

PROFESSIONAL ADVANCEMENT ESCAPE
CME, CULTURAL & ECOLOGICAL TOUR OF BRAZIL
(WITH OPTIONAL EXTENSION TO PARATY)
March 10 – 23, 2013

The Organizers...

doctors-on-tour.ca >

doctors-on-tour was created in 2000 and specializes in offering ecological, cultural and adventure travel to exotic destinations for physicians who want to combine learning and travelling. Our programs offer targeted educational programs offering updates on current topics of interest together with meetings and discussions with local health care representatives to specifically discuss common medical developments in, and challenges facing, the local health care systems in both Canada and the country where the meetings and discussions are being located. This also includes in-depth tours of hospital facilities (both public and private) in order to meet with local medical practitioners and review, and compare, facilities, techniques and practices on a first hand basis. In addition, and by virtue of the medical practices followed in many of the destinations that we have offered programs to over the years (including East Africa, South East Asia, Bali, India, Spain and Brazil, Chile, Argentina & Ecuador & the Galapagos in South America), several of our programs provide a valuable insight into complimentary and alternate medicine practices on a first hand basis.

Additional information, including detailed program brochures downloadable in pdf format and recent testimonials, can be found at www.doctors-on-tour.ca. The company is a licensed retail travel organization under The Travel Industry Act of Ontario thereby affording complete protection of all monies paid prior to departure. (TICO registration no. 50009110). Contact us at -

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toll free: 1-855-DOC-TOUR (362-8687)
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Dr. Rachel Kassner >

Dr. Rachel Kassner was born and raised in PEI where she first started practicing medicine. She then spent 16 years practicing in Toronto, and then returned to Charlottetown 12 years ago to continue her practice as a Family Physician. She is the former head of the Department of Family Medicine at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, is Past President of the Medical Society of PEI and presently is the Chair of the Board of Directors of the Medical Society of PEI as well as being a physician liaison on the project to implement unified electronic health records Province-wide. This is Dr. Kassner's fourth venture with doctors-on-tour having previously led CME programs to Ecuador, the Galapagos and Peru (2009), Kenya, Tanzania & Zanzibar (2011) and South East Asia (2012).

The Destination... Highlights of Brazil

Brazil, the fifth-largest and fifth most populous country in the world, is an amazing country by any measure. Dazzling beaches, tropical islands, picturesque colonial towns, verdant rainforests and vast pristine wetlands - Brazil's landscape is as diverse as the people who inhabit it. From **Rio de Janeiro**, a beautiful and pulsating city embedded between mountains and the Atlantic Ocean, to the **Pantanal**, the world's largest freshwater wetland and home to the greatest concentration of wildlife on the continent and from the beautiful colonial cities of **Salvador** to the spectacular **Iguazu Falls**. A country revered for its football prowess, rich musical traditions and diverse cultural heritage, it's inhabitants exhibit a pure love of life and an enduring spirit – package this all together and Brazil offers visitors a quite unique South American experience.

Further information can be found at –

http://www.visitbrasil.com/index.html?_locale=en - Brazil Tourist Board

<http://www.sedtur.mt.gov.br/us> - Secretary of State for Brazil tourism

The detailed itinerary...

Day 1 - Mar 10 (Sun) - Depart Toronto for Salvador, Brazil (overnight flight)

Day 2 – Mar 11 – Arrive Salvador, Brazil (D)

*The oldest city in Brazil and its first capital, **Salvador** was a major post for the slave trade and is now a thriving center of Afro-Brazilian life. Salvador is considered the country's soul and the birthplace of Brazilian culture. The local cuisine, music, dance and vibrant visual arts are all testaments to this pervasive African influence. As one of Brazil's greatest historical destinations, the city is filled with churches, homes and forts that reflect stunning Portuguese architecture from the Baroque period. Outside the city lie some of Northeastern Brazil's most pristine beaches, including the renowned Praia do Forte and Costa do Sauípe. Considered Brazil's most artistic city, Salvador has a lively art scene and its streets are filled with dance and music all year round.*



Arrival in Salvador in the morning where you will be met upon your arrival and then be transferred to your hotel. Morning free for relaxation to rejuvenate from your international flight.



In the afternoon, a **historical tour** will highlight how Salvador has changed throughout the ages to become the Salvador of today. Starting out along the bay, the tour then works its way through Salvador's tree-lined streets up to **Pelourinho, designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site** due to its spectacular and well preserved colonial architecture. Leaving our vehicle behind in the Municipal Square, close to the Lacerda lift, we will continue on foot, giving visitors the opportunity to fully appreciate the splendid buildings that take us back in time to the beginnings of this vibrant city. Along the way, we will stop off at the **São Francisco Church**, with its extravagant gold leaf baroque designs, from where we will continue our tour, heading towards the **Largo do Pelourinho**, at the heart of the neighborhood.

Later in the afternoon, visit the **Charitable Works Foundation of Sister Dulce and adjoining Santo Antônio Hospital**. Irmã Dulce was a Brazilian Catholic nun who's work with the poor population in Salvador, Bahia, Brazil, has made her a candidate for sainthood in the Catholic Church. On the original site of the Foundation now stands the Santo Antônio Hospital where more than 3,000 people arrive every day to receive free medical treatment. Within the facility is a fascinating museum exhibiting the life of Sister Dulce and her achievements.

<http://beholders.org/spirit/inspirationalpeople/158-charitabledulce.html>

Dinner at the hotel. Evening at leisure.



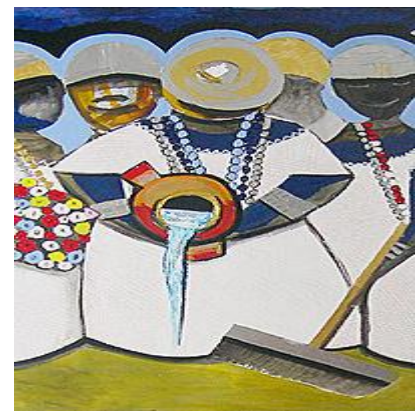
Day 3 – Mar 12 – Salvador (B)

Breakfast at the hotel.

Physicians program – In the morning the **Academic conference** will be held at the hotel with both **Canadian and local presenters**.

