



Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

2012 Course Dates:

- Jan 2 - Jan 30, 2012
- Feb 1 - Mar 2, 2012
- Mar 5 - Mar 30, 2012
- Apr 2 - Apr 30, 2012
- May 7 - Jun 1, 2012
- Jun 4 - Jul 3, 2012
- Jul 9 - Aug 3, 2012
- Aug 6 - Aug 31, 2012
- Sep 3 - Sep 28, 2012
- Oct 1 - Oct 29, 2012
- Nov 5 - Dec 3, 2012

Rio de Janeiro Course Fee: US\$ 1,995

Accommodation: Approximately US\$ 700-1,100

Rio de Janeiro, was discovered on January (Janeiro) 1, 1502 by Portuguese navigators who mistook the entrance of Guanabara Bay for the mouth of a river (Rio). With the inauguration of Brasilia in 1960, Rio de Janeiro ceased to be Brazil's capital. In any event, this second largest city in Brazil is still a major cultural capital and, to some extent, its "emotional" capital as well. Rio de Janeiro has a majestic beauty, with built-up areas nestled between a magnificent bay and dazzling beaches on one side and an abruptly rising mountain range, covered by a luxuriant tropical forest, on the other. This unique landscape makes Rio one of the most beautiful cities in the world, justifying its title of "Marvelous City" (Cidade Maravilhosa). Rio's cultural life is intense and varied. Perhaps at no time is the city's festive reputation better displayed than during the annual carnival which enlivens the city for 3 solid days with music, singing, parties, balls, and desfiles (street parades of brilliantly-costumed dancers performing the samba.) Economically it is a service industry center, a key financial center, and the producer of foodstuffs, building materials, electrical equipment, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, beverages, and textiles. But it is in the pursuit of leisure that Rio is outstanding. With its world famous beaches free to all (such as Copacabana and Ipanema), its splendid bay, one of the loveliest in the world, and its wonderful climate, a blend of summer and springtime, Rio de Janeiro is a city that lives in and for the sun. Its population is around 5,750,000 inhabitants.

TEFL Training Center



Via Lingua has a long history in Brazil, with over 20 years of experience in the country. The Rio de Janeiro TEFL training center offers modern, comfortable facilities in a convenient downtown location. It is just blocks from the Uruguaiana metro station and close to the famous SAARA, a flea market where you can find anything at amazingly inexpensive prices.

Established in 1984, the TEFL center moved to newly renovated facilities in 2006. It features 10 classrooms with TVs and DVD players, central heat and air-conditioning, computers with free Internet, and WiFi. It is in the same building is an amazing café where you can taste Brazil's world-famous coffee. You'll find the TEFL center staff welcoming and professional, and always ready to help you with whatever you may need during your time in Rio.

Teaching English in Brazil



TEFL teachers seeking employment in Brazil will most likely find work in private language centers in Rio de Janeiro. Located throughout the city, most English schools are conveniently located near public transportation, cafes, restaurants, and shopping areas.

Many TEFL classes will be taught outside of the schools themselves in the offices of the clients, which makes for highly motivated students and an efficient learning environment. Most of the students you will be teaching in Rio are adults and professionals who need to learn English for their jobs, as well as for personal improvement.

The Importance of English in Brazil

As the largest country in South America, Brazil is big on business. Their geographical proximity to the United States, as well as their trade agreement with North America makes speaking English a very important asset for Brazilian citizens. English is taught to all levels of Brazilian students, from childhood on up. Some Brazilian companies will hire English teachers to train their employees to make foreign communication easier. The market for English teachers in Brazil is booming, and with that demand comes an increased possibility that you'll be able to find the right job for you. With thousands of English teachers needed all over the country, Brazilians are for the most part eager to help.

Food and Clothing

Every country has its staple diet and Brazil is no different. Food in Brazil revolved around three key things, 1) arroz which is white rice, 2) feijao which are black beans and 3) farinha which is like flour. It is very hard to try and avoid eating these although they do come in different shapes and sizes. These are usually eaten with either red meat, chicken or fish. Although to the untrained eye it may all seem the same, food in Brazil varies from region to region. For example, in the Northern interior there is a heavy Indian influence while in the Northeast it is an African one. The main dish

is also region based; in the Amazon fish is the staple while in the south meat, and lots of it, is the norm. Below we have listed a few of the more famous dishes of Brazil.

