

# Brazil

## for kids

THERE IS A BIG, BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY IN SOUTH AMERICA, AND THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE THERE ARE FAMOUS ALL OVER THE WORLD FOR THEIR HAPPINESS AND HOSPITALITY TO VISITORS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES. THAT COUNTRY IS BRAZIL.



BRAZIL IS EASY TO RECOGNIZE ON THE WORLD MAP. ITS SHAPE MAKES YOU THINK OF A HEART. FACING THE ATLANTIC OCEAN, EUROPE, AFRICA AND NORTH AMERICA, BRAZIL RECEIVES VISITORS FROM EVERYWHERE IN THE WORLD.



BRAZILIANS INCLUDE PEOPLE FROM ALL ETHNIC BACKGROUNDS. THIS IS BECAUSE OF THE MINGLING OF EUROPEAN, AFRICAN AND ASIAN PEOPLE WHO CAME HERE, WITH THE MANY INDIAN GROUPS WHO HAD BEEN LIVING HERE FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS. UNITED BY A COMMON LANGUAGE AND HISTORICAL EVENTS, ALL OF THESE PEOPLE, WITH THEIR MANY DIFFERENT ORIGINS, ARE VERY PROUD TO BE BRAZILIAN.



YOUR TRIP THROUGH BRAZIL BEGINS NOW. TOGETHER WE WILL VISIT FORESTS, RIVERS AND WATERFALLS, CITIES, BEACHES AND BACKLANDS. WE WILL LEARN ABOUT BRAZILIANS, THE FOOD THEY ENJOY, THEIR MUSIC AND SPORTS, FESTIVALS, FOLKLORE AND ART.





## A great adventure

WITHIN BRAZIL ARE LOVELY REGIONS AS DIFFERENT AS THE AMAZON JUNGLE AND THE PANTANAL WETLANDS, THE IGUAÇU FALLS AND THE ATLANTIC RAINFOREST – FULL OF INTERESTING PLANTS AND CREATURES. WE WILL VISIT SOME BEAUTIFUL CITIES AND BEACHES, A DESERT AND MANY WATERFALLS, THE BACKLANDS AND EVEN SOME SNOW-CAPPED MOUNTAINS!

### REDISCOVERING THE RAINFOREST

Our expedition begins in Manaus, capital of the State of Amazonas, a city built along the banks of the Amazon – the biggest river in the world. The basin of this river alone is more than half the size of all Europe. Our first excursion is a hike through the Amazon jungle, the world's largest collection of greenery and greatest variety of plant and animal species. Now that we are on the trail, look up. The trees nearly block out the sky; and no wonder, many are

#### GIGANTIC SIZES

A leaf from one tree, the *Poligonacea coccoloba*, is larger than a man (8 feet tall and 3 feet wide), and a bird spider is bigger than a cell phone.

over 100 feet, some nearly 200 feet tall! You can't see the sun,

but look at all the monkeys leaping from limb to limb.

"Look at that smiling creature holding onto the tree..."

"That's a sloth! They take everything slow and easy, hence the name. Sloths live in embaúba trees and feed on the leaves."

"What is that tree? Its trunk is huge!"

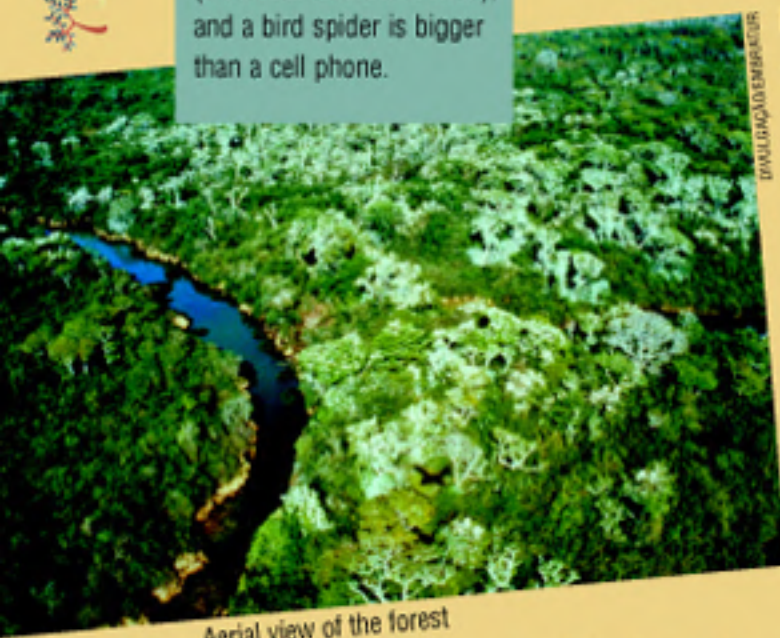
"That's a Brazil nut tree. It takes about 11 people holding hands to make a ring around it!"

