



Paraty

culture and
biodiversity



PARATY CULTURE & BIODIVERSITY

IS BRAZIL'S
PROPOSAL
FOR A MIXED
SITE FOR
INSCRIPTION
ON THE
UNESCO WORLD
HERITAGE LIST.

The mixed site is the preserved tropical forest surrounding the calm waters of Ilha Grande Bay. It is the indigenous, Quilombola, and Caiçara communities living in harmony with the area's rich biological diversity. It is the archaeological record of millennia-old human occupation of this territory. It is the colonial town that preserves its historic relations and urban dynamics in the centre of Paraty, in the state of Rio de Janeiro.

PARATY
CULTURE &
BIODIVERSITY IS THE
COEXISTENCE OF LIVING
AND ANCESTRAL CULTURE
IN THIS EXUBERANT NATURAL
ENVIRONMENT.

The nominated property's area consists of five components, four of which are conservation units: Serra da Bocaina National Park, Environmental Protection Area of Cairuçu, Ilha Grande State Park, and Praia do Sul Biological Reserve. The Historic Centre of Paraty and Morro da Vila Velha form the fifth component. Together, the conservation units form a huge belt of native forest covering almost 150,000 hectares, permeated by historic records of different ages, including the urban area and marine environment on Ilha Grande Bay.

The Serra da Bocaina mountain range gives to the region outstanding beauty due to its rugged relief, with peaks reaching 2,000 meters above sea level and lush forest cover extending from the high plains down to the seacoast.

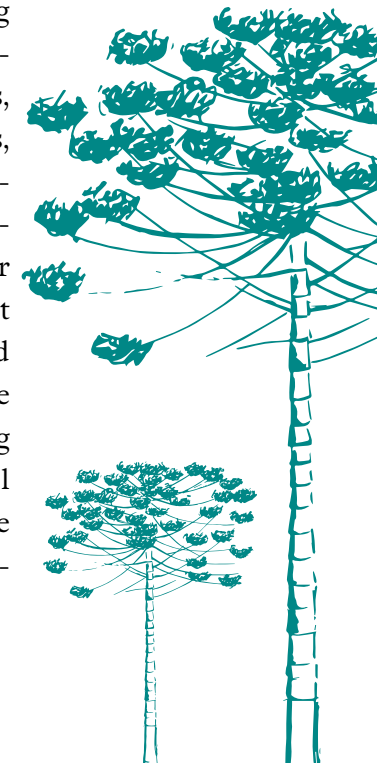




PRESENTING
ABOUT 85% OF
WELL-PRESERVED
FOREST COVER,

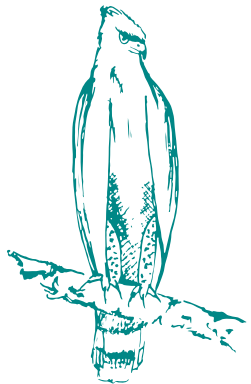
the mixed site area forms the second largest remnant of the Atlantic Forest biome. Beyond the size itself, the vegetation's diverse characteristics allow the occurrence of an incomparable fauna and flora, with several rare and endemic species.

Paraty Culture and Biodiversity includes the ancestral relations between humans and nature, with the first records dating back 4,000 years. The cultural system includes archaeological and historic sites, such as sambaquis (shell middens), farms, fortifications, the Gold Route, living cultural expressions and urban areas of Paraty. The traditional communities and their ways of life, associated with the recent history of the region and the protected areas, resulted in the conservation of the tropical forest and Paraty's outstanding biodiversity. Conservation of the natural environment contributed in turn to the maintenance of the traditional communities in their territories.



THE CULTURAL SYSTEM
IN WHICH LIVING CULTURE
IS MANIFESTED BY THE
TRADITIONAL COMMUNITIES'
WAYS OF LIFE AND THEIR
RELATIONS WITH THE NATURAL
ENVIRONMENT FORMS AN
OUTSTANDING ENSEMBLE.