Non-physicians – **Bahian Art Tour**

Being one of the great ports of the eastern seaboard of Latin America Salvador has always been a great melting pot of artistic expression. Down through the centuries the city received strong influences from Africa, Europe, the Far East and the Caribbean. The music and dance traditions in Bahia draw heavily from African sources. This is also true of the visual arts. Salvador is one of the main centres of artistic expression in Brazil. Most artists use African motifs in some aspect of their work. There is a thriving native tradition in Salvador similar to that of Haiti, while more modern styles of a high quality are to be seen in the finer galleries of the city. The tours will focus on three different media, choosing from a wide variety of artists.





In the afternoon, the lower city tour takes us to the quiet waters of the Itapagipe Peninsula where the first holiday residences were built. Now a peaceful family district, life moves at a slower pace than the bustling upper city. Fishermen fish from dug out canoes, locals collect shellfish at low tide, schooners are at anchor, all protected by the famous Bonfim church, one of the most important churches of pilgrimage in Brazil. We continue to the Monserrat district with its panoramic view of the city and ending at Mercado Modelo, a thriving market for local goods and souvenirs.

Evening at leisure, Overnight at the hotel.

Day 4 – Mar 13 – Praia do Forte beach / Tamar turtle conservation project (B, D)

Breakfast at the hotel.

Just an hour north from Salvador Bahia; **Praia do Forte** is situated in a protected environmental area with 12 kilometers of semi-deserted beach bordered by lush groves of coconut palms, and with a pleasant tropical weather. The resort occupies a privileged location, close to the ecological preserves of Mata Atlântica (Atlantic Forest), lagoons, beaches where sea turtles lay their eggs, and observation areas of humpback whales and coral reefs. Also there is the charming Vila de Pescadores (Fishermen's Village) and the ruins of the Garcia D'Avila Castle, the only example in the country of medieval architecture. Your day will be spent exploring this area including a visit to the **Tamar turtle conservation project**



Return to Salvador where dinner will be at a typical and traditional restaurant specialized in Bahian and Northeastern Cuisines located in the historic center of Salvador.



Then afterwards, visit the Miguel Santana Theatre to see the **Bahia Folklore Company (Balé Folclórico da Bahia)** - one of the most respected folklore dance troupes in the world. The company performs in the intimate Miguel Santana Theatre in the Pelourinho in a seamless presentation of the multiple African traditions that underpin Bahian culture. We will see the sacred dances of the Candomblé; puxada de rede a song by fishermen in honor of Yemanjá, the goddess of the sea; maculelê, an acrobatic stick and sword dance with its origins in the cane fields; capoeira, a martial art/dance of Angolan origin and the samba de roda, a spinning, swirling version of this exuberant national dance. After the show dinner will be served in one of the many traditional restaurants in the area.

Day 5 – Mar 14 – Salvador – Iguazu (B)

The **Iguazú Falls**, called *Foz do Iguazu* in Portuguese, and *Cataratas del Iguazú* in Spanish, lie on the Argentina – Brazil border and are a UNESCO World Natural Heritage Site. Taller than Niagara Falls at 270 feet, and four times as wide at 2.5 miles, with 275 cascades spread in a horseshoe shape over nearly two miles of the Iguazu River, the Iguazú Falls are the result of a volcanic eruption which left a huge crack in the earth. The name of the falls comes from the Guaraní word for “great water.” The first Spanish explorer to see the falls was Álvaro Núñez Cabeza de Vaca in 1541 but the vast power of the falls was not fully utilized until the construction of the huge Itaipu hydroelectric power plant built jointly by Paraguay and Brazil. Completed in 1991 the dam is one of the largest in the world and provides 12,600,000 KW of power satisfying almost 40% of Brazil and Argentine power needs.

After breakfast, enjoy some leisure time in Salvador before transfer to Salvador airport for your flight to Iguazu.

Overnight in Iguazu. (Depending on flight arrival time in Iguazu, as domestic flights in Brazil are subject to change, the Brazilian side of the Falls tour may be moved to the afternoon of March 14)

Day 6 – Mar 15 – Iguazu (B)

Breakfast at the hotel.

Visit the **Brazilian side of the Falls** – beginning in the Iguazu National Park, you will drive through the lush, subtropical vegetation of the park en route to the falls. Stroll the trail descending the canyon that offers a panoramic view of the 275 falls. Take the glass elevator up the cliff face for an exquisite view from the upper deck. The Iguazu National Park along with its “sister” park in Argentina form the most significant remaining rainforest in the southern cone of South America.



In the afternoon, visit the **Argentinean side of the Falls**. Cross the Tancredo Neves Bridge en route to the Iguazu National Park in Argentina where you will pass by the Argentina Customs (an entry visa is not required, just your passport) . Upon arrival at the National park, take the **Rainforest Ecological Train** which takes you through the park to the many upper walking trails which allow for a different and more intimate contact with the falls and the rainforest. The highlight is a walk along the *Paseo Garganta del Diablo*, a one-kilometer-long trail that brings you to the suspended platform at the very brink of the Devil’s Throat – the largest of the falls.



Then, take the **Grand Aventura tour** which combines the whole essence of the Iguazu National Park in one ride: the jungle and the waterfalls. You will embark on a four by four vehicle crossing the sendero Yacaratiá trail (about 8km) through the jungle of the national park, before embarking on your high speed boat for a breathtaking boat tour close to the base of the many falls. Approaching the picturesque falls in Devil’s Throat Canyon, brave a mile of rapids before finishing your adventure surrounding San Martin Island.

Evening at leisure. Overnight at hotel.

Day 7 – Mar 16 – Iguazu - Cuiaba (Pantanal) (B)

Cuiaba, the capital of the state of Mato Grosso was founded on the discovery of gold on the region by bandeirantes in the beginning of the XVIII century. Since then, the city keeps the streets narrow and they can be seen from the oldest part of the city center. Cuiabá is on the geodetic center of Brazil. The city is a mandatory stop to those going to visit the natural beauties of Mato Grosso, such as the Chapada dos Guimarães National Park and the North Pantanal.

Breakfast at the hotel.

Free time in the morning to experience the dramatic views of the Falls on your own before transferring to the airport for your domestic flights to Cuiaba, the gateway to the North Pantanal region. Overnight at hotel in Cuiaba.

