Orientation pack

Brazil

Emory University

Sao Paulo & Rio de Janeiro
February 24th – March 4th, 2016
## Content

### Orientation Pack Brazil

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Brazil at a glance

Introduction

National Symbols

National Flag
Green with a large yellow diamond in the center bearing a blue celestial globe with 27 white five-pointed stars; and a white band with the motto Ordem e Progresso (Order and Progress).

Coat of Arms
A five-pointed yellow-and-green star with a blue circle in the middle, surrounded by a coffee plant on the left-hand side and a tobacco plant on the right. The central blue circle shows the Southern Cross and is surrounded by 27 white stars representing the 26 states and the Federal District.

Geography

Official country name: Federative Republic of Brazil
Language spoken: Portuguese
Population: 204,259,812 (July 2015 est.)
Capital: Brasilia
Area: 8,511,965 sq km (slightly smaller than the US)
Borders shared with: Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, French Guiana, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay, and Venezuela
Religion: Roman Catholic (nominal) 73.6 %, Protestant 15.4 %, other 3.6%, none 7.4%

Basic Economic Indicators and Politics

Currency: Brazilian real (BRL)
GDP per capita (PPP): $16,100 (2014 est.)
Real GDP growth: 0.1% (2014 est.)
Unemployment rate: 4.8% (2014 est.)
Inflation rate (CPI): 6.3% (2014 est.)
System: Federal Republic
President and Head of Government: President Dilma ROUSSEFF (since 1 January 2011); Vice President Michel TEMER (since 1 January 2011); note - the president is both the chief of state and head of government
Things to do and see in Sao Paulo

Sao Paulo overwhelms the senses with its sheer size. With over 10 million inhabitants, it is the world’s third largest city and the largest in South America. Sao Paulo and its rival Brazilian city, Rio de Janeiro, have often been compared to New York and Los Angeles respectively. If Rio has gained fame for its striking natural setting, Sao Paulo's attraction lies in its people and its vibrant cultures. The Avenida Paulista's canyon of up thrusting skyscrapers only hints at the city's sources of energy. A more cosmopolitan city than its counterpart, Sao Paulo possesses significant ethnic minority communities, including substantial Japanese, Italian, Arab and Lebanese Christian neighborhoods. The array of nationalities living in Sao Paulo has made it a legendary city among gourmands: Japanese, Italian nuova cucina, Brazilian, Chinese, Jewish, and Arab restaurants are all familiar parts of the city's landscape.

Brazil’s most modern, cosmopolitan city has much to offer in addition to its outstanding cuisines. Its museums are among the finest in South America and its entertainment and nightlife have for years attracted some of the best performers in the world. In recent years, the city has evolved into a center for Brazil’s own martial art, capoeira, whose dance-like motions are performed to music. The art has its own traditional instruments: drums and the berimbau, a stringed rod used to keep time. Originally developed as the martial art of the slaves, capoeira was banned by the ruling classes. To keep their art alive, the slaves turned capoeira into a dance, and the berimbau, which had warned of an approaching master, began to accompany the dance itself. As late as the 1920s capoeira was still outlawed and practiced only underground; today, it is a well-known and much-loved spectacle.

City center (Centro)

Even though the downtown district has its share of petty crime, it's one of the few places with a historical flavor. Explore the areas where the city began and see examples of architecture, some of it beautifully restored, from the 19th century. At Praca da Se, the city’s true center, you can find the main sacral building in Sao Paulo – Catedral Metropolitana da Se (picture on the right). A short walk along Rua Benjamin Constant will bring you to the baroque church Igreja de Sao Francisco de Assis. Here you can turn to the right and come to the Viaduto do Cha, a monumental overpass above the Vale do Anhangabau – the heart of Sao Paulo – and continue around nearby neobaroque Teatro Municipal to reach Praca da Republica where a fair is held every Sunday. In one corner of Praca da Republica, in Avenida Ipiranga, stands Edificio Italia.
Edificio Italia

The Edificio Italia, considered the second tallest building in the city, was inaugurated in 1965 in the city of Sao Paulo. 165 meters in height, and 150 m from ground level, it has become one of the state capital’s major tourism attractions: The building has 19 elevators, 6 thousand square meters of glass, and capacity for 10 thousand people. The Edificio Italia is a landmark in the city, not only due to its size, but also for its famous and traditional restaurant, the Terraco Italia. Located on the top floor, the restaurant affords 360 degree views of the city of Sao Paulo.