The chirping of birds, crickets and cicadas is everywhere around our group. Canaries, thrushes, hummingbirds, parrots, King vultures, Blue macaw, toucans... each with a different song.

Everybody hushes to listen to the



Red macaw



Aerial view of the forest

uirapuru. It only sings when it's mating, and its warbling is so beautiful they say it brings you luck. Dead ones are stuffed, to make lucky charms. Uirapurus are characters in many legends, including stories of the forest imp Curupira, the water queen Iara and other myths.

### BOATING ALONG THE CREEKS

To do some alligator spotting and listen to jungle night sounds, we'll take a canoe down the Igarapé – a narrow creek through the jungle. Most of the natives are fishermen by trade. The rivers

are home to over 300 types of fish, including the pirarucu, as well as crabs, turtles and manatees – mammals 20 feet long that weigh nearly 900 pounds!



"See that flower on the water? That's a Victoria Amazonica – the biggest flower in the world. Its lily pads can grow up to 6 feet across, and are strong enough to support a small child.

After sunset the Jaguar – a typical nocturnal predator – emerges in search of prey. If you look deep into the jungle you might see their eyes glint, or perhaps the shining eyes of tapirs, capyvaras or maned wolves...



Canoeing down Igarapés

### AMAZON: IMPRESSIVE FIGURES

- **THE AMAZON BASIN:** includes the Amazon River and its 7000 tributaries.
- **THE AMAZON RAINFOREST:** covers over 7 million km<sup>2</sup>, reaching from Brazil to Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador, Columbia, Venezuela, Guyana, French Guiana and Surinam.
- **PLANTS:** about 1200 species.
- **ANIMALS:** an unbelievable concentration of birds and insects. On a single tree, 72 species of ants were found.
- **LOTS TO DISCOVER:** over 300 new species of plants and animals are discovered every year.



ENVUOLGACVEMBRATUIS

## A DESERT BY THE SEA

Leaving the Amazon on a flight to the State of Maranhão you will see the Lençóis Maranhenses. Dunes of white sand – some of them over a hundred feet high – cover a hundred square miles dotted with blue and green lagoons shared by fish and migratory birds – forming one of the most fantastic landscapes in Brazil.

## GORGEOUS BEACHES

Not far from that desert climate, we'll enjoy a lovely beach. Jericoacoara, or Jeri, as it's called, is in the State of Ceará. There, where a string of tall sand dunes separates the sea from the coconut palms, we'll watch the sunset. To get there, we'll have to catch a *jardineira*, a special kind of open bus, to take us across the dunes. In Ceará there is also a red sand beach, *Canoa Quebrada*, with rock formations, lagoons and lush vegetation. Young people from all over the world flock to both beaches.



Lençóis Maranhenses, Maranhão



CHRISTIAN KNEPPER/EMBRATUR

Canoa Quebrada, Ceará





CHRISTIAN KUEPPER/ISTOCKPHOTO

Pelourinho, Salvador, Bahia

### JOY IS IN THE AIR

The next stop on our route is Salvador. It is the leading black culture capital and one of the happiest in Brazil. Those samba-style drum rhythms were created by Afro-Brazilian musicians in Salvador, along with capoeira – a



dancing style of martial arts. After visiting the historical downtown area, we'll take a dip in the ocean and relax in the shade of a coconut palm. Sooner or later you just get tired.

### THE SMOKY WATERFALL

There is plenty to see in Bahia. The inland plateaus of the Chapada Diamantina are crisscrossed by more than 35 rivers and springs, gushing forth from the rocky cliffs. Now that we've reached the city of Lençóis, let's find a guide to take us on a hike to the Smoky Waterfall.

"What a sight!"

"It's very tall – a quarter-mile of unbroken waterfall! During the dry season, when less water comes out, the wind blows it back in a spray so it looks more like a fountain of smoke than a waterfall.



