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1. Geographical location

Rio is the sixth largest city in the Americas and second largest in Brazil. This Capital city of the state of Rio de Janeiro lies in the south eastern region of Brazil. It has varied physical features and is made up of beautiful water bodies, mountains and forests. The southern part of the city lies in the Atlantic Ocean. The Guanabara Bay lies to the East of the city and Sepetiba Bay to its West. Due to its altitude, closeness to the ocean and vegetation, Rio experiences tropical climate most of the year.



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2. Neighbouring cities/countries

The Neighboring Cities Of Rio Are Niteroi At A Distance Of 14Kms, Nova Iguacu At 27Kms, Petropolis At 44Kms, Volta Redonda At 99Kms, Sao Paulo At 435Kms, Espírito Santo At 703Kms And Minas Gerais At 640Kms.



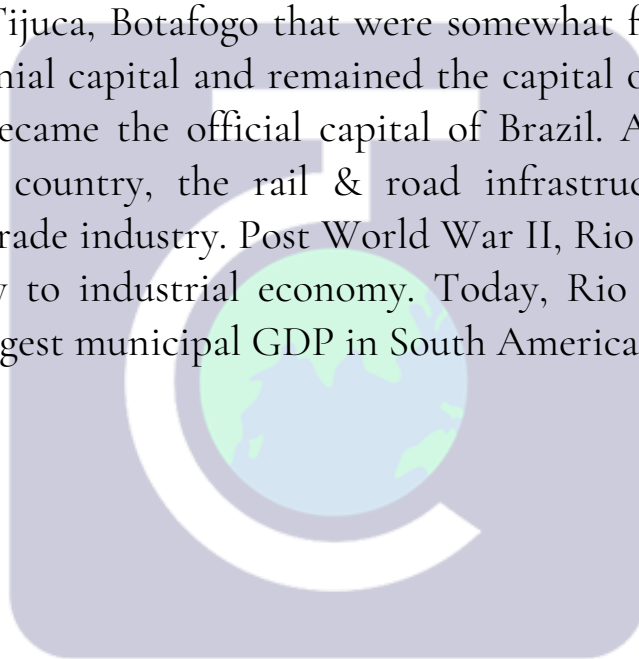
3. Significance

Rio, with its beautiful coastline of 7000 miles provides plenty of beautiful places to visit in Brazil. The downtown of this vibrant city is bursting with Culture as well as pulsating with a deep sense of history and heritage. This historic city of Rio is world renowned for its beautiful beaches, mountains and the very famous Christ the Redeemer that sits atop a beautiful mountain. Sports enthusiasts must definitely visit the Maracana stadium. The Carnival with its enthusiastic samba dancers jiggling their hips attracts thousands of tourists from all around the world every year. Rio de Janeiro has been awarded the UNESCO World Heritage Status for its largest urban forest of Tijuca National Park and the scenic mountain of Corcovado that sits Christ the Redeemer that has become the sacred icon of Brazil. The most visited city in the Southern Hemisphere, Rio makes for an impressive and memorable attraction for tourists from all over. Rio is rightly known to be Brazil's Top-notch and diverse tourist destination with its timeless attractions, long and serene beaches and craziest nightlife in the world.

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4. History

In Portuguese, Rio means “river” and Janeiro means “January”. It is believed that the Portuguese navigators arrived at this place on January 1, 1502 and named it Rio de Janeiro. As Rio achieved independence from the Portuguese, the city expanded culturally, politically, architecturally and economically. Public transportation in the form of horse drawn trolleys allowed transport to places like Sao Cristovao, Tijuca, Botafogo that were somewhat far from Rio. In 1763, Rio became the colonial capital and remained the capital of Brazil from 1822 to 1960 until Brasilia became the official capital of Brazil. Along with being the busiest port in the country, the rail & road infrastructure also lead to a development of the trade industry. Post World War II, Rio transformed from an agricultural economy to industrial economy. Today, Rio de Janeiro boasts of having the second largest municipal GDP in South America.



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5. Cultural identity

Rio is known to be the cultural capital of the country. Due to its historic past, Rio has a great influence of Portuguese culture. Rio de Janeiro has a selection of amazing art galleries and wonderful museums that provide visitors an opportunity to experience the current and historic art forms from all over the world along with Latin American artists. The annual festivals of the city play a key role in understanding Rio's culture from more interactive perspective. Dance, music and performing arts form a backbone for Rio's culture. Carnivals in Rio are world famous for their colorful display and vigorous salsa dancers. The people here are friendly and laidback and are amazing hosts. Tourists are welcomed with warmth and friendliness. The city has a high tolerance for gay culture and the LGBT community is openly accepted here.



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6. Natural resources

Tijuca National Park and the Botanical Garden (Jardim Botânico) are the two important natural reserves of Rio where endangered flora and fauna are well protected. Rio being the industrial economy relies heavily on the natural resources to stop rural poverty in the economy. Natural resources found in Rio include Iron Ore, Bauxite, Granite, Clay, Tin, Gold, Platinum, Manganese, Limestone, Nickel, Uranium, Gems, Petroleum, Phosphates, Sand, Hydroelectric Power and Timber.



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7. Key site seeing places (paid and free)

7.1. Paid

7.1.1. Theatro Municipal do Rio de Janeiro

This dominating structure in the heart of the city is one of the main cultural venues in Brazil and an invaluable opera in Latin America. Forming a part of the 7 wonders of Rio de Janeiro, Theatro Municipal is a lavish theatre built in the 1900s. Designed in an eclectic style and inspired by the Paris Opera, this cultural center is adorned with mirrors, statues, painted glass windows, beautiful chandeliers and murals. Maintaining 3 artistic bodies including a symphony orchestra, a ballet company and a choir all in one setting, this cultural paradise has hosted performances of famous artists, great orchestras, and renowned dance companies.

Address : Praça Floriano, S/N - Centro, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20031-050, Brazil

Zipcode : 20031-050

Location : -22.9090481, -43.1765575

Contact : +55 21 2332-9191

Website : <http://www.theatromunicipal.rj.gov.br/>

Nearest Public Transport : Rua Araujo Porto Alegre lado oposto ao número 16 Bus station, Rua Araujo Porto Alegre, 39 Bus station

Entry Fee : Full Guided Tours: R\$ 20; Half Guided Tours: R\$ 10.

Open & Close Timing : Tour Timings- Tuesday-Friday 11:30hrs, 12:00hrs, 14:00hrs, 14:30hrs, 15:00hrs and 16:00hrs; Saturdays and Holidays 11:00hrs, 12:00hrs and 13:00hrs.

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 10-25 minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes

7.1.2. Chacara do Ceu Museum

Situated on the hill of Santa Teresa, the Chacara do Ceu Museum meaning “Country House of the Sky” is an outstanding work of art built in 1954. A former manor of the famous art collector, Castro Maya, it represents the lifestyle of the owner whose legacy can be seen in the exhibits of the museum. Tucked away in the greenery, this museum features 22,000 art pieces by famous Brazilian and

international painters, engravers and sculptors. You will also find antique furniture and artwork from the times of Mayan civilization here. The splendid views of the Guanabara Bay and the city add to the beauty of the place.

Address : R. Murtinho Nobre, 93 - Santa Teresa, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20241-050, Brazil

Zipcode : 20241-050

Location : -22.9174124, -43.18390149999999

Contact : +55 21 3970-1093

Website : <http://www.museuscastromaya.com.br/chacara.htm>

Nearest Public Transport : Rua Joaquim murtinho proximo ao 900 Bus station.

Entry Fee : Adults: R\$ 2; Free for Children under 12years and senior citizens above 65years of age.

Open & Close Timing : Daily 12:00hrs-17:00hrs, Closed on Tuesdays.

Time Required : 1.5

Expected Wait Time : 10-15 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.3. Sugarloaf Mountain

Rising at a point where the Guanabara Bay converges with the Atlantic Ocean, Sugarloaf Mountain or Pão de Açúcar offers spectacular views of the skyline of Rio. Situated 396 meters above the sea level, the sweeping vistas of the beautiful beaches, mountain peaks and sparkling blue waters from every nook of the hill are just one part of the alluring Sugarloaf. You can also see the jaw-dropping sight of Corcovado mountain and the statue of Christ Redeemer from the top. It is said that its name refers to the similarity between its shape and concentrated refined loaf sugar. Visit the summit at the time of the sunset and treat yourself with one of the most breathtaking landscapes you will ever see.

Address : Urca, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22291-060, Brazil

Zipcode : 22291-060

Location : -22.9492586, -43.15457570000001

Contact : +55-2125468433

Nearest Public Transport : Rua Candido Gaffree próximo ao 48 Bus station, Praia Vermelha Cable Car Station.

Entry Fee : General: R\$ 76; People above 60years, Children (6-21years) and

disabled people: R\$ 38; Free for children under 6.

Open & Close Timing : Daily 08:00hrs-20:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 15 minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes

7.1.4. Museu Nacional de Belas Artes

Housed in the former National School of Fine Arts, Museu Nacional de Belas Artes or The National Museum of Fine Arts opened its door in 1937 and boasts of the largest collection of 19th-century Brazilian art. The architectonic style of the museum is neoclassical with a blend of French renaissance and Italian styles. It exhibits a collection of 70,000 art pieces including drawings, canvases, sculptures, engravings, books, artefacts and more that gives you a glimpse into the history of art in Rio. It is one of the most popular tourist attractions that momentarily takes you away from the culture of the city to the world of fine arts.

Address : Avenida Rio Branco, 199 - Centro, Rio de Janeiro, 20040-008, Brazil

Zipcode : 20040-008

Location : -22.90876, -43.17570069999999

Contact : +55 21 3209-0600

Website : <http://mnba.gov.br/portal/>

Nearest Public Transport : Rua Araujo Porto Alegre, 39 Bus Station & Rua Araujo Porto Alegre próximo ao 71 Bus Station

Entry Fee : Full: R\$ 8; Half: R\$ 4; Free entry on Sunday

Open & Close Timing : Tuesday-Friday 10:00hrs-17:00hrs, Saturday & Sunday 12:00hrs-17:00hrs, Monday Closed.

Time Required : 1.5

Expected Wait Time : 10-15 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.5. Museu Historico Do Exercito E Forte De Copacabana

Situated at the end of Copacabana Beach, the Historical Museum of the Army and the Fort of Copacabana was built to boost Guanabara Bay's defense. With an aim to protect and publicize the history of Brazilian army, the museum showcases cannons, flags, uniforms and other military objects. Kids will be intrigued by the

adventurous stories of the historical battles that took place during the colonial rule. Nestled inside the Copacabana Fort, the museum also hosts various cultural events like musical programs, dance shows, and tango performances. Do not forget to try tea at Confeitaria Colombo as you admire the stunning views of the Copacabana Beach and the Cagarras Archipelago.

Address : Av. Atlântica, Posto 6 - Copacabana, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22070-020, Brazil.

Zipcode : 22070-020

Location : -22.9858591, -43.18688040000001

Contact : +55 21 2521-1032

Website : <http://www.fortedecopacabana.com/>

Nearest Public Transport : R. Francisco Otaviano Bus station, Parque Garota de Ipanema Bus Station

Entry Fee : Adults: R\$ 6 Students with a valid ID Proof & Senior Citizens- R\$ 3 Free entry for Children below 10years, Armed services members & Senior Citizens above 80years.

Open & Close Timing : Tuesday-Sunday 10:00hrs-18:30hrs, Closed on Monday

Time Required : 1

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.6. Planetario Gavea

Planetario Gavea stands out in the Gavea Neighborhood for its unique architecture and is an ideal attraction for space admirers and aspiring astronomers. This themed planetarium also houses a museum resembling a spaceship named the Universe Museum that showcases around 60 interactive displays and modern equipment that can project about 9,000 stars. It also hosts various activities like summit sessions, educational courses, telescope observations, reciprocal experiments and more to disseminate astronomy.