Liberdade

At the beginning of the 20th century, a group of Japanese arrived to work as contract farm laborers in Sao Paulo State. During the next five decades, roughly a quarter of a million of their countrymen followed, forming what is now the largest Japanese colony outside Japan. Distinguished today by a large number of college graduates and successful businesspeople, professionals, and politicians, the colony has made important contributions to Brazilian agriculture and the seafood industry. Liberdade, which is south of Praca da Se behind the cathedral, and whose entrance is marked by a series of red porticoes, is home to many first-, second-, and third-generation Nippo-Brazilians. Clustered around Avenida Liberdade are shops with everything from imported bubble gum to miniature robots to Kabuki face paint. The Sunday Street fair holds many surprises.

Avenida Paulista

Money once poured into and out of the coffee barons' mansions that lined Avenida Paulista, making it, in a sense, the financial hub. And so it is today, though instead of mansions there are major banks. Like the barons before them, many of these financial institutions generously support the arts. Numerous places have changing exhibitions – often free – in the Paulista neighborhood. Nearby Bixiga, Sao Paulo's Little Italy is full of restaurants.

MASP

MASP – Museu de Arte de Sao Paulo (Sao Paulo Art Museum) is one of the landmarks of Avenida Paulista. It stores a vast collection of arts, one of the most important of the southern hemisphere. MASP maintains an Art gallery, Library, Photograph gallery, Video gallery, Art Courses and an exhibition educational support service, the exhibition of films and musical concerts of artistic and cultural interest. Therefore, it is rated as the first cultural center of excellence in Brazil. The visitor can appreciate the Avenida Paulista building, works of the Italian school like Rafael, Andrea Mantegna, Botticelli and Bellini; of such Flemish painters as Rembrandt, Frans Hals, Cranach or Memling. Among the Spanish artists are Velazquez and Goya.
Things to do and see in Rio de Janeiro

Rio de Janeiro, a multi-faceted destination, the focus of the travel industry in Latin America and unique in terms of its natural beauty, with the richness of its history and the contagious fun of its residents have contributed to its image as a very special destination, and never more so than during its two major festivals, Reveillon and Carnival.

The visitor seeking a resort destination which also provides the sophisticated infra-structure of a modern city will find everything he requires in Rio de Janeiro. Rio is a city of contrasts: the colonial architecture provides a reminder of the past, striking modern buildings provide a glimpse into the future. Two landmarks, true postcard images, are known the world over: the Sugar Loaf and the Statue of Christ the Redeemer. Rio de Janeiro, as a travel destination, is not seasonally sensitive, as the climate is temperate year round, and its attractions can be enjoyed at virtually any time of the year.

Corcovado

The top of this mountain is 2310 feet above sea level and offers a spectacular view of Guanabara Bay and the city. It is known worldwide for the 38-meter (125 ft) statue of Jesus atop its peak, entitled Cristo Redentor or "Christ the Redeemer". To get to the peak you can take a taxi, or the more traditional Corcovado Rack Railway. Corcovado (meaning "hunchback" in Portuguese) is the most famous sight of Tijuca National Park (Parque Nacional da Tijuca) – in 15 minutes you can get from the concrete jungle of Rio de Janeiro's downtown to a tropical rainforest with waterfalls, caves and wildlife.

Christ the Redeemer

The statue of Christ the Redeemer (Cristo Redentor) pays homage to Rio's religiosity, and has become a symbol of the city and of its people, receiving all visitors with open arms. The idea of a religious landmark was proposed in 1921 (for the 2nd time already) by the Rio de Janeiro Archdiocese. Money was raised through donations and the construction on the top of the Corcovado Mountain started in 1922. It took nine years to finish the works and since its completion, Christ the Redeemer has attracted millions of tourists. In 2007 it was named one of the New Seven Wonders of the World.
Sugar Loaf

The top of Rio’s unique 887ft high (270m) belvedere, named Sugar Loaf (Pao de Acucar) because of its resemblance to the loaves of sugar used by the Portuguese colonists, can be reached by a two-stage cable car ride. The first stage takes visitors up 550ft (168m) to the Morro da Urca, where there is a restaurant, amphitheater, heliport and spectacular view of the Yacht Club and Botafogo Bay. The second stage takes one the rest of the way to the summit for a panoramic view of the city and the whole of Copacabana beach.