Day 8 – Mar 17 – Cuiaba – Pantanal (B, L, D)



Declared by UNESCO as a World Biosphere Reserve and a Natural Patrimony of Mankind, the **Pantanal** is the world's largest wetland area with an area of approximately 200,000 square kms. A huge lowland plain, it is entirely overgrown by luxuriant vegetation dotted by thousands of rainbow colored flowers. It shelters innumerable rivers and crystal clear lakes. Its biodiversity includes over 650 different bird species, 262 fish species, 1,100 butterfly species, 80 species of mammals, 50 reptile species and more than 1,700 species of plants, thus making the Pantanal the place with the largest concentration of fauna in the Americas. Alligators, capybaras, Brazilian otters, jaguars, peccaries, bob-cats, wild boars monkeys, blue macaws, macaws, herons, cormorants, ibises, curassows, parakeets, parrots, toucans, and wood ibises live in total and undisturbed freedom protected by the laws of the National Parks. No experience is more rewarding than a "safari" into this privileged wilderness to photograph the countless birds and animals silhouetted against the brilliant backdrop of foliage and blue skies.

Breakfast at hotel followed by a scenic drive into the North Pantanal to our lodge passing through the small village of **Mimoso** where Marshall Candido Rondon was born. Rondon was a Brazilian military officer who is most famous for his exploration of Mato Grosso and the Western Amazon Basin, and his lifelong support of Brazilian indigenous populations. On the way, observation of many kind of birds, small mammals and typical landscapes. After check-in, introduction to the lodge and area around it.



Located 130 km from Cuiabá, the **Pousada Rio Mutum** is a beautiful eco-resort nestled in one of the lushest regions of the Pantanal. The lodge provides access to hundreds of species of wild animals, birds, and fish. There are several trails surrounding the lodge perfect for hiking, sunrise bird watching, horseback riding, and night excursions to search for nocturnal animals. Other activities offered at the lodge include canoe trips, a visit to a local indigenous community, and a photographic safari through the Mutum River. For guests interested in fishing, the Pousada Rio Mutum also offers boats with experienced guides. In addition to an abundance of outdoor exploration activities, the hotel features a pool, TV room, and a hammock area situated amongst mango trees.

After lunch, horseback riding through trails in the middle of the dense forest until you reach a typical farm on Siá Mariana Bay. This tour is excellent for fauna and flora observations, surprising visitors due to the variety of species.

Dinner and the opportunity to relax in the grounds of the lodge experiencing the sights and sounds of the Pantanal.

Overnight at lodge.



Day 9 – Mar 18 - Pantanal (B, L, D)



Breakfast at the lodge.

Physicians will take a morning boat ride down the Mutum River to the small town of Barao de Melgaco to interact with local practitioners at the Family Health Program facility

Non-physicians will enjoy a morning trek along the trails around the Pousada to observe the varied local fauna and flora.

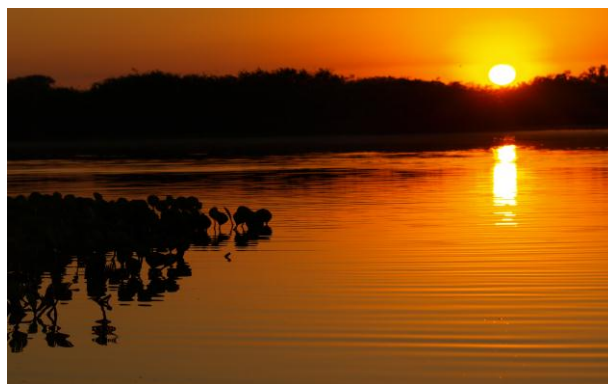
After lunch take a boat trip down the Mutum river banks to Chacororé bay to witness more of the vast array of wildlife in the area. Watch the sunset in the Siá Mariana bay and maybe enjoy some piranha fishing and then feed the piranhas to the waiting caiman when you return to the shore. Overnight at the lodge.

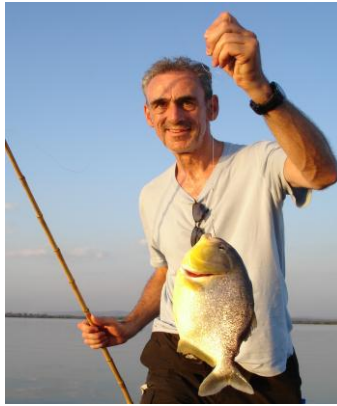
Day 10 – Mar 19 - Pantanal (B, L, D)

A very early start as you take a boat to experience the magnificent nature arouse at sunrise in the Pantanal. Breakfast will be taken at the margins of the Mutum River.

The rest of the day will involve varied activities (whether it be on land or by boat) in this pristine biosphere, which (at your option...) may just include some relaxing downtime at the lodge, by the pool.

Overnight at the lodge.





Day 11– Mar 20- Pantanal – Cuiaba – Rio de Janeiro (B)



Rio de Janeiro (River of January) was the capital of the Portuguese empire and of the country up until 1960, when this status was assumed by Brasilia. Also known as “Cidade Maravilhosa” (Wonderful City), Rio is world renowned for its breathtaking landscapes and location, nestled between steep, green mountains and crystal clear seas. It is one of the most important cultural and economical cities in Brazil and features some of the country’s most famous attractions such as the Pão de Açúcar, the Corcovado, and Copacabana and Ipanema beaches. The city is full of energy and Cariocas, the locals of Rio, are known for their care free spirit and charm. Whether you are looking to experience it’s sensational vistas, enjoy all the luxuries of a cosmopolitan city or simply relax on it’s famous beaches, Rio de Janeiro has it all!

<http://www.rioguiaoficial.com.br/en/>

Breakfast at the lodge. Transfer back to Cuiaba for your flight to Rio de Janeiro.

Arrive Rio late afternoon. Transfer and check in to your hotel. Evening at leisure

Day 12 – Mar 21 – Rio de Janeiro (B, L)



Today you will visit some of the highlights of this remarkable city.

