

IS THIS THE WORLD'S MOST BEAUTIFUL BEACH?

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According to the many thousands

of world travellers on TripAdvisor, it's #1: Praia do Sancho on the Brazilian island of Fernando de Noronha. You'll also find it on just about any list of most beautiful beaches, such as Condé Nast, Harper's Bazaar, and Luxury Travel.

The whole island is gorgeous. Mention that you've been there to any Brazilian who hasn't and their eyes get misty. Fernando de Noronha (no-rone-ya) is the dream honeymoon, the dream vacation that only comes true for few in Brazil, as it's hard to get to and hardly any place to stay once you're there.

You have to get to either Recife or Natal in the far northeast, then fly 220 miles out into the Atlantic. Then take a boat, or scamper down the rocks of a 250ft-high cliff to be on the sugar sand of this enchanting beach – which you'll have almost to yourself.

For some reason, all those lists have the name wrong, calling it “Baia” or “Baio,” when it's “Praia” (beach in Portuguese). As the welcome sign proudly announces above the cliff trail: “Praia do Sancho – A Mais Bonita do Mundo,” Sancho Beach – The Most Beautiful in the World. If you're lucky to ever get here, you'll surely agree. (*Glimpses of Our Breathtaking World* #73photo ©Jack Wheeler)

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