Address : Rua Vice-Governador Rúbens Berardo, 100 - Gávea, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22451-070, Brazil

Zipcode : 22451-070

Location : -22.978183, -43.230287999999997

Contact : +55 21 2088-0536

Website : <http://planetariodorio.com.br/>

Nearest Public Transport : Terminal Da Puc próximo ao S/n Bus Station & Terminal da PUC - Ponto A2 Bus Station

Entry Fee : Adults: R\$ 13, Students (under 21 years with a valid ID proof) & Caregivers of people with special needs- R\$ 6.50, Senior citizens (over 60years) & people with special needs- Free

Open & Close Timing : Monday – Friday 09:00hrs-12:00hrs & 13:30hrs-17:00hrs, Saturday-Sunday 14:30hrs-17:00hrs

Time Required : 3

Expected Wait Time : 15-20 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.7. Rio Zoo

Acquaint yourself with the native Brazilian fauna at the very first zoo of the country. Rio de Janeiro Zoological Garden, situated on the grounds of Quinta da Boa Vista Park, houses over 2,500 wildlife species from all over and a huge wing of birds apart from other attractions. An animal lover's paradise, walk through the fauna footbridge, which is a walkway that offers suspended tunnels to watch the exotic fauna perform their daily routine up close.

Address : Quinta da Boa Vista - Parque da Quinta da Boa Vista, S/N - São Cristóvão, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20940-040, Brazil

Zipcode : 20940-040

Location : -22.9044037, -43.2289427

Contact : +55 21 3878-4219

Website : <http://www.rio.rj.gov.br/web/riozoo>

Nearest Public Transport : Avenida Rotary Internacional próximo ao 453 Bus station

Entry Fee : Adults- R\$ 10, Students & Senior citizens over 60years- R\$ 5, Children up to 1mtr height & people with disabilities- Free.

Open & Close Timing : Tuesday – Sunday 09:00hrs-16:30hrs, Closed on Monday.

Time Required : 2.5

Expected Wait Time : 15-20 minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes

7.1.8. Statue of the Christ Redeemer (Cristo Redentor)

Perched atop the Corcovado Mountain at an elevation of a whopping 2,300 feet, the colossal statue of Christ Redeemer was unveiled in 1931 and is said to keep an eye on the people of the city. One of the Seven Wonders of the World, this imposing structure of Jesus Christ is made up of reinforced concrete and sandstone tiles and is the largest art deco style statue in the world. The most iconic destination of Rio, the base of Cristo Redentor offers breathtaking city views during the daytime, and at night the statue is all lit up, giving it an illuminating effect in the midst of dark mountain scenery. The train ticket to the top of this monument costs around R\$36. Hikers are required to pay R\$18 to get here.

Address : Parque Nacional da Tijuca, Alto da Boa Vista, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20531-590, Brazil

Zipcode : 20531-590

Location : -22.951916, -43.21048719999999

Website : <https://cristoredentoroficial.com.br/>

Nearest Public Transport : Funicular Ride station of Cristo Redentor

Entry Fee : Admission: R\$ 50

Open & Close Timing : Daily 08:00hrs-19:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 15-45 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.9. Botanical Garden (Jardim Botânico)

This botanical garden that can be considered as an ecological sanctuary is home to thousands of trees and plants. It is one of the top 10 important botanical gardens in the world that houses the rarest species of Brazilian flora and plants from other countries. But the highlight of this place is an 800-yard long row of royal palm trees. It is a great place for bird-lovers as well as researchers.

Address : R. Jardim Botânico, 1008 - Jardim Botânico, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22460-030, Brazil

Zipcode : 22460-030

Location : -22.9673717, -43.2250381

Contact : +55 21 3874-1808

Website : <http://jbrj.gov.br/>

Nearest Public Transport : Rua Pacheco Leao próximo ao 675 Bus station, Rua Pacheco Leao próximo ao 501 Bus Station

Entry Fee : Adults- R\$ 10 Students under 21years, Disabled, Senior citizens over 60 years- R\$ 5 Children upto 5years- Free

Open & Close Timing : Monday 12:00hrs-17:00hrs, Tuesday- Sunday 08:00hrs-17:00hrs

Time Required : 2.5

Expected Wait Time : 10 - 20 minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes

7.1.10. Fiscal Island

Situated in the Guanabara Bay, the neo-Gothic palace along with the island was intended to be the headquarters for supervising the port of Rio. Considered to be one of the most attractive and interesting constructions of the city, the building of the graceful palace on this island spans over 1,000 square meters and was designed in neo-Gothic style, by a renowned engineer, Adolfo del Vecchio. It is also famous for having housed the last ball of the court during the Empire, organized by the Visconde de Ouro Preto.

Address : Centro, Rio de Janeiro – RJ, 20040-020, Brazil.

Zipcode : 20040-020

Location : -22.8970154, -43.16633760000002

Contact : +55(21)2233-9165

Nearest Public Transport : Rua Visconde De Inhauma próximo ao 50 Bus station (Not Recommended)

Entry Fee : R\$ 10

Open & Close Timing : Tours Timings: Thursday-Sunday 13:00hrs, 14:30hrs & 16:00hrs

Time Required : 2.5

Expected Wait Time : 20-25 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.11. Maracana Stadium

The largest soccer stadium in the world and one of the most significant sports

stadiums in the country, Maracana Stadium or officially known as Estádio Jornalista Mário Filho was named after Rio Maracana, which is now a canalized river in Rio. With a capacity to accommodate 100,000 spectators, the stadium hosts many events throughout the year including the 2 major championship tournaments like the Rio de Janeiro's championship and the Brazilian championship. Today, this sports arena is also used for top-tier football matches between the major club of the city like Flamengo, Botafogo, Vasco da Gama and Fluminense.

Address : Avenida Presidente Castelo Branco, s/n - Portao 2 - Maracana, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20271-130, Brazil

Zipcode : 20271-130

Location : -22.9121089, -43.23015580000003

Contact : +55-8000627222

Nearest Public Transport : West Side- Maracana Metro Station and East Side - Sao Cristovao Metro station.

Entry Fee : Tour Prices start from R\$ 36

Open & Close Timing : Daily 09:00hrs-17:00hrs

Time Required : 1.5

Expected Wait Time : 15 - 25 minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes



7.1.12. Teleférico Pão de Açúcar

Teleférico Pão de Açúcar or Sugarloaf Cable car is an aerial tram that takes you from Praia Vermelha to the summit of Sugarloaf Mountain. Embark on this springboard journey to reach 1,300 feet above the ground and treat yourself with the jaw-dropping views of the pristine beaches, Guanabara Bay and more that shape the city of Rio. Opened in 1912, this cableway was the world's third cable car system.

Address : Av. Pasteur, 520 - Urca, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22290-240, Brazil

Zipcode : 22290-240

Location : -22.9557242, -43.16703229999996

Contact : +55 21 2546-8433

Website : <http://www.bondinho.com.br/site/en/>

Nearest Public Transport : Sightseeing - Pão de Açucar Bus Station

Entry Fee : Adults: R\$ 76, Children from 6-21 years, people over 60 years and people with disabilities: R\$ 38; Free for children under 6 years.

Open & Close Timing : Daily 08:00hrs-22:00hrs

Time Required : 0.5

Expected Wait Time : 30 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.13. Museu do Amanhã(Museum of Tomorrow)

A science museum in Rio, Museum of Tomorrow is a space built on the ethical pillars of coexistence and sustainability that studies the era of deep transformations that we live in and the futuristic paths. Concentrating more on the concepts rather than objects, this interactive museum is considered to be the world's most extraordinary building and is a stunning example of revival and regeneration of the city's port district.

Address : Praça Mauá, 1 - Centro, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20081-262, Brazil

Zipcode : 20081-262

Location : -22.8939768, -43.17943450000001

Contact : +55 21 3812-1800

Website : <http://museudoamanha.org.br/>

Nearest Public Transport : Parada dos Museus Lightrail station

Entry Fee : Adults: R\$ 20, Children upto 21 years, Students, National residents, Disabled People, Holders of Youth Identity Card: R\$ 10, Students of Primary & Secondary school, teachers, children under 5 years and people above 60 years: Free.

Open & Close Timing : Tuesday-Sunday 10:00hrs-18:00hrs

Time Required : 2.5

Expected Wait Time : 20 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.14. Museu Histórico Nacional

Established in 1922, The National Historical is one of the most significant museums in the country. It encompasses over 348,500 pieces, including the largest collection of coins and medals in the continent. The construction of this architectural complex began with the construction of the Santiago Fort. Today, the museum hosts many art exhibitions that bring together spectacular pieces

from many countries in the world.

Address : Praça Mal. Âncora, s/n - Centro, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20021-200, Brazil

Zipcode : 20021-200

Location : -22.9059083, -43.169512999999999

Contact : +55 21 3299-0324

Website : <http://www.museuhistoriconacional.com.br/>

Nearest Public Transport : Av. Marechal Aguinaldo Caiado de Castro Bus Station

Entry Fee : R\$ 20, Half: R\$ 10

Open & Close Timing : Tuesday-Friday 10:00hrs-17:30hrs, Saturday-Sunday 14:00hrs-18:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 10-15 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.15. Pedra do Telégrafo

The Telegraph Stone or Pedra do Telegrafo is a located to the western side of the city on the white stone state park in the Guaratiba neighborhood. It once served as a military post to keep a watch on the enemy ships and prevent attacks during the second World War. Hike up the 354-meter rock and take in the sweeping views of the Guaratiba Hill and the wild beaches of Rio. Today, tourists from all over flock to this fake cliff to pose for death-defying and thrilling photographs that are more perilous than they seem to be, overlooking the panoramic views of the ocean in the background.

Address : Barra de Guaratiba, Rio de Janeiro - State of Rio de Janeiro 23020-240, Brazil

Zipcode : 23020-240

Location : -23.0682182, -43.558080300000003

Contact : +55 21 97901-4332

Nearest Public Transport : Estrada Roberto Burle Marx próximo ao 9305 Bus station

Entry Fee : Tours starting from R\$ 100

Open & Close Timing : Open 24Hours

Time Required : 6

Expected Wait Time : 10-15 minutes

Buy Ticket : No



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7.2. Free

7.2.1. Corcovado

Foothold of the world-renowned structure of Christ the Redeemer, the Corcovado mountain towers the pulsating city of Rio. Nestled within the Tijuca forest, this postcard-perfect hill offers spellbinding views of the city, the pristine shoreline of the Guanabara Bay. For a panoramic view of Rio de Janeiro; Corcovado is the place to be. A soccer stadium built for the 1950 World Cup can also be seen from here. Other views include Ipanema Beach and Sugarloaf Mountain. At the top of the Corcovado Mountain, is the iconic statue of Christ - the Redeemer watching the city of Rio. It is important to check the weather conditions before visiting this place as the views can be ruined due to cloudy weather. The train ticket to the top of this monument costs around R\$36.

Address : Parque Nacional da Tijuca - Alto da Boa Vista, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20531-590, Brazil

Zipcode : 20531-590

Location : -22.952351999999999, -43.211446700000001

Nearest Public Transport : Funicular Ride station of Cristo Redentor

Open & Close Timing : Daily 08:00hrs-19:00hrs

Time Required : 3

Expected Wait Time : 10-15minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.2. Tijuca National Park

Being the world's largest urban forest, Tijuca National Park is a verdant Atlantic rainforest covering a sprawling area. When deforestation was rampant in Rio during the 1800s, Emperor Dom Pedro II ordered that Tijuca be planted with a permanent water supply that will benefit the future residents of Rio. Tijuca offers fantastic picnic spots, a number of waterfalls along a good walking track. It also includes the Corcovado that offers amazing landscapes of Rio. The wildlife here includes monkeys, insects, birds and ocelots. This place is often also known as a birdwatcher's heaven.

