

***RIOB 2013 - World General Assembly
of the International Network of Basin Organizations***

12-16 August, 2013

Marina Park Hotel, Fortaleza-CE, Brazil

Brazil

Brazil is the largest country in South America. It is the world's fifth largest country, both by geographical area and by population with over 192 million people. It is the only Portuguese-speaking country in the Americas and the largest lusophone country in the world. Bounded by the Atlantic Ocean on the east, Brazil has a coastline of 7,491 km (4,655 mi). It is bordered on the north by Venezuela, Guyana, Suriname and the French overseas region of French Guiana; on the northwest by Colombia; on the west by Bolivia and Peru; on the southwest by Argentina and Paraguay and on the south by Uruguay. Numerous archipelagos form part of Brazilian territory, such as Fernando de Noronha, Rocas Atoll, Saint Peter and Paul Rocks, and Trindade and Martim Vaz. It borders all other South American countries except Ecuador and Chile. Brazil was a colony of Portugal from the landing of Pedro Álvares Cabral in 1500 until 1815, when it was elevated to the rank of kingdom and the United Kingdom of Portugal, Brazil and the Algarves was formed. The colonial bond was in fact broken in 1808, when the capital of the Portuguese colonial empire was transferred from Lisbon to Rio de Janeiro, after Napoleon invaded Portugal. Independence was achieved in 1822 with the formation of the Empire of Brazil, a unitary state governed under a constitutional monarchy and a parliamentary system. The country became a presidential republic in 1889, when a military coup d'état proclaimed the Republic, although the bicameral legislature, now called Congress, dates back to the ratification of the first constitution in 1824. Its current Constitution, formulated in 1988, defines Brazil as a Federal Republic. The Federation is formed by the union of the Federal District, the 26 States, and the 5,564 Municipalities. The Brazilian economy is the world's sixth largest by nominal GDP and the seventh largest by purchasing power parity (as of 2011). Brazil is one of the world's fastest growing major economies. Economic reforms have given the country new international recognition. Brazil is a founding member of the United Nations, the G20, CPLP, Latin Union, the Organization of Ibero-American States, the Organization of American States, Mercosul and the Union of South American Nations, and is one of the BRIC countries. Brazil is also one of the 17 Megadiverse countries, home to diverse wildlife, natural environments, and extensive natural resources in a variety of protected habitats.

Ceará State

Ceará is one of the 27 states of Brazil, located in the northeastern part of the country, on the Atlantic coast. It is currently the 8th largest Brazilian State by population and the 17th by area. It is also one of the main touristic destinations in Brazil. The state capital is the city of Fortaleza. The state is best known for its extensive coastline, with 573 kilometers (356 mi) of sand and has an area of 148,016 km². There are also mountains and valleys producing tropical fruits. Ceará lies partly upon the northeast slope of the Brazilian Highlands, and partly upon the sandy coastal plain. Its surface is a succession of great terraces, facing north and northeast, formed by the denudation of the ancient sandstone plateau which once covered this part of the continent; the terraces are seamed by watercourses, and their valleys are broken by hills and ranges of highlands. The rivers of the state are small and, with one or two exceptions, become completely dry in the dry season. The largest is the Jaguaribe, which flows entirely across the state in a northeast direction. Ceará has a varied environment, with mangroves, caatinga, jungle, scrubland and tropical forest. The higher ranges intercept considerable moisture from the prevailing trade winds, and their flanks and valleys are covered with a tropical forest which is typical of the region, gathering species from tropical forests, caatinga and cerrado. The less elevated areas of the plateaus are either thinly wooded or open campo. Most of the region at the lower altitudes is characterized by scrubby forests called caatingas, which is an endemic Brazilian vegetation. The sandy, coastal plain, with a width of 12 to 18 miles (29 km), is nearly bare of vegetation, although the coast has many enclaves of restingas forests and mangroves. Some areas in the higher ranges of Serra da Ibiapaba, Serra do Araripe and others are more appropriate to agriculture as its soil and vegetation are less affected by the dry seasons. The endless stretch of beaches in the state is a major tourist attraction. Ceará has several famous beaches such as Canoa Quebrada, Jericoacoara, Morro Branco, Taíba and Flexeiras. The climate is hot and humid on the coast, tempered by the cool trade winds; but in the more elevated, semi-arid regions it is very hot and dry (often above 22 °C, but seldom above 30 °C), although the nights

