

# Culture

Culture comes from the Latin word colere, which means to cultivate. It can be understood as a whole set of knowledge, arts, beliefs, laws, morals, customs, habits and skills acquired by humankind not only in family, but also as part of a society.

Each country has its own culture, which is influenced by its history. Brazil, as a former Portuguese colony, has in its architecture, cuisine and religion much of the Portuguese who arrived here, which mixed with the culture of the indigenous peoples who lived in this land for thousands of years and, later, with the Africans who were brought in the first half of the 16th century.

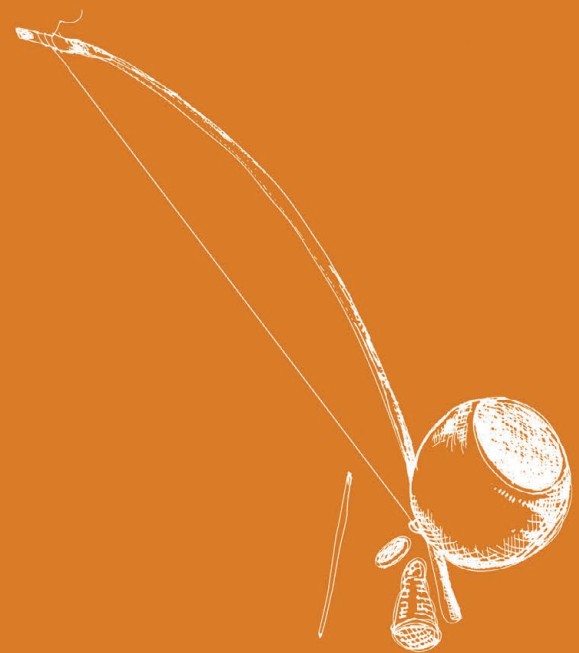
The migratory movements originating from historic global conflicts allowed a cultural enrichment even more significant with the coming of European and Asian immigrants. Each people with its characteristic, finding in Brazil a new place to live and cultivate its culture of origin.

All this historical influence makes Brazil a culturally rich, diverse country, striking and expressive, that enchants visitors by letting them feel the culture such as Brazilians do, and with the Brazilian people. There are many different tours and types of entertainment for families and people of all ages, who travel in groups or alone, whatever the reason for the trip.

In Brazil, you can visit cities with World Heritage Sites recognized by UNESCO and very different among themselves; enjoy a delicious feijoada, a dish influenced by the African culture, while dancing to a samba group; feel the energy of guaraná and tucupi to the sound of a toada, which stirs the crowds and gives life to major tales about the legends of the forest; witness expressions of faith and devotion of different religions living harmoniously in the same place; live the joy of Carnival from North to South of Brazil – which is the largest popular manifestation in Brazil.

These are some of the many opportunities the tourist has and that make their trip unforgettable.

To live the Brazilian culture up close is an enriching experience for every visitor, because they feel part of it and become great tellers of their own history, even beginning to understand the meaning of a word deeply rooted in the Brazilian soul – saudade.



## Historic Cities Minas Gerais

Ouro Preto was the capital of the State of Minas Gerais in Brazil's gold cycle, in the 17th century. It was the first Brazilian city recognized as a World Heritage Site for its preserved colonial architecture and urban layout, just like Congonhas – an open-air museum showing the Baroque and Rococo styles of its churches, and valuable pieces of religious art by exceptional Baroque sculptor Aleijadinho.



## Olinda World Heritage Site Pernambuco

Olinda has one of the most important historical-cultural collections in the country, with old houses, baroque churches, and museums that tell the history of the State of Pernambuco since the days of the sugar cane plantations in the colonial economy. It is a cultural and gastronomic hub, with a rich and exotic cuisine, based on the region's natural products: roots, fish, seafood and tropical fruits.



## Cultural Tourism São Paulo

São Paulo is known as the cultural capital of Latin America, with a rich architecture, museums, galleries and cultural centers with works from the most varied artistic currents, as well as folk art fairs and workshops open to the public. Stage of frequent national and international exhibitions, it has many cinemas, theaters, concerts, and a wide gastronomic diversity like few metropolises in the world.



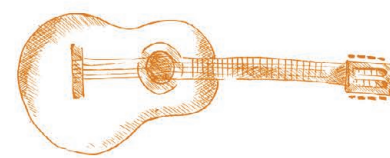
## Brasília Federal District

Brasília, capital of Brazil and World Heritage Site, was opened in 1960 with urban plan of Lúcio Costa and Oscar Niemeyer's architectural project, integrating art and nature in a bold synthesis. It is located in the cerrado region, one of the richest biomes on the planet with a great diversity of fauna and flora. It is a region with spectacular natural attractions such as plateaus, springs, rivers, waterfalls, caves and lagoons.



