

SUGGESTIONS: RIO DE JANEIRO | Restaurants

RIO'S BEST

OLYMPE

The menu includes the most famous dishes created by chef Claude Troisgros uniting French and Brazilian contemporary cuisine. Our choice for the best restaurant in the city.

Rua Custódio Serrão, 62 - Jardim Botânico | (21) 2539-4542

FASANO AL MARE

Fasano's venture in town, located at Hotel Fasano and designed by Philippe Starck. Top notch sea food; Italian with a zest of the tropics.

Fasano Hotel | Avenida Vieira Souto, 80 - Ipanema | (21) 3202-4000

CIPRIANI

Cipriani is the Copacabana Palace's restaurant, one of the most traditional in town, serving a northern Italian inspired menu. One of the few restaurants in Rio where a bit more formality is required.

Avenida Atlântica, 1702 - Copacabana | (21) 2548-7070

LE PRÉ CATELAN

Named after the great hotel in France, Le Pré Catelan is the restaurant of Sofitel, in Copacabana. It has a great fancy menu using Brazilian ingredients.

Avenida Atlântica, 4240 - Copacabana | (21) 2525-1160

FOR MEAT

PORCÃO RIO'S

The most famous Brazilian barbecue in Rio but always very touristy. The restaurant at Aterro do Flamengo has a beautiful view of the bay, but there is another unit in Ipanema, within walking distance of Fasano.

1. Avenida Infante Dom Henrique, S/N - Aterro do Flamengo | (21) 3461-9020

2. Rua Barão da Torre, 218 - Ipanema | (21) 3202-9158

FOGO DE CHÃO

A São Paulo international chain that with great Brazilian barbecue with more sophistication than Porcão yet with equally stunning views of the bay. This is nowadays the best Rodizio 'all you can eat' meat restaurant in the City.

Avenida Repórter Nestor Moreira, s/n - Botafogo | (21) 2279-7117

GIUSEPPE GRILL

Specialized in grilled meat and sea food, Giuseppe Grill has been chosen several times as the best meat in Rio.

Avenida Bartolomeu Mitre, 370 - Leblon | (21) 2249-3055

ESPLANADA GRILL

A traditional restaurant, where you can choose your favorite prime-cuts. Very well located, it's perfect to walk there if you are staying in Ipanema.

Rua Barão da Torre, 600 - Ipanema | (21) 2239-6028

SUGGESTIONS: RIO DE JANEIRO | Restaurants

CONTEMPORARY

TÉRÈZE

Sophisticated yet casual, Térèze overlooks the colonial rooftops of Santa Teresa district, a picturesque setting. Chef Damien Montecer leads the kitchen mixing Asian and Mediterranean ingredients with regional influence.

Rua Almirante Alexandrino, 660 - Santa Teresa | (21) 2222-2755 / (21) 2221-1406

APRAZÍVEL

With an unique view of the city, outdoor tables and Brazilian dishes prepared by chef Ana Castilho, this restaurant is a Rio institution.

Rua Aprazível, 62 - Santa Teresa | (21) 2508-9174

ZUKA

This contemporary and very Brazilian restaurant is one of our favorites in Rio. Be sure to try it!

Rua Dias Ferreira, 233B - Leblon | (21) 3205-7154

PIPO RESTAURANT

Recently opened, offers great “tapa” (small portion food) options, with a highlight to the *pirarucu* (fish) dumpling with spicy sauces and *tucupi*.

Rua Dias Ferreira, Leblon | (21) 2239-9322

QUADRUCCI

Very romantic ambiance, perfect for couples or groups of friends. Serves food from the north of Italy.

Rua Dias Ferreira, 233, Leblon | (21) 2512-4551

ORO

Chef Felipe Bronze uses all his skills in this beautiful contemporary molecular haute cuisine restaurant. Try the amazing Amazonian fishes and ingredients. Highly recommended!

Rua Frei Leandro, 20 - Jardim Botânico | (21) 2266-7591

BRIGITTE’S

Great gastrobar, you can sit on the counter and enjoy the amazing drinks and food.

Rua Dias Ferreira, 247A, Leblon | (21) 2274-5590

LASAI

Recently opened, this restaurant is already a huge success in Rio. We recommend you book it in advance. The chef studied in the USA and worked in some of the best restaurants in the world, like Mugaritz.

Rua Conde de Irajá, 191, Botafogo | (21) 3449-1834

IRAJÁ GASTRÔ

Very cool ambiance, the chef reinvents traditional recipes, in a “chic-cool” style.

Rua Conde de Irajá, 109, Botafogo | (21) 2246-1395

SUGGESTIONS: RIO DE JANEIRO | Restaurants

FOR QUICK BITES

CELEIRO

Soups, a variety of breads, and 30 salad options, this restaurant is a carioca reference for healthy food. Everything is surprisingly good.

Rua Dias Ferreira, 199 - Leblon | (21) 2274-7843

BAR LAGOA

A very traditional bar at the Lagoa Rodrigo de Freitas known for its good draught beer, sausages and a very local crowd.

Avenida Epitácio Pessoa, 1674 – Lagoa | (21) 2523-1135

BAR DO MINEIRO

If you are in Santa Teresa and fancy a great *feijoada* - the typical Brazilian black bean with rice dish - served in a very authentic setting, this place is a must.

Rua Paschoal Carlos Magno, 99 - Santa Teresa | (21) 2221-9227

ARMAZÉM

A charming café at one of Rio's best bookstores – Livraria da Travessa. It is a great place for a small bite and a café in the afternoon and a place to shop for good books in various languages.

Rua Visconde de Pirajá, 572 - Ipanema | (21) 3205-9002

CT BOUCHERIE

Inspired in a meat shop, this restaurant offers a great variety of meats combined to vegetables. Save room for dessert!