are cool. However, in the higher ranges (Serra da Ibiapaba, Serra do Araripe and several less larger highlands) the temperatures are cooler and vary from about 14 °C to 18 °C. The year is divided into a rainy and dry season, the rains beginning in January to March and lasting until June. The dry season, July to December, is sometimes broken by slight showers in September and October, but these are of very slight importance. This environment and temperature attracts many tourists, especially ecotourists. The climate is hot almost all year round. The temperature in the state varies from 22 °C to 36 °C with the lowest temperatures not being typical in the capital Fortaleza but in the numerous mountains in the state. Sometimes the rains fail altogether, and then a drought ensues, causing famine and pestilence throughout the entire region. Because of the constant risk of droughts, nowadays there are lots of dams (called "açude") throughout Ceará, the largest of them being the Açude Castanhão. Thanks to the dams, the Jaguaribe River doesn't become completely dry anymore.

Fortaleza

Fortaleza (Fortress) is the state capital of Ceará, located in Northeastern Brazil. With a population close to 2.3 million (metropolitan region over 3.4 million), Fortaleza is the 5th largest city in Brazil. It has an area of 313 square kilometres (121 sq mi) and one of the highest demographic densities in the country (8,001 per km²). Residents of the city are known as Fortalezaenses. The city will be one of the host cities of the 2014 FIFA World Cup, for which Brazil is the host nation. The statue of Iracema refers to the legend of the indigenous woman depicted in a 19th century novel by José de Alencar, a famous Brazilian author born in Messejana. Mucuripe Beach holds the Lighthouse Museum. Opened in 1846, the old lighthouse was active for 111 years, until it was closed in 1957, and replaced by a newer one. Dragão do Mar Center of Art and Culture holds the Cearense Culture Memorial, the Contemporary Art Museum and Rubens de Azevedo Planetarium, as well as movies and theaters. Besides this, many old warehouses were refurbished and became bars and restaurants surrounding the central area of town. Fortaleza has a typical tropical climate, specifically a tropical wet and dry climate, with high temperatures and high relative humidity throughout the year. However, these conditions are usually relieved by pleasant winds blowing from the ocean. Average temperatures are not much different throughout the year. December and January are the warmest months, with a high of 31 °C (88 °F) and low of 25 °C (77 °F). The rainy season spans from February to May (locally called "winter" due to the rain, not the temperature), with rainfall particularly prodigious in March and April. with average annual temperature of 27 °C (81 °F). The relative humidity in the air in Fortaleza is 77% with average annual rainfall of 1,400 millimetres (54.26 in). Generally, Fortaleza is characterized by its hotness. The breeze during hot days is refreshing because wind speed in the city is generally typical of sea-side cities. The wind direction is from the sea towards the land, or from west towards east. This wind direction accompanied by ideal wind speed makes different wind activities like surfing and kite flying ideal activities in Fortaleza. Fortaleza weather is unique in that there is usually rain during the first six months of the year, from January to June. During this period, relative humidity is high. Fortaleza climate is usually very dry during the months of August to December, with very little rainfall in that period. The warm climate, warm ocean waters and the sandy beaches attract tourists. In recent years, many of the old hotels have been replaced by European-owned international resorts. Nightlife is full of festivities with bars, restaurants and shows as the primary attraction. The city is known for having the "wildest Monday nights in the world". Some of the best bars and clubs are found near Dragão do Mar Center of Art and Culture. The Beach of the Iracema, the first urban nuclei of the city and former touristic attraction, is currently known as a prostitution hotspot of the city. It includes the Bridge of the Englishmen which is an ideal location for watching the sunset and spotting dolphins. Fortaleza's urban beaches have warm waters. The scenery is complemented by the jangadas (small rafts used by many of Ceará's fishermen) for catching seafood for the Ceará cuisine. The Beach of the Futuro is a popular location with many beachside restaurants, built in the local style using carnauba straw and called Beach Huts. Scuba diving is possible in the area of Pedra da Risca do Meio State Marine Park, a marine protected area located about 10 nautical miles from the shoreline of Fortaleza.