CHRISTIAN KUEPPER/ISTOCKPHOTO





Brasília has beautiful sunsets, for it is located on a high plateau with no mountains nearby. The climate is very dry, but there are greenbelts everywhere – and interesting scrubland vegetation. Off to the north, the *Chapada dos Veadeiros* is famous for its Moon Valley full of craters, natural pools and tiny grottoes.



Tuiuiú, bird-symbol of the Pantanal wetlands



### BETTER THAN A THEME PARK

From Brasília we fly to the Pantanal, which spreads over the North and South states of Mato Grosso. One of the world's largest ecological preserves – covering almost 90,000 square miles – the Pantanal is a refuge for many bird species. Here you can see many animals – like the Pampas deer, wild boar, anteater and

coati. Unlike a park, the animals run free on the preserve, and live in their natural habitat. We will see lots of them on this boat trip.

"Look! An alligator on the riverbank!"

"There, a flock of white storks!"

"See them landing high in the bushes? That's where they sleep."

"What is that odd-looking bird?"

"That is a tuiuiú, the bird that symbolizes the Pantanal wetlands."

When we returned from the hike, guests at the inn were feeding bread and fruit to macaws, parrots and cardinals on the patio. We hurried to feed the birds. Here you live with nature in the wild



Colorful fishes in Bonito



(with no human intervention), so we are closer to the wildlife than if we were at a theme park.

"Bonito is a region full of fountain-head springs, grottoes and waterfalls near the Pantanal. We went snorkeling in a clear shallow river and saw fantastic fishes – huge, and all different colors – swimming right next to us.

#### PANTANAL: ANIMAL PARADISE

- 1132 butterfly species
- 714 bird species
- 122 species of mammals
- 93 reptile species
- 263 species of fish

#### PURE EXCITEMENT!

"You're right. It's better to see the animals running free in their habitat than to watch them in parks."

"And look at all that nature!"

It's time to go to Iguaçu, which means "big water" in the Tupi language.

The Iguaçu falls are really big. Together there are 296 waterfalls 270 feet tall – two-and-a-half miles wide altogether.

"This viewing walkway lets you get real close to the waterfalls."

"Now comes the fun part!"

"This boat will take us real close to the Devil's Throat."

It was exciting to hear the roar of the water everywhere, so loud you couldn't talk. We got soaking wet!

Not far from Iguaçu is the Itaipu power dam, which generates electricity for much of the country.



Iguaçu Falls



## ITAMBEIZINHO CANYON

Nature has been busy these past 130 million years carving a canyon nearly half a mile deep and almost 4 miles long. Itambeizinho Canyon is different. The rocky cliffs are covered with plant life, and down below runs the *Rio do Bai*, or Bull River. It's kind of scary to look down into the canyon, but the rock formations are really neat. The canyon's name means "sharp stone" in the Indian language. The animals living there are typical of the southern state of Rio Grande do Sul – bush dogs, ocelots, azure blue jays and keen-eyed hawks.

## A LITTLE EUROPE IN BRAZIL

We press ahead to the Gaucho Mountain Range with its own tremendous scenery. Immigrants from Germany and Italy have left a European imprint on cities like Gramado, Canela and Nova Petrópolis – with their alpine houses and flower gardens. These little towns are surrounded by greenery, places like Caracol Park, where a river spring forms a waterfall then follows a spiral path – like a snail's shell – at the bottom of a canyon.

## EVEN A LITTLE SNOW!

Have you ever seen snow in a tropical country? Well, that's what happens in São Joaquim, in the Santa Catarina mountain range. Southern Brazil is cold in the winter, and some years it even snows in São Joaquim. People come from miles around to see it, and have fun playing in the snow.



German immigrant colonies, Rio Grande do Sul

Others prefer the beaches, and there is no better seaside than Florianópolis, on the island of Santa Catarina – with 40 beaches, no crowds, and excellent waves for surfing. Young people flock to the Praia da Joaquina, with its sand dunes and awesome lagoon.

"There really is a lot to see in Brazil!



## A WORLD IN A CITY

"It's too quiet around here. Let's do the town in São Paulo, Brazil's largest city, peopled by Brazilians from every state and immigrants from all over Europe, Asia and South America. Alive with art and culture, São Paulo is also the country's most powerful business and manufacturing center. A world in a city, it includes an Italian borough (Bela Vista), an Asian neighborhood (Liberdade), several streets lined with Jewish and Arab businesses and lots of children's parks".