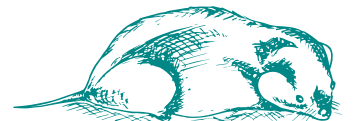
Within it, Paraty's historic colonial centre, with its original urban layout preserved, and Morro da Vila Velha are located on the coastal plain and surrounded by high mountains, magnificently framing the urban landscape.



The historic extensions pertaining to the commercial activities in one of Brazil's principal trading ports for commodities and merchandise from the 17th to the 19th centuries are present on Morro da Vila Velha, the site of the Defensor Perpétuo Fort (belonging to component 5), part of the Gold Route crossing the mountains and forest (inside the Serra da Bocaina National

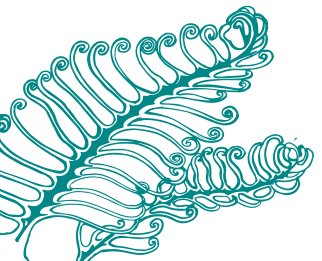
Park, in component 1), the historic site of Paraty-Mirim (in the Environmental Protection Area of Cairuçu, component 4), in the lands occupied by traditional communities, old plantations, and sugar cane mills, the prehistoric and historic archaeological sites (parts of which in components 3 and 4 in Ilha Grande State Park and Praia do Sul Biological Reserve and component 5, Paraty's historic town center and Morro da Vila Velha), and the prehistoric lithic tool-making sites on Ilha Grande Bay. The building techniques and materials used in the historic buildings in Paraty are still preserved. The spirit of Paraty is present in the homes and town squares, in the traditional dugout canoes still seen on the beaches, and in the presence of nature enveloping and interacting with the built environment.

The traditional communities' ways of life of remain authentic, with their cultural references associated with the knowledge, celebrations, and expressions and the places



where these practices occur. The relationship between the Caiçaras (traditional coastal fishing communities of mixed European, African, and indigenous ancestry) with the sea and artisanal fishing, the African-Brazilian culture present in the daily life of the quilombos (maroon communities, descendants of African slaves), as well as the Guarani people and their cosmology, rituals, and maintenance of the Tupi-Guarani language. In the historic town centre, the religious celebrations still occur in the churches and religious orders in festivals and processions, veritable rites of passage for the people of Paraty and Ilha Grande Bay, like the Festival of the Divine Holy Spirit, which is acknowledged and safeguarded as a cultural reference in Brazil's immaterial heritage.

THE SITE ALSO HAS A BUFFER
ZONE, WHICH COVERS MORE
THAN 250,000 HECTARES AND
INCLUDES THE MARINE PORTION
OF THE ILHA GRANDE BAY





as well as eight other conservation units: Tamoios National Ecological Station, Serra do Mar State Park, Tamoios State Environmental Protection Area, Aventureiro Sustainable Development State Reserve, Paraty Bay Municipal Marine Environmental Protection Area, Gleba O Saquinho de Itapirapuã Private Reserve of Natural Heritage, Fazenda do Tanguá Private Reserve of Natural Heritage, and Pousada Campos da Bocaina Private Reserve of Natural Heritage. Located in the core zone, the Juatinga State Ecological Reserve completely overlaps the Environmental Protection Area of Cairuçu (component 4).

**IN TOTAL, 13 CONSERVATION
UNITS OF DIFFERENT
CATEGORIES INTEGRATE THE
CORE AND BUFFER ZONES OF
THE NOMINATED PROPERTY.**

This is the first mixed site in South America and the Caribbean that includes traditional populations of different ethnic origins living in one of the largest areas of preserved tropical forest, with a rich biodiversity and the Historic Centre of Paraty.

The five components express the unique values of this interaction between the natural environment and the cultural system, bearing testimony to past human presence in a territory extending from the mountain range to the coastal plain and sea.

