' historical center. The inn is a 1914 mansion surrounded by gardens of roses, bromeliads, orchids, wild raspberries, and aromatic herbs. It is one of the most charming places in the mountains, offering authentic cuisine du terroir, supplied by the large vegetable garden and orchard on the property.

Dinner and night is on your own at the Pousada da Alcobaca Inn and Restaurant. **B, L**



After our included breakfast we set out to visit what many consider Burle Marx's most iconic garden, at the Gilbert Strunk House, which was designed in 1954 by Oscar Niemeyer, one of the foremost practitioners of modern architecture. Niemeyer was best known for his design of civic buildings for Brasília, a planned city that became Brazil's capital in 1960. He and Burle Marx collaborated on many projects, including the Pampulha Complex in Belo Horizonte. Burle Marx's landscaping at the Strunk house stretches along the valley floor, using organic and rectilinear forms to bring the architecture to life.

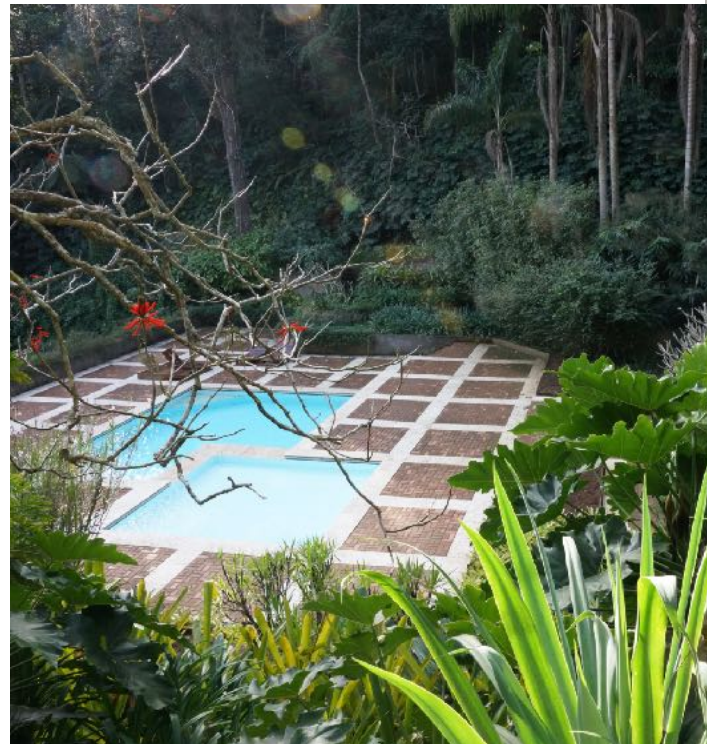
Next we visit Fazenda Marambaia, another iconic Burle Marx garden that now surrounds an exclusive hotel. Here, water is paired with plants for a sensual experience of sight and sound. A stream flows through the garden, at times winding and at others cascading through a series of modern, tiered fountains. The stream ends in a wide pond surrounded by lush tropical foliage and flowers. We enjoy our included lunch before touring this amazing garden. After the tour, we return to The Posada for free time and dinner on your own. **B. L**



After breakfast we visit Raul Martins gardens, another exceptional Burle Marx private design. The house has been completely remodeled but the bulk of the exquisite terraced garden, carved out of a steep sloping landscape, remains intact. The brown and white checkerboard swimming pool deck is a classic modernist design. The pool house is decorated with Burle Marx own tile designs. The plantings are superb, perfectly complementing the architecture. This is truly a masterpiece.

Our included lunch today is at Pousada da Alcobaca. After lunch we head to the heart of Petropolis, home to the former Summer Palace of the second Brazilian emperor, now hosting the Imperial Museum. Following our palace visit we take a city tour that includes the Crystal Palace, and São Pedro de Alcantara Neo Gothic Cathedral. Night at the Pousada.

B, L



After our included breakfast we transfer to Fazenda Vargem Grande

This afternoon we have time to explore the gardens and landscapes of Vargem Grande. Built in the early 1800s during the coffee cycle, the owners at that time were known as the "coffee barons." In 1973, the current owners bought the farm, restored the old house, and added onto it in the same colonial style. One addition was the kitchen, which is so amazing it is used for a television cooking show. Not only is it interesting and beautiful, but the meals you will have here are sure to be an unforgettable memory.

Our time here is to spend at your discretion. The pool is inviting, the deck chairs comfortable, the gardens and trails worth exploring, and the home-cooked meals delicious. In the afternoon we have the opportunity to explore the fields and forests around the Fazenda to see birds, mammals and plants of the region. Night at the Fazenda. **B, L, D**

NOTE: The Fazenda is an old style inn, with shared bathrooms. Some single guests may need to share rooms as well.



Noted for exquisite water gardens with cascades, natural swimming pools and bold hardscapes, the garden is a masterpiece of modernist landscape architecture. Exotic bromeliads, aloes, and orchids complementing the rectilinear masses of diverse water plants such as taro, Victoria Waterlilies, and Burle Marx's signature giant arrow arums.

In the afternoon we have the opportunity to enjoy our beautiful surroundings and relax in the garden. Night at the Fazenda. **B, L, D**



DAY 13, September 20

Amantikir Garden, Parque da Cidade Roberto Burle Marx and Evening Flights Home

After breakfast we reluctantly depart the Fazenda, but we have a treat in store at Amantikir Gardens, a municipal park in the city of Campos do Jordão within the Mantiqueira Mountains. Designed by the landscaper Walter Vasconcellos, known as Dr. Garden, the park contains more than 700 species of plants in 26 gardens of different styles. Vasconcellos, returned from visiting European gardens feeling that his city deserved a space as charming as those abroad. In 2007, Amantikir was born and today hosts visitors from around the world. Among the gardens are the classic maze and a grass labyrinth, which among the largest in the world of this type.

Parque da Cidade Roberto Burle Marx was once private fazenda but in 1996 became a municipal park. Designed by the urbanist Roberto Burle Marx, the park has hiking and running trails, centenarian trees from several continents and a diverse fauna. Architectural works signed by the architect Rino Levi and the landscape treatment by Burle Marx together form one of the most important works of modern Brazilian architecture, giving Parque da Cidade international recognition. After visiting the park, we enjoy a leisurely farewell luncheon before transferring to the airport for our evening flights home. **B, L**

DAY 14, September 21

Welcome Home