Stretching from São Paulo to Rio — alongside the Atlantic Rainforest — are 250 miles of sunny beaches. The road trip, threading along the seashore between the mountains and the sea, is breathtaking.

## A MARVEL OF BEAUTY

"I don't know what it is, but Rio makes me feel happy for some reason."

"It's a really cool town. Seashore and beaches, mountains and rock formations, forest and lake all gathered together... now that's cool! We ride the cable car up to Sugarloaf Mountain".

"Look at the view from up here! Copacabana, Ipanema and Leblon, all three beaches on one side, and Guanabara bay on the other. Those are some nice beaches!"

Its time to take the train up through the Corcovado forest. Here, by the giant statue of Christ the Redeemer, we'll get another view of the city.

"Had enough scenery? Let's play some volleyball on the beach!"



CHRISTIAN KRIEGER/EMBRATUR



CHRISTIAN KRIEGER/EMBRATUR



Sugarloaf Mountain, Rio de Janeiro



## A Melting Pot of People and Cultures

BRAZIL'S POPULATION IS A MIXTURE OF THE ORIGINAL INHABITANTS AND OTHERS WHO LATER CAME HERE TO LIVE

### A BLEND OF THREE RACES

Many were the Indian nations inhabiting Brazil – especially along the coast – back in the 16th Century. These were Stone Age people – nomadic tribes of hunter-gatherers living off the land.

Then came the Discovery Era, when Portuguese navigators, searching for wealth, reached Brazil in 1500. Logging was the first local industry. Blazing red brazilwood – which gave the country its name – was exported to Europe for furniture. Brazilwood was nearly wiped out, and logging gave way to huge sugarcane plantations worked by slaves brought over from Africa.

Native Indians and black and white immigrants intermarried and blended together into a fascinating blend of races. Later on more immigrants arrived.



### BRAZIL'S MYTHOLOGY

Most mythical stories come from the original native culture: Saci-Pererê (a one-legged little rascal who loved to snatch tobacco), the water queen Iara, Curupira (protector of forests), the giant snake (who lives in river bottoms) and boitatá (the fire-snake).

### THE LANGUAGE

Portuguese is the Brazilian language, pronounced differently from the way it is spoken in Portugal and African countries. Brazil's rivers, mountains and beaches, and plants and animals are mostly named in Indian languages. African words for foods, different objects, dwellings and musical instruments are also part of the language.



LUIJO DE ALMEIDA/FOLHA IMAGEM

Cinta-Larga youngsters in Rondônia. Wellington, age 11 (center), wants to be a lawyer and defend his people's rights.

### INDIAN CULTURE: VALUABLE KNOWLEDGE

After ten thousand years of living in Brazil, the Indians taught the new inhabitants a lot about the forest. They had already named all the animals, trees, medicinal herbs and edible plants, such as cassava, corn and peanuts. Hammocks and canoes are also a common heritage of the Indians.

### AFRICA IN BRAZIL: JOYFUL ART

We owe much of our happiness to Africans, who brought us rhythmic music, popular dance, percussion and friction instruments (drums, tambourine and *cuíca*) and also capoeira. Brazil's first samba school was organized by black musicians in Rio de Janeiro.

### IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION

Many immigrants came to Brazil in search of a better life. They came from Italy, Portugal, Spain, Germany, Japan, Eastern Europe (Russia, Lithuania and Poland), China and Korea. Arabs and Jews settled in many parts of the country, while the Japanese settled mainly in São Paulo. Italians and Germans left a European imprint on a number of cities in the South.

Today there are Brazilians on every continent. They blend into all different societies, assimilate the culture and bring their own culture with them. The most prominent Brazilian communities overseas are those in Japan, Paraguay, the United States and Portugal.

CHRISTIAN KNEPPER/GETTY



Capoeira, Afro-Brazilian martial art



## What could be better than listening to stories?



Stories and folklore tell a lot about the history of Brazil. With its roots in Native, Portuguese and African cultures and the stories brought by immigrants from Europe and Asia, the country formed a rich and varied culture all its own.

The earliest successful books communicating with children in Brazil were written by Monteiro Lobato. His adventurous characters live on a small farm named after a woodpecker “Sítio do Pica-Pau Amarelo.” Three Brazilian writers, Lígia Bojunga, Ziraldo and Ana Maria Machado, have won the Hans Christian Andersen Prize, the highest honor for children’s literature. There are shelves full of delightful books to choose from, written by authors like Ruth Rocha and Maurício de Sousa, that have been translated into English, Spanish, French, German, Italian and many other languages.