Acquaint yourself with the seasons. Spring starts in September, summer in December, fall in March and winter in June. Take a swimsuit, sunblock, a wide-brimmed hat and sunglasses to enjoy the beaches year-round. Comfortable sandals and thongs will keep your feet cool, particularly in the summer months, when humidity increases and temperatures can soar above 100 degrees F. Bring shorts, sundresses, tank tops and short-sleeved shirts. Select shorts with cargo pockets and zip pockets to keep money and other items secure. Layer with sweaters, a fleece jacket and long pants in the winter, as the wind and damp air can make 70 degrees F feel like 50. Prepare for rain in the fall. An umbrella and waterproof windbreaker will keep you dry. Bring comfortable walking shoes for maximum comfort when touring the city. Leave jewelry, even your fake pieces, at home. Wearing it will simply make you a prime target for thieves.

Climate:

The climate is tropical, with year round warm temperatures and plenty of rainfall. Average annual temperature is 23 °C; generally sticking in the range between 17 °C and 30 °C though hotter and colder temperatures are possible. Annual rainfall averages a little over 1000mm. The record high ever recorded in Rio is more than 43 °C and the record low is 4 °C. Since Rio lies in the southern hemisphere, the seasons are reversed from what we experience in Europe. Being close to the equator, temperatures don't vary a lot across the year; the warmest months between January and March see average temperatures of 26 °C and the coolest months June to August average 21 °C. Summer weather lasts a lot of the year while winter is a comparatively short season. Sun is more common the rain throughout the year, though summer is the wettest time.

Rio, due to its position on the Atlantic coast, can be a windy place and these have a strong effect on the weather. Mostly, sea winds offer welcome respite from hot summer temperatures. A southwest wind normally signals the arrival of a storm, and northerly winds can bring cooler temperatures in summer. The Atlantic Ocean also plays an important part in the weather of Rio. The relative warmth of the waters ensures that temperature extremes are less than that of inland areas of Brazil. Occasional changes of current can bring cold Antarctic waters up the coast of South America and cause cold weather in the region.

Accommodation:

Students who opt for a family stay receive a questionnaire in which they can state their preferences (pets, diet, children, smoking, etc.). Staff carefully choose the families through a process that includes an interview. Students are matched with the family.

Students may also opt to rent a room in a "República," which is a room in a shared apartment in town. Living expenses and household responsibilities are shared with other students, who are primarily Brazilian, but the group may include international students. Repúblicas typically contract with a maid to do cleaning and shopping and to cook a main meal six days a week.

The cost for either of these housing options varies between \$150-250 per month, and usually includes breakfast, one other meal, and laundry.

Communication, Telephone, Internet

There are public phones everywhere in Rio, and they are hard to miss. *Orelhão* (ou-ray-lyaun) is how locals call them. Cariocas sometimes give funny names to things, and this one literally translates to "floppy ear". Now that state-owned *Telerj* was privatized you no longer see the traditional orange cups. They have turned blue, and pop up in the most curious places. There are phones even on the sand of the beaches! To use a public phone you need a calling card, coins are no good. They can be purchased at newsstands all over the city. Each card is good for a predetermined number of calls, usually 20 or 40. The digital display on the phone shows how many calls you have left. Table and celular phones in Rio are always eight-digit numbers. For calls within Greater Rio and Niteroi, dial the number directly. If you want to reverse the charges (collect call), add 9090 before the phone number. For long distance domestic calls using Embratel (one of the operators) first dial 021, then the city code, followed by the actual phone number. To call São Paulo, for instance, you would dial 021-11-****-****. To reverse the charges dial 9021-11-****-****. To make international phone calls you start with 0021, followed by the country code, area code, and phone number. To call London, for instance, you would dial 0021-44-171-***-****. If you do not know your country code (a lot of people don't) call 0800313131 for assistance of an international operator (Telemar). They speak English, and are very helpful.