## Serra da Capivara National Park, Piauí

Located on the border between the Northeastern hinterland and the Amazon rainforest, it gathers in its caves and dens of more than 700 archaeological sites the largest collection of cave drawings in the world, with about 30 thousand catalogued paintings and prints, which depict everyday life and ceremonial scenes. This cultural tradition lasted for about 12 thousand years.



## Goiás Historic Center

Nestled at the feet of Serra Dourada, in a valley surrounded by hills and cut by several rivers, the city of Goiás Velho is a World Heritage Site. With steep streets and stone sidewalks, it has many historic buildings from the 18th century. More than 90% of its architecture is Baroque-colonial. The city also houses Cora Coralina's Home – the famous Brazilian poet – and many popular festivities such as the Fire Procession on Holy Wednesdays.



## Historic Center of Salvador Bahia

Recognized as a World Heritage Site, it is formed by churches and secular mansions in colorful streets and alleys. It has an intense cultural activity, the result of miscegenation and religious syncretism of a joyful people and music. The new and exquisite restaurants live in harmony with the renowned acarajé trays of the Bahian street cooks. Its Carnival is one of the most expressive Brazilian parties.



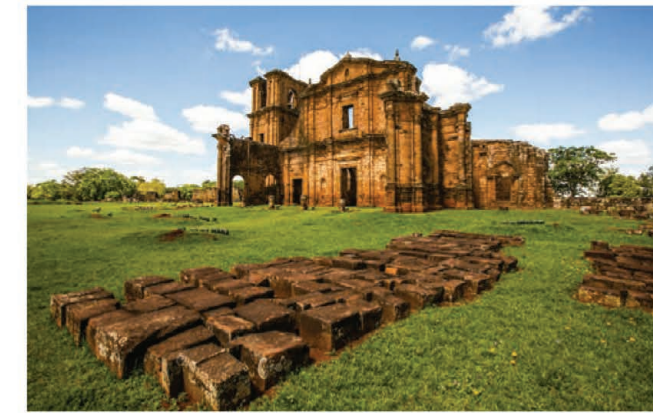
## Parintins Folklore Festival Amazonas

The Parintins Folklore Festival takes place in the last weekend of June, on an island on the banks of the Amazon River. The show, held in the Bumbódromo, explores indigenous legends and rituals of the region, by means of allegories and stagings of the fight between the supporters of the red ox, "Boi Garantido", and the blue ox, "Boi Caprichoso". Spending the night in boats and homestays makes the experience richer.



## São Luís Historic Center Maranhão

Considered a World Heritage Site, São Luís was founded by the French and holds a rich 18th century architectural ensemble, with more than 1100 buildings under the government trust. Among stone streets, squares, alleys and stairways there are tiled mansions, observatories, portals, balconies, churches, fountains and monuments. São Luís preserves its cultural traditions with African, Portuguese and indigenous roots.



## São Miguel das Missões Rio Grande do Sul

Located in the extreme south of Brazil, it gathers the archaeological remnants of the Jesuit missions of the 17th century, an important historic event in Latin America. Its ruins show the community records and the conflicts of interest between Spain, Portugal, the Jesuits and the Guarani Indians. It is recognized as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, and may be visited throughout the year.



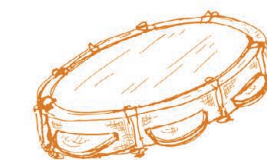
## World Heritage Site Rio de Janeiro

Rio de Janeiro is the Brazilian city with the largest number of buildings and historic monuments under government trust, in addition to being Brazil's most famous postcard and World Heritage Site. As it was formerly the capital of Brazil, it occupies a central position in Brazil's economic and political history. It recounts the country's trajectory from the colonial period to the present day, including the Empire, forming a rich and beautiful cultural collection.



## Saint John's Feast in Campina Grande, Paraíba

The Saint John's Feast in Campina Grande is a major festivity of the region and lasts the whole month of June, attracting 60 thousand tourists per day. It is an unforgettable event, with 30 years of tradition, marked by the joy of concerts and square dances, and the striking flavors of its varied gastronomy. The Arraial do Sítio São João, with a life-size reproduction of a rural village of the 19th and 20th centuries, is fun for the whole family.



## A journey through the history of a plural country.

Traveling across Brazil and knowing its culture is a real journey across the history of a people that with its diversity of origins has all the elements to make every moment special for visitors. Lively dance and music, irresistible flavors in its gastronomy, emotion and devotion in its religious manifestations, colorful and expressive art under indigenous and immigrant influences, make Brazil the ideal country to live diversity in every detail.

Surprise yourself with the power of Brazilian culture.

