

Brazil PowerPoint Script

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1. If I say Brazil...
What images come to mind?
2. The steamy jungles of the Amazon...?
Thousands of miles of pristine beaches...?
One of the largest urban centers in the world...
One of the most beautiful cities in the world.
3. Or maybe sports...soccer...carnival...the fio dental (dental floss) bikini?
4. All would be correct.
Brazil is also a country of extraordinary physical beauty.
It has no earthquakes or hurricanes, no tornados.
5. But it does have big problems.
It is of a country of harsh extremes.
Extreme poverty alongside extremely wealthy communities.
30% of its population lives in poverty
6. It can be extremely rural and poor...as well as urban & sophisticated.
7. Brazil is an international country with a large middle class.
While at the same time there are parts so isolated, some tribes have had little contact with the world.
8. It is a country of deep religious beliefs and values, along with a rich sensuality.
Each year Brazilian cities host the largest party in the world to celebrate a religious holiday.
9. Brazilian architecture is traditional, colonial European.
Along with some of the most uniquely modern structures in the world.
10. It's a country of vast natural resources with limited enforcement of environmental laws.
The satellite image to the right captures a day of slash and burn logging in the Amazon rain forest.
It a process that is effecting climate change on a global scale.
11. Brazil also has abundant mineral resources.
But exploitation of the working poor is like a flashback to the middle ages.

12. Everything in Brazil is large.
Its geographical area is half of all South America, about the same size as the continental U.S.
It has an Atlantic coastline with 7000 kilometers of beaches.
13. The Amazon river basin is as large as all of Europe.
It contains 20% of worlds fresh water.
14. The Pantanal is the largest everglade in the world, providing habitat for one of the largest bird populations anywhere.
15. The country as a whole is inhabited by thousands of species of flora and wildlife found nowhere else.
16. This South American giant is fast becoming the Americas' breadbasket:
Sugar cane for ethanol,
Nuts of all kinds (cashew on upper right)
cocoa for chocolate
17. Coffee,
Soy,
Cattle,
And the list of exports grows every year
18. The people of Brazil are a rich melting pot of cultures from all over the world.
19. When Columbus landed in the Americas there were between 2–6 million indigenous people in the region we now call Brazil. They fell victim to the armed warriors who pillaged their settlements and spread diseases. Others were worked to death on plantations. By the start of the 20th century many tribes went extinct.
20. As the original inhabitants' numbers dwindled, slaves were brought from Africa to work the plantations in numbers that exceeded any other country in the Americas.
21. When slavery was finally abolished in 1888, immigrant groups from Italy, Germany, Japan and other parts of the world arrived to work in plantations.
22. The result of all this exploitation and turmoil has become one of the most racially diverse cultures in the world.

Brazil today is a mosaic of indigenous, European, African and Asian peoples. It is often said that Brazilians are the most beautiful people in the world.

23. Brazilians are friendly, warm and self-described as joyful people.
24. They are known to express emotion, optimism and sensuality and are known for lively celebrations.
25. This presentation will explore some of the major cities and regions of Brazil starting with São Paulo near the southern coast (Aim laser pointer).
26. This city is the economic and industrial center of Brazil and boasts more millionaires than any city in South America.
27. It's a rich international cosmopolitan city that rivals any in the world, in the areas of business, commerce and the arts.
28. But like most Brazilian cities it is also inhabited by millions of poor, living in slums or favelas with little access to clean water and sanitation. This intense poverty has led to gang violence and high crime rate. It is a city known for its notorious prisons.
29. If one descends from the high, flat plain of São Paulo (point laser to white area) towards the coastal port of Santos, the landscape drops and changes dramatically over a very short distance through what remains of the delicate Atlantic rain forest. Only 7% of the Atlantic rain forest remains today making it one of the first environmental disasters to take place in the new world.
30. At the base of the descent lies the city of Santos, the largest port in Brazil.
31. Roughly 40% of imports to Brazil come through this massive shipping area.
32. An hour's flight north of Santos lies what many consider by many, to be one of the most beautiful cities in the world.
33. In Rio, It's all about the beach and what remains of the surrounding Atlantic rain forest.
34. It's a city of the senses that features a world class nightlife of music, dance and exotic food.
35. A livable city of tradition and modern innovation.

36. A city of tourism and dramatic beauty, woven together with the favelas that are so much a part of the Brazilian urban landscape.
37. Every spring Rio hosts the largest Carnival celebration in the world. Brazilians from all over compete for best costume, dance and float presentations.
38. Rio is like no other city in the world.
39. Northeast of Rio and up the coast lies Salvador, often called the soul of Brazil.
40. Another major port whose history is blighted, as the largest importer of slaves to the new world.
Today things are quite different.
Salvador has been transformed into a celebration of black spirit, culture and pride.
41. Brazilian Africans openly practice an ancient religious mystical religion know as Candomblé (can-dom-BLAY) in the streets of Salvador.
42. The practice revolves around a number of deities or orixás (oh-ree-SHAHS) imported secretly by the slaves from western Africa.
This rich spiritual heritage is expressed through ritual drumming, dance, food, costume, and is enthusiastically celebrated throughout the city of Salvador.
43. The martial art of capoeira began in Salvador and can be observed in the streets or on the stage all over Brazil.
44. A small scale “Carnival” happens every Tuesday evening with drumming, dancing, music and capoeira.
In the spring Salvador’s carnival rivals that of Rio de Janeiro.
45. A six-hour drive west of Salvador brings one to a former Brazilian diamond mining area known now as Parque Nacional da Chapada Diamantina, one of several Brazilian national parks.
46. The park is known for its thousands of hiking trails, mountain climbing and swimming holes.
47. Trekkers can explore underground rivers, streams , waterfalls and caves throughout the region.
48. Brazil’s highest waterfall drops 1200 feet below the climbers above ledge, located just to the top, right of the waterfall (laser pointer) .