Santa Teresa

The district of Santa Teresa started next to a convent on Morro do Desterro, Rio de Janeiro, in the 18th century. Set on a hillside in the center of the city, it seems to have stopped in time maintaining, as it has for decades, preserved features of Old Rio and a bit of history in each corner. Writers and artists have always been seduced by the district’s charm and to its architectural and cultural treasures, visible to the eye and cherished by the heart. Everything that exists in Santa Teresa and that is known about it is also part of the history of Rio. To the visitor, however, it seems like a place apart with its own characteristics.

Samba City

Going to Brazil, and especially to Rio, would not be complete without samba. Samba is a part of the Brazilian society and history, part of the lives of the Brazilians. Thousands of dancers, musicians, singers and organizers get together in so called “samba schools” to prepare and practice the biggest Brazilian event of the year – the Carnival. The Samba City (Cidade do Samba) was constructed by the Rio de Janeiro City Hall to offer the samba schools space for preparations. It is a major entertainment park of the country where you can see how the costumes, instruments and carriages are made, play with the drum band (bateria) or learn the basic samba moves.

Maracana Stadium

After winning the candidature for hosting the 1950 FIFA World Cup, Brazil needed a new stadium to host the event. Owned by the Rio de Janeiro State Government, it is named after the Maracana neighborhood in Rio de Janeiro. The original capacity of Maracana was 200,000 spectators which made it the largest soccer stadiums in the world. The seating capacity was recently lowered to 95,000 during a reform before the upcoming 2014 World Cup.

National Museum of Fine Arts

Built in 1908, inspired by the Louvre, National Museum of Fine Arts (Museu Nacional de Belas Artes) is the main fine arts museum in Rio. The Brazilian collection is organized in chronological order in the main gallery, and shows the evolution of fine arts in Brazil from the 19th century to this date. Famous names such as Candido Portinari, Taunay, Pedro Americo and Victor Meirelles are represented here through some of their most significant works. In the other galleries, the work of contemporary and foreign artists is exhibited, along with an interesting set of sculptures and samples of African art. The Museum is undergoing a major reform and therefore there may be some restrictions.
Do not forget before you go...

**Entry Requirements**

When leaving for your destination overseas, please remember to carry your travel documents and have them with you throughout your journey, as you will be asked to show your passport every time you board a plane. The same applies when traveling from one city to another while crossing international borders.

**US citizens:** A passport and visa are required for U.S. citizens traveling to Brazil for any purpose – please visit the Brazilian Embassy website for the most current visa information. There are no "airport visas" and immigration authorities will refuse entry to Brazil to anyone not possessing a valid visa. All Brazilian visas, regardless of the length of validity, must initially be used within 90 days of the issuance date or will no longer be valid.

**Non-US citizens:** A passport is required for Brazil. For visa requirements please check the Brazilian Embassy website.

The information provided was valid as of January 13th, 2015. As this information may change, please check the Brazilian Embassy website. We are not responsible for any issues or additional costs resulting from changes in immigration requirements of your destinations of travel.

**Airport regulations:** In line with the recommendations of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the security restrictions for carriage of LAGs (liquids, aerosols and gels) are:

All LAG items carried in hand baggage must be stored in containers of capacity not exceeding 100ml each. Containers larger than 100ml will not be accepted, even if they are partially filled. Containers must be placed in a transparent re-sealable plastic bag with a capacity of one liter or less, which must close completely. The plastic bag must be presented separately from other hand baggage for inspection at the security point. Only one transparent plastic bag per passenger is permitted. Exemptions may be made for medications, baby milk / food and special dietary requirements, subject to verification.