Address : Estr. da. Cascatinha, 850 - Alto da Boa Vista, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20531-590, Brazil

Zipcode : 20531-590

Location : -22.9608618, -43.27441959999999

Contact : +55 21 2491-1700

Website : <http://www.parquedatijuca.com.br/>

Nearest Public Transport : Praca Afonso Vizeu próximo ao 4575 Bus station

Open & Close Timing : Daily 08:00hrs-17:00hrs

Time Required : 9

Expected Wait Time : 10-20Minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.3. Ruins Park (Parque das Ruínas)

Surprisingly, Ruins Park is not an old or abandoned place; in fact, it is a mansion of Rio's most popular socialite, Laurinda Santos Lobo. But after her death in 1946, her house fell into disrepair and was taken over by the city government which was later turned into an exhibition space and a live music venue. The mansion is atop a quieter hillside of Santa Teresa and provides some of the best views of the city. There are outdoor music concerts during the summer where local bands play jazz music. The view, music and the location, indeed make it a very romantic destination.

Address : R. Murinho Nobre, 169 - Santa Teresa, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20241-050, Brazil

Zipcode : 20241-050

Location : -22.9178701, -43.182520899999998

Contact : +55 21 2215-0621

Nearest Public Transport : Rua Joaquim Murinho próximo ao 783 Bus station

Open & Close Timing : Tuesday-Sunday 08:00hrs-20:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 10 - 20 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.4. Morro da Urca

This place is the first hill on the way to Rio's most popular Sugar Loaf. The apex of the hill is at 215 meters and is generally a famous spot for hiking and experiencing terrific panoramas from the mountaintop. Morro de Uca is the first

stop of the cable car that will give you an opportunity to experience more scenic landscapes.

Address : Morro da Urca - Praça Gen. Tibúrcio - Urca, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22291-060, Brazil

Zipcode : 22291-060

Location : -22.9508895, -43.16376709999997

Nearest Public Transport : Rua Marechal Cantuaria próximo ao 102 Bus station

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 5 - 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.5. Ipanema Beach - Ipanema

Mainly known for its development and high-flying social life, Ipanema Beach is famous as “the sexiest beach in the world”. Located in the southern part of Rio de Janeiro, it is the most frequently visited beach in the world. At the forefront, you will find many surfers as well as sun-worshippers. The most crowded beach in the city, Ipanema is always filled with groups of people playing various sports like volleyball and soccer. The white stretch of sand fringed by the shade of coconut palm trees and flanked by mountains capture the attention of tourists like no other beach in the world. There are a number kiosks selling tempting Brazilian delicacies and drinks on the beach too. Extend your time at the beach till dusk, to watch the enchanting view of the sunset.

Address : Ipanema, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22420-002, Brazil

Zipcode : 22420-002

Location : -22.984667, -43.1985932

Website : <https://www.facebook.com/Ipanema-Beach-207657189249851/>

Nearest Public Transport : Av. Vieira Souto, próximo a R. Maria Quitéria Bus Station.

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 Hours

Time Required : 4

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.6. Copacabana Beach

A tropical paradise and one of the most famous beaches in the world,

Copacabana runs close to 3 miles along the residential area of the city. It was once synonymous with glitz and glamor in Rio. It is lined from end to end with luxury hotels, restaurants and nightclubs that attract millions of tourists every year. This crescent-shaped beach is anchored by the renowned Sugarloaf Mountain at one end and the fort of Copacabana at the other. Illuminated at night, Copacabana will instill a surreal feeling in you. It is popular among the soccer players who are scattered all over the beach enjoying the sport. The calmness of the beach makes it a hub for swimmers and surfers. There are various concerts and events hosted on the beach too. The New Year's Eve is one of the largest celebration in the world and a sight to behold as thousands of people gather here to enjoy the illuminating fireworks extravaganza from midnight till dawn.

Address : Rio de Janeiro – RJ, 22070-001, Brazil.

Zipcode : 22070-001

Location : -22.9738729, -43.185310000000001

Website : <https://www.facebook.com/Copacabana-Beach-150094701716706/>

Nearest Public Transport : Avenida Atlantica próximo ao 262 Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 Hours

Time Required : 2.5

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.7. Arpoador Beach

Nestled between the well-known Ipanema and Copacabana beaches, Arpoador Beach is considered to be one of the best surfing spots in Brazil that even lets you surf at night. Named after the Arpoador rock that is found on the beach, people flock here to click postcard-perfect pictures with the rock. Take a walk along the trail that is lined with the rock and allow yourself be stumped by the awe-inspiring views of this sprawling coastline. Arpoador is also popular amongst the couples as the sunset from here is known to make hearts flutter.

Address : Praia do Arpoador, Avenida Francisco Bhering, s/n - Ipanema, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22080-050, Brazil.

Zipcode : 22080-050

Location : -22.9886205, -43.193046799999999

Nearest Public Transport : BRS 2 - Bulhões de Carvalho Bus Station, General Osório Subway station.

Open & Close Timing : Open 24Hours

Time Required : 1.5

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.8. Centro Cultural Banco Do Brasil

Often called as simply CCBB, the cultural center of the Bank of Brazil is one of the most visited art museums in the city. Dedicated to promoting the native Brazilian culture, the center is known to be the hub of the city's art scene. Being the largest among the other 2 centers of Sao Paulo and Brasilia, it also hosts many cultural events.

Address : R. Primeiro de Marco, 66 - Centro, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20010-000, Brazil

Zipcode : 20010-000

Location : -22.9008003, -43.17642499999999

Contact : +55-2138082020

Website : <http://culturabancodobrasil.com.br/portal/>

Nearest Public Transport : Candelária - Sentido Rodoviária Light Rail Station, Rua da Quitanda próximo ao 395 Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Wednesday – Monday 09:00hrs-21:00hrs, Closed on Tuesday.

Time Required : 1.5

Expected Wait Time : 10-15 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.9. Escadaria Selaron

Visit the world-renowned steps in Rio. Named after eccentric artist, Jorge Selaron, the Escadaria Selaron are a set steps where each tile represents the name of every country sent by people from all over the world. These iconic steps have been featured in various magazines, documentaries and even in many music videos. So strike a pose and take back a photograph you will cherish forever.

Address : R. Joaquim Silva, S/N - Centro, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20241-110, Brazil

Zipcode : 20241-110

Location : -22.9153106, -43.179203799999998

Website : <http://www.rio.rj.gov.br/>

Nearest Public Transport : Rua Da Lapa próximo ao 50 Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Daily 08:00hrs-18:00hrs

Time Required : 0.5

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.10. Hippy Market

Situated in the ever-pulsating neighborhood of Ipanema, The Hippy Market comprises of an array of stalls selling locally crafted antiques and artefacts. This market is open only on Sundays.

Address : Praça General Osório, s/n - Ipanema, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20410-020, Brazil

Zipcode : 20410-020

Location : -22.9850537, -43.19782259999999

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.11. Feira de Sao Cristovão

A vibrant market in the city, Sao Cristovão offers a wide spread of scrumptious delicacies of Rio. Apart from gratifying your food cravings, this market also sells household objects. The weekends are reserved for the music events and concerts.

Address : Campo de São Cristóvão, s/n - São Cristóvão, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20291-440, Brazil

Zipcode : 20291-440

Location : -22.8972285, -43.22023630000001

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.12. Constanca Bastos

All the ladies out there, get ready to fill your closets with a variety of fine-quality footwear. A place comprising of branded and upscale shoe stores, Constanca Bastos is a favorite shopping hub for all those with a fetish for shoes.

Address : Estr. da Gávea, 899 - Gávea, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22610-001, Brazil

Zipcode : 22610-001

Location : -22.9850037, -43.24487699999997

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.13. Maria Oiticica

For the best silverware and jewelry in town, Maria Oiticica is the place to be. The ornaments here are made from native Amazonian fibers and Brazilian trees, making it an environment-friendly shopping destination.

Address : Endereço: Rua Lauro Müller, 116 3º piso - Loja C33J - Botafogo, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22290-160, Brazil

Zipcode : 22290-160

Location : -22.957247, -43.176151

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.14. Rio Sul Shopping Centre

One of the largest shopping centers in the city, Rio Sul features high-end brands and boutiques selling all kinds of fashion accessories, perfumes, homeware and clothes. After you've shopped to your heart's desire, you can also catch a movie at the Kinoplex theatre.

Address : Rua Lauro Müller, 116 - Botafogo, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22290-160, Brazil

Zipcode : 22290-160

Location : -22.9574512, -43.17616650000002

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.15. Santa Teresa

The enchanting neighborhood and the social hub of the city, Santa Teresa sits at the top of Santa Teresa Hill. This vibrant Bohemian neighborhood is known for its narrow streets which provide its visitors with a quintessential native experience. Santa Teresa became accessible to the public when the Roman-inspired aqueduct which was earlier used to bring water to the city center was transformed and used as an electric tram called the Bonde. Today, a quaint yellow tram, which is the oldest running streetcar in the city still navigates over the old aqueduct. The neighborhood houses some of the popular attractions of the city.

Address : Santa Teresa, Rio de Janeiro - State of Rio de Janeiro 20240-210, Brazil

Zipcode : 20240-210

Location : -22.9191206, -43.19073279999998

Nearest Public Transport : Rua Almirante Alexandrino próximo ao 1103 Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24hours

Time Required : 1.5

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.16. Leblon

Leblon is a paradise for people looking out for upscale restaurants, a beautiful beach, and scintillating Rio nightlife. Separated from its lively neighborhood of Ipanema by a narrow canal, Leblon is known to be the most affluent neighborhood of Rio. The Leblon Beach that sits at the base of the two-brother mountain is a famous relaxation spot.

Address : Av. Delfim Moreira - Leblon, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22441-000, Brazil

Zipcode : 22441-000

Location : -22.9843373, -43.22314240000003

Nearest Public Transport : BRS 1, 3 - José Linhares Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24Hours

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.17. Parque Lage

Snuggled at the base of Tijuca Forest and surrounded by native Atlantic Forest, Parque Lage is the point for you to begin your hike up the Corcovado Hill. With its lush tropical vegetation, small lakes, spectacular views of the Christ Redeemer and a colonial mansion that accommodates the school of a visual house, this park is an ideal picnic spot for those who want to spend some quality time relaxing in the arms of nature. This European-style landscape garden features a manor that was once the home of Enrique Lage, a famous industrialist of the country. The mansion is surrounded by verdancy where winding little trails guide you to the exotic flora as the birds chirp in the surrounding.

Address : R. Jardim Botânico, 414 - Jardim Botânico - Jardim Botânico, Rio de

Janeiro - RJ, 22461-000, Brazil

Zipcode : 22461-000

Location : -22.9581535, -43.21164290000001

Contact : +55 21 3257-1800

Website : <http://eavparquelage.rj.gov.br/servicos/parque-lage/regras-de-visitacao/>

Nearest Public Transport : Rua Jardim Botânico próximo ao 391 Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Daily 08:00hrs-17:00hrs

Time Required : 1.5

Expected Wait Time : 15-20 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.18. Candelária Church

A trip to Rio is incomplete without visiting one of the most famous churches in Brazil. The church is known for making a jaw-dropping first impression with its architectural façade, directed to Guanabara Bay and considered to be one of the most beautiful in the world. The church's origin was a word made by the sailor Antonio Martins da Palma and his wife Leonor Gonçalves who built a small chapel in Piazza Pio XI after surviving the strong storm in the midst of their trip to Rio. The bronze doors, marble interiors, and a stone façade was sculpted by Antonio Teixeira Lopes, a renowned sculptor from Portugal in 1901. The vertical exterior of the church is an inheritance of Gothic style and the pediment triangular ornate and adornments represent neoclassical features.

