

THINGS TO KNOW BEFORE TRAVELING TO BRAZIL



Brazil has much to offer, from its stunning beaches and expansive tropical forests to its charming colonial villages. However, it's important to understand the available transportation options and healthcare system before traveling. Here are five essential pieces of practical information to remember.

Brazil is a popular destination for those seeking a change of scenery. As the fifth-largest country in the world, it boasts the largest rainforest and over 7,500km of beaches.

However, this is not a destination you should venture to without proper planning. Factors such as budget, transportation means, healthcare, and safety are important aspects to consider before embarking on your trip to the largest state in Latin America. Having essential information on these topics will allow you to enjoy your vacation more peacefully and ensure a better travel experience.

The cost of living

Traveling to Brazil can be quite expensive due to the high living cost. In fact, the country was ranked 25th on The Economist's Big Mac Index in 2022. This index measures Big Mac prices worldwide and ranks countries from most expensive to least expensive. Therefore, it is essential to consider prices when shopping or dining out.

Getting around

Brazil has a well-established transport system that includes buses and air travel. Travelers from Europe or the US usually land at either Galeão International Airport in Rio de Janeiro or Guarulhos International Airport in São Paulo. These airports also serve other cities in Brazil. Domestic airlines such as LATAM Airlines, Gol, Azul, and Avianca connect different cities nationwide. Although air travel tickets can be expensive, travelers can consider the many discounts competing airlines offer.

Multiple trips are recommended using the Brazil Airpass. Itapemirim and Cometa are the two largest and best bus companies. Busca nibus has different routes and lines.

Health

Brazil is home to certain diseases, such as malaria, that travelers should know about. This disease is prevalent in the Amazon and the northwest of the country. If you plan on visiting these areas, taking preventive measures and protecting yourself by covering your skin as much as possible is essential. Preventative treatment to minimize malaria risk before traveling to these regions is highly recommended.

There is a significant risk of contracting dengue fever in Rio, Bahía, and surrounding areas, transmitted by the tiger mosquito. Although tap water is safe to drink, many Brazilians prefer bottled water.

Security

Although the crime rate is high in some cities like Rio de Janeiro, Recife, and São Paulo, tourists can still feel safe if they take certain precautions. It is recommended that you never tempt thieves and keep your valuables in a safe place. It's best to avoid walking alone after dark, whether on empty streets, parks, or city beaches.

A nature and cultural destinations

There are a variety of destinations to choose from that offer more than just relaxation. You can detour through the jungle and experience the various animal and plant species in the Amazon. The Pantanal, the largest marsh in the world, is also a great option to see different birds and animals.

Travelers can visit the Iguazu Falls or the Fernando de Noronha archipelago for a refreshing and active stay. Natal islands are perfect for diving or surfing enthusiasts. Brazil also has well-preserved colonial villages and national parks for nature lovers. However, big cities have plenty to offer for those who prefer bustling nightlife.

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