### CHANGING ARCHITECTURE

Architecture is a huge part of our lives. Beautiful buildings and landscapes make people feel good. Municipal theaters are examples of European architecture in Brazil. Those buildings, from the early 20th century, are very different from the Ópera de Arame built of steel and wire in the city of Curitiba, Paraná in 1992. There are no walls in this theater – made entirely of aluminum tubes with a glass dome roof. Inside, before the show, you can smell the surrounding forest and hear a creek bubbling past the building.



Above: Municipal Theater São Paulo, 1911  
Below: Ópera de Arame, Curitiba, 1992

## 18TH AND 20TH-CENTURY CHURCHES

Just look at the difference between the São Bento Monastery, built in 1745 in Olinda (Pernambuco), and the Cathedral in Brasília designed by Oscar Niemeyer in 1960. Churches used to be dark, often lined in gold foil, like the one in Olinda. Modern churches like the Cathedral in Brasília are bright inside, built with white walls, in many different shapes.

## A VISUAL MIX-AND-MATCH

Unlike the inward-looking architecture designed up to the turn of the Twentieth Century, today's architecture has blossomed into the open, bringing a view of the outside scenery to the inside of the building.

A splendid example of modern architecture is the Contemporary Art Museum in Niterói (MAC), facing Rio de Janeiro across the bay. This suspended building fronting on the bay was designed in curves to match the mountains and the coastline. From the access ramp you can see Sugarloaf Mountain – and the guides never tire of pointing out how the mountain and the Museum designed by Niemeyer match each other perfectly in silhouette. The circular space within the museum offers surprising viewing angles.

## INTERACTIVE ARTWORK

The Art Fair held every two years in São Paulo, the Bienal, attracts artists from all over the world. Many of their exhibits are open to visitor participation.

CHRISTIAN KNEPPER/BRADUR



Above: São Bento Monastery, 1745  
Below: The Cathedral in Brasília, 1960

CHRISTIAN KNEPPER/BRADUR



Left: Ibirapuera Park, São Paulo  
Right: The Contemporary Art Museum, Niterói



CHRISTIAN KNEPPER/BRADUR

Different settings arranged inside the Bienal building at Ibirapuera Park showcase paintings, sculptures, collages, music, video and photo exhibits – with interactive fun spaces for kids and grownups alike. Ibirapuera is the prettiest Park in São Paulo, where you can play ball, skate, skateboard or even rent a bike and ride all over.



### SOAPSTONE SCULPTURES

Among Brazil's many artists we draw special attention to Aleijadinho (1730-1814) who designed churches and carved astonishing statues out of soapstone. The Twelve Prophets, lining the stairways of the Bom Jesus de Matosinhos Church in Congonhas do Campo, Minas Gerais, are a good example.

### HAND-CRAFTED

Handicrafts are made in all different styles from many different materials in Brazil. The Indians taught us to weave palm-leaf fibers into baskets and rugs, and to make hammocks for resting and sleep. Out of lightweight balsa wood we build boats, model cars and other toys. From tiny coconuts and seashells we craft necklaces and earrings.

Trivia question: Have you ever slept in a hammock? Well here's a tip; lie diagonally across the hammock to snooze in perfect comfort.



### LACEWORK, EMBROIDERY AND CERAMICS

Portuguese settlers brought over lacework, embroidery and weaving – now skillfully practiced by many Brazilian women. Pottery and ceramic sculptures, developed by Native Brazilians over thousands of years, are a folklore tradition today depicting the way the people live. Lots of people in the interior still cook in cast-iron pans or clay pots. In Minas Gerais they make pots and pans out of soapstone. As the name suggests, this rock is easily carved into bowls, plates and objects of every shape.

Little statues mirror daily life.



## MAMULENGO PUPPET SHOWS

As Geppetto the carpenter breathed life into Pinocchio, so the mamulengo puppeteers of the Northeast bring their puppet shows to life. Mamulengos – funny name and all – are hand-puppets. They speak the language of the people and are harsh social critics.



Everyone enjoys the mamulengo puppet shows

CHRISTIAN KNEPPER/SHUTTER



## SAND BOTTLE LANDSCAPE ART

Doesn't everyone like building sand castles?


