Little Africa, time to listen

4h 30-5h / Downtown Rio / 4 stops

Thursday-Saturday with IPN confirmed; MAR closes Wednesdays.

Memory of slavery and resistance, with time to listen at IPN and view art at MAR; prefer a local interpreter or guide.

1 — 2 — 3 — 4

09:30

01 Cais do Valongo

Praça Jornal do Comércio, Avenida Barão de Tefé, Rio de Janeiro

Built in 1811 for the landing of enslaved Africans, the quay officially closed in 1831 when trafficking was prohibited by law. Slavery itself did not end. In 1843, a new layer welcomed Empress Teresa Cristina as the Empress's Wharf. The overlapping stones reveal how a celebration of monarchy physically covered the violence of trafficking, leaving distinct histories within one place. Look closely: Paving of the original 1811 quay.

10:00

02 Instituto de Pesquisa e Memória Pretos Novos

Rua Pedro Ernesto, 32, Rio de Janeiro

The memorial occupies a former burial place for recently arrived Africans. After Valongo, this stop restores attention to individuals and human loss. Encountering archaeology here should prompt reflection on dignity, violence and repair, through a respectful visit that refuses to turn suffering into a passing or sensational curiosity. Look closely: Archaeological viewing windows.

Confirm / book

11:15

03 Pedra do Sal

Fim da Rua Argemiro Bulcão, perto do Largo da Prainha, Rio de Janeiro

The name recalls salt unloaded at the old port through the labor of enslaved Africans. In the second half of the nineteenth century, dockworkers gathered here to sing and dance. Pedra do Sal became an important place in samba's formation and Black cultural networks. Its steps connect port labor, social life, religion and celebration: history also made outside palaces. Look closely: Rock surface and carved steps.

12:30

04 Museu de Arte do Rio (MAR)

Praça Mauá, 5, Rio de Janeiro

End your exploration of the port by considering how a city narrates its own transformation. Art, architecture and landscape can make some experiences visible while leaving others outside the frame. Compare the memories encountered in the streets with exhibition choices, without expecting one final or definitive account of the past. Look closely: Museum architectural complex.

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Getting around

On foot, about 2 km. Valongo>IPN 10 min; IPN>Pedra do Sal 10-15 min; Pedra>MAR 10-15 min. Use VLT or transport to reach the circuit.

Tickets and tips

Confirm the IPN slot first and adapt the day to that booking. Arrive 10-15 min early; allow time for interpretation and reflection. Sources differ on Saturday closing and Tuesday free-entry eligibility: confirm conditions and price, without relying on walk-in entry. Take a meal break before MAR. MAR ticket sales end at 5 pm and do not accept cash.

Before you go

IPN sources list R$20 full/R$10 reduced; confirm price and eligibility when booking. MAR lists R$20/R$10, exemptions and free Tuesdays. Food and transport are extra.

Open route in Google Maps

Open route in Google Maps

Visit and travel times are estimates. Links require an internet connection.

Sources and bookings

[1] Valongo - UNESCO
https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1548/

[2] IPN - visita / visit / visita
https://pretosnovos.com.br/visitacao/

[3] IPN - Sympla
https://www.sympla.com.br/produtor/visitacaoipn

[4] Pedra do Sal
https://www.ccpar.rio/pedra-do-sal/

[5] MAR - informações / information / información
https://museudeartedorio.org.br/visite/horarios-e-ingresso/

[6] MAR - ingressos / tickets / entradas
https://museudeartedorio.byinti.com/

[7] VLT - mapa / map / mapa
https://trilhos.motiva.com.br/vltrio/mapas/

Open, save and share

The online edition brings together updates and makes this route easy to share.

https://rioemcamadas.com/guia/pequena-africa-meio-dia?lang=en

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