Address : Praça Pio X, s/n - Centro, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20040-020, Brazil

Zipcode : 20040-020

Location : -22.9008826, -43.17784189999997

Contact : +55 21 2233-2324

Nearest Public Transport : Condomínio Edifício Banco Mercantil de São Paulo próximo ao N/D Light Rail Station

Open & Close Timing : Monday-Friday 07:30hrs-15:50hrs, Saturday 09:00hrs-12:00hrs, Sunday 09:00hrs-13:00hrs

Time Required : 1.5

Expected Wait Time : 5-10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.19. Rio de Janeiro Cathedral

Situated in the heart of the city, Cathedral of San Sebastian of Rio de Janeiro or the Metropolitan Cathedral was inaugurated in 1976. The main entrance door of the cathedral is adorned with 48 low-relief bronze plaques that depict faith-related themes. The interiors of the church feature 60 meters of stained glass torn in the walls up to the dome that naturally illuminates the cathedral. The cathedral also houses the Museum of Sacred Art that exhibits collections of religious pieces of artwork, sculptures, furniture, religious costumes, murals as well as the fonts that were used to baptize the royal families.

Address : Av. Chile, 245 - Centro - Centro, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20031-170, Brazil

Zipcode : 20031-170

Location : -22.9106741, -43.18077700000003

Contact : +55 21 2240-2669

Nearest Public Transport : Rua Lavradio próximo ao 130 Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Daily 07:00hrs-17:00hrs

Time Required : 1

Expected Wait Time : 10-15 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.20. Flamengo Park

Undoubtedly the largest recreational area in the city, the 120 hectares of lush green space has been a popular sports hub and a picnic spot for families. Opened in 1965, Flamengo Park or officially known as the Eduardo Gomes Park, is the largest seafront urban park in the world and awarded a World Heritage title as “Cultural Landscape Urbana” by UNESCO in 2012. Home to numerous paved fields, this outdoor leisure area in Rio offers various equipment for practicing recreational activities and sports like skating, basketball, volleyball, cycling and tennis, to name a few. The park also hosts various cultural events.

Address : Praia do Flamengo, 116 - Flamengo, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22210-030, Brazil

Zipcode : 22210-030

Location : -22.9283171, -43.173157899999998

Contact : +55 21 96612-1244

Website : <http://www.parquedoflamengo.com.br/>

Nearest Public Transport : Avenida Rui Barbosa Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 Hours

Time Required : 2.5

Expected Wait Time : 15-20 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.21. Quinta da Boa Vista

Settled in the São Cristóvão district, the Quinta da Boa Vista garden served as the residence of the Royal Family between 1817-1889. A symbolic public urban area in the city, this imperial garden houses the national museum and the national zoo. The park was named “Quinta” meaning nice view, due to its setting on top of the mountain and the scenic view of the Guanabara Bay. Today, this urban haven is an important part of the city's history and offers a vast area for various sports and activities.

Address : Av. Pedro II, s/n - São Cristóvão, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20940-040, Brazil

Zipcode : 20940-040

Location : -22.9050921, -43.22402349999999

Contact : +55 21 2234-5341

Nearest Public Transport : São Cristóvão Train station and São Cristóvão Subway station.

Open & Close Timing : Daily 07:00hrs-18:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 10-15 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.22. Passeio Público

Brazil's first landscape park, Passeio Público is nestled in the historic heart of Rio and was conceived by Mestre Valentim da Fonseca e Silva, one of the country's greatest artist of colonial times. This public promenade was used as a meeting hub of the Cariocas in the 18th and 19th century and today, features the nation's diverse floras and various work of art like the crocodile fountain, pyramids and sculptures and more. The public pathways narrate the historic stories of the park and host the Public Walking Festival of Rio.

Address : s/nº Centro, 290, Rua do Passeio - Centro, Rio de Janeiro - State of Rio

de Janeiro 20021-280, Brazil

Zipcode : 20021-280

Location : -22.913381, -43.17663579999998

Website : <http://www.passeiopublico.com/>

Nearest Public Transport : Praca Passeio Publico, 321 Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Daily 09:00hrs-17:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 5-10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.23. Praia do Abricó

If you ready to shed your swimsuit and try nude sunbathing, then Praia do Abrico, the only beach to permit naturism in the city, is where you should head. Situated in the Municipal Park of Grumari, this 1.5-kilometer stretch of sandy shoreline is encompassed by postcard-perfect mountains and lush tropical vegetation that offer sweeping vistas to as you saunter on the brown sugary sand. Officially affiliated with the Brazilian Federation of Naturism, the beach embraced naturism in 2003. However, there are certain norms to be adhered to while visiting the beach like not recording someone or clicking pictures without prior permission, dealing with drugs, and so on. So wear your smiles and watch those tan lines vanish under the warm sun.

Address : Grumari, Rio de Janeiro - State of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Zipcode : 23020-240

Location : -23.0482031, -43.51366769999998

Website : <http://www.anabrico.com/>

Nearest Public Transport : Estrada Do Pontal próximo ao 2160 Bus station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24Hours

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.24. Mercado de Madureira

Known to be a classic of the north zone in the city, Mercado de Madureira officially started off as an agricultural fair and gradually transformed into a major commercial center in the district. Serving as a shopping destination for more

than 100 years, it has also been given a title of being the Cultural Patrimony of Rio by the Cariocas.

Address : Av. Min. Edgard Romero, 239 - Madureira, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 21360-901, Brazil

Zipcode : 21360-901

Location : -22.8710245, -43.33608149999998

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.25. Rio2Love

A brand started by the city admirers, the products of Rio2Love portray the unique culture, beauty and diversity of the city.

Address : R. Bruno Giorgi, 114 - Barra da Tijuca, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22775-054, Brazil

Zipcode : 22775-054

Location : -22.9714966, -43.385267099999996

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.26. Gilson Martins' Factory

Rendering the native carioca spirit into their signature style cases, bags and clutches among other products, Gilson Martins' Factory is famous for its unique accessories emblazoned with the pictures of the iconic sights of Rio.

Address : Rua Figueiredo de Magalhães, 304 - Copacabana, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22031-010, Brazil

Zipcode : 22031-010

Location : -22.968704, -43.1813831

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.27. Lapa e Arte

Inspired by the local artistry, Lapa e Arte is a souvenir shop that is known to sell genuine Brazilian handicrafts. Located at the base of Selaron staircase, this shopping destination boasts of souvenirs like Lapa themed paintings, apparels

made of recyclable material, wooden carved articles and more to take back home.

Address : R. Teotônio Regadas, 26 B - Lapa, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20021-360, Brazil

Zipcode : 20021-360

Location : -22.9149626, -43.178850000000001

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.28. Norte Shopping

Zipcode : 0

Location : -22.886748, -43.283021399999999

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.29. Carioca Shopping

Zipcode : 0

Location : -22.849858, -43.310846999999997

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No



7.2.30. Complexo Lagoon

Zipcode : 0

Location : -22.9767153, -43.218212200000004

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.31. BarraShopping

Zipcode : 0

Location : -22.997678, -43.358126700000001

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.32. Botafogo Praia Shopping

Zipcode : 0

Location : -22.9475581, -43.18318149999999

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.33. Shopping Leblon

Zipcode : 0

Location : -22.9825629, -43.2168815

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.34. Américas Shopping

Zipcode : 0

Location : -23.0108775, -43.46076070000004

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.35. Rio Design Barra

Zipcode : 0

Location : -23.0013323, -43.386123199999998

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.36. Bangu Shopping

Zipcode : 0

Location : -22.8788919, -43.46713199999999

Time Required : 0



Buy Ticket : No

7.2.37. Via Parque Shopping

Zipcode : 0

Location : -22.982709, -43.36283700000001

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.38. Shopping Boulevard Rio

Zipcode : 0

Location : -22.9193969, -43.25045469999998

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.39. Outlet Premium Rio de Janeiro

Zipcode : 0

Location : -22.675983, -43.286937999999996

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No



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8. Key sites sports & adventure

Brazil is an amazing destination for all adrenaline junkies. The country's coastline promises a variety of beaches and watersports. Some of the most popular adventure sports in the city are: Canopy Tours or Zip Lining, Rappelling, surfing, Paragliding and Scuba Diving. Other sports in Rio are Brazilian Grand Prix and the beach volleyballs. You can also go until the Sugar Loaf Mountain for hiking and climbing, tandem paragliding or hiking and rappelling at Tijuca Forest Park. These destinations are extremely popular among people of all age groups, almost all throughout the year.

- **Hiking and Trekking -**

Address : R. Gustavo Sampaio, 208 - Leme, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22010-010, Brazil

Location : -22.9619491,-43.167514600000004

Contact No : +55 21 4105-7533

Website : <http://www.jungleme.com.br/>

Nearest Public Transport : Avenida Atlantica próximo ao 814 Bus Station

Entry Fees : Tours starting from R\$225

Time Required : 8

Wait Time : 10-15minutes

- **Hanggliding -**

Address : São Conrado, Rio. de Janeiro - State of Rio de Janeiro, 22610-095, Brazil

Location : -22.9991284,-43.2501424000000016

Contact No : +55 21 99843-9006

Website : <http://www.riohanggliding.com/>

Nearest Public Transport : Avenida Prefeito Mendes De Moraes próximo

ao 550 Bus Station

Entry Fees : starting from R\$ 660

Time Required : 4

Wait Time : 30minutes

- **Parasailing -**

Address : Estr. da Gávea, 1018 - São Conrado, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22610-002, Brazil

Location : -22.9982071,-43.26762550000001

Contact No : +55 21 99961-6898

Website : <http://www.riotandem.com/tandem-paragliding-rio.html>

Nearest Public Transport : Estrada Do Joa próximo ao 450 Bus Station

Entry Fees : Tours starting from R\$ 310

Time Required : 3

Wait Time : 30minutes

- **Surfing & Stand-up Paddle Boarding -**

Address : Av. Atlântica, Posto 6 - Copacabana, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22070-002, Brazil

Location : -22.9857708,-43.18959689999997

Contact No : +55 21 99438-2980

Website : <http://www.surfrio.com.br/>

Nearest Public Transport : Avenida Atlantica próximo ao 122 Bus Station

Entry Fees : Tours starting from R\$ 70

Open / Close Time : Daily 08:00hrs-17:00hrs

Time Required : 4

Wait Time : 10-15minutes

- **Lagoa Aventuras -**

Address : Av. Epitácio Pessoa, 3000 - Lagoa, Rio de Janeiro - RJ
22471-003, Brazil

Location : -22.9722932,-43.2035247

Contact No : + 55 21 4105-0079

Website : <http://www.lagoaaventuras.com.br/home>

Nearest Public Transport : Avenida Epitacio Pessoa próximo ao 2078 Bus Station

Entry Fees : High Tree Climbing: R\$ 35; Low Tree Climbing: R\$ 20; Wall Climbing for Adults: R\$ 25; Wall Climbing for Children: Free; Zip-lining for Adults: R\$ 20; Zip-lining for Children: R\$ 25; Rappelling: R\$ 130.

