



**Panama Canal Zone & Brazil
Agribusiness & Cultural Study Tour
August 18 - August 30, 2022**

Please arrive by 6:30am to meet the group at the airport for check in.

Day 1 (Thursday, August 18) - Depart this morning for your direct flight from Houston International Airport (IAH) at 9:53am for your 4 hour flight to Panama City Panama arriving at 2:15pm local time. Arrive at Panama City's Tocumen international airport and transfer to modern Panama City.

Tour guide upon arrival is Jorge Gonzalez and will meet you outside of customs at the airport with a TALL logo airport sign Phone: +507-6239-8475

Your Tour manager, Kevin O'Brien will meet you later at the hotel and his number is +507-6780-3010

Enjoy a meeting and briefing with the US Grains Council Regional Director for Latin America in their downtown office. Next, check-in to your hotel in the Amador area located on the Pacific Ocean side of Panama. In the late afternoon and evening, enjoy a guided walking tour of the old city with a welcome dinner in the old town with a rum tasting of Central America's best varieties.

(Overnight Panama City)

(D)

<https://www.wyndhamhotels.com/wyndham/panama-city-panama/wyndham-panama-albrook-mall-convention-center/overview>

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Day 2 (Friday, August 19) - In the early morning, depart Panama City and visit a 500+ acre pineapple plantation. The USDA FAS representative will be joining the group on the farm tour. You will see the entire process from planting, harvesting, and packaging. Enjoy fresh pineapple and pineapple juice at the main house overlooking the farm's beautiful scenery. Next, travel to Colon on the Atlantic side enjoying lunch while enroute. Visit the Manzanillo Container, one of the largest in Central America and/or a possible visit to the grain terminal. Presentation of exports/imports and supply chain issues. Next, drive to the Agua Clara or Miraflores Locks to watch ships transit the Canal. Tonight, enjoy a briefing at the hotel with the US Soybean Export Council North & South America Regional Director.

(Overnight Panama City)

(B,L,D)

<https://www.wyndhamhotels.com/wyndham/panama-city-panama/wyndham-panama-albrook-mall-convention-center/overview>

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Day 3 (Saturday, August 20) - Today, you will experience a partial Panama Canal transit (two locks). Start on the Pacific entrance and travel through these historic locks, Bridge of the Americas, Centennial Bridge, Gatun Lake, and the famous Galliard Cut that was excavated through the Continental Divide. This is a 5-7 hour journey that provides an interesting perspective on the history as you transit the Canal. On average, about 40 vessels pass through each day including tankers, cargo ships and yachts. *TBD Canal Transit time - Visit Panama Viejo (founded in 1519) which is the remaining part of the former capital. Enjoy the newly built museum to get a sense of the early history.* Farewell to Panama traditional dinner and dance show this evening!

(Overnight Panama City)

(B,L,D)

<https://www.wyndhamhotels.com/wyndham/panama-city-panama/wyndham-panama-albrook-mall-convention-center/overview>



Day 4 (Sunday, August 21) - After breakfast, travel to the airport for your 12:00pm flight (7 hours) to São Paulo, Brazil. Clear customs and immigration then meet your guide and overnight in a hotel near the airport.

[Brazil Tour Guide - Estevão Schuh Cell +55 49 99931 8030 pronounced \(Estevo Choo\) and will meet you outside of customs with the TALL logo as an airport sign.](#)

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(B)

(Overnight São Paulo)

<https://panamby.com.br/>



Day 5 (Monday, August 22) - Around 7:00am, travel to the airport for your flight to Cuiaba and connecting flight to Sinop. Arrival in Sinop around 2:00pm local time. Sinop is the fourth largest city in the state with over 140,000 citizens. Upon arrival you will have a meeting with the Mayor of Sinop, the Secretary of Government and the Coordinator of Agriculture to discuss the history and future of the area related to agriculture. Also meet with a global chemical supply company for a meeting and discussion on business in Brazil and how it differs from other countries.