Rua Dias Ferreira, 636, Leblon | (21) 2529-2329

FORNERIA SÃO SEBASTIÃO

Perfect for a quick bite of delicious Italian food, super well located in Ipanema.

Rua Aníbal de Mendonça, 112 - Ipanema | (21) 2540-8045

RÁSCAL

Traditional Brazilian chain, has four restaurants inside of malls. Ráscal offers a great salad buffet, with made to order pastas and grilled meats or fishes. Perfect for families.

Avenida Afrânio de Melo Franco, 290 (inside Leblon Mall) - Leblon | (21) 2259-6437

VIA SETE

This restaurant has a partnership with the international NGO WWF, and serves grilled meats, with natural and organic side dishes.

Rua Garcia D'Ávila, 125 - Ipanema | (21) 2512-8100

GULA GULA

With seven stores in Rio, this chain began as a little restaurant and today is one of the favorite options to the cariocas.

Avenida Henrique Dumont, 57 - Ipanema | (21) 2259-3084

SUGGESTIONS: RIO DE JANEIRO | Restaurants

FOR SEAFOOD

ANTIQUARIUS

Very Traditional, Antiquarius is one of the very finest restaurants in Rio, specialized in Portuguese food. It is a good restaurant, but a bit old fashioned for our taste.

Rua Aristides Espinola 19 - Leblon | (21) 2294-1049

JAPANESE FOOD

SUSHI LEBLON

The first Japanese restaurant in Leblon, the balcony is a place not only to eat, but to see and to be seen. Their sushi has been elected for 10 consecutive years as the best in town by several local magazines and newspapers.

Rua Dias Ferreira, 256 – Leblon | (21) 2512-7830

AZUMI

Very traditional ambiance and food, where all the sushimen are Japanese. Very simple, but yet amazing food.

Rua Ministro Viveiros de Castro 127 – Leblon | (21) 2541 4294

OTHERS

MIAM MIAM

This is a very charming restaurant located in Botafogo in a tiny colonial building. The décor is retro. The chef creatively reproduces the food of her grandmother's house, along with amazing drinks.

Rua General Gois Monteiro, 34, Botafogo | (21) 2244-0125

BRÁZ PIZZARIA

With great ambiance, this pizzeria serves amazing pizzas, but the star of the menu is the *calabresa* bread. You can't miss it! Be aware of the long lines on the weekends.

Rua Maria Angélica, 129 – Jardim Botânico | (21) 2535-0687

CAPRICCIOSA

Rio's most famous pizza, with thin dough and good quality ingredients for toppings. Good wine list.

Rua Maria Angélica, 37 - Jardim Botânico | (21) 2527-2656

PERGULA

The less fancy restaurant of the Copacabana Palace hotel is a great place for a quick buffet style lunch. It also serves a delicious Sunday brunch.

Rua General Gois Monteiro, 34 - Botafogo | (21) 2244-0125

VIEIRA SOUTO

Perfectly located in front of Ipanema beach. Delicious Italian food - fresh pastas are produced in house, every day. The wine list is one of the highlights!

Av. Vieira Souto, 235 - Ipanema | (21) 2267-9282

FURTHER AFIELD

TIA PALMIRA

If you are traveling to the remote beaches around the city, this traditional sea fruit restaurant is a good stop. The chef Palmira is famous by her delicious Brazilian cuisine.

Rua Caminho do Souza, 18 - Barra de Guaratiba | (21) 2410-8169

BIRA

Also a good alternative for those going to the remote beaches, Bira is a fisherman, son of Palmira. The food is also great, and it has an incredible view.

Estrada da Vendinha, 68 A - Barra de Guaratiba | (21) 2410-8304

QUINTA

A very charming mansion away from town, with delicious Brazilian food. A good option if you are in a daytrip around the area.

Rua Luciano Gallet, 150 - Vargem Grande | (21) 2428-1396

SUGGESTIONS: RIO DE JANEIRO | Restaurants

BRUNCHES AND COFFEE

CASA CARANDAÍ

Good homemade breads and perfect to buy Brazilian products. It also offers a good brunch on Sundays.

Rua Lopes Quintas, 165 – Jardim Botânico | (21) 3114-0179

LA BICYCLETTE

Recently opened a new unity inside one of the most beautiful parks in Rio, the Jardim Botânico. Great for a pleasure pause for a coffee and slice of cake.

Rua Jardim Botânico, 1008 – Jardim Botânico | (21) 3594-2589

CAFECITO

Very charming spot, located at Santa Teresa, offers great coffee and some amazing sandwiches.

Rua Paschoal Carlos Magno 121 – Santa Tereza | (21) 2221-9439

CONFEITARIA COLOMBO

Founded in 1894, this is a Brazilian institution. Located inside of the Forte de Copacabana, offers an incredible view of the beach.

Praça Coronel Eugênio Franco, 1 Posto 6 - Copacabana | (21) 3201-4049

CAFÉ PARQUE LAGE

Amazing ambiance, next to a Roman swimming pool and visual arts school.

Rua Jardim Botânico, 414 – Jardim Botânico | (21) 2226-8125

ICE CREAM

MIL FRUTAS

Delicious ice cream made with tropical fruits and exotic ingredients. You have to try it! Our favorite: White Chocolate and Passion Fruit.

Rua Garcia D'Ávila, 134 A – Ipanema | (21) 2521-1384

VENCHI

The first branch of the Italian ice cream shop in Latin America, offers traditional (and delicious) flavors of *gelato*.

Rua Dias Ferreira, 217A – Ipanema | (21) 3596-5170

TRADITIONAL JUICE BARS

BIBI SUCOS

You will be amazed with the variety and the quality of the fruits offered here. Try as many juices as possible, as well as the sandwiches.

Avenida Ataulfo de Paiva, 591-A – Leblon | (21) 2259-0000

BB LANCHES

The healthiest corner in Leblon, it was also the first juice bar in Rio. Don't miss the *açaí*!