Open / Close Time : Daily 09:30hrs-16:30hrs

Time Required : 5

Wait Time : 15-20minutes

- **Water Sports -**

Address : R. Georgina da Conceição, 232 - Itaipu, Niterói - RJ, 24342-280, Brazil

Location : -22.9227038,-43.00545890000001

Contact No : +55 21 2703-3005

Website : <http://rioadventures.com/>

Nearest Public Transport : Avenida Everton Xavier próximo ao 4368 Bus Station

Entry Fees : Tours starting from R\$ 99

Open / Close Time : Monday-Friday 08:00hrs-18:00hrs, Saturday 08:00hrs-13:00hrs, Sunday 08:00hrs-12:00hrs

Time Required : 12

Wait Time : 15minutes

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9. Adventure sports, Local sports, stadiums

The most famous sport in Rio is soccer. Rio is home to four traditional football clubs namely Botafogo, Vasco, Flamengo and Fluminense. Campeonato Carioca is the state football team. This city has a famous football stadium in Maracana that can accommodate up to 100,000 people.



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10. Spas and relaxation

In Rio, fitness and well-being is considered to be a top priority with it being the city of sports. Spas and Salons are common as people have embraced the lifestyle of health and fitness as a routine. Generally all hotels in Rio provide good spa facilities. Guests can get a personalized spa treatment in their rooms also. The city is home to some reviving spas that will help you escape the daily grind and pamper yourself with some 'ME' Time

- **Hotel Fasano:**

Address : Av. Vieira Souto, 80 - Ipanema, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22420-002, Brazil

Location : -22.9870299,-43.196166300000016

Contact No : +55 21 2042-0600

Website : <http://fasano.com.br/>

- **Hotel Santa Teresa – Relais:**

Address : Rua Almirante Alexandrino 660, Rio de Janeiro- RJ, 20241-260, Brazil.

Location : -22.9219586,-43.1880716

Contact No : +55 21 4042-329

Website : <http://www.santateresahotelrio.com/>

- **Belmond Copacabana Palace:**

Address : Av. Atlântica, 1702 - Copacabana - Copacabana, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22021-001, Brazil

Location : -22.9669151,-43.178999999999974

Contact No : +55 21 2548 7070

Website : <http://www.belmond.com/copacabana-palace-rio-de-janeiro/>

- **Espaco Nirvana:**

Address : Praça Santos Dumont, 31 - Gávea, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22470-060, Brazil

Location : -22.9727408,-43.22439129999998

Contact No : +55 21-2187-010

Website : <http://enirvana.com.br/>

- **Viver Zen Spa Urbano:**

Address : R. Vinícius de Moraes, 250 - Ipanema, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22411-010, Brazil

Location : -22.980743,-43.20252900000003

Contact No : +55 21 2513-5355

Website : <http://viverzenspa.com.br/>

- **W Spa:**

Address : Rio Design Barra - Av. das Américas, 4666, Loja 129B, Nível Lagoa - Barra da Tijuca, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22640-102, Brazil

Location : -23.0007935,-43.38919659999999

Contact No : +55 21 3387-0530

Website : <https://www.facebook.com/wspa.spa/>

- **HBD Spa:**

Address : R. Barão de Jaguaripe, 182 - Ipanema, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22421-000, Brazil

Location : -22.9813422,-43.20717569999999

Contact No : +55 21 2513-5293

Website : <http://hbdspa.com.br/site/>



11. Events calendar

Month

Events

Day of St. Sebastian

Rio celebrates the day of its patron as the Day of St. Sebastian on 20th January every year. Parades take place in the entire city on this day.

Rio Carnival

Rio carnival attracts thousands of international visitors every year. This festival has the best of dance, music, costumes, masks, beer, salsa dance, fun and frolic.

Rio boat show


It is an annual event held in April. This event is a platform for manufacturers to showcase their products like yachts, motorboats, boats, jets, kayaks, engines, equipment and other products related to the sector.

Festas Juninas

It is a traditional festival celebrated in June every year to honour of Saint John. Bonfires are lighted and there is singing and dancing all day long. Bonfire

**festivals take place in June in Rio. There is singing and dancing all night long.
Brazilian Grand Prix Horse race**

**It is the annual horse race that takes place at the Gavea Hippodrome in Rio de Janeiro. This stadium has the best tracks in the world for horse racing.
Independence Day**



**September 7 is celebrated as the Independence day in Brazil. People celebrate this day as their freedom from Portugal. Parades are held and fireworks are displayed in the city square, every bit of which is worth watching.
Film festival**

**It attracts thousands of international visitors. Directors bring in their latest films and showcase at the festival here.
Brazilian Grand Prix**

It takes place every year in November where the best of F1 cars, racing and racers can be seen in Rio. Culture and Science day is celebrated on November 5, every year.

Christmas

It is celebrated every year with a lot of enthusiasm. Tropical trees are also decorated instead of the actual Christmas trees. Prayers are offered in Churches during Christmas eve. From December 25 to December 31, Rio sees only dance, music and fireworks. The Rodrigo de Freitas lagoon has the world's tallest floating Christmas tree.

Umbanda festival

On December 31, Umbanda festival is celebrated to honour the Goddess of sea. Prayers are held on all the beaches in Rio.

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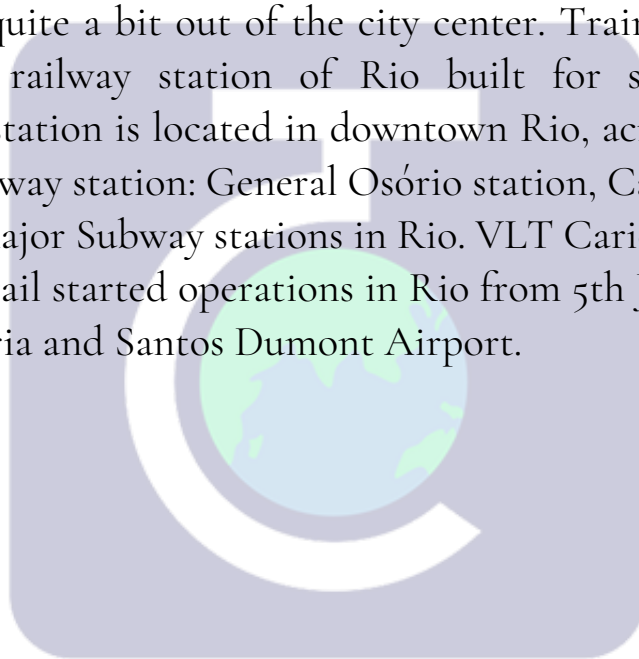
12. Key local guides and tours

Rio being one of the most visited cities in Brazil sees a lot of registered tourist guides who are experienced and provide the best travel experience to the tourists. Some of the local guides in Rio are: 1 Daniel Cabral: An excellent tour guide who works with your pace and plans and creates customized trips for visitors. Daniel has been a tour guide since the last 10 years and is fluent in English, Spanish and Portuguese. 2 Manu Peclat: Another local guide who can speak in English, Spanish and Portuguese. Manu is also flexible and accommodating to his client's needs and plans a customized trip for them. Rio, being a major city in Brazil has a lot to offer its tourists. The easiest way to see all the sights of this panoramic city and getting to know its diverse cultures is by taking different tours. There are various tours that one can take here: Helicopter Tour: Look at this magnificent town from a different perspective. Take this helicopter tour and enjoy the scenic view of the city from up above. Tijuca Rainforest Jeep Tour: Explore the unadulterated natural habitat of the exotic wildlife of Brazil in a jeep. Take pictures or just relax and enjoy spotting various species as you pass by them.

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13. Transportation hubs

Airport: Most of the international flights arrive at Galeao airport which is 15kms north of the city center. Another major airport in Rio de Janeiro is Santos Dumont Airport which is located adjacent to the downtown Rio around 1.5Kms away. It serves the Domestic flights within the country. **Bus Station:** The main bus terminal of Rio de Janeiro is the Novo Rio Bus Terminal. It was constructed back in 1965 and is quite a bit out of the city center. **Train Station:** Central do Brasil is the main railway station of Rio built for suburban trains and superhighways. The station is located in downtown Rio, across from the Campo de Santana park. **Subway station:** General Osório station, Cardeal Arcoverde and Estácio Station are major Subway stations in Rio. **VLT Carioca/Lightrail Station:** The Tramway/Lightrail started operations in Rio from 5th June, 2016. The major stations are Rodoviaria and Santos Dumont Airport.



14. Transportation cost

Rio is a large city but it is easy to reach most of the tourist attractions. The public transport in Rio is easily available and is very economical. The city has a good domestic and international connectivity. It has its own international airport; hence it is easy to reach here. Brazilian airlines and Varig are the two main domestic carriers in the region. For travelling within the city, subways, public transport and taxis is a good option and these are easily available. There is a transportation ticket (vale transporte) which can be used allover network of metrôrio and other integrated lines. There is a special pass known as Passe Livre for people with disabilities that help them commute through most of the public transport in the city for free. Subways: Subways are the best option to reach quickly to a place but because of their limited city connectivity, buses remain an alternate option. You can get a one-time subway pass and get it recharged at the subway station for any amount that you want. There are other prepaid subway cards and surface subway cards too. Subway stations do not accept credit cards, so take cash with you. The subway runs from 05:00hrs-00:00hrs on Monday-Saturday and from 07:00hrs-23:00hrs on Sunday. Subway transport is free for students of Rio, people with disabilities and over 65years old. The fares start from R\$4.10. Taxis: Taxis are easily available. Yellow metered cabs and licensed taxis are easily available at the airports. Radio taxis are safer than the normal taxis but charge 30% more fare than the regular taxis. The minimum fare for a taxi starts at R\$ 5.20. During holidays, on Sunday's and after 11 PM every day, the prices increase by 20%. Always check the meter readings as you sit in a cab. Renting a car and driving in Rio is not recommended as it can turn out to be quite expensive. Buses: Travelling in local buses is the most economical way to explore Rio. One way ride costs around R\$ 3.40 which has to be paid to the assistance sitting next to the driver as you enter the bus. Taking a bus is a good option during the day, but avoid riding a bus especially if alone during the night time. During night, taxis are a safer option. Buses cost R\$ 3.00. However if you have a combined trip with the metro and city bus, you will pay only R\$ 4.55 in place of R\$ 6.50. You can also buy 'Rio Card Expresso' which makes you eligible for discounted rides. From International airport, buses operate every 30 to 40

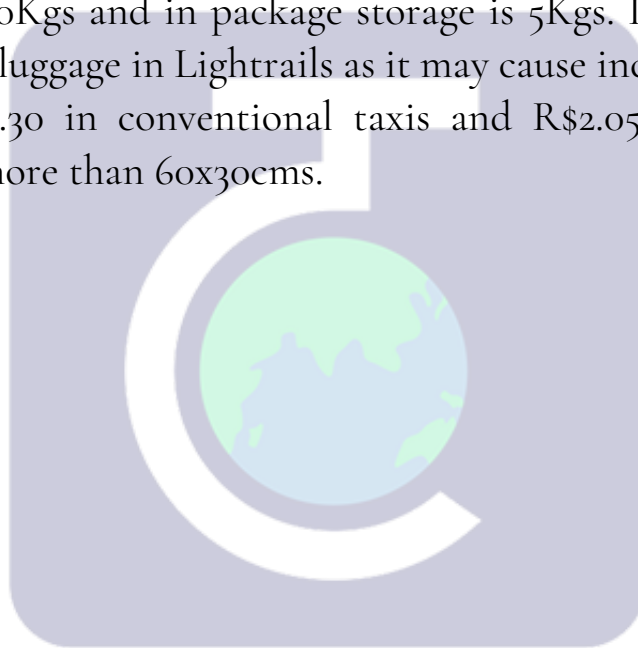
minutes for Copacabana, Leblon, Flamengo and other neighborhoods. It costs R\$ 15 and it takes 75 minutes to 2 hours to reach the destination depending on the traffic. VLT Carioca/Lightrail: Inaugurated on 5th June, 2016, the lightrail or VLT Carioca joins the port area of the city to the financial hub. The fare for entire VLT system is R\$ 3.80. One can also purchase a rechargeable card. The lightrail operates from 06:00hrs-22:00hrs on weekdays and till midnight on Sundays.