(B,L,D)

Overnight Sinop

<https://ucayali.com.br/>



Day 6 (Tuesday, August 23) - In the morning, visit the local Sinop Ag University to see their experimental farm and have a discussion with faculty. Also visit with some new tech startups as Sinop is trying to become a miniature Silicon Valley for Ag based start

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ups. Next, visit Embrapa which is the state owned Ag Research institution under the Ministry of Agriculture. Embrapa Sinop's research is based on silvopastoral systems which is important in Brazil. Visit the facility, plots and meet with an agronomist. Afterwards, visit a large scale farm that grows mixed crops but most importantly soybeans.

Overnight Sinop

(B,L,D)

<https://ucayali.com.br/>



Day 7 (Wednesday, August 24) - After breakfast, visit a forestry and feedlot facility. Sinop's economy is largely driven by livestock, timber production, cotton and grains. Enjoy lunch and then continue south to Lucas do Rio Verde with a stop at a cotton farm and cotton gin in Sorriso. The name of the city literally means "smile", but it actually came from Italian immigrants who only cultivated rice in the region ("only rice" = "só riso".) The words ended up merging to form the name of the city. Meeting to learn about crop insurance in the area. Later in the day, check in to your hotel.

Overnight Lucas do Rio Verde

(B,L,D)

<https://www.transamericagroup.com.br/hotel-fit-transamerica-lucas-do-rio-verde>

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Day 8 (Thursday, August 25) - In the morning, visit an ethanol plant with ties to a US company. This is the first ethanol plant in Brazil to use corn in 100% of its production. Enjoy lunch then continue to Nova Mutum, which is largely the beginning of the agricultural area in Mato Grosso north of the capital, Cuiabá. Nova Mutum's location is vital to its success in that it takes about the same time to truck grain to either the Atlantic Ocean or the Amazon River for export. While en route, stop for a nearby farm visit that is one of the largest bamboo plantations in Brazil. Continue to Cuiaba.

Overnight Cuiabá

(B,L,D)

<https://www.deville.com.br/hotel-deville-prime-cuiaba>

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Day 9 (Friday, August 26) - Following breakfast, full day of meetings starting with the Federation of Agriculture Mato Grosso to learn about agriculture in the region and speak with local experts. After a local lunch, meet with Oswaldo Ribeiro, the President of Acrimat, the Association of Beef Cattle producers. The association represents beef cattle farmers, works with national and local governments, and promotes Brazilian cattle worldwide with educational campaigns. Afterwards, visit with a large agricultural law firm to review water rights, Ag real estate and environmental topics.

Overnight Cuiabá

(B,L,D)

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Day 10 (Saturday, August 27) - Early morning departure for the Pantanal. Located in the heart of South America, this is the world's largest wetland that covers some 81,000+ sq miles. The majority is located in Brazil (some portions in Bolivia and Paraguay) and this wetland is split between the states of Mato Grosso and Mato Grosso do Sul. These open marshes are home to an immense variety of life – if you like to see animals in their natural environment, the Pantanal is a unique destination.

Overnight Pantanal Lodge

(B,L,D)

https://pantanal.ch/en/pousada_en.html



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Day 11 (Sunday, August 28) - Enjoy a full day of wildlife viewing activities via boat, horseback and by 4x4. You will also meet with some cattle ranchers in the area to discuss the farming vs. biological challenges in the Pantanal. Even though this area is not as well known as the Amazon Rainforest to the north, it is home to the highest concentration of crocodiles and jaguars in the world. This wetland region is also home to monkeys, anteaters and giant otters.

Overnight Pantanal Lodge

(B,L,D)

https://pantanal.ch/en/pousada_en.html



Day 12 (Monday, August 29) - Following breakfast, travel to Cuiaba for your flight to São Paulo domestic airport. Upon arrival, transfer by bus to the São Paulo international airport for your connecting overnight flight back home to the U.S.

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Day 13 (Tuesday, August 30) - Arrival back in the U.S.

"This itinerary is subject to change with prior approval. Please note that if a last minute cancellation occurs, a replacement technical visit of equal value will be arranged."

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