Rua Aristides Espínola, 64 – Leblon – (21) 2294-1397

SUGGESTIONS: RIO DE JANEIRO | Bars

'BOTECOS' – Simple low-brow bars with lots of character

BELMONTE

Belmonte can be described as a typical *Botequim*, a Brazilian type of bar with no frills and extremely informal, vibrating atmosphere. The wide selection appetizers and good service make this bar an interesting option for the day. (Don't miss the famous *Pasteis de provolone com cebola* – deep fried provolone cheese and onions pastries)

Rua Dias Ferreira, 64 - Leblon | (21) 2540-6821
Credit cards not accepted

JOBÍ

One of the best low-brow bars in Leblon, it is famous for its tradition and great Brazilian bar food. One of our favorites in the city but be prepared for queues.

Avenida Ataulfo de Paiva, 1166, loja B - Leblon | (21) 2274-0547

BRACARENSE

Bracarense is a Rio institution. Ideal for the famous *chopp* after the beach that Cariocas just love. A place where you sit or stand in the street, beer in one hand and an appetizer in the other. During weekends or at late afternoons, the place gets packed with people coming straight from the beach.

Rua José Linhares, 85 - Leblon | (21) 2294-3549
Credit cards not accepted.

VELLOSO

The place pays homage to the *bossa nova* – and to its artists. Great food, friendly staff and ambiance.

Rua Aristides Espínola, 44 – Leblon | (21) 2274-9966

CHICO E ALAÍDE

With great *petiscos* and fair prices, this bar was founded by an experienced couple and definitely worth the visit.

Rua Dias Ferreira, 679 – Leblon | (21) 2512-0028

HIP BARS – some of Rio's more sophisticated bars

ASTOR

Great drinks and cool retro-style atmosphere in a very nice location overlooking Arpoador Beach. Try a table located at the terrace.

Avenida Vieira Souto, 110, Ipanema | (21) 2523-0085

BAR D'HOTEL

Bar d'Hotel is one of the hippest night-spots in Rio, located at the Marina All Suits hotel. Decked out in a contemporary-vintage style it caters a la carte meals to guests and trendy cariocas. It has become a hotspot for locals and foreigners in the city - good option for cocktails in Leblon.

Av. Delfim Moreira, 696 - Praia do Leblon | (21) 2172-1001

SUGGESTIONS: RIO DE JANEIRO | Bars

LONDRA

The scenic Londra Bar is located at the main floor of Fasano Hotel. Londra (London in Italian) flaunts an edgy and playful rock and roll Decor: mock, oversized flags of England “Italianized” in red, white and green set the jet-set tone of the place, which is a traditional spot of Rio’s elite.

Avenida Vieira Souto, 80 - Ipanema | (21) 3202-4000

VOLTA

Recently opened, offers good drinks and Brazilian food.

Rua Visconde de Carandaí, 5 - Jardim Botânico | (21) 3204-5406

LIMA RESTOBAR

A very interesting bar specialized in Peruvian food. Don’t miss the Pisco Sour and the ceviche.

Rua Visconde Caravelas, 113 – Botafogo | (21) 2527-9662

BAR DOS DESCASADOS

With a beautiful and an amazing vibe. It’s very romantic and offers amazing drinks located inside the Santa Teresa Hotel.

Rua Almirante Alexandrino, 660 - Santa Teresa | (21) 2222-2755

PALAPHITA KITCH

One of the few outdoors bars in Rio. Perfect to drink a *caipirinha*, while enjoy the perfect view of a sunset in the Lagoa.

Avenida Epitácio Pessoa s/n – Quiosque 20 - Parque Cantagalo, Lagoa Rodrigo de Freitas | (21) 2227-0837

SUGGESTIONS: RIO DE JANEIRO | Nightlife & Music Bars

RIO SCENARIUM

Located at Lapa, the most bohemian neighborhood of Rio, in the historical city center. This is the best place for great live samba music. Better avoid Fridays and Saturdays, when there are a lot of tourists.

Rua do Lavradio, 20 - Centro Antigo | (21) 3147-9005

ESTRELA DA LAPA

Lapa offers many quality places to appreciate good samba and a good night-out. This specific bar is usually better on Mondays and Tuesdays. Go there if you enjoy staying in the middle of the young crowd.

Avenida Mem de Sá, 69 - Lapa | (21) 2507-6686

CAFÉ CULTURAL SACRILÉGIO

This bar is very similar to Carioca da Gema. Small, but authentic old style, always offers good-quality samba.

Avenida Mem de Sá, 81 - Lapa | (21) 3970-1461

CIRCO VOADOR

Amazing space for concerts in Rio. It always presents great musicians and line-ups. Please check the agenda on their website.

Rua dos Arcos, s/n - Lapa | (21) 2533-0354

PEDRA DO SAL

This is the closest one can get to old-time samba, or as they call it “*samba de raiz*” (root samba). A tiny place in Copacabana, very simple and local, but with quality samba music, the most original way there is to experience it.

Rua Argemiro Bulcão, 38 - Copacabana

THE MAZE

Located inside the Tavares Bastos favela, this place is one of the favorites for foreigners. The jazz music is the best you can listen to in Rio, and the view is astonishing!

Rua Tavares Bastos, 414 casa 66 - Catete

BAR VIZTA

Located at the rooftop of Marina Palace Hotel, in Leblon, this bar by the pool plays live Brazilian music, Thursday through Saturday, around 9-10pm. Enjoy a great view to Leblon beach and Dois Irmãos mountain.

Av. Delfim Moreira, 630 - Leblon | (21) 2172-1001

CLUBE DOS DEMOCRÁTICOS

Located downtown, this is the oldest bar club in Rio de Janeiro, with live bands playing the best of samba music. Very humble place, the best days are Thursday through Saturday, and the crowd is a mix of locals and tourists. Caution: you can not enter the club with flip flops.