English - UK

# Culture



visitbrasil.com





# Culture



## Symbols

- Federal Capital City
- State Capital City
- International Airport
- Domestic Airport
- Federal Highway
- State Highway
- River

- ### Culture
- Archaeology
  - Heritage City
  - Cultural Event
  - Popular Festival
  - Unesco Heritage
  - Ethnic Tourism

**CUSTOMS / Federal Revenue Office**

- 02 Açu, BA
- 03 Alagoas
- 04 Bahia
- 05 Ceará
- 06 Espírito Santo
- 07 Goiás
- 08 Maranhão
- 09 Mato Grosso do Sul
- 10 Mato Grosso
- 11 Minas Gerais
- 12 Pará
- 13 Paraíba
- 14 Pernambuco
- 15 Piauí
- 16 Rio de Janeiro
- 17 Rio Grande do Sul
- 18 Santa Catarina
- 19 São Paulo
- 20 Sergipe
- 21 Tocantins
- 22 Trópico
- 23 União
- 24 Distrito Federal
- 25 Amapá
- 26 Roraima
- 27 Guayana Francesa
- 28 Suriname
- 29 Guayana

© Copyright 2014, Embark. Made in Brazil. Any reproduction in part or whole without consent of or credit to Embark is prohibited.

### North Region

<b>Amazonas State</b>	<b>Pará State</b>
B4 Parintins Festival.....	B6 Belém.....

### Midwest Region

<b>Federal District</b>	<b>Mato Grosso State</b>
E6 Brasília.....	D4 Alta Floresta.....
<b>Goiás State</b>	<b>D5 Xingu National Park.....</b>
E5 Goiás.....	
E6 Pirenópolis.....	

## Notes

**Language**  
Portuguese is the official language of Brazil.

**Entry Visa**

### Northeast Region

<b>Alagoas State</b>	<b>Ceará State</b>
C8 Penedo.....	C8 Cariri: Nova Olinda.....
<b>Bahia State</b>	<b>Maranhão State</b>
D7 Lençóis.....	B7 Alcântara.....
D8 Salvador.....	B7 São Luís.....
<b>Pernambuco State</b>	<b>Paraíba State</b>
C9 Olinda.....	C9 João Pessoa.....
<b>Piauí State</b>	<b>Sergipe State</b>
C7 Park National Serra da Capivara.....	D8 São Cristóvão.....

### Southeast Region

<b>Minas Gerais State</b>	<b>F7 Petrópolis.....</b>
E6 Araxá.....	<b>F7 Rio de Janeiro:</b>
F6 Belo Horizonte.....	Copacabana, Ipanema, Leblon, Barra da Tijuca, Praiinha, Grumã and Sítio Arqueológico Cas do Valongo.....
F7 Congonhas.....	
E7 Diamantina.....	<b>São Paulo State</b>
F7 Ouro Preto.....	F6 Paranapiacaba.....
E7 Sabará.....	F6 São Paulo: International Art Biennial of São Paulo.....
F7 São João del Rei.....	
F7 Tiradentes.....	<b>Rio de Janeiro State</b>
<b>Rio de Janeiro State</b>	F6 Paraty.....

**Electricity**  
Electricity in Brazil is 110V in some states and 220V in others. Please check it at the time of your visit.

**Car Rental**  
Car rental services, with or without a driver, is available at most airports in the country. Advance reservation is recommended. Do not forget to show your international driving permit. Please find out about the driving laws and regulations of the area you are going to visit.

**Tipping**  
Most bars and restaurants include a 10% service surcharge in their bills. It is customary to leave a bit more when service has been satisfactory. When the tip is not included in the bill, it is customary to pay a 10% to 15% tip.

**Currency and Exchange Regime**  
Brazil's monetary unit is the real (R\$) and the exchange rate is published daily in local newspapers and at specialized sites. It is possible to exchange foreign currencies and traveler's checks for reals at banks, traveling agencies and authorized hotels. Credit cards are accepted at most establishments. Brazil adopts a floating exchange rate; however, Real has remained stable.

### South Region

<b>Rio Grande do Sul State</b>
C5 São Miguel das Missões.....

### South Region

**Rio Grande do Sul State**

C5 São Miguel das Missões.....

**Taxi**  
We recommend giving priority to registered taxis at airports and around hotels. Taxi drivers do not expect to be tipped. It is common to round up the total to be paid as a reward for good services provided. There are taxi service options that can be called by phone and offer air conditioning. Information on taxi service can be obtained at hotel receptions.

**Communication**  
To make an international direct call, dial 00 + operator code + country code + area code + telephone number. For direct or collect calls with the help of bilingual operators, please dial 0800 703 2111.

\* Check international operator codes at hotel reception.

**Time Zone**  
Brazil covers 4 different time zones. Brasília time (the country's capital city) is the national standard time and is three hours less than Greenwich. In summer, some Brazilian states set the watch ahead.

**Climate and Temperature**  
The country has a predominantly tropical climate with a few variations according with the region. Annual average temperatures are around 28°C (82 F) in the North and 20°C (68 F) in the South.