In the morning, drive to the Christ Statue (“**Corcovado**”) recently named as one of the seven modern wonders of the world, which sits 2,300 above sea level, atop Corcovado Hill. Following a scenic drive along the Rodrigo de Freitas Lagoon, we will arrive at the foot of the hill from where we will embark on a small train ride which climbs the beautiful mountain. Upon reaching the top, visitors will experience a panoramic view of Rio de Janeiro and discover why it is known as the “Marvelous City”!

Brazilian style lunch “Feijoada” at **Confeitaria Colombo**.

A living portrait of the Belle Époque in Rio and one of the city’s gourmet landmarks, the Confeitaria Colombo still retains much of its Art Nouveau charm dating back to the beginning of the century. Its famous Belgian mirrors in hardwood frames and rosewood showcases, Italian marble benches, ornate light fixtures, glossy floors and period furniture have been preserved just as they were, and have been admired by many famous individuals who helped write the history of Brazil and helped make the Confeitaria Colombo a major downtown attraction



After lunch, head to the neighborhood of **Santa Teresa** who was born in the area at a convent on “Morro do Desterro” (Exile Hill) during the XVIII century. The district occupies a hill in the heart of the city keeping aspects of the Rio Antigo (Old Rio) which delights writers and artists for its charm and its architectural and cultural riches.

Through its narrow streets circulate the old cable-cars (the only ones still running in Brazil), which are considered historical heritage.



The tour starts at Cosme Velho, through the Castelinho (Little Castle – Castelo do Valentim) – building known by this name, because the commander Antonio Valentim lived there in the late XIX century.

Visit to Parque das Ruínas (Ruins Park), for a spectacular view of Rio de Janeiro. After we go to the Museu Chácara do Céu (Farm of Heaven Museum) – which has a very interesting collection of Brazilian and European art highlighting Portinari, Di Cavalcanti, Matisse e Si Modigliani. This is followed by a walking tour of Largo do Guimarães, considered the neighborhood’s heart and a popular meeting place for the locals with several bars a restaurants.

Day 13 – Mar 22 – Rio de Janeiro (B, L)

Breakfast at the hotel.

Physicians program – In the morning there will be a visit to one of the local medical facilities in Rio

Non-physician’s will enjoy a visit to the **Botanical Gardens** with a stop at **H. Stern** – the world famous gemstone producer.

Rio de Janeiro’s **Botanical Garden** is a true ecological sanctuary and is one of the ten most important in the entire world. In addition to housing some of the rarest species of plants from Brazil and other countries it is also an excellent leisure option for children and adults. Visitors can stroll along the pathways of the park to the sounds of native birds like the “curios” and the “sabiás.” The exuberance of nature in all its color and glory provide images that will be kept in the memory and in the soul of its visitors.



Afterwards, continue on to the **World Headquarters of H.Stern** to see one of the most fascinating processes in the world – the intricate steps by which a rough gemstone is transformed into a beautiful jewel. Discover the beauty and the color of Brazilian precious stones.

Lunch will be provided at a local restaurant close to the world famous Pão de Açúcar or **Sugar Loaf Mountain** in English, which has become an iconic symbol of the city of Rio de Janeiro. Then enjoy your tour of the mountain. Rising up from small peninsula at the entrance of Guanabara Bay, its name is said to refer to its resemblance to the traditional shape of concentrated refined sugar loaf. The tour is done in two steps by glass cable-cars. The first cable-car takes passengers to the top of Urca Hill, which rises 215 meters above sea level and offers spectacular views of the entire bay its islands. From Urca Hill, passengers continue in a second cable car to the top of Sugar Loaf which rises 395 meters above sea level and offers a 360 degree view of this spectacular city.



Late afternoon transfer to airport for your return overnight flight back to Canada.

If you are extending your trip for **3 nights in Paraty** (see below), there will be a late afternoon transfer by road along the Atlantic coast from Rio to Paraty.

Day 14 – Mar 23 (Saturday) - Arrive back in Toronto

Arrive back in Toronto late morning.

The accommodation (in first class hotels and lodges) ...

Location	Hotels
Salvador (3 nights)	Mercure Salvador Rio Vermelho http://www.accorhotels.com/gb/hotel-5182-mercure-salvador-rio-vermelho-hotel/index.shtml
Iguazu (2 nights)	Bourbon Cataratas Resort http://www.bourbon.com.br/br/cataratas/
Cuiaba (1 night)	Deville Cuiaba http://www.deville.com.br/en
North Pantanal (3 nights)	Rio Mutum Lodge http://www.pousadamutum.com.br/en-us/default.asp
Rio de Janeiro (2 nights)	Arena Copacobana http://arenahotel.com.br/en

All of the accommodation will be in first class hotels and resorts. (In the unlikely event that a property needs to be changed it will be substituted with one of a similar standard)

The Academic Program (approximately 15 CME hours) ...

Complete details of our Academic program will be provided in your full documentation package, however, as noted in the detailed itinerary, the program will include the following -

- Academic conference at the hotel In Salvador comprising presentations and interactive discussions on current issues as well as a presentation by a local Brazilian medical expert.
- Charitable Works Foundation of Sister Dulce and adjoining Santo Antônio Hospital (Salvador)
- Barao de Melgaco Family Health Program facility (Pantanal)
- Local medical facility (Rio de Janeiro)

In addition, there are opportunities available for any physician who would like to make a short presentation at the conference - please let us know if you are interested in speaking by completing the relevant section of the tour registration form and the Group Medical Director, Dr. Rachel Kassner (tel:1-902-892-9992, e: rakassner@islandtelecom.com) will contact you directly. A certificate of attendance will be provided to all attendees of the Academic Program

The price... Cdn \$6,295 / person

Pricing (exc. Insurance) / per person	Inc. Air from Toronto
Per person (double occupancy)	\$6,295
Single supplement	\$1,300
Single share matching fee	\$ 300 **
Transportation / hotel taxes and fees	\$ 485
Academic program registration fee	\$ 400 (per MD registrant)
Payable locally - International airport departure tax (approx)	US\$40

** Single share matching fee – can't find a traveling partner but don't want to pay the single supplement? We'll keep our eyes open for similar clients and try and find you a compatible person to share a room with.