THE LISTED PROPERTY'S
OUTSTANDING UNIVERSAL
VALUE IS EXPRESSED BY THE
FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

(V) An outstanding example of a traditional human settlement, land-use, or sea-use which is representative of a culture (or cultures), or human interaction with the environment. In the nominated area, the human presence in interaction with the natural environment is attested to by the archaeological sites dating to more than 4,000 BP and the permanence of traditional communities on their lands, maintaining their ways of life and knowledge. Vestiges of human occupation over time can be seen in the trails, shell middens, caves, and underground and submerged structures of the most representative archaeological sites, present in the core areas.







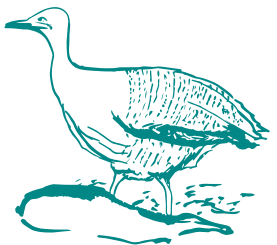


The mixed site Paraty Culture and Biodiversity includes two Indigenous Lands, two Quilombos (maroon communities), and 28 Caiçara (artisanal fisher) communities, living in close harmony with nature, artisanal fishing, and sustainable management of species of the biological diversity. These communities maintain their ancestral ways of life, preserving most of their cultural relations such as rites, festivals, and religions, whose tangible and intangible elements contribute to the characterization of the cultural system and to the relationship between their ways of life and the natural environment.

(X) Contains the most important and significant natural habitats for the in-situ conservation of biological diversity. The site presents a high degree of endemic flora and fauna species, including rare species in the Atlantic Forest. There are 36 plant species that are classified as rare, 29 of which are endemic. The area harbours 45% of the Atlantic Forest avifauna and 34% of the biome's anurans (toads and tree frogs).



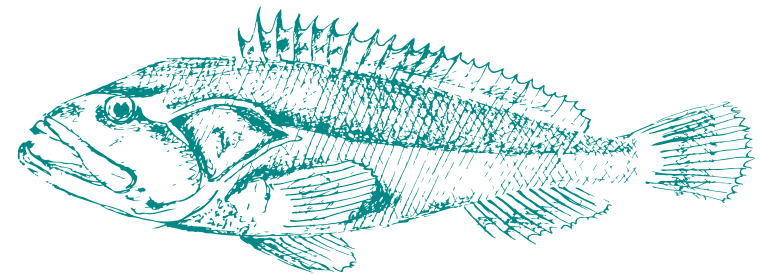
Rare mammals live in the region, including predators, such as the jaguar, and the muriqui or woolly spider monkey, the largest non-human primate of the Americas. The site is considered a special area for preservation of the biodiversity in the high plateaus, mountainside forests, mangroves, shoals, and the marine environment. The inscription of this mixed site on the World Heritage List, with outstanding universal values for humankind, restates the territory's commitment to the preservation of its cultural and natural values. The nomination also consolidates a commitment to respect the traditional communities and their ways of life and knowledge, where respectful interaction contributes to the different ecosystems' preservation. In addition, it will enable integrated, participatory, and shared management among public authorities and civil society, including traditional communities, intending to promote sustainable development in the region. Paraty's first candidacy to the World Heritage List occurred in 2009, when it was enrolled as a cultural landscape to compete for cultural heritage status.





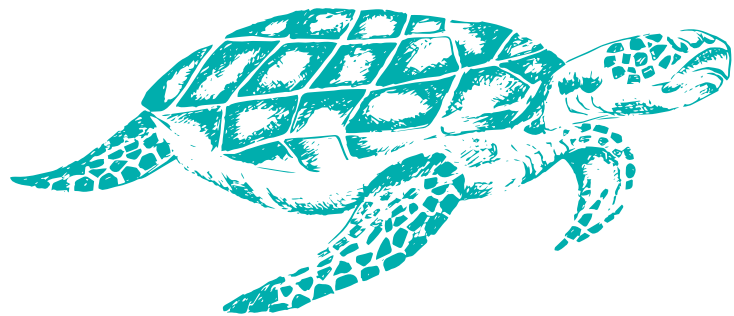


At the recommendation of the World Heritage Committee, the proposal was revised and had its scope expanded to include a broad portion of the natural environment. Paraty Culture and Biodiversity recognizes the importance of conservation units and the historical centre of Paraty and Morro da Vila Velha as heritage, valuing its cultural, environmental, and tourist potential. This may be the first mixed site of the American continent to be nominated for the outstanding universal value of its biodiversity along with its material and immaterial culture.



