

EXPERIENCE

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50 YEARS OF LEARJET HISTORY + NETJETS' NEXT BIG MOVE
JAPAN'S RYOKANS + THOROUGHbred AUCTIONS + SICILIAN VILLAS

THE RHYTHM OF RIO

There is an innate cadence to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil's cultural and hedonistic heart. Revealed not only in the pervasive sounds of samba and the kaleidoscopic Carnival, it's also found in the undulating topography of the city's breathtaking granite and quartz peaks – a veritable heartbeat written in stone. As imminent host to both the FIFA World Cup in 2014 and the Olympic Games in 2016, this intoxicating city has experienced a modern renaissance – a reinvention of luxury in its first class hotels, restaurants and experiences in preparation for its dazzling future.

BY STEPHANIE PLENTL



RAW BEAUTY

On the fashionable avenue of Rua Dias Ferreira, the buzzing Sushi Leblon conjures exotic Japanese fusion delicacies, including sea urchin ceviche and foie gras with seared tuna, for discerning travelers and devoted locals.



Do

Bird's-Eye View

For a fresh perspective on the city, try a helicopter view of Corcovado with Helisight, an open-topped city jeep tour to the **Botanical Garden** or a Rio Adventures tandem hang glide ride from Tijuca National Park – the largest urban forest in the world. Dehouche is an English-run, Rio-based concierge and bespoke travel company for both conventional city bookings and exceptional itineraries. Experiences include a speedboat tour of Rio's Guanabara Bay, an exploration of the city's thriving modern art scene with a local contemporary artist, or a trip to witness the monthly lunar rainbow at the breathtaking Iguazu Falls. The company also retains a duplex penthouse in Rio's Ipanema district, available upon request.



Stay

White Palace

As central to Rio's identity as Corcovado and its serene statue of Christ the Redeemer, the iconic **Copacabana Palace Hotel** has been both a cherished art deco landmark and a symbol of the city's sophisticated personality since 1923, welcoming illustrious guests including Marilyn Monroe, Joan Crawford, Albert Einstein and Luciano Pavarotti. It recently unveiled an extensive refurbishment in time for its 90th anniversary, a renewal that remains ardently sympathetic to the hotel's treasured history. With exquisite suites overlooking the famed crescent Copacabana Beach, a spa using organic Brazilian ingredients and Bar do Copa, an intimate destination nightclub, the Copacabana Palace exudes both style and panache. A traditional caipirinha at the Pérgula restaurant, adjacent to the legendary central swimming pool, endures as a quintessential Rio experience.

Shop

Brazilian Bounty

Rio's answer to 5th Avenue, Rua Garcia d'Ávila is a chic shopping parade perpendicular to lively Ipanema Beach. Brazilian bikinis are renowned for their barely-there aesthetic, but the Lenny Niemeyer range is both alluring and quietly modest. Chocolate cravings can be satiated at Aquim – a specialty boutique in homage to the fine Brazilian cocoa bean – where confectionary can be packaged as a unique gift in an immaculate cigar-style presentation box. Also located here are Arquivo Contemporâneo, an eminent Brazilian contemporary furniture store, and the **H. Stern** museum and world headquarters – a glorious temple to gemstone craftsmanship with iPod-guided tours of its workshop.



Dine

Festive Flavor

Though the national dish of feijoada stew (try Casa da Feijoada) and the churrascaria rotisserie (try Fogo de Chão) are ubiquitous here and undeniably tempting, Rio's dining scene goes beyond Brazil. For utter indulgence, the chef's table at **Cipriani Restaurant** within the Copacabana Palace Hotel is divine – the menu a sequence of culinary triumphs in which each inventive Northern Italian dish is trumped by the next, from polenta with taleggio to gnocchi with black truffles.