Rua Riachuelo, 91 - Centro | (21) 2252-4611

CARIOCA DA GEMA

One of Lapa's most traditional and famous bar, Carioca da Gema's live music is also one of the best in town, and a public favorite, besides the always cold many options of beers.

Av. Mem de Sá, 79 - Lapa | (21) 2221-0043

LE MIROIR

One of the best nightclubs in Rio, Le Miroir guests are compound by the high-end carioca elite. It was recently voted as one of the best nightclubs in the world by MAG magazine. It's the perfect place to see and to be seen!

Avenida Epitácio Pessoa, 1484 - Lagoa | (21) 2513-3898

TOM DO LEBLON

Very cozy and bohemian, this place is perfect to listen to good jazz and bossa nova. Offers good food and drinks, to. Revives perfectly the good old times of the bohemian elite of Rio.

Rua Bartolomeu Mitre, 297 - Leblon | (21) 2249-3048

SUGGESTIONS: RIO DE JANEIRO | Galleries

A GENTIL CARIOCA

Exceptional place managed by the artists Ernesto Neto, Laura Lima and Márcio Botner. Many young promising artists participate.

R. Gonçalves Ledo, 17, sobrado, Centro | (21) 2222-1651 | Tuesday to Friday, 12h/19h; Saturday, 12h/17h. | www.agentilcarioca.com.br

ARTE 21 GALERIA

Av. Atlântica, 4.240, loja SS 123, Shopping Cassino Atlântico, Copacabana | (21) 2227-7280 | Mon. to Fri., 10h/19h; Sat., 12h/18h. | www.arte21galeria.com.br

ARTE EM DOBRO

Rua Dias Ferreira, 417, gr 206, Leblon | (21) 2259-1952 / 2294-8284 | Mon. to Fri., 10h/18h | www.artemdobro.com.br

BOX 4

R. Teixeira de Melo, 53, Ipanema | (21) 2247-8809 | Mon. to Fri., 10h/19h; Sat., 12h/16h | www.galeriabox4.com

GALERIA ARTUR FIDALGO

R. Siqueira Campos, 143, sl. 147-149, Copacabana | (21) 2549-6278 | Mon. to Fri., 14h/19h; Sat., 10h/14h | www.arturfidalgo.com.br

CASA DAROS

R. General Severiano, 159 Botafogo | (21) 2138-0850 | Wed. to Sat., 12h/20h; Sun., 12h/18h | <http://www.casadaros.net/>

LAURA MARSIAJ ARTE CONTEMPORÂNEA

R. Teixeira de Melo, 31c, Ipanema | (21) 2513-2074 | Tue. to Fri., 10h/19h; Sat., 12h/18h. | www.lauramarsiaj.com.br

LURIKS ARTE CONTEMPORÂNEA

R. Paulo Barreto, 76 (Espaço 2) e 77 (Espaço 1), Botafogo | (21) 2541-4935 | Mon. to Fri., 14h/19h; Sat., 16h30/20h. | www.lurixs.com

NOVEMBRO ARTE CONTEMPORÂNEA

R. Siqueira Campos, 143, sobreloja 118, Copacabana | 2235-8347 | Tue. to Fri., 12h/19h30; Sat., 12h/17h.

SILVIA CINTRA GALERIA DE ARTE

R. Teixeira de Mello, 53, loja D, Ipanema | (21) 2521-0426 / 2522-8625 | Mon. to Fri., 10h/19h; Sat., 12h/16h. | www.silviacintra.com.br

GALERIA TEMPO

Gallery dedicated exclusively to photography.

R. Visconde de Pirajá, 414, sala 305, Ipanema | (21) 2227-2221 | Mon. to Fri., 12h/19h; Sat., on invitation only. | www.galeriatempo.com.br

SUGGESTIONS: RIO DE JANEIRO | Shopping

OSKLEN

Osklen has a style inspired on the *cariocas* way of life and sports clothes, with a fashionable flair.

Rua Maria Quitéria, 85 - Ipanema | (21) 2227-2930

RICHARDS

Traditional Brazilian brand, great to find good quality linen and comfortable clothing.

Rua Maria Quitéria, 95, Ipanema | (21) 2522-1245

ADRIANA BARRA

Brazilian designer famous for her colorful and floral patterns.

Rua Dias Ferreira, 64, lj 101 | (21) 2512-3320

FARM

Fun colors and bold patterns make Farm a popular shop with carioca women of all ages. Great to find girl's dresses.

Rua Visconde de Pirajá, 365 | (21) 3813-3817

GRANADO

Founded in 1870, Granado is the oldest Brazilian apothecary. It incorporates Brazilian ingredients in its retro looking and natural products. The *Castanha do Brasil* (Chesnut) line is one of the favorites.

Rua General Artigas, 470, lj A, Leblon | (21) 3231-6759

LENNY or SALINAS

Creative and fashionable beachwear.

Rua Visconde de Pirajá 351, Loja 114/115, Ipanema | (21) 2523-3796

OR

Av. Ataulfo de Paiva 270 loja 130, Leblon (21) 25129734

OSKLEN PRAIA

One block away from Ipanema's "posto 9", there's always a summer collection available regardless of which season it is. The greatest variety of swimming suits and beach clothing off all Osklen stores.

Rua Visconde de Pirajá 351, Loja 114/115, Ipanema | (21) 2523-3796

SHOPPING SPOTS

SÃO CONRADO FASHION MALL

The favorite for fashion lovers. National and International designers may be found within the selected brands.

Estrada da Gávea, 899, São Conrado | (21) 2111-4444

IPANEMA NEIGHBOURHOOD

The main shopping street is *Visconde de Pirajá*. Crossing-streets as *Garcia D'Ávila* and *Ataulfo de Paiva* are great spots.

SHOPPING LEBLON

It is the closest shopping mall for those staying at Leblon or Ipanema. You can find great national and international shops.