**Weights and Measures**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>multiply by</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pounds to kilograms</td>
<td>0.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kilograms to pounds</td>
<td>2.20</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Length</th>
<th>multiply by</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feet to meters</td>
<td>0.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meters to feet</td>
<td>3.28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Temperature**

To convert °C to °F multiply by 1.8 and add 32.
To convert °F to °C subtract 32 and multiply by 5/9.
Electricity

Electric current: **127 V / 220 V, 60Hz** – any appliance set up for 110/125 V requires a transformer. In Brazil there is no standard voltage. In most parts of the states of São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro 127 V is used.

Plugs/sockets: There are three types in Brazil: **A** (the same as in U.S. - left picture), **B** (middle picture) and **C** (right picture). The outlets are often a combination of Type A and C, and can accept either plug.

When using U.S appliances in Brazil you have to use both adaptor and transformer (as changing the plug does not change the voltage) otherwise you are likely to hurt yourself or the appliance. If you are unsure whether your appliance requires a transformer, please check the manufacturer’s recommendations, or the voltage information on the flex-cord label.

Medical Facilities and Health Information

Medical care is generally good, but it varies in quality, particularly in remote areas, and it may not meet U.S. standards outside the major cities. Expatriates in Brazil regularly use the Albert Einstein Hospital in Sao Paulo. It is inspected and certified by the Joint Commission International and offers international service assistance. The hospital phone is (55-11) 3747-1233. Prescription and over the counter medicines are widely available. Emergency services are responsive. Travelers may call a private ambulance company or call 193 and request an ambulance for a public hospital. Callers must stay on the line to provide the location as there is no automatic tracking of phone calls.

Many insect borne-illnesses are present, including Yellow Fever, Malaria, Dengue, and Leishmaniasis. Insect precautions are encouraged in all areas of Brazil. Schistosomiasis is present in many areas. Travelers should avoid freshwater exposure.

The CDC recommends Yellow Fever vaccination for persons over 9 months of age for travel to all rural areas of all states, including Iguaçu Falls tourist resorts, and for travel to Brasilia and Belo Horizonte. Cities in jungle areas are considered rural, not urban, in nature. Yellow fever is not a currently thought to be a risk for travel to major coastal cities from Fortaleza to the Uruguay border, including the major tourist/business destinations of Sao Paulo, Salvador, Rio, Recife, and Fortaleza. However, there has been a recent increase in yellow fever cases, including deaths, in Brazil. This has involved some areas in Brazil not previously at risk, such as the southern state of Rio Grande do Sul. Travelers are advised to consult with their medical provider or travel clinic for up to date advice on the risks versus the benefits of yellow fever vaccination.

Dengue fever is an infection transmitted by the mosquito aedes aegypti and is an affliction seen in many parts of Brazil. The typical “season” for dengue is from December to June, but it is possible to be infected at any time of the year. An increase in dengue fever cases in early 2008 led to a number of deaths, mainly around Rio. In early 2009, an outbreak occurred in Belo Horizonte. In late 2009, tests in Fortaleza found larvae of the aedes aegypti mosquito present in 95% of the city’s neighborhoods.

Medical Insurance

Discuss your travel plans and personal health with a health-care provider to determine which vaccines you will need. To have the most benefit, see a health-care provider at least 4–6 weeks before your trip to allow time for your vaccines to take effect. The Department of State strongly urges Americans to consult with their medical insurance company prior to traveling abroad to confirm whether their policy applies overseas and whether it will cover emergency expenses such as a medical evacuation. For more information see [http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/country/brazil.html](http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/country/brazil.html).
While in Brazil

Getting Around - Sao Paulo

**Public transport:**
The public transport in São Paulo consists of an extensive network of bus lines with 3 main subway (metro) lines ([http://www.metro.sp.gov.br/en/your-trip/](http://www.metro.sp.gov.br/en/your-trip/)). Though the public transport is much less comfortable than a taxi, it can take you practically anywhere in the city for considerably less money.

There are about 26 thousand buses being operated on more than 1,900 lines. It is one of the most complex bus systems in the world. If you want to go by bus, you have to wave to flag them down on the bus stops. You enter through the first door and then pay the ticket to pass through the turnstile (be sure to have coins).