Travel Arrangements

Fortaleza is the state capital of [Ceará](#), located in [Northeastern Brazil](#). Marina Park Hotel, venue of meetings is 9 km from Fortaleza International Airport, about 24 minutes by car.

www.marinapark.com.br

Since your meetings will commence early morning, it is recommended that you arrive at the resort the day before your first meeting and relax after your journey.

Accommodation

Luxury Accommodation at the Marina Park Hotel

The meetings venue is the Marina Park Hotel, offering 5-star services in an excellent location on the ocean front of the sea, just a few meters from Fortaleza's most popular handicraft market.

www.marinapark.com.br

| Hotel | Category | Package with 04 Nights 08/12/2013 a 08/16/2013 | | | Extra Night | | |
|---------------------------------|----------|---|------|------|-------------|-----|-----|
| | | SGL | DBL | TPL | SGL | DBL | TPL |
| Marina Park – Standard | 5* | 1318 | 1408 | | 307 | 307 | |
| Marina Park – Luxury | 5* | 1566 | 1656 | | 369 | 369 | |
| Marina Park- Superior Luxury | 5* | 1746 | 1836 | | 414 | 414 | |
| Marina Park- Executive Suite | 5* | 2110 | 2200 | | 505 | 505 | |
| Ponta Mar - Standard | 4* | 1282 | 1504 | 1926 | 298 | 331 | 414 |
| Hotel Diogo- Luxury | 3* | 1270 | 1620 | 2122 | 295 | 360 | 463 |
| Maredomus - Standard | 3* | 854 | 1048 | 1446 | 191 | 217 | 294 |

Value in reais, per room; Breakfast included; Service charge and ISS are included; Tourism tax not included; Transfer airport/hotel/airport only for 4 nights or more; Conditions and value are subject to adjustment without notice.

If you want add the Private Ground Transportation (Optional):

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| Ground Transportation Airport/Hotel/Airport | Executive Car with Driver for 1-3 people | 312 | () |
| Ground Transportation Airport/Hotel/Airport | Popular Car with Driver for 1-3 people | 190 | () |

Value in reais, per vehicle.

Off-site Accommodation

Although we recommend the Marina Park Hotel as the preferred accommodation for the meetings, you may prefer more modestly priced off-site accommodation. Our hosts have made arrangements with the Ponta Mar Hotel, the Diogo Hotel and the Maredomus Hotel.

We invite you to make hotel reservations at eventos.for@casablancaTurismo.com.br
(to: Mrs. Clélia Sales or Isabelita Aragão)

I wish to reside in the following hotel, and agree that the Travel Agent, Casablanca Turismo, makes my reservation accordingly:

- Marina Park Standard
 Marina Parkr luxury
 Marina Park Superior luxury
 Marina Park Executive Suite
 Ponta Mar Hotel Standard
 Diogo Hotel Standard
 Maredomus Hotel Standard

Registration Booking/Credit Card Authorization

Please fill in all relevant details below.

Name of Participant: -----

Partner's name (if attending): -----

Others in your party: -----

Contact email address for confirmation of arrangements: -----

Date of arrival: ----- Date of departure: -----

Arriving at: Pinto Martins Airport /Other (please cross out if not applicable) -----

Arrival Flight details: Name of airline:-----Flight No:----- Time: -----am/pm

Departure Flight details: Name of airline:-----Flight No:----- Time: -----am/pm

Special requirements:-----

Credit card details:

The official agency of the meeting 'Casablanca Turismo' require credit card details to confirm bookings. If you are unable to show up and do not cancel your booking, you will be charged a cancellation fee equivalent to two nights accommodation till 90 days before the event.

Type of card: _____ Name on card: _____

Security Code: _____ Expiry date: ____/____/____

Card number:

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Make sure there is one number in each of the 16 boxes above, exception Amex which has 15 boxes.

Card-holder's Signature: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Form to be returned, by 20 May 2012, to (both):

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