Av. Afrânio de Melo Franco, 290 Leblon | (21) 2430-5122

GALERIA RIVER

Its history dates back to 1970. Located right next to the Arpoador, it houses the oldest tattoo studio in Rio, and the only Osklen Surfing store in Brazil.

Rua Francisco Otaviano, 67 | Copacabana – (21) 2247-8387

SUGGESTIONS: RIO DE JANEIRO | Shopping

ARNALDO DANEMBERG

The best antique store in Rio. Arnaldo has great taste in finding wooden furniture, as well as glass or ceramics.

Av. Atlântica, 1782, lojas G/H | Copacabana – (21) 2255-0325

ARQUIVO CONTEMPORÂNEO

João Caetano's store specializes in Brazilian design, and features known characters such as Sergio Rodrigues, as well as new generation like Jader Almeida.

Rua Redentor, 147 | Ipanema – (21) 2227-9120

NOVO DESENHO

A small store inside MAM and MAR museums. A great contemporary design selection for home décor.

Avenida Dom Henrique, 85 – Parque do Flamengo (21) 2524-2290 | (21) 2512-3320 | (21) 2523-3796



WAYS TO GET AROUND THE CITY

:: **Taxis:** They are quite safe and represent a good option to move around the city. Always use the official ones, yellow cabs with dark blue strip, but prefer the ones that belong to a company. It is easy to identify them, by noticing the company's name and phone painted on the doors/rear of the taxi.

In the peak hours, can be very difficult finding a taxi on the street. We recommend some online apps, that you can easily download at your mobile phone, such as EasyTaxi or *ResolveAí* and request a taxi online. These apps works very well if you have a local SIM card but may not work with foreign telephone numbers

:: **Bike:** one of the most pleasant ways of getting around Rio, especially if you are next to where the beach is. It is very easy to rent a bike of the Bike Rio project, similar to what now exists in many other cities around the World. You can use it for free up to 60 minutes, or you can do a monthly or daily pass paying a little amount. It is very easy; also, to use it, since you can withdraw and return the bike at any station, it does not have to be the same. Enjoy the ride at the bike lane appreciating our beautiful beaches!

OVERVIEW

"Your buzz is your charm," wrote poet Carlos Drummond de Andrade in an ode to his adopted Rio de Janeiro. Locals take pride in their reputation as world-class party people. With precisely 1,638 tourist attractions, according to a municipal survey, the city offers entertainment options tailored to every taste.

Rio's common denominator is the **beach**. It is not an uncommon mistake to point out Rio as Brazil's capital, as in fact it was until 1960. Beaches such as Copacabana and Ipanema, the Christ The Redeemer (Cristo Redentor) statue, the stadium of Maracanã and Sugar Loaf Mountain (Pão de Açúcar) are all well-known sights of what the inhabitants call the "wonderful city" (cidade maravilhosa), and also the first images to pop up in someone's mind, along with the Carnival celebration.

There are other vantage points from which to view Rio's coastline and rugged, foliage covered foothills. From the air, for instance. *"The first thing I'd do is take them on a helicopter ride above the city, to get them oriented,"* says Stuart Mickle, an advertising consultant and a former creative director at the New York agency J. Walter Thompson. "Then," Mickle adds, "I'd take the more adventurous ones hang-gliding."



Sitting on the southern shore of the magnificent Guanabara Bay, Rio de Janeiro has, without a shadow of a doubt, one of the most stunning settings in the world. Extending for 20km along an alluvial strip, between an azure sea and forest-clad mountains, the city's streets and buildings have been moulded around the foothills of the mountain range that provides its backdrop, while out in the bay there are many rocky islands fringed with white sand. The aerial views over Rio are breathtaking, and even the concrete skyscrapers that dominate the city's skyline add to the attraction. As the former capital of Brazil and now its second largest city, Rio has a remarkable architectural heritage, some of the country's best museums and galleries, superb restaurants and a vibrant nightlife – in addition to its legendary beaches. With so much to see and do, Rio can easily occupy a week and you may well find it difficult to drag yourself away.

HISTORY

The land surrounding Guanabara bay was first occupied by French pirates in 1555. The Portuguese crown, in an effort to expel intruders, ordered the construction of a fortress and the city of Rio de Janeiro was founded in 1565. Two years later, in 1567, the French left the area for good.

During the 18th century, the Portuguese found gold and diamonds in the neighbouring captaincy of Minas Gerais, and Rio de Janeiro became much more important since its port was more useful for exporting wealth than the colonial capital Salvador, which is much farther to the north.

In 1763, the colonial administration in Portuguese America was finally moved to Rio.

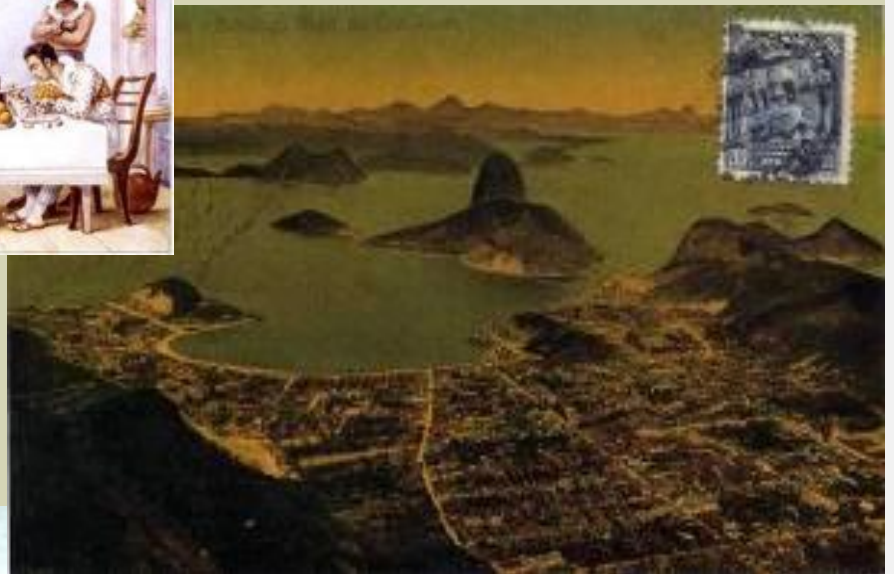
It remained the colonial capital until 1808, when the Portuguese royal family and most of the associated Lisbon nobles, fleeing from Napoleon's invasion of Portugal, moved to Rio de Janeiro. The city then became capital of the Portuguese kingdom. Rio de Janeiro furthermore became the only European capital outside of Europe.