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15. Baggage allowance

It is not advisable to carry large bags when riding in a public transport, neither it is convenient. It is better to take a local taxi. Carrying a large suitcase is allowed in subways after security clearance, but again it is better to avoid. One can carry a backpack easily when exploring the city. It is advised that you avoid carrying lots of cash or expensive items with you. In the buses, the maximum luggage allowed bin luggage rack is 30Kgs and in package storage is 5Kgs. It is recommended to avoid carrying heavy luggage in Lightrails as it may cause inconvenience. Taxis do charge a fee of R\$2.30 in conventional taxis and R\$2.05 in special taxis for carrying luggage of more than 60x30cms.



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16. Must try food and local savouries

Rio de Janeiro has a mix of Indian, European and African cuisines. The most typical dish of Brazil is Feijoada which is a black bean stew made with large pieces of sausage, pork and smoked meat. It is served with rice or farofa (toasted Manioc meal) which is typically served on Saturdays and is a best seller in all the local restaurants in the city. Another famous dinner dish known as the Churrascaria, is a hot favourite for the meat lovers where in the waiter comes to the table with meat on the skewer and cuts the meat slices in front of you according to your preference. Baiana food is also famous in Rio; it is a spicy African cuisine with main ingredients as fish and seafood. There are a lot of options for vegetarians also. Several restaurants have an option of buffet by the kilo, where the price of food depends on the weight of the plate and you can put in as many items / vegetables as you want. Tropical fruits and fresh fruit juices are also a must try in Rio. Bobó de Camarão is another traditional favorite which is a Shrimp made in manioc and coconut milk purée and topped with rice and manioc flour. Carne Seca com abóbora is Jerked beef cooked with pumpkin purée and sometimes rice. Moqueca is a Shrimp or a fish stew that is enriched with coconut milk. For desserts, Coxinha and Joelho are the typical pastry option available in Rio. These are made with rolled dough that is stuffed with cheese and ham.

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17. Restaurant & Nightlife

Rio is one of the world famous destination when it comes to dining. The gastronomy of Rio is packed with a perfect blend of flavors, variety and spices. The local cuisine is influenced by the African slaves and the Portuguese colonizers who arrived in the city in the early days of 17th century. The areas near the beach of Ipanema and Copacabana have many small cafes and restaurants lined up that serves the best food in Rio. One can also find many economical and good restaurants at Barra de Tijuca, Urca and Leblon neighborhoods. Rio de Janeiro is known for its vibrant day parties and of course the nightlife! The live clubs, live bands, comedy shows, Samba nights and even Gay nightclubs are common in the clubs of Rio. Some of the best places for a great party experience and nightlife are:

Food -

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- **Marius Degustare:**

Address : Av. Atlântica, 290 - Copacabana, Rio de Janeiro - RJ,
22010-000, Brazil.

Location : -22.961964,-43.166419

Contact No : +55 21 2275-0652

Website : <http://www.marius.com.br/>

Open / Close Time : Daily 12:00hrs-00:00hrs

- **L'Etoile:**

Address : Sheraton Rio - Av. Niemeyer, 121 - Vidigal, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22450-220, Brazil

Location : -22.9922132,-43.23320660

Contact No : +55 21 2529-1299

Website : <http://www.lettoile-rio.com.br/>

Open / Close Time : Daily 19:30hrs – 22:30hrs

- **Org Bistro:**

Address : Av. Olegário Maciel, 175 - Loja G - Barra da Tijuca, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22621-200, Brazil

Location : -23.013351,-43.30573370

Contact No : +552124931791

Website : <http://www.orgbistro.com.br/site/index.php>

Open / Close Time : Monday-Saturday 12:00hrs-20:00hrs

- **Prana Vegetarian:**

Address : R. Ererê, 110 - Cosme Velho, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22241-140, Brazil

Location : -22.9409604,-43.19787229

Contact No : +(55)21 22457643

Website : <http://www.pranavegetariano.com/>

Open / Close Time : 12:00hrs-15:00hrs and 16:00hrs-19:00hrs

- **Rotisseria Sírio Libanesa:**

Address : Galeria do Condor - Largo do Machado, 29 - Loja 32 - Catete, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22221-901, Brazil

Location : -22.931516,-43.17883910

Contact No : +55 21 2146-4915

Open / Close Time : Monday-Saturday 08:15hrs-23:30hrs

- **Sa:**

Address : Av. Atlântica, 3668 - Copacabana, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22070-001, Brazil

Location : -22.9810106,-43.1903403

Contact No : +552121956213

Website : <http://www.sarestaurante.com.br/>

Open / Close Time : Daily 12:00hrs-16:30hrs and 19:00hrs-00:00hrs

- **Rio Scenarium:**

Address : R. do Lavradio, 20 - Centro, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20230-070, Brazil

Location : -22.9082983,-43.18401089

Contact No : +55 21 3147 9000

Website : <http://www.rioscenarium.art.br/>

Open / Close Time : Tuesday-Thursday 18:30hrs-03:00hrs and Friday 19:00hrs-04:30hrs, Saturday 20:00hrs-04:30hrs

- **Bip Bip:**

Address : Loja D - R. Alm. Gonçalves, 50 - Copacabana, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22060-040, Brazil

Location : -22.9798128,-43.19050870

Contact No : +55 21 2267 9696

Website : <https://www.facebook.com/barbipbip/>

Open / Close Time : Monday-Saturday 19:00hrs-02:00hrs; Sunday 19:00hrs-00:00hrs

- **Carioca da Gema:**

Address : Av. Mem de Sá, 79 - Centro, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20230-150, Brazil

Location : -22.913226,-43.18198899

Contact No : +55 21 2221-0043

Website : <http://barcariocadagema.com.br/>

Open / Close Time : Monday-Saturday 19:00hrs-03:00hrs, Sunday 19:00hrs-04:00hrs

- **Clube Dos Democraticos:**

Address : R. Riachuelo, 91 - Centro, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20230-013, Brazil

Location : -22.9145174,-43.18330270

Contact No : +55 21 2252-4611

Website : <http://clubedosedemocraticos.com.br/>

Open / Close Time : Operates till 03:00hrs mostly

- **The Week:**

Address : Rua Sacadura Cabral, 135 - Saúde, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20081-261, Brazil

Location : -22.8977673,-43.18642599

Contact No : +55 21 2253-1020

Website : <http://www.theweek.com.br/>

Open / Close Time : Saturday 00:00hrs-08:00hrs

- **Tô Nem Aí:**

Address : R. Farme de Amoedo, 57 - Ipanema, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22420-020, Brazil

Location : -22.9846604,-43.20084500

Contact No : +55 21 2247-8403

Website : <https://www.facebook.com/tonemairestaurante/>

Open / Close Time : Daily 12:00hrs-03:00hrs

- **Miroir Club:**

Address : Avenida Epitácio Pessoa, 1484 - Ipanema, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22411-072, Brazil

Location : -22.9804756,-43.20507810

Contact No : +55 21 2513-3898

Website : <http://miroirclub.com.br/site2016/>

Open / Close Time : Open till 06:00hrs

- **Zuka:**

Address : Rua Dias Ferreira, 233B - Leblon, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22431-050, Brazil

Location : -22.9841226,-43.22755140

Contact No : +55 (21) 3205-7154

Website : <http://www.zuka.com.br/>

Open / Close Time : Monday 19:00hrs-01:00hrs Tuesday-Friday 12:00hrs-16:00hrs & 19:00hrs-01:00hrs Saturday: 13:00hrs-01:00hrs Sunday: 13:00hrs-00:00hrs

- **Paz e Amor:**

Address : Rua Garcia d'Avila, 173 - Loja L e J - Ipanema, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22421-010, Brazil

Location : -22.98200229,-43.20919079

Contact No : +55 21 2523-0496

Website : <http://www.restaurantepazeamor.com/>

Open / Close Time : Daily 06:00hrs-23:00hrs

- **Churrascaria Palace:**

Address : R. Rodolfo Dantas, 16 - Copacabana, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22020-040, Brazil

Location : -22.9666061,-43.17844730

Contact No : +55 21 2541-5898

Website : <http://churrascariapalace.com.br/>

Open / Close Time : Open 24Hours

- **Aprazível:**

Address : R. Aprazível, 62 - Santa Teresa, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20241-270, Brazil

Location : -22.9248226,-43.187485199999

Contact No : +55 21 2508-9174

Website : <http://www.aprazivel.com.br/>

Open / Close Time : Tuesday-Saturday 12:00hrs-23:00hrs, Sunday 12:00hrs-18:00hrs

- **Confeitaria Colombo:**

Address : Posto 6 - Praça Coronel Eugênio Franco, 01 - Copacabana, Rio

de Janeiro - RJ, 22070-020, Brazil

Location : -22.985735599999,-43.186687099999

Contact No : +55 21 3201-4049

Website : <http://www.confeitariacolombo.com.br/#home>

Open / Close Time : Monday-Friday 09:00hrs-19:00hrs, Saturday 09:00hrs-17:00hrs

- **Braseiro da Gávea:**

Address : Praça Santos Dumont, 116 - Gávea, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22470-060, Brazil

Location : -22.974122,-43.22712300

Contact No : +55 21 2239-7494

Website : <http://www.braseirodagavea.com.br/>

Open / Close Time : Sunday-Thursday 11:30hrs-01:00hrs, Friday-Saturday 11:30hrs-15:00hrs

- **Rio/Brasa:**

Address : Av. Ayrton Senna, 2541 - Barra da Tijuca, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22775-002, Brazil

Location : -22.9865747,-43.3667595

Contact No : +55 21 2199-9191

Website : <http://www.riobrasa.com.br/>

Open / Close Time : Daily 11:30hrs-00:00hrs

- **Alfaia Restaurante:**

Address : Rua Inhangá, 30 - Copacabana, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22020-060, Brazil

Location : -22.9666608,-43.1815125

Contact No : +55 21 2236-1222

Website : <http://www.restaurantealfaia.com.br/wp/>

Open / Close Time : Daily 11:45hrs-00:00hrs

- **Bar do Mineiro:**

Address : Rua Paschoal Carlos Magno, 99 - Santa Teresa, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20240-290, Brazil

Location : -22.921135,-43.18692750

Contact No : +55 21 2221-9227

Website : <http://bardomineiro.net/>

Open / Close Time : Tuesday-Saturday 11:00hrs-01:00hrs, Sunday 11:00hrs-00:00hrs

- **Bar do David:**

Address : Ladeira Ari Barroso, 66 - Loja 03 - Chapéu Mangueira, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22010-020, Brazil

Location : -22.9605716,-43.16888540000002

Contact No : +55 21 96483-1046

Website : <https://www.facebook.com/pg/BardoDavidOficial/about/>

Open / Close Time : Tuesday-Sunday 10:00hrs-22:00hrs

- **Jobi:**

Address : Av. Ataulfo de Paiva, 1166 B - Leblon, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22440-035, Brazil

Location : -22.9853569,-43.226913299999998

Contact No : +55 21 2274-0547

Website : <https://www.facebook.com/barjobi>

Open / Close Time : Monday-Friday 10:00hrs-04:00hrs, Saturday

10:00hrs-06:00hrs, Sunday 10:00hrs-04:30hrs

- **Bar Pavão Azul:**

Address : Rua Hilário de Gouvêia, 71 - Copacabana, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22040-002, Brazil