REPEAT CUSTOMER DISCOUNT

If you have travelled with doctors-on-tour before, you are eligible for our Repeat Customer Discount. Simply deduct 1% for each separate tour that you have travelled with the company on up to a maximum of 3% (ie travelled on one previous tour, deduct 1%; two tours, 2%; three or more tours, 3%). Please note, this discount is applicable to the base price (eg above \$6,295) plus single supplement / share matching fee and optional extensions only – it is not applicable to transportation / hotel taxes and fees, travel insurance and/or the academic program registration fee. In addition, it is subject to the payment (s) for the tour being made by cheque. The discount is to be made from the final balance payment with the deposit amount being paid in full.

Inclusions and Exclusions...

Inclusions –

- Round trip international flights from Toronto to Salvador and Rio de Janeiro to Toronto. All internal flights in Brazil as per detailed itinerary.
- Modern, air conditioned coach transportation
- All meet and greet services and arrival and departure transfers
- Accommodation for a total of 11 nights in first class properties and ecolodges
- Meals (11 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 5 dinners) in a combination of hotel and local restaurants as noted on the itinerary
- Comprehensive daily itineraries including escorted tours of local cultural sites and museums, all ecolodge activities lecture services, Pantanal ecolodge activities, escorted tours of local cultural sites and museums
- Expert naturalist guides in the Pantanal
- Academic program and visits to local medical facilities as indicated in the itinerary
- All admission fees (except those specifically noted above)
- Services of a local English speaking cultural expert and guide
- Portage

Exclusions –

- Beverages (both soft drinks and alcoholic beverages)
- Gratuities
- Visa fees for Brazil – current visa fee \$81 (at October 2012). Visas should be obtained in advance of arrival
- Travel insurance
- All items of a personal nature such as telephone / internet usage, laundry services etc

For **invoicing** purposes re doctors and their spouse, we can also provide a separate invoice with the doctor's air cost plus 100% of the accommodation costs included in the doctor's invoice.

OUR PROGRAMS HAVE LIMITED CAPACITY AND ARE SUBSCRIBED FOR MANY MONTHS IN ADVANCE AND THEREFORE RECOMMEND REGISTERING (WITH A NON-REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT OF \$500 PER PERSON, PLUS APPLICABLE TRAVEL INSURANCE PREMIUM) AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IN ORDER TO GUARANTEE YOUR RESERVATION.

Misc information you need to know...

An entry visa is required for Canadian citizens for entry into Brazil (details of how to apply for your visa will be provided at time of booking). In addition, your passport must have an expiry date no earlier than 6 months after your scheduled departure date from Brazil. Current visa cost (at October 2012) is \$81. A visa is not required to enter Argentina as part of the Iguazu Falls component.

Mandatory vaccinations

There are no mandatory vaccinations required at the present time for entry into Brazil. A list of our medical recommendations will be provided closer to departure – this will include both yellow fever and malaria precautions due to travel to the Pantanal area.

Optional extension to PARATY (3 nights : Mar 22 – 26, 2013)



Originally settled by the Portuguese in the 1660s, Paraty has maintained its colonial feel with its original architecture and a virtually unchanged culture. The city served as an exportation site for gold sent to Portugal. It is located on the Atlantic coast between Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo, approximately a 3 hour drive from each. Paraty possesses exquisite churches, cobble stone streets, delicious restaurants, and does not allow cars within the historic section of the city, all adding to the charm and allure of this **UNESCO World Heritage site**. Visitors to the area have the opportunity to enjoy the various cultural and musical festivals typical of the city, the vast and interesting colonial history, as well as the nearby beaches and forests.

Day 13 – Mar 22 – Rio de Janeiro – Paraty

Final day in Rio (as per main itinerary) and late afternoon road transfer from Rio to Paraty.

Check in at hotel. Evening at leisure.

Day 14 – Mar 23 – Paraty (B, L)

Breakfast at hotel.

Today take a jeep tour inside **National Park of Serra da Bocaina**. Visit spectacular waterfalls (Poço da Lage Poço das Andorinhas and Villa Verde) which are good for swimming and an exposition of bromeliads; see many different kinds of orchid & bromeliads; and an old distillery of Cachaça, to see the way of making this typical Brazilian drink, famous because of the artesian production which is known for the best quality in Brazil.

Lunch will be at restaurant "Villa Verde" located beside the river Perequê Açú, with a natural beach in the river, perfect for another swim. Return to Paraty late afternoon.

Rest of day at leisure. Overnight at hotel.



Day 15 – Mar 24 – Paraty (B, L)



Breakfast at hotel.

This morning, embark on a schooner that sails to several of the most beautiful beaches and islands in the **Bay of Paraty**, all surrounded by dense rainforest. After sailing for roughly 40 minutes, the schooner makes three stops of about one hour each for sunbathing, swimming, and snorkeling. Exact locations vary with each tour, the islands generally included in the tour are: Comprida, Algodão, Cotia, Praia Vermelha and also the beaches of Lulas, and Saco da Velha amongst many others. Lunch will be served on board the boat. The tour includes snorkeling equipment (masks and snorkels). Return to Paraty early afternoon.

Rest of day at leisure. Overnight at hotel.

Day 16 – Mar 25 – Paraty - Rio de Janeiro – Toronto (B)

Breakfast at hotel. Day at leisure to explore the streets of this charming colonial town.

Depart Paraty late afternoon for road transfer back to Rio and your overnight flight back to Canada.

Day 17 – Mar 26 (Tuesday) - Arrive back in Toronto

Arrive back in Toronto late morning.

The price... Cdn \$745 / person

Pricing (exc. Insurance) / per person

Per person (double occupancy)	\$745
Single supplement	\$340
Taxes and fees	\$ 90

Inclusions and Exclusions...

Inclusions -

- Round trip road transfers (air conditioned transportation) from Rio to Paraty
- 3 nights accommodation (including breakfast) at the Pousada Marquesa (first class property) <http://www.pousadamarquesa.com.br/pousada.html>
- Jeep tour inside National Park of Serra da Bocaina
- Schooner trip – Bay of Paraty
- Local English speaking guides

Exclusions -

- Beverages (both soft drinks and alcoholic beverages)
- Gratuities
- Travel insurance
- All items of a personal nature such as telephone / internet usage, laundry services etc

Insurance information...