As there was no physical space or urban structure to accommodate hundreds of noblemen who arrived suddenly, many inhabitants were simply evicted from their homes while the city received massive investments in infrastructure.

When Prince Pedro I proclaimed the independence of Brazil in 1822, he decided to keep Rio de Janeiro as the capital of his new empire. Rio continued as the country's capital even after 1889, when the monarchy was replaced by republic. In 1960, after 5 years of construction work, the capital moved to the planned city of Brasilia.



"Dinner in Brazil"
(1827) by Debret



*Old post card
from imperial
period*



*"View of Rio from
in front of St.
Bento Church"*
(ca. 1820) by
Rugendas

USING YOUR CELL PHONE

For international calls dial **00 21 XX** (country code) before the telephone number and for long distance calls in Brazil **0 21 XX** (city code).

Please contact us about the possibility of buying a Brazilian SIM Card (they can be found in any newsstand) or renting a Brazilian Smartphone, while you are in Brazil.

MONEY

The Brazilian currency is called REAL (abbreviation: BRL or R\$)
US\$ 1 = R\$ 3,09 (July 21st, 2015).

Credit cards such as Visa & MasterCard are the most widely accepted, while Amex and Diners are normally accepted in large cosmopolitan centres as well.

ATMs are plentiful in the big cities and airports. However, please note that not all ATMs work with foreign credit cards. Try the red Banco 24horas ATMs or international banks such as Citibank, HSBC or Santander to withdraw cash if necessary.

US\$ cash can be exchanged in most places, although you don't always get a good rate, especially when changing in remote places, airports and hotels.

Old Real Note (still in use)



New Real Note



TIPPING SUGGESTIONS

There are no strict rules for tipping in Brazil. However, as anywhere else, recognition of good service is appreciated.

In **hotels**, give the porter a few bucks for carrying luggage, etc. Also leave 5 – 10\$ in your room for the maid at the end of your stay.

In **restaurants**, a 10% service charge is usually automatically added to the bill. If the service charge is not noted on the bill, you should include it yourself. Extra tipping is optional. **At bars and nightclubs**, you often pay at the exit which means that bartenders and waiters don't handle money themselves. At these places, tipping is not common practice.

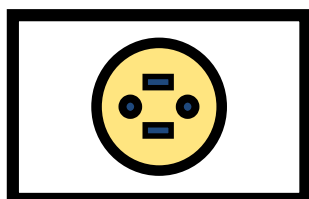
In **taxis**, tipping is not expected, although a round-up to the nearest R\$ 5 is received well – especially if the driver helps you with luggage

For **hosts and guides**, you can be a bit more generous; we suggest a tip of U\$ 50 -100 per day, if you are pleased with the service provided.

Service type	Half Day	Full Day
Transfer	U\$ 20 – 30	-----
Driver at disposal	U\$ 20 – 30	U\$ 30 – 50
Guide/Host	U\$ 30 – 50	U\$ 50 – 100
Hotel Porter	U\$ 5 - 10	—

ELECTRICITY

The electrical voltage in Brazil varies from city to city. In Rio, São Paulo and in the south of Brazil the voltage is generally 110v but in many Northern parts of the country it is 220v. Always be sure to check. Therefore, it is recommendable that you ask at the reception before plugging in any electrical device.



Brazilian sockets usually accept both American and European plugs.



New model of Brazilian socket.

Some hotels might use it already. We will supply you with an adapter for this type of plug

SPEAKING PORTUGUESE

Portuguese is not an obvious language. It has some nasal sounds that are unique and very difficult to reproduce for most of the people. This small guide will help you pronounce the words you'll need the most while you're here!

yes	=	sim		SIN(G)
no	=	não		NAWN(G)
please	=	por favor		POOH-r FAH-voh-r
hello	=	olá		Oh-LAH
goodbye	=	adeus		ah-DEOOSH
I'm sorry	=	desculpe		desh-KULP
good morning	=	bom dia		BOH-MM dEE-ah
good afternoon	=	boa tarde		BO-a TARD
good night	=	boa noite		bo-a NOIT
see you soon	=	até breve		ah TEH BREE-veh
today	=	hoje		OHZH-g
yesterday	=	ontem		OHN-taym
tomorrow	=	amanhã		A-mahn-YAHNG
hotel	=	hotel		oh-TEL
bedroom	=	quarto		KWAHR-too
pool	=	piscina		PEESS-xee-NA
restaurant	=	restaurante		Resh-tau-RAN-t'
bar	=	bar		BA-r
water	=	água		AH-gwah
juice	=	suco		SOO-ko
tea	=	chá		X-aah
beer	=	cerveja		ser-VAY-zhah
wine	=	vinho		Vinyoo
bread	=	pão		powng
butter	=	manteiga		Mahn-TAY-gah
cheese	=	queijo		KAY-zhoo
airplane	=	avião		AH-vyow
airport	=	aeroporto		ah-eh-roo-POHR-too
bus	=	ônibus		OH-nee-boos
car	=	carro		KAH-roo
boat	=	barco		BAHR-koo
here	=	aqui		AH KEE
right	=	direita		Dee-RAY-tah
left	=	esquerda		esh-KEHR-dah
straight	=	em frente		eim frent
street	=	rua		HOO-ah

Feel like a local! This is one of the difficult nasal sounds!