**Metro:**
The Metro is the easiest way to get around São Paulo. There are four lines: the North-South line, East-West line, and the line that travels underneath the Avenida Paulista. The fourth line sits isolated in the southwest of the city, and does not connect to the other three. The two main lines converge at Sé station, the busiest station of all. These two lines run daily from 5am until midnight. The line under Avenida Paulista meets the North-South line at Paraiso and Ana Rosa stations and runs daily from 6am to 10pm. It is usually a lot quicker to take the Metrô as close as possible to your destination -- even if it means a bit more of a walk or a short taxi ride -- than taking the bus all the way. Metrô tickets cost R$3 (Nov 2014). For more information contact tel.011/3291-7800 or see the very useful website: [www.metro.sp.gov.br](http://www.metro.sp.gov.br)  Note that the Single Fare (Tarifa Unica) program which allows riders to pay one fare and make use of Metrô, bus, and commuter rail is available only to São Paulo residents.

**Buses:**
Good as São Paulo's Metrô is, there are some places you can only get to by bus. São Paulo buses are plentiful and frequent, but the city's sprawling layout and lack of landmarks can make the system hard to navigate. The routing information on the front and sides of the buses works the same as in Rio. Buses cost R$2.55, and you pay as you board through the front of the bus. Bus drivers generally won’t stop unless you wave your hand to flag them down.

**Taxi:**
Taxis are a great way to get around São Paulo, and an absolute must late at night. Taxi stands are usually found on main intersections, next to malls, squares, and parks. To order a taxi at a specific time, call a radio taxi. Rádio Táxi Vermelho e Branco ("Red and White") can be reached at tel.011/3146-4000 ([www.radiotaxivermelhoebranco.com.br](http://www.radiotaxivermelhoebranco.com.br)). Cost depends on traffic, so the following prices are only guidelines: From Centro to Avenida Paulista, R$20; from Avenida Paulista to Vila Olímpia, R$25 to R$35; from Avenida Paulista to Higienópolis, R$20.
Public transport: The underground service provided by Metrô Rio (tel: (21) 3982 3600; www.metrorio.com.br) is efficient although limited in the area it covers. Metrô tickets are only available at the stations - for a single journey or a carnet of 10 tickets.

Buses are cheap, regular and run to all parts of the city. Many different companies operate including Real (tel: (21) 2263 7689) and Novo Horizonte (tel: (21) 2233 7210). Tickets are sold on the bus.

Metro: The Metrô Riosubway system is very useful for travel from Ipanema through Copacabana to Downtown and beyond, although it closes after midnight (24 hours during Carnival). The air-conditioned subway is safe, clean, comfortable, and quick, and has much better signage, etc., than most transport in Rio, making the lives of foreign tourists easier. There are two main lines: Line 1 (Orange) has service to Ipanema (General Osorio), the Saara district, and much of Downtown, as well as Tijuca. Line 2 (Green) stops at the zoo, Maracanã stadium, and Rio State University. The two lines are integrated between Central and Botafogo, so check the train’s destination if you board within the integrated section for a destination in the Zona Norte. A one-way subway-only "unitario" ticket is R$3.50 (Nov 2014). The ticket window will give you a card that you insert in the turnstile; don’t pull it out unless you’ve purchased a multi-trip or transfer pass. Rechargeable IC cards (minimum charge R$5, no deposit required) are also available and definitely worth getting if you’ll be in town for a few days.

Buses: The cheapest and most convenient way to get around the South Zone (Zona Sul) of the city due to the high number and frequency of lines running through the area. For the adventurous or budget traveler, it is worth asking your hotel or hostel employees how to navigate the system or which routes to take to arrive at specific locations. However, you should be mindful of questionable characters and your belongings. By night buses are scarcer, and most lines will usually not be running by the time the bars and clubs are full. Buses start at R$2.20, buses with air conditioning charge higher fares. The fare is paid in cash to a controller or the driver inside the bus, by passing through roulette. There are no tickets, and try to have change/small bills. Some residents and students have a digital pass card. Keep an eye out for pickpockets when the bus is crowded, and don’t be surprised if your driver goes a little faster and brakes a little more suddenly than you’d like. Except for minibuses, buses now have two doors: passengers get in through the front door and get off through the back.