We strongly recommend that you take out travel insurance to provide you with peace of mind due to, in particular, limited provincial health care coverage afforded to Canadians while traveling overseas and the cancellation provisions inherent in your booking. We offer two insurance coverage options –

Non-medical package – There are **significant inherent cancellation penalties** associated with your booking as detailed in our booking terms and conditions and this insurance package provides coverage for all monies paid for your trip if you should have to cancel due to medical, or other listed, reasons either relating to yourself or a member of your immediate family. It also covers you for trip interruption costs short notice return flight home etc) for medical reasons again, either relating to yourself or an immediate family member as well as flight and travel accident and baggage insurance

Deluxe package – provides coverage for all the components in the non-medical package, plus unlimited health coverage while in the destination

Note, if you believe you may have coverage through your **credit card** we would strongly advise checking with the credit card company the actual coverage afforded to ensure it covers medical, trip cancellation and trip interruption as not all of these items are covered (or may only offer limited coverage as to trip duration or insured \$amount in the event of a claim - sometimes as low as only \$1,000 per person) by all kinds of cards.

Total insurable costs	NON-MEDICAL PACKAGE				DELUXE PACKAGE			
	0-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	0-59	60-64	65-69	70-74
Age>								
5500 - 6000	343	401	456	523	405	512	595	899
6000 - 6500	365	428	488	561	427	539	627	936
6500 - 7000	387	455	521	598	448	566	660	974
7000 - 7500	408	482	553	636	470	593	692	1,012
7500 - 8000	430	509	585	674	491	620	725	1,050
8000 - 8500	451	536	618	712	513	647	757	1,088
8500 - 9000	473	563	650	750	535	674	789	1,125
9000 - 9500	495	590	683	787	556	701	822	1,163
9500 - 10000	516	617	715	825	578	728	854	1,201
10000 - 10500	538	644	747	863	599	755	887	1,239
10500 - 11000	559	671	780	901	621	782	919	1,277
11000 - 11500	581	698	812	939	643	809	951	1,314
11500 - 12000	603	725	845	976	664	836	984	1,352

Testimonials...

What our physicians have said about our previous educational escapes...

"A thoroughly enjoyable week – informative lectures, well organized tours and great company!
Dr. Dagnija Kalnins, Port Credit – Los Cabos, Mexico, 2003

"Great hotel facilities, excellent service – an extremely enjoyable, and educational, week
Dr. Doug Wooster, Toronto – Chile, 2005

"Great company, well organized and interesting tours, educational lectures and great food (and wine....!) – Fantastic trip!"
Dr. Ray Martin, Toronto – Argentina, 2006

"Thanks for planning such an amazing trip. Our congenial group enjoyed so many rich experiences together and collected memories to last a lifetime. Each day was an adventure!
Andrea Maurice – Vietnam / Cambodia, 2007

"I want to express our appreciation for a wonderful trip. The tour operator and the guides were excellent and everything went very smoothly.... this was a tremendous trip which we will need to review again over the coming days to catalogue and appreciate all the places we visited and the marvelous things we saw.. Thanks again for all the hard work in putting the trip together with the memorable result that was achieved...
Dr. Rudy Hyles, Mississauga – Ecuador & The Galapagos, 2008

"Wonderful people! Wonderful places!"
Dr. Phil McGuire, Ottawa – Peru, 2009

"The organization and accommodation were both excellent. We were always looked after with consideration and provided with a wide variety of interesting activities and experiences. The guides were most helpful and informative. A wonderful tour!"
Dr. Michael Dales, Toronto - Ecuador & The Galapagos, 2009

"I do not have words to express my appreciation and admiration for the your hospitality and service provided by your company and your partners on the ground in India"
Dr. Sudhir Pandya – Northern India, 2009

"We thoroughly enjoyed the recent trip to East Africa.
All lodges were excellent. The event was a huge success. A lifetime highlight"
John Bright - Kenya & Tanzania – March, 2010

"A wonderful trip. It was amazing to see so many different animals co-existing on the beautiful African plains. The Kenyan and Tanzanian people we met were gracious and welcoming.
Our host/trip manager was excellent - very bright, knowledgeable, good problem solver, great people skills - a delightful man who really made our trip memorable. Our guide/driver was also excellent - very knowledgeable, an excellent driver and keen to make our safari experience a good one. We had lots of fun and learned a lot from him. I loved the parks and reserves - the Serengeti and Ngorongoro are absolutely amazing".
Andrea Maurice, Toronto – Kenya & Tanzania – March, 2010

"The guides throughout the trip were superb, well informed with excellent local knowledge and willing to discuss any topic! The visits to the local hospitals were excellent. A fantastic tour!"
Dr. Linda Stirk, Toronto - Ecuador & The Galapagos (and Peru), 2010

"We had a great visit to the Falls. Stefani was a very helpful guide. The hotel and facilities were fabulous. The tour overall was an exciting experience. Thanks to you both and Ian for the hard work and planning.
Drs. Hirsch and Indra Rastogi, Ancaster – Brazil, 2011

"In addition to exploring the fantastic sights of Northern India, our group visited local hospitals and clinics to learn more about how medicine is practiced in India as well as in the SOS Children's village in Jaipur and the Mother Teresa charity Mission in Agra" - Dr. Serge Puksa, Northern India, 2011

"We found this tour to be a wonderful adventure... even more than we had anticipated. The planning and attention to detail on the ground ensured we had a comprehensive introduction to the many wonders of Ecuador. I will definitely consider participating in another program and will be certain to share details with my colleagues"
Dr. Alison Kelford, Oakville - Ecuador & the Galapagos, 2011

"The trip surpassed all my expectations. The country itself was far more interesting than I thought and the tour itself was very well organized. The wineries were a treat and the physicians and their spouses were lots of fun. I would be happy to do another trip!"
Dr. Steven Traplin, Guelph – Spain Gourmet tour, 2011

"Spain greatly surpassed my expectations, offering wonderful gastronomic experiences, lavished with outstanding wines and extremely hospitable people with a culture and history that is as rich as deep. Fernando Garcia, through his many connections, was able to allow us access to exclusive vineyards , where we were submerged in to the local cuisine and regaled with their finest wines".
Dr. Peter Bloch, Oakville – Spain Gourmet tour, 2011