We also say: TCHAU

FURTHER INFORMATION: BRAZIL | A Brief Look

Recommended Literature: [A Concise History of Brazil](#) FAUSTO, Boris | Cambridge University Press, 1999.

INTRODUCTION

Brazil is the largest and wealthiest Latin American country, occupying an area of 3,286,470 sq. miles (8,511,965 sq. km) and covering nearly half (47.3 percent) the South American landmass. It is the fifth largest country in the world after Russia, Canada, China and the United States, and the third largest in the Americas. On a world map it can be seen that the eastern bulge of Brazil conforms to the concave curve of the west coast of Africa. This is no coincidence: Africa and South America were once a single landmass, but then drifted apart over millions of years.

The equator passes through the north of the country near Macapá; the Tropic of Capricorn passes through the south near São Paulo. Brazil's maximum width, 2,684 miles (4,319.4 km), is almost the same as its maximum distance from north to south, 2,731 miles (4,394.7 km).

Brazil has ten neighbours: the Department of French Guiana and the countries of Suriname, Guyana, Venezuela and Colombia to the north; Uruguay and Argentina to the south; and Paraguay, Bolivia and Peru to the west. Ecuador and Chile are the only two countries in continental South America that do not border Brazil. The Atlantic Ocean extends along the entire eastern side of the country, which has 4,578 miles (7,367 km) of coastline.

ECONOMY

Brazil is the largest national economy in Latin America, and currently the world's ninth largest economy. Despite being the political and economic leader in Latin America, social and economic problems such as an unfair income division (the second worst in the world) and a lack of infrastructure have historically prevented it from becoming an effective global power.

Major export products include aircraft, coffee, automobiles, soybean, iron ore, orange juice, steel, ethanol, textiles, footwear, corned beef and electrical equipment. Massive oil discoveries in recent times may transform Brazil into an oil superpower in the future.

GEOGRAPHY AND NATURE

Brazil's large territory comprises different ecosystems, such as the Amazon Rainforest, the *Pantanal* wetland and the *Cerrado* savannah, which together sustain some of the world's greatest biodiversity.

In the south, the Araucaria pine forest grows under temperate conditions. The rich wildlife of Brazil reflects the variety of natural habitats; however, the fauna remains largely unknown, and new species are found almost on a daily basis.



FURTHER INFORMATION: BRAZIL | A Brief Look

DEMOGRAPHY

Brazil is the fifth most populous country in the world after China, India, the United States and Indonesia. Its population is approximately 193 million, predominantly young: 62% of Brazilians are under 29 years of age.

Brazil's rate of population growth, high throughout the early and mid-20th century, has decreased significantly since 1970, due largely to economic modernization and a dramatic urbanization process. Rates are now stable and expected to be negative in two decades. Brazil's average population density is low compared to that of many other countries. Most people live on or near the Atlantic coast of the south-eastern and north-eastern states. Since about 1970 there has been intense migration from the north-east to the wealthy and industrialized south-east, as well as from rural to urban areas. Recently the population flow has also turned towards the less inhabited central-western and northern regions, due to the increase of labor opportunities at new agricultural belts.

Brazil is a racially mixed country in which the majority of people have ancestors in more than one of the three main groups: Europeans (mostly Portuguese, Italian and German); Africans (mainly from the west of the continent); and the original indigenous Indian population. In the first half of the 20th century, as a consequence of war and economic pressures, sizeable contingents of immigrants came to Brazil from various parts of western, central and eastern Europe.

The first 500 or so immigrants from Japan arrived in Brazil in 1908, to be followed by another quarter of a million over the next sixty years. It is a little-known fact that today Brazil contains the largest number of people of Japanese ancestry outside Japan, most of whom live in São Paulo state or the south of the country.

BRAZILIAN INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

Most native peoples who live and lived within Brazil's current borders are thought to descend from the first wave of migrants from North Asia (Siberia) that crossed the Bering Land Bridge at the end of the last Ice Age around 9000 BC.

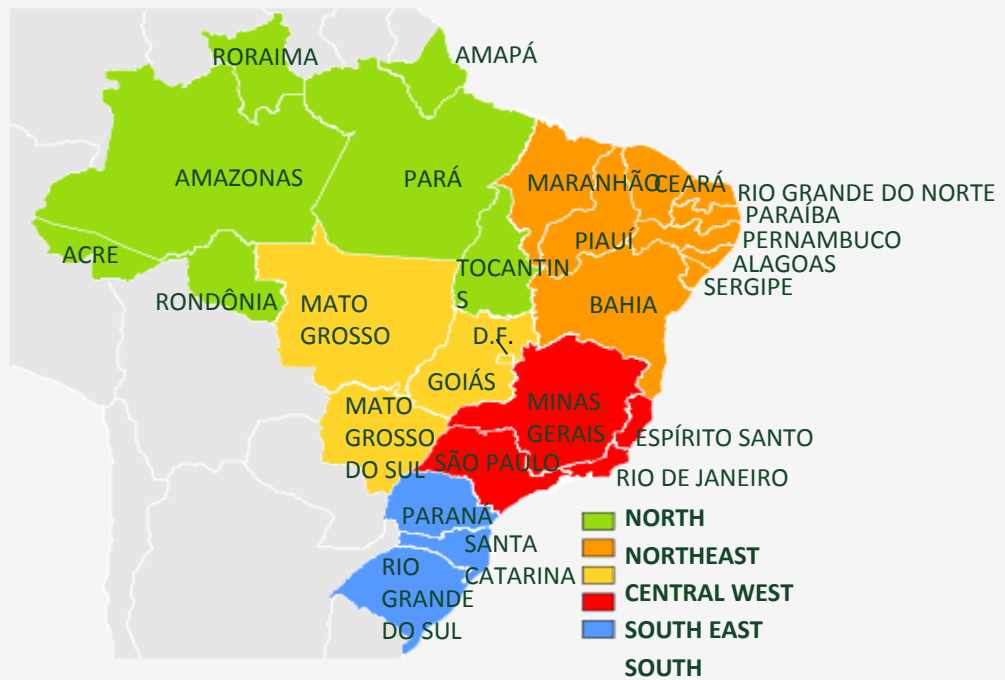
When the Portuguese explorers arrived in 1500, the Amerindians were mostly semi-nomadic tribes, with the largest population living on the coast and along the banks of major rivers. Initially, the Europeans saw the natives as noble savages, but tribal warfare and miscegenation of the population began right away. Tribal warfare and cannibalism convinced the Portuguese that they should "civilize" the Amerindians.