THIS TITLE, RECOGNIZED
ALL OVER THE WORLD,
REPRESENTS A GREAT
ACHIEVEMENT FOR BRAZIL.

Paraty Culture and Biodiversity recognizes the importance of conservation units and the historical centre of Paraty and Morro da Vila Velha as heritage, valuing its cultural, environmental, and tourist potential. This may be the first mixed site of the American continent to be nominated for the outstanding universal value of its biodiversity along with its material and immaterial culture.







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Sacred Art Museum of Paraty

Morro do Forte Museum

Historical and Artistic Institute of Paraty

Traditional Communities Forum

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Territories of Bocaina

Ilha Grande Working Group

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Sesc Paraty

Partnerships

Fedrigoni Brasil | Special Papers

Letterpress Brasil | Craft Print

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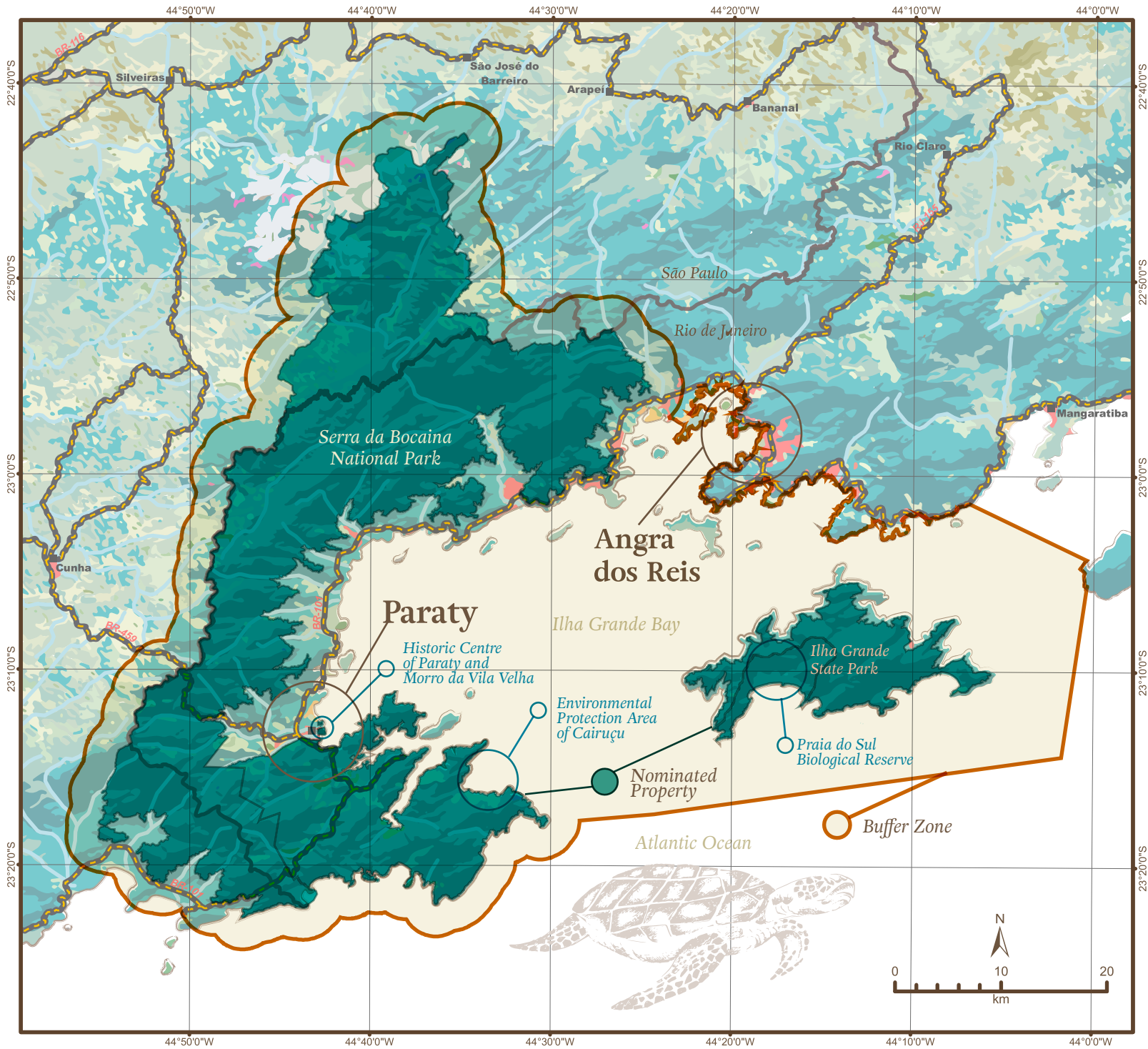
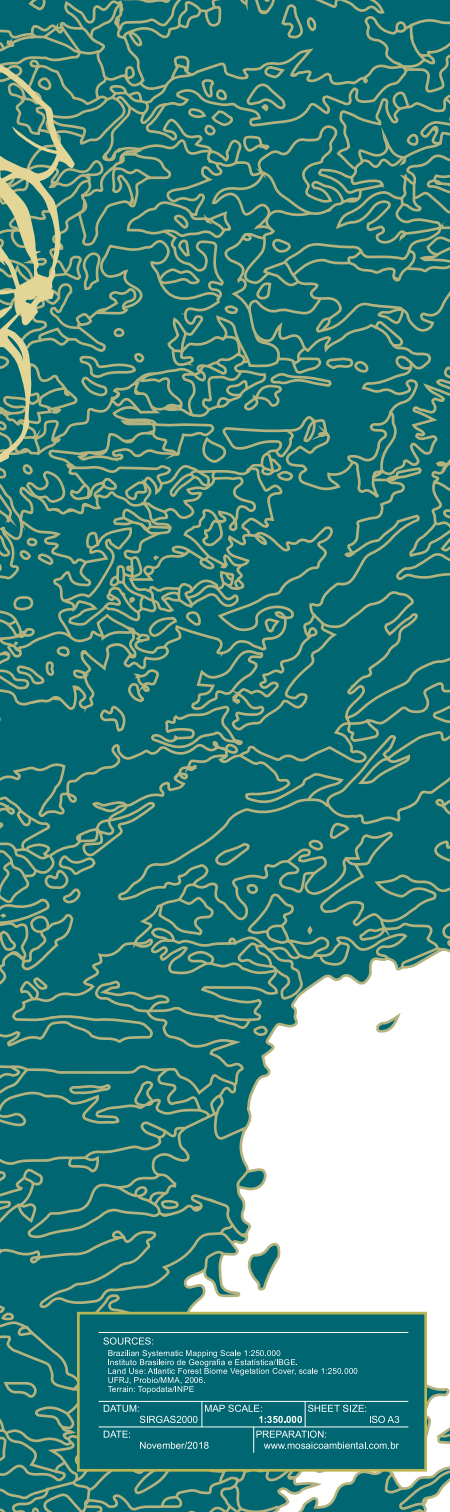




*Watch the video Paraty Culture and Biodiversity
YouTube Channel: Paraty Cultura e Biodiversidade*

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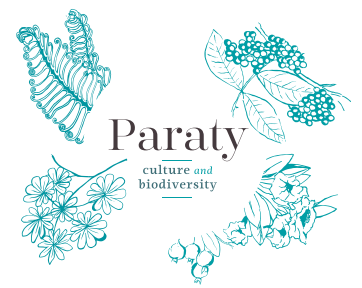
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Brazilian Systematic Mapping Scale 1:250,000
Instituto Brasileiro de Geografia e Estatística/IBGE
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UFPA, Probiom/MA, 2005
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MAP KEYS

- Nominated Property
- Buffer Zone
- Cities
- Roads
- Rivers
- State Limit





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