"We have had an excellent trip. Accommodation and food were first rate. We were greatly impressed by the excellent organization and professionalism of all the locations we visited. Our guides, coach driver and boat drivers were exceptional. Thanks for a great experience in Ecuador!"
John Maase, Brockville - Ecuador & the Galapagos, 2011

"The Southeast Asia tour was a great success. Ellen and I are resonating with the sights, sounds and smells from the visit!"
Dr. Ron and Ellen Pace, Waterloo – Vietnam, Laos & Cambodia, 2012

"Our guide was excellent, enthusiastic and knowledgeable. Cooking classes were good and the hotels were excellent"
Dr. Barbara Flanagan, Charlottetown – Vietnam, Laos & Cambodia, 2012"

"We can't thank you enough for your efforts to get us on the plane to Hong Kong at the beginning of our trip. We were close to despair and there you were with the Cathay Pacific agent! We are enormously grateful for everything and the planning and execution of all the details on the trip were irreproachable. All the participants had a great time and are looking forward to Bali 2! A big Terima Kasih and keep us on your list for future tours!"
Dr. Denise Melanson-Candela and Dr. Alice Desliets, Moncton – Bali, 2012

"Excellent! Loved the trip and well worth it. Life changing experience, excellent speakers and very well organized. Met some great people and will keep in touch for future trips. Will definitely book another doctors-on-tour trip in the future"
Dr. Janel Gracey, London – Bali, 2012

And about your Group Leader and Medical Director, Dr. Rachel Kassner

"Dr. Kassner was excellent – very responsible, personable and organized"
Dr. Rick Black, Hamilton – Vietnam, Cambodia & Laos, February 2012

The fine print...

The Terms & Conditions contained herein are the terms under which on-tour.ca and doctors-on-tour.ca (being operating brands of Britcan International Consulting (B.I.C.) Inc) accepts reservations. Our liabilities are limited. When you make a payment of deposit and/or final payment, it is also an acknowledgement of receipt and acceptance of these terms and conditions.

RESERVATIONS & DEPOSIT Early reservations are recommended to guarantee your reservation as several of the accommodation providers with which we make arrangements on your behalf have limited capacity. All services are strictly on a request basis, both for air travel and land requirements and subject to availability of seats and hotel/lodge/camp rooms. A guaranteed non-refundable deposit of \$600 per person (together with the applicable travel insurance premium is required with your reservation request. Tour extensions are also subject to additional non-refundable deposits as detailed in our brochure. Reservations made for travel within 95 days will require full payment at the time of reservation. Certain non-standard arrangements may require higher deposit and the same will be advised to you at the time of booking. Please be aware that some airfares (outside of our group air blocks) require full payment at time of booking and will be advised to you accordingly.

FINAL AND/OR BALANCE DUE PAYMENT: Guaranteed payment of all balances due is no later than 95 days prior to departure date. If payment of the balance due is not received by the stipulated date, we reserve the right to cancel your reservation without refund of deposit.

CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS: Visa & MasterCard credit cards are accepted as form of payment. Credit card payments require that the passenger complete and sign our Booking Form as verification of their approval for the credit card to be charged both for the initial deposit as well as the future balance payments on the date they become due, together with any other charges due relating to the booking that have been requested by you in writing (including by electronic mail communication). No services will be provided without receipt of the signed Booking Form. Third party payments may have restrictions.

CANCELLATIONS & CHANGES: The deposit amounts (for both the main tour and any optional extensions reserved) are non-refundable. Cancellation penalties for bookings cancelled by the client after the final balance due date (95 days before departure) are as follows: 95 – 61 days before departure – 25% of total price paid; 60 – 31 days – 50% of total price paid; 30 days or less – 100%. (Notwithstanding the foregoing, any domestic Canada flight purchased as an additional service to the advertised package is 100% non-refundable irrespective of the date of cancellation). If payments are not received by their due dates, we reserve the right to cancel the booking without further notice. There will be no refund for unused land arrangements after departure from North America. In the event of the cancellation by doctors-on-tour.ca of any or all components of the travel services offered herein, doctors-on-tour.ca will have no responsibility beyond the refund of all monies received from the client, which will be deemed to constitute full settlement. Individual airfares purchased outside of our groups air blocks are subject to different rules and cancellation fees. Some airfares may be non-refundable once the booking is confirmed regardless of when it was made. Details will be provided at the time of booking.

TRAVEL INSURANCE: To protect against cancellation charges, we strongly recommend purchasing Cancellation Protection and Travel Interruption Insurance. Cancellation insurance must be purchased at time of initial deposit. In the event of illness, medical and hospital expenses are the traveler's responsibility and no refunds will be made, partial or total, for the purchased tour. We strongly urge that you purchase either the Non-Medical insurance (ie Cancellation Protection and Travel Interruption Insurance) or Deluxe Insurance (Non-Medical coverage plus Health coverage) packages offered by our doctors-on-tour through RBC Insurance.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTATION, VISA & OTHER IMMIGRATION REQUIREMENTS: A Canadian citizen must be in possession of a passport that must remain valid for a minimum of 6 months from the date of conclusion of their journey. Tour participants must also ensure that they comply with all visa and health requirements of countries they intend to visit. A tourist entry visa is not required for entry into Brazil. Non Canadian citizens may have different requirements. It is the passenger's responsibility to ensure that all his or her passport, visa and mandatory health vaccination requirements for entry into the country are met and the cancellation penalties referred to above will apply if a passenger is not allowed into the destination country (or determines in advance of departure that he will not be allowed into the destination country) due to lack of proper documentation including, but not limited to, passport, visa, customs, health or currency provisions required by the destination country thus preventing him from participate in the tour. Final tour documents consisting of detailed tour itinerary, vouchers, and airline tickets will be forwarded approximately 2-3 weeks prior to departure subject to receipt of final payment

PRICING POLICY : Accommodations and services at the destination are contracted in local currencies and/or US Dollars. Due to frequent fluctuations in currency exchange (as well as other factors beyond our control including, but not limited to, fuel costs, transportation taxes and airport and local surcharges), prices are subject to change with or without notice and surcharges may apply for which we would endeavor to inform you as soon as possible .However, once we have received your final payment we would either waive any price increase or allow you to cancel your booking without penalty.