Location : -22.9677376,-43.184601799999996

Contact No : +55 21 2236-2381

Website : <https://www.facebook.com/pavaoazul/>

Open / Close Time : Monday-Saturday 12:00hrs-00:00hrs, Sunday 12:00hrs-20:00hrs

- **Bar e Restaurante Urca:**

Address : R. Cândido Gafree, 205 - Urca, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22291-080, Brazil

Location : -22.9435718,-43.1602077999999

Contact No : +55 21 2295-8744

Website : <http://www.barurca.com.br/>

Open / Close Time : Monday-Friday 06:30hrs-23:00hrs, Saturday-Sunday 08:00hrs-23:00hrs

Index**18. Average meal cost**

Economical Meal: R\$ 25 – R\$ 45 Mid – Segment Restaurant: R\$ 50 – R\$ 85
Luxury Dining: R\$ 85 and Above Average cost of Water: R\$3.11 Average cost of
Beer: R\$ 7- R\$15



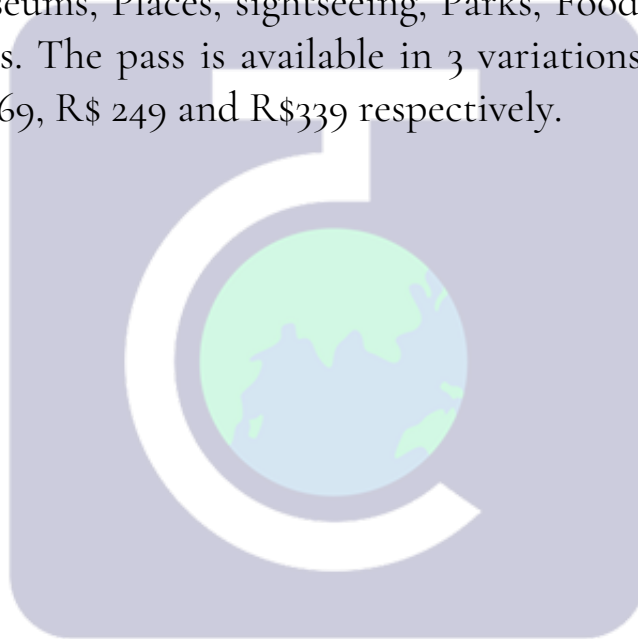
19. Shopping

Rio is a shopper's paradise. From boutique shops to malls, local markets to beaches; the markets of Rio have something to offer to suit every shopper's pocket and tastes. One can shop for the best of the brands in the malls of Rio. Some of the places worth visiting for shopping are:



20. Tourist benefits

The entry for the Sugar Loaf Mountain is at half the price for people above the age of 60 and disabled people. All you need is a valid photo identification proof. The VAT in Rio is 19% but there are certain stores in the city that sell duty free goods. A tax refund can be availed at the airport for the same. One can also purchase a Rio de Janeiro Tourist Pass that permits you free entrance to 30 attractions from museums, Places, sightseeing, Parks, Food, Shopping, Sports & Adventure and Tours. The pass is available in 3 variations i.e. 1Day, 3Days and 7Days that costs R\$ 169, R\$ 249 and R\$339 respectively.



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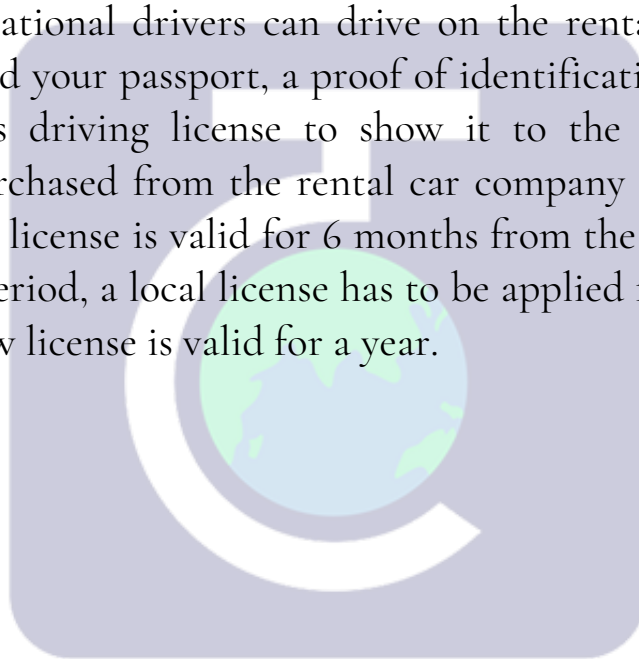
21. Essential local apps

Some local apps that may come handy when traveling to Rio are: Bike Rio: Bike Rio is a great app to rent bikes in Rio. Zomato: A great application to read reviews about the top restaurants in the city and order food online. Metro Rio: Metro Rio is the official Subway app that gives you information about the operation and schedules of metro trains in the city. Rio Bus: An app that gives you real time information about the location of the buses. TRAFI: TRAFI helps you beat the traffic and get real time navigation status of public transport making your easy. Transit: It provides offline schedules for public transportation. JB FM 99.9 Rio de Janeiro: Download this app and listen to the native Brazilian music while you explore the city.



22. Driving

The driving experience in Rio can be a real roller coaster especially for tourists from those parts of the world where driving is done in a disciplined manner. Driving here is not for faint hearted as the local people here drive in a very haphazard way. The local transportation is easily available and has a good connectivity; it is recommended to take the take transportation rather than renting a car. International drivers can drive on the rental car on their home license only. You need your passport, a proof of identification, a credit card and your home country's driving license to show it to the rental car company. Insurance can be purchased from the rental car company on a daily basis. The international driving license is valid for 6 months from the date of arrival in the country. After this period, a local license has to be applied for with the licensing authority and the new license is valid for a year.



Index**23. Travel essentials**

A power plug type “C”, “N” is advisable to be carried along when travelling to Brazil. The voltage varies from 100 to 240 Volts, 50 to 60Hz. The standard plugs are NBR 14136 with a frequency of 60 Hz and the residential voltage of 127 V, 220 V. Power surges are common in Rio. It is recommended to carry sufficient prescribed medicines as OTC's without a proper prescription may not be allowed.



Index**24. Essential clothes**

A power plug type “C”, “N” is advisable to be carried along when travelling to Brazil. The voltage varies from 100 to 240 Volts, 50 to 60Hz. The standard plugs are NBR 14136 with a frequency of 60 Hz and the residential voltage of 127 V, 220 V. Power surges are common in Rio. It is recommended to carry sufficient prescribed medicines as OTC's without a proper prescription may not be allowed.



Index**25. Local currency**

The official currency of Brazil is Brazilian Real. 1 US Dollar = 3.98 Brazilian Real



26. Change vendor's commission, ATM charges

Authorized banks remain the best source for currency exchange. It is advised that you avoid exchanging money at the airport as there are long queues and the exchange rate is quite poor. Also, there have been reports of card cloning frauds at the Galeao Airport. There are certain ATMs that do not accept foreign cards. ATMs in Rio close at 10 PM. The ATM charges and fees for international withdrawal vary from bank to bank. Brazilian banks charge a fee of 10 BRL upon withdrawal from ATMs. Avoid using ATMs on the street and use only authorized bank ATMs. The ATMs shut down by 11pm. Avoid withdrawing large sums of money at one time. The maximum withdrawal limit on a daily basis is R \$ 1000 before 10pm and R \$ 300 after 10pm. There are various “Casa de Cambios” or exchange houses located in major tourist areas like Copacabana, Ipanema, Leblon, etc. Many hotels too provide currency exchange facility at their front desk. The rates are generally less competitive than the vendors and banks but better than airport rates. Cambios generally provide better exchange rates than banks. Banks charge around 4-5% commission on exchanging currency in Rio. Cambios may charge you around 8-10% commission on exchanging currency for Reais. It's not a good option to bring Traveller's cheques as they are charged high fees.

Index**27. Staying connected**

It is easy to get a SIM card in Rio. The four major wireless mobile carriers are Claro, Vivo, Oi and TIM. A SIM card can be purchased from a newspaper seller also, but to activate the card, one needs to visit the mobile carrier store along with a photo identification proof. A SIM card costs around US \$ 4 - 5. Additional recharge coupons can be purchased from almost anywhere, from a newspaper seller to malls. Incoming calls are free in Rio. Internet connectivity is also good in Rio. Almost all the hotels provide a complimentary Wi-Fi with good connectivity.



Index**28. Time Zone**

Brazil time zone: BRT (UTC - 3) which is 2 hours ahead of the Eastern Standard Time (EST).



Index**29. Languages**

The official language of Rio is Portuguese. Other commonly spoken languages include Spanish, English and French.



Index**30. Political Scenario**

Rio has witnessed a political unrest from centuries. Today, Rio enjoys a political rule under the democratic government wherein the President is both, the head of the Government and the head of the state. The political and administrative organizations comprise of the federal government, federal districts, state and the municipalities.



Index**31. Economic Scenario**

The economy of Rio is the second largest regional economy in terms of other economies. It is also the biggest financial center in Brazil and one of the fastest growing in Central America. In fact, Rio is known as the fastest growing economy in the world. The GDP per capita is \$6300.



Index**32. Religious belief**

A majority of the population of Rio de Janeiro is Catholic followed by Protestants. The young population is now turning irreligious or towards Spirits.



33. Visa requirements

EU passport holders and British nationals and nationals of Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Malaysia, New Zealand, Panama, Peru, Paraguay, Suriname, Trinidad & Tobago, Bahamas, Barbados, Uruguay and Venezuela do not need visas to visit Brazil for a period of upto 90Days. All other nationals including those of US, Canada and Australia require a valid visa to enter Brazil. All that is required to visit Brazil is a valid passport that has an expiration period of 6 or more months and a return ticket and proof of funds enough to stay for the visit in Brazil. Your passport must contain minimum 2 consecutive blank pages for visa stamp. One can extend their stay for another 90Days making it a maximum stay for six months. However, the application should be made atleast 2 weeks before the 90Days visa expiry date. An Embarkation and Disembarkation card is issued by the Immigration authorities of Brazil and must be filled when arriving and leaving the country. Note: It is advisable to keep 2 pages free in your passport for arrival and departure stamps. In certain cases, it has been observed that applying and receiving a visa can be a process of 20-30 days. Hence, it is essential that you check the timeline with the relevant authority in the country where you intend to make the visa application. For more information, visit: <https://brazil.visahq.com/>

Index**34. Essential vaccination**

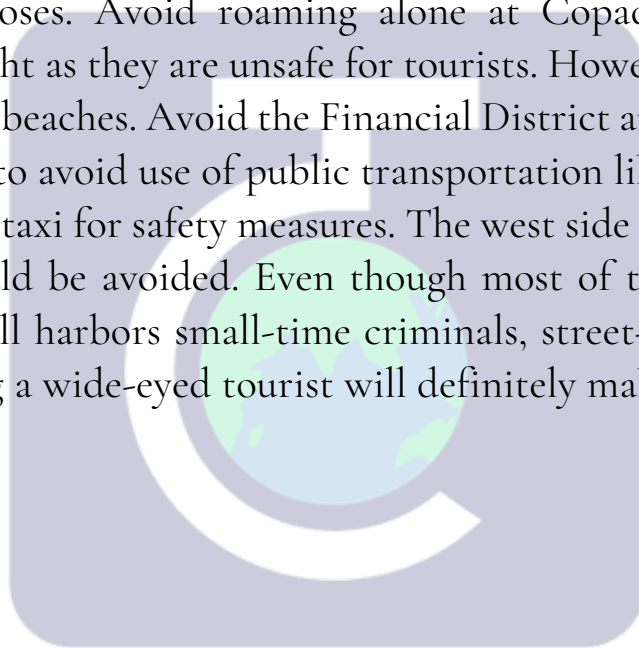
Brazil is witnessing an outbreak of Zika virus since 2015. The US Center for Disease Control (CDC) has recommended pregnant women to avoid visiting Brazil as the foetus can be affected by the virus. A proof of vaccine for polio is mandatory for children aged between 3 months to 6 years. A Yellow Fever vaccination is recommended to all travelers.



