

BRADESTINO



February 2024 NEWSLETTER

Brazil is more than a Travel Destination

WELCOME TO MY SECOND BRADESTINO NEWSLETTER

February is the month of Celebration. Many Brazilians celebrate the Goddess of the Sea or Iemanjá and this year the biggest celebration on the planet, CARNIVAL, takes place in the week of February 12, 2024.



The festival of Iemanjá (or Yemanjá) on February 2

The biggest celebration is held in the Rio Vermelho neighbourhood in Salvador where followers of the Candomblé religion offer flowers and gifts to their goddess Iemanjá at the sea's edge and send them out to her in the ocean. Everyone dresses in white, and night-long music and dancing continue after the offerings have been made...

Don't Miss Out!

**Different Carnival Types in Brazil
Viradouro Champion Rio Carnival
Check out my website to learn more**

Visiting Grande Rio

In 2009 my husband and I were happy to visit the carnival work halls (barracões) of Grande Rio and it was an unforgettable experience.

Being a big carnival fan and not missing any carnival celebration in my home town Aalst (Belgium) a visit to Grande Rio in the Cidade do Samba could not be missed. Though carnival preparations are similar in Aalst and we also have carnival work halls Rio is at a different and much bigger level.

Already many months in advance engineers travel from the other side of the country such as Manaus to design the floats. Designers, sewers, craftsmen are creating the ornaments and the costumes. The carnival groups are preparing their song and practicing their dances upfront.

The Cidade do Samba can be considered as the Carnival factory of Rio de Janeiro and I was very grateful to Grande Rio for this sneak peak and to my guide Martha for making this happen!

One day I do hope to be able to attend the Carnival Parade at the Sambódromo in Rio de Janeiro but that means I need to skip the carnival in my home town Aalst. This will be a difficult decision though...

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