UNUSED PORTION OF THE TOUR: No refund will be made for any unused accommodations, missed meals, transportation segments, cruise portions, sightseeing tours or any other service. Such unused items are neither refundable nor exchangeable.

ACCOMMODATIONS: Accommodations on twin occupancy basis, is provided at the properties as specified or similar. Single room supplements apply to persons occupying sole use of a room/cabin but travelling with other passengers on the same tour and sharing transport cost on transfers, coach tours, sightseeing and excursions. Quoted single room rate does not necessarily mean single occupancy of a double room, as several of the establishments offered have especially designed single occupancy units. Local accommodation ratings in overseas destinations outside of Canada may not always be consistent between individual properties in that particular destination nor are they necessarily comparable to an equivalent rating in North America. The right is reserved to substitute properties should conditions warrant such change for reasons beyond our control. Rooms are assigned by the respective supplier(s) on a run-of-the-house basis, in category (ies) as specified in the itinerary

SINGLE PASSENGERS TRAVELLING TOGETHER: If you are travelling with a companion and each paying separately the regular each of two double sharing accommodation rate and your companion decides to cancel, the remaining travelling passenger will be responsible for either finding a replacement travelling companion to take the cancelled passenger's place or must pay the single supplement and travel on a single basis.

MEALS & BEVERAGES: Meals as included on our itineraries are either buffet meals and/or table d'hôte. Meals ordered through room service are not included and must be paid directly to the establishment. Alcoholic beverages, soft drinks, and bottled water are included only where indicated on the itinerary. Unless specifically mentioned in your itinerary, all drinks (both alcoholic and non-alcoholic) are to be purchased and paid directly to the establishments.

OPTIONAL TOURS, EXCURSIONS AND TRIP EXTENSIONS: It is our intent to operate any Optional Extensions on a private group basis. However, should the number of participants be of an insufficient level, we reserve the right to either

- (1) add a surcharge to the previously stated selling price to be able to still offer the extension on a private basis or
- (2) operate any individual tour on a shared basis with other non-group participants or
- (3) cancel the tour and provide a full refund of all monies paid.

No refunds can be provided for cancellation of any tour by the client while in the destination.

SPECIAL REQUESTS: While we will make every effort to accommodate special requests, eg., room/cabin locations, adjoining rooms, non-smoking rooms, bed preferences, special dietary meal requests, these cannot be guaranteed and doctors-on-tour.ca cannot be held responsible if such requests cannot be fulfilled. Requests for upgrading rooms/cabins are subject to additional charges. Any deviations to the standard program arrival and departure flight dates should be notified at the time of booking and are subject to availability and also any applicable flight class supplement.

DOCUMENT DELIVERY: Your travel documents will be sent to you approximately 3 weeks prior to departure. For bookings received within 3 weeks of departure, express delivery of documents will require a courier delivery fee of \$30 to cover extra handling and processing. Additional courier charges will apply for all residents outside of Canada, irrespective of when the booking is made.

CONSUMER PROTECTION: doctors-on-tour.ca is licensed under the Ontario Government Ministry of Consumer & Corporate Relations, Travel Industry Act 1974, Registration No. 50009110. The Act is administered by the Travel Industry Council of Ontario (TICO), the government regulated body which is responsible for enforcing and monitoring the Travel Industry Act, including the protection of advance monies paid to its registrants by consumers. More information about TICO is available at <http://www.tico.on.ca/>

NOTICE TO TRAVELLERS: Canadians enjoy a living standard which is among the highest in the world. In other countries, the uninterrupted supply of water and electricity, local health conditions, levels of security and standards of food and beverages may sometimes differ from those enjoyed at home. Illness or inconvenience resulting from the services provided or omitted at the destination are outside the reasonable control of doctors-on-tour.ca and doctors-on-tour.ca bears no responsibility for such illness or inconvenience. doctors-on-tour.ca cannot accept responsibility for the behaviour of other guests/groups nor the unlikely event of the withdrawal of services or facilities due to local cultural and political events or holidays.

FORCE MAJEURE: doctors-on-tour.ca shall not be liable for any claims, losses, damages, costs, expenses, delays or loss of enjoyment, of any nature or kind whatsoever, resulting from events beyond our or a supplier's reasonable control, including but not limited to acts of God, strikes, lockouts or other labour disputes or disruptions, wars, blockades, insurrections, riots, earthquakes, weather conditions, floods or acts or restraints imposed by government authorities.

OUR RESPONSIBILITIES : doctors-on-tour.ca makes arrangements with airlines, tour operators, ground handlers, hotels/lodges, cruise lines, car rental companies & other independent parties to provide you with the travel services and other services you purchase. Although we take care in selecting these suppliers, we have no control over them and, therefore, cannot be responsible for their acts or omissions. In the unlikely event that a hotel / lodge described in this brochure is not available we reserve the right to provide an alternate hotel / lodge of the equivalent standard. We also reserve the right to substitute another airline if the particular airline described in this brochure is not available.

The travel services provided are subject to the applicable provincial Travel Industry Acts and Regulations and are subject to the conditions imposed by these suppliers and their liability is limited by their tariffs, conditions of carriage, tickets and vouchers and international conventions and agreements.

doctors-on-tour.ca shall not be responsible for any loss, damage or injury, whether physical or mental, or to property, resulting from any delay, substitution or deficiency of quality of equipment or service, or any act, omission, negligence or commission of any party supplying any of the services or accommodation herein, its agents, servants, employees, subcontractors or for any claims for such loss, damage, or injury, whether physical or mental, arising therefrom, or from any cause that arises by reason of actions of parties other than doctors-on-tour.ca. In the event that it becomes necessary or advisable for the comfort or well being of the passengers, or for any reason whatsoever, to alter the itinerary or arrangements, such alterations may be made without penalty to doctors-on-tour.ca. The right is reserved to withdraw any or all tours should conditions warrant, also to decline to accept or retain any passengers as members of the tours. doctors-on-tour.ca can assume no responsibility for lost tickets or coupons. The liability of doctors-on-tour.ca for any loss, damage or injury, whether physical or mental, arising from its own acts, omissions or negligence, is limited to the price of the services purchased.