Index

35. Theft and Safety

Rio is a beautiful city but safety is definitely an issue here. One needs to be very careful especially while exploring the place while walking. It is very important to take precautions especially in the crowded areas as the crime rate is high here because of excessive poverty in the surrounding areas. It is always better to travel with minimum cash and valuable items and passports can be kept in the hotel safe for safety purposes. Avoid roaming alone at Copacabana and Ipanema neighborhoods at night as they are unsafe for tourists. However, there are various guards patrolling the beaches. Avoid the Financial District and Flamengo Parks at night. It is advisable to avoid use of public transportation like subways and buses at night and to hail a taxi for safety measures. The west side of Rio has high crime rate and hence, should be avoided. Even though most of the city population is hardworking, Rio still harbors small-time criminals, street-smart pick-pickers and drug lords. Being a wide-eyed tourist will definitely make you a prime target if you aren't careful.



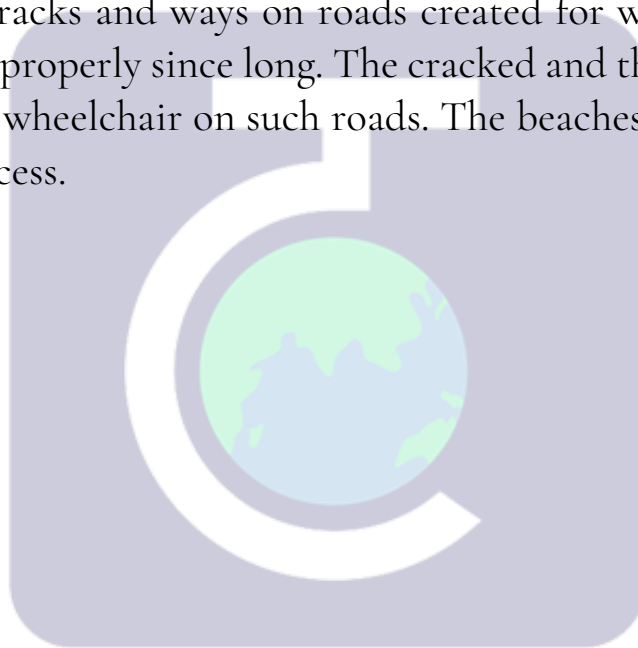
Index**36. Embassy/Consulate**

The list of foreign Embassy Consulates in Rio can be found here:
<http://embassy.goabroad.com/embassies-in/brazil>



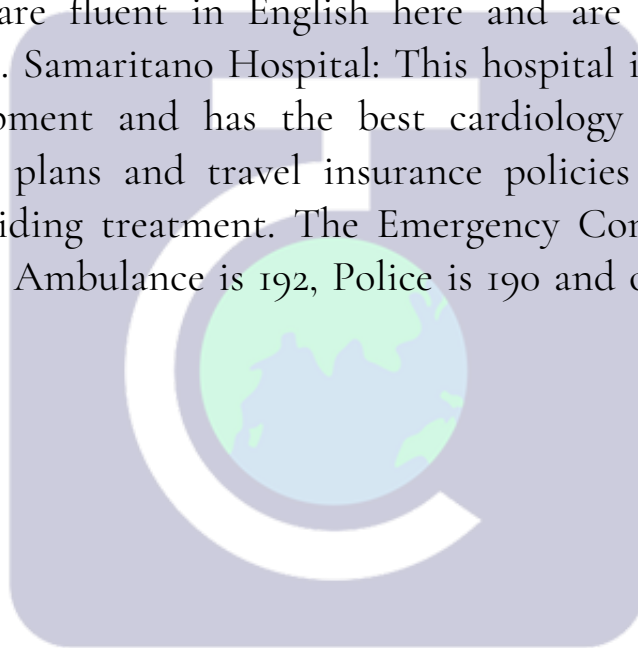
37. Accessibility

Rio is a fairly friendly place for the disabled. Almost all public transport stations and stops are provided with ramps that makes it easier to access for people with disabilities. Many platforms are endowed in extension of podotÃ¡sa floor line, embossed bands that facilitates the movement of people with visual deficiency. Almost all compositions have a specific place internally for wheelchair users. Although there are tracks and ways on roads created for wheelchairs, they have not been maintained properly since long. The cracked and the broken roads make it difficult to move a wheelchair on such roads. The beaches also do not have any special wheelchair access.



Index**38. Emergencies**

Rio is one of the most polluted cities in Brazil, but that does not cause any serious health issue. Some of the best hospitals in Rio are: Copa D'or Hospital: This hospital is internationally recognized as it maintains international standards. The medical staff is well trained here and the hospital is equipped with the latest facilities. Sao Jose Hospital: This hospital is best equipped to handle emergency situations. Doctors are fluent in English here and are a good hospital for international visitors. Samaritano Hospital: This hospital is well equipped with latest medical equipment and has the best cardiology department in Rio. International health plans and travel insurance policies are accepted by all hospitals while providing treatment. The Emergency Contact Number of the Federal Police is 194, Ambulance is 192, Police is 190 and of The Fire Service is 193.



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39. Do's and Don'ts

Do's: ● Must try the local cuisines. ● Venture into charming neighborhoods to explore the city life. ● Try to dress like a local Brazilian and avoid wearing expensive jewelry, watches or even dresses. ● Carry minimum cash with you and be careful of your Contacts, cameras and even plastic money. ● Avoid public transport and subways especially during night. It is advisable to take a taxi and avoid riding in the taxi alone. ● Always keep an eye on your luggage when moving places. ● It is good to visit the tourist attractions in large groups and avoid moving out during night. Beware of pickpockets and snatchers. ● Pay attention while withdrawing money from ATMs. ● Do arrange for sufficient medicines to meet your personal medical needs. Check with the embassy of the country you are visiting to ensure your medicine is legal in the countries you are travelling to. Obtain a doctor's letter stating who the medicines are for, what they are, the dosage, and leave medicines in their original packaging. Don't's: ● Do not travel alone especially during the night time. ● Do not withdraw money from ATM machines that are located at public places, instead use the ones that are at safe places like hotels, banks or at shopping centers. ● In Rio, do not contract with an independent taxi (who may be very friendly and show you a printed price sheet) because their fare from the airport to, say, the Copacabana area may, in fact, prove to be at least twice the real fare. ● Don't keep your valuables and wallet in your back pocket. ● Racial slurs are punishable offence in the country. Hence, avoid them. ● Don't take drinks offered by a stranger as it may contain powerful sleeping drugs. The age old trick of Goodnight Cinderella still works here. ● Avoid getting involved in a drug scene. ● Don't bribe the police authority if you are caught. It may make matters worse. ● Don't invite strangers to your hotel room.

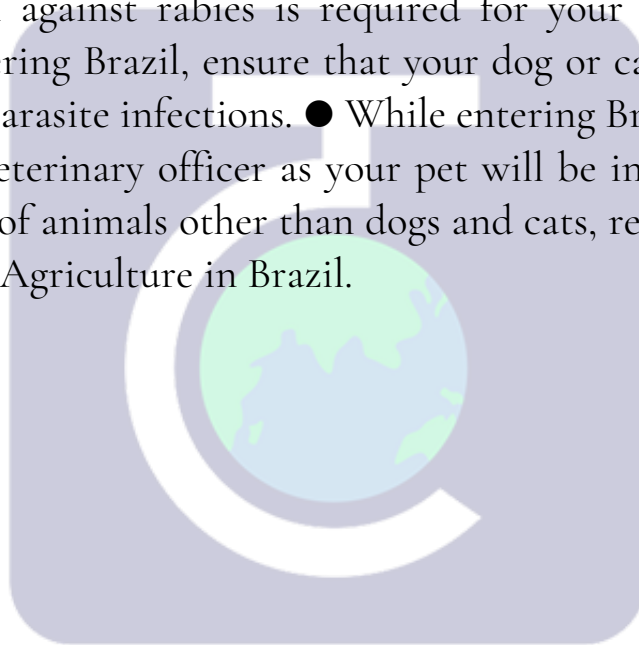
Index**40.Tipping basics**

It is not compulsory to tip in Rio and local people have no concept of tipping as such. It is not important to tip even the taxi drivers. A service charge of 10% is generally already added to the bills. Additional tips, however, are considered as a gesture of good service and goodwill. Bellboys are expected to be tipped at R\$1 (US \$0.50) per bag. Tipping 10% to the taxi drivers is a norm in Rio.



Index**41.Pet info**

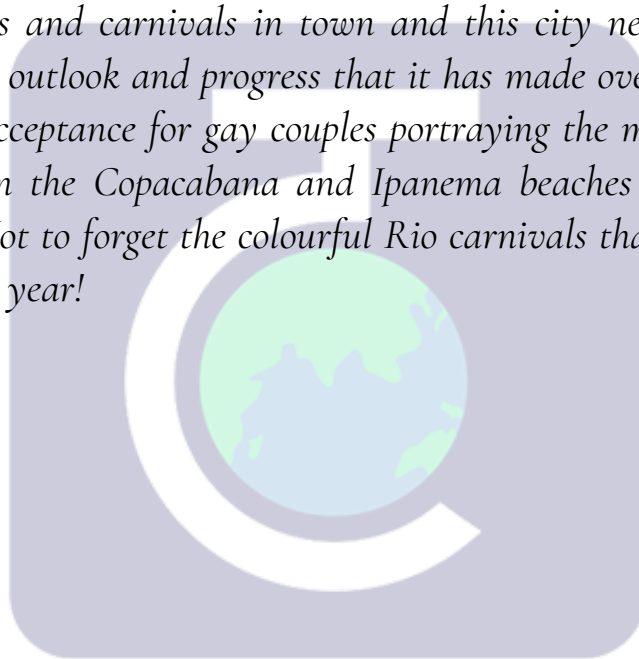
There are a number of hotels in Rio that allow you to get your pet along. Keep in mind the following points when taking your pet along to Brazil: ● **Pet Microchip:** It is recommended that your pets have a microchip or an identification tag before they are separated from you. Always register your contact information when travelling with pets, so that it is easy to identify your pet. ● **Vaccinations:** A proof of vaccination against rabies is required for your pets before entering Brazil. ● **Before entering Brazil,** ensure that your dog or cat is treated with any internal or external parasite infections. ● **While entering Brazil by air,** notice has to be given to the Veterinary officer as your pet will be inspected on arrival in Brazil. ● **Admission of animals other than dogs and cats,** requires prior approval from the Ministry of Agriculture in Brazil.



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Conclusion – Why to select this destination

Water sports, scenic beauty, shopping, golf and exquisite cuisines are all that can be expected when talking about Rio! Known as the party capital of Latin America, Rio de Janeiro (Rio) is a colorful, vibrant and one of the most charismatic and beautiful places on earth. This historic city is world renowned for its beautiful beaches, mountains and the very famous Christ the Redeemer that sits atop a beautiful mountain. Rio has one of the best natural landscapes and carnivals in town and this city never fails to impress its tourists with a modern outlook and progress that it has made over a period of time. The city also has a lot of acceptance for gay couples portraying the modern outlook that the people have here. From the Copacabana and Ipanema beaches to the mountains and parks, Rio has it all! Not to forget the colourful Rio carnivals that attracts thousands of locals and tourists each year!



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