Brazil has today the largest number of uncontacted peoples in the world. According to Fundação Nacional do Índio (National Indian Foundation), in 2007 there were 67 different tribes yet living without contact with outsiders.

*Operários,
Tarsila do
Amaral*



FURTHER INFORMATION: BRAZIL | States & Regions



STATES AND REGIONS

Brazil is a federation of 26 states, one federal district and also the municipalities. None of these units have the right to secede from the Federation.

The North region covers 45.27% of the land area of Brazil, but has the lowest number of inhabitants. With the exception of Manaus, which hosts a tax-free industrial zone, and Belém, the biggest metropolitan area of the region, it is fairly unindustrialized. It accommodates most of the Amazon rainforest and many indigenous tribes.

The Northeast region is inhabited by about 30% of Brazil's population. It is culturally diverse, with roots set in the Portuguese colonial period and in Amerindian and Afro-Brazilian elements. It is also the poorest region of Brazil, and suffers from long periods of drought. The largest cities are Salvador, Recife, and Fortaleza.

The Central-West region has low demographic density. Part of its territory is covered by the world's largest wetland area, the Pantanal as well as a small part of the Amazon Rainforest in the northwest. However, most of the region is covered by the Cerrado, the world's largest savannah. This environment is currently threatened by the expansion of modern agriculture, specially the soybean. The Central-West region contributes significantly towards the nation's agricultural output.

The Southeast region is by far the richest in terms of total economic output, and also the most densely populated region. It has a larger population and consumer market than any South American country except Brazil itself, and hosts one of the largest megalopolises of the world, extending between the country's two largest cities: São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro. Its agriculture, industry, commerce, and services are the most diversified in the nation. The region is very diverse, including the major business center of São Paulo, the historical cities of Minas Gerais and its capital Belo Horizonte, the third-largest metropolitan area in Brazil, the beaches of Rio de Janeiro, and the coast of Espírito Santo.

The South region is the wealthiest by GDP per capita and has the highest standard of living among the country's regions. It is also the coldest region of Brazil, with occasional frost and snow in some of the higher-altitude areas. It has been settled mainly by European immigrants, mostly of Italian, German and Portuguese ancestry, being clearly influenced by these cultures.



Brazilian National Congress building in Brasília

FURTHER INFORMATION: BRAZIL | A Brief Timeline

1500 - Portuguese Admiral Pedro Álvares Cabral, first European to reach Brazil, initiating Portuguese colonization.

1530 – Portuguese crown supports the construction of sugar mills surrounded by massive sugar cane plantations.

1630 – Dutch invasions in north-east.

1644 – Dutch are expelled by Portuguese troops.

1695 – Gold is found in the central western state of Minas Gerais. Intense immigration flows and urbanization take place.

1730 – Capital moved from Salvador to Rio de Janeiro for better state control of gold mines.

1808 -- Portuguese king, fleeing Napoleon's army, transfers seat of government. from Lisbon to Rio de Janeiro.

1815 – Dom João VI declares Brazil a kingdom, equal with Portugal.

1822 – Dom João returns to Portugal; his son, Pedro, declares Brazil an independent empire and assumes throne as emperor.

1830 – Coffee becomes the main export good.

1848 – Intense immigrant flows from Italy, Germany and Spain.

1888 -- Slavery abolished.

1889 -- Second emperor, Dom Pedro II, deposed, republic proclaimed.

1922 – The Week of Modern Art (or *Semana de Arte Moderna*) takes place in São Paulo. The week was an arts festival which marked the start of Brazilian Modernism by criticizing the country's elites and their lack of national identity.

1930 -- Military coup; Getúlio Vargas seizes power as dictator. A massive industrialization plan takes place.

1954 -- Democratic civilian rule restored.

1960 -- Capital moved from Rio de Janeiro to new planned city of Brasília.

1964 -- Military coup; censorship imposed, political opposition quelled.

1985 -- Civilian rule restored, José Sarney assumes presidency.

1988 – Present democratic constitution is adopted.

1989 -- Brazil announces large-scale environmental plan for Amazon Basin to control destruction of this globally-important ecosystem.

1990 – Fernando Collor is directly elected president after dictatorship.

1992 – Impeachment of Collor after a corruption scandal.

1994 – Fernando Henrique Cardoso is elected and a new economic plan focused on inflation control is launched.

1998 – Fernando Henrique is re-elected president of Brazil.

2002 – Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva wins presidential elections.

2006 – Lula is re-elected for presidency.

2007 – Brazil is elected host of the 2014 FIFA World Cup.

2008 – The impact of the financial crises is considered very slight compared to other nations. Brazil recovers economical growth.

2009 – Rio de Janeiro is chosen as host city of the 2016 Olympic Games.

2010 – Dilma Rousseff is elected Brazilian first woman in charge.

2011 – Security forces occupy one of the biggest slums in Rio de Janeiro, as part of a major crackdown on organized crime ahead of the 2014 World Cup and the 2016 Olympics

2012 – Truth Commission is established to start investigating abuses during 1964-1985 military dictatorship.

2013 – Historic public manifestation draw Worldwide attention towards the on-going issues in the country.