Taxi: Yellow taxis operate with a meter and can be hailed on the street in Rio. Travellers should check that the meter is reset and indicates the correct tariff. There is a minimum fare, plus a charge per kilometre. Tipping is not necessary.

Radio taxis are safe and reliable but 30% more expensive than yellow taxis. Providers include Central de Táxi (tel: (21) 2195 1000), Cooppertramo (tel: (21) 2209 9292) and Transcoopass (tel: (21) 2560 4888).
Useful information about Sao Paulo & Rio de Janeiro

Average prices in Sao Paulo

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Restaurants</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meal, Inexpensive Restaurant</td>
<td>6.16 $</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meal for 2, Mid-range Restaurant, Three-course</td>
<td>27.11 $</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Combo Meal at McDonalds or Similar</td>
<td>5.42 $</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domestic Beer (0.5 liter draught)</td>
<td>1.48 $</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Imported Beer (0.33 liter bottle)</td>
<td>3.70 $</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cappuccino (regular)</td>
<td>1.29 $</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coke/Pepsi (0.33 liter bottle)</td>
<td>0.96 $</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water (0.33 liter bottle)</td>
<td>0.63 $</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Average prices in Rio de Janeiro

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Restaurants</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meal, Inexpensive Restaurant</td>
<td>6.16 $</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meal for 2, Mid-range Restaurant, Three-course</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Combo Meal at McDonalds or Similar</td>
<td>5.42 $</td>
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<tr>
<td>Domestic Beer (0.5 liter draught)</td>
<td>1.48 $</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Imported Beer (0.33 liter bottle)</td>
<td>2.98 $</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cappuccino (regular)</td>
<td>1.36 $</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coke/Pepsi (0.33 liter bottle)</td>
<td>1.06 $</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water (0.33 liter bottle)</td>
<td>0.71 $</td>
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### Souvenirs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Souvenir</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cachaca</strong></td>
<td>It is the most popular distilled alcoholic beverage in Brazil. It is also known as aguardente, pinga, caninha and many other names. &lt;br&gt; Cachaça is mostly produced in Brazil, where, according to 2007 figures, 1.5 billion liters are consumed annually, compared with 15 million liters outside the country. It is typically between 38% and 54% alcohol by volume.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Leather</strong></td>
<td>Brazil sells plenty of leather goods, much of it imported. Things to buy as gifts made from leather include shoes, belts, wallets, purses, luggage and hats. Brazilian leather does not however enjoy a reputation for being top-notch quality. It is durable and good value but not top of the range.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hawaiians - Brazilian Flip Flops</strong></td>
<td>There was a time when Hawaiians, the best-loved flip flops in Brazil, were also a kind of well-kept national secret - something foreigners discovered by accident during a Brazil vacation or when a friend brought them over as a gift. Today, Hawaiians - pronounced ah-vey-UH-nas - are sold in more than 80 countries worldwide.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Recommended Websites for Further Reading

#### Country and Its Economy
- Presidency of the Republic
- Ministry of Foreign Relations
  [http://www.mre.gov.br](http://www.mre.gov.br)
- Development Bank of Brazil
- Brazilian Central Bank
  [http://www.bcb.gov.br/?english](http://www.bcb.gov.br/?english)
- Trade and Investment Promotion Agency

#### Brazil in international perspective
- Brazilian Embassy in the USA
- Mercosur
  [http://www.mercosur.int](http://www.mercosur.int) (portal only in Spanish or Portuguese)
- ECLAC – Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
- FTAA – Free Trade Area of the Americas
  [http://www.ftaa-aica.org/busfac/ctyindex/BRA_e.asp](http://www.ftaa-aica.org/busfac/ctyindex/BRA_e.asp)
- Brazil – IMF
- Brazil – World Bank

#### News and Newspapers
- Brazzil
- Brazil News
  [http://www.brazilnews.net/](http://www.brazilnews.net/)
- Topix
  [http://www.topix.com/world/brazil](http://www.topix.com/world/brazil)
The World Fact book

U.S. Department of State
http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/country/brazil.html

XE
http://www.xe.com/

World Bank
http://www.worldbank.org/