49. The town of Lençóis, where most hikers stay, is built on a mountain river and is an oasis of inexpensive hotels and restaurants for hikers returning from the Brazilian wilderness.
50. A flight due southwest of Salvador and the national park brings you to Brazil's capital.
Brasilia is one of the 20th century's architectural marvels of city planning located on a high plain savanna in central Brazil.
51. In the 1960s, in order to encourage emigration from the overcrowded coastal cities, the Brazilian government hired architect Oscar Niemeyer to design this city from scratch in this sparsely populated area of Brazil.
52. The plan involved damming several small rivers to create a large lake, and the design of the nation's new capital consisted of cluster communities organized around the shape of a giant bird.
53. Initially, Brazilians and government officials were hesitant to move from the coast, but no longer.
54. Today the center of government located in Brasilia is attracting record numbers of newcomers.
55. Brasilia, even 45 years later, looks like a city from the future.
56. Unfortunately, it did not escape the poverty well known to the coastal cities.
Its own version of rural poverty surrounding the modern capital.
57. Further west, about an hour's flight from Brasilia, lies the area known as the Pantanal, the largest everglade in the world.
58. The Pantanal is home to many large cattle ranches.
It's extremely arid during the winter dry season and completely flooded during the summer rainy season.
59. Beef cattle are raised on a grand scale for Brazil, South America and world export.
60. The Pantanal is also an area rich in wildlife, including 650 species of birds such as parakeets, kites, herons, toucans, woodpeckers, storks, hummingbirds, kingfishers, and hawks.
61. Many birds are found in numbers exceeded nowhere else in the world.

62. The endangered blue Hyacinth Macaw is thriving thanks to preservation efforts and careful monitoring of its nests.
Ecotourism is becoming a new industry in the Pantanal.
63. Other wildlife include large concentrations of alligators or caimans in and around the limited waters that remain during the dry season.
64. It is also a haven for giant anaconda, jaguars, pumas, anteaters, tapers, and the world's largest rodent, the capybara (pictured above).
65. Well north of the Pantanal lies the Amazon, a river system and rain forest that's larger than all of Europe.
66. From west to east the Amazon stretches a distance equal to that of New York to Berlin.
If you took all the fresh water from all the rivers in the world, half of it would be in the Amazon.
The area contains 30% of the world's biodiversity.
5000 species of trees (as opposed to 650 in the U.S.).
67. At the center of the Amazon, in the middle of the jungle, lies Manaus, a major city located where two rivers come together—one dark from sediment upstream and one brown creating a clear delineation of color and eventually massive mixing of the two great waterways.
68. Manaus is the center of commerce for the interior region.
Half of the residents of the state of Amazonas live there.
It grew wealthy from the export of rubber in the early 20th century.
69. But has since become a major market center for agricultural and river products harvested from the surrounding region.
70. Precious wood manufacturing, essential oils, medicines, as well as ecotourism are recent newcomers to the Amazon's economy.
71. It's all about the water in the rain forest of the Amazon.
East or west of Manaus one finds a vast richness in nature found nowhere else in the world
The famous pink dolphin lives in these waters as well as many species of piranha.
72. Most residents of the Amazon live as simply as their ancestors did.
73. ...growing, raising and harvesting bounty from the surrounding forest.

74. Hopefully, with the rise of ecotourism and new efforts to enforce environmental laws the decades of damage done to the Amazon will come to an end.
75. A few hours' flight to the east and at the mouth of the Amazon lies the city of Belem.
76. This city was founded by the Portuguese to control access to the Amazon's wealth.
77. It serves as a major gateway for products going in and out of the region.
78. Each year the spring melt off the Andes mountains in the west creates a 10 foot wave that pushes through Belem for seven kilometers out into the Atlantic Ocean. Athletic surfers like to catch the waves in Belem amidst the sticks, snakes and debris moving eastward.
79. Flying southeast to the furthest eastern corner of Brazil's Atlantic coast lies the city of Recife, a large modern port protected by an offshore reef.
80. Recife is another city on the beach popular with the surfers. The city boasts some of the most interesting architecture and folk art in Brazil.
81. Our final destination, which requires flying southeast 220 miles of the coast of Recife, is the tropical island of FERNANDO DE NORONHA, which has some of the best beaches in the world.
82. At 3 degrees from the equator, it is a tropical paradise with strict zoning against large hotels and development.
83. The landscape of Fernando is a mixture of dramatic volcanic cones and coral that make it a popular diving and snorkeling destination.
84. Sea turtles and spinner dolphins are strictly protected to the point where even sun tanning lotion is not allowed on a bather's skin in the water.
85. Tourism, fishing and an international surfing competition are the mainstay of the island economy.
86. FERNANDO DE NORONHA is one of the few places in Brazil where one can watch the sun set into the west over the water.
It's difficult to sum up Brazil in such a short time but I thank you for letting me share some of the highlights of this vast country with you.
87. Thank you.