If you are calling Rio de Janeiro from abroad, you have to dial your international access number, followed by the country code 55, the city code 21, and phone number. If you are in New York, for instance, you would dial 11-55-21-****-****. Call your local operator for more details.

Excursions and Cultural Highlights



Christ the Redeemer

Christ the Redeemer was built between 1926 and 1931 and after some time there was also a chapel built at the base of the mountain to house 150 visitors. The monument was inaugurated on October 12, 1931 in an extravagant and grand commemoration. The lighting was to be one of the highlights of the ceremony, which was to be switched on by Italian radio pioneer Guglielmo Marconi from his yacht in Naples. The signal strength was largely affected by poor weather conditions and the lighting had to be switched on manually by workers at Corcovado. In Rio de Janeiro Brazil, Christ the Redeemer can be accessed by the 2.4 meter Corcovado Rack railway that has the capacity to hold 360 passengers every hour. The trip by rail is approximately 20 minutes and leaves the base each half hour. The view from the train is alluring, leaving those traveling the mountain in keen anticipation of what is yet to come. The busiest time to visit is Easter and the Christmas season. From the road or the train terminal Christ the Redeemer statue is reached by 222 steps. For those not wishing to make the arduous trek up the mountain, reaching the statue is possible by escalators

and elevators. In Rio de Janeiro Brazil Christ the Redeemer remains one of the most beloved year-round tourist attractions. Some say the best time to visit the Christ the Redeemer statue is late afternoon or evening when you can enjoy the splendor of the setting sun while taking in one of the most important landmarks in the world.

Copacabana Beach



Copacabana is undoubtedly one of the greatest beaches in the world. Copacabana beach resort is located in the southern zone of Rio de Janeiro. The resort was named after the

With its golden colored sand the beach is fit for beach games such as volleyball and barefoot soccer. Copacabana is not just for the athletic but anyone who likes a good party. On New Year's Eve it's the place to be; everyone dancing with the sands caressing their toes, wrapped in the cool breeze, and enjoying the fabulous firework display.

Carneval



Block parades have become an expressive feature of Rio's Carnival. Today, they number more than 100 and the groups increase each year. Blocos can be formed by small or large groups of revelers with a distinct title that mocks an issue or celebrity. They may also note their neighborhood or social status. Before the show, they gather in a square, then parade in sections of the city, often near the beach. Some blocos never leave one street and have a particular place, such as a bar, to attract viewers. Bloc parades start in January, and may last until Mardi Gras (Fat Tuesday).

Blocos parade in Copacabana, Ipanema, Leblon, Lagoa, Jardim Botânico, and in downtown Rio. Organizers often compose their own music themes that are added to the performance and singing of classic "marchinhas" and samba popular songs. "Cordão do bola preta" ("Polka Dot Bloco"), that goes through the heart of Rio's historical center, and "Suvaco do Cristo" (Christ's statue armpit), near the Botanical Garden, are some of the most famous groups. Monobloco has become so famous that it plays all year round at parties and small concerts.

Samba schools are very large groups of performers, financed by respected organizations (as well as suspect ones), who work year round in preparation for Carnival. Samba Schools perform in the Sambadrome, which runs four entire nights. They are part of an official competition, divided into seven divisions, in which a single school is declared the winner, according to costume, flow, theme, and band music quality and performance. Some samba schools also hold street parties in their neighborhoods, through which they parade along with their followers.

Special Offers:

Via Lingua has announced the first annual "**Ernestine Moore**" **Scholarship Award** to be offered to a deserving candidate in 2009 to any of the Via Lingua locations for a one-month intensive TEFL Course, including Free Job Placement! Ernestine Moore was a lifelong advocate of education and worked tirelessly to promote educational opportunities for children and young adults. Through her personal and professional advocacy in the field of Social Work and Children's Rights she had a lasting contribution to her field and all those around her. She lived and practiced Service Learning. The author of the widely adopted college textbook "Child Welfare and Family Services: Policies and Practice", Ernestine was a staunch supporter of Via Lingua and its dedication to global learning and multicultural understanding for all ages.

Double-up discount:

Book together with a friend for the same course and you can both claim a 100 EUR discount on the advertised price. Offer applies to all course dates and locations. We can also arrange for you to share the same accommodation if required.