Some artists make sand sculptures, others do something even harder. Creating landscape paintings out of colored sand in bottles is a specialty in Brazil. Working only with their hands and using twigs to move the sand, these artists magically transform 14 different colors of sand from the beaches of Ceará and Rio Grande do Norte. Except for blue, all of the colors are natural.

## CARNAVAL PUPPETS OF OLINDA

Larger-than-life puppets lead partying crowds through the streets during Carnival in Olinda. Many of them poke fun at politicians and other famous people. Bloco bands play lively frevo music, a merry style Pernambuco has been dancing to for over a century.



Huge puppets party with the bloco bands at Carnival



## Maestro, music!

BRAZILIAN MUSIC FLOWS FROM A BLEND OF DIFFERENT RACES AND CULTURES. WITHOUT THAT BLEND, THE MUSIC COULD NEVER BE WHAT IT IS.



Xaxado, maxixe, batuque, choro, carimbó, frevo, samba and baião: all these rhythms sound like music even when you just say them. They combine the music of Africa and Portugal. They have been accepted as legitimate folklore ever since sophisticated composers such as Heitor Villa-Lobos and Carlos Gomes started using them in their compositions. Musical styles are also historical landmarks. First came the 18th century modinhas and lundu – slave-written music which blended well with European compositions. Chorinho music soon followed, and is popular to this day. The most famous Brazilian choro musician today is Pixinguinha.

### SAMBA

The 20th-century brought samba, with all its rhythmic beat and movements. Carnaval with samba soon developed into a national celebration. *Aquarela do Brasil*, a colorful song by Ari Barroso, is played everywhere in the



Samba school parade, Rio de Janeiro

world today. During the 1950s and sixties, Tom Jobim and João Gilberto – influenced by American jazz – created the bossa nova.

### BOSSA NOVA

The rhythm was an instant success. *Girl from Ipanema*, by Tom Jobim and Vinícius de Moraes, is one of the most famous songs in the world. Building on bossa nova, other composers like Chico Buarque, Caetano Veloso, Gilberto Gil and Milton Nascimento, to name a few, by adding influences from abroad, made Brazilian popular music – MPB – a force to be respected.

Brazil has countless regional styles – especially in the Northeast. Nobody is a wallflower when baião, frevo, forró, embolada and maracatu rhythms liven up the crowds.

### PARTY TIME!

Outdoor festivals bring excitement to every region in Brazil.

Carnaval in Rio is the most famous. Each samba school in the parade writes its own individual theme-samba, which tells a story illustrated by floats and costumed performers. The street Carnaval in Salvador, Bahia, is the largest in the world. Huge crowds follow *trios-elétricos* (flatbed trucks carrying musical bands). At Parintins, in Amazonas, mid-year Carnaval celebrations tingle with Indian myths like the giant-snake.

There are lots of other festivals, like São João, *bumba-meu-boi*, maracatu and *cavalhada* — which acts out a medieval jousting tournament.



Carnaval in Amazonas (top and right)



Maracatu (Pernambuco) and cavalhada (Pirenópolis, Goiás)



## MMMMM! Mouth-Watering Delicacies!

IT'S TIME TO TASTE BRAZILIAN CULINARY SPECIALTIES.  
BE PREPARED FOR THE MANY CUISINES  
BROUGHT TOGETHER BY THE DIFFERENT PEOPLES  
SETTLED IN BRAZIL!

### NATIVE FLAVOR

Cooking in Amazonia follows deep rainforest Indian recipes. Try the *tacacá* (shrimp with broth), *casquinho de muçua* (stuffed mud-turtle), roast duck in cassava sauce and river fish. *Beiju*, made from cassava, is the basic ingredient in all Indian recipes. Indians and Amazon-dwellers use it for bread. Cassava flour is a staple

food all over Brazil. It goes well with beans and Saturday *feijoadas*. It is an ingredient for *farofa*, *tapioca* and *couscous*. Popcorn is also an Indian discovery, along with desserts made from corn, such as sweet hominy, corn pudding and *couscous*.



### AFRICAN INFLUENCE

Africa's influence is everywhere in Bahia, where *dendê* oil and cashew nuts are ingredients for dishes like *vatapá*. Coconut is used in appetizers and sweets (like *quindim* and coconut candy). Lady sidewalk vendors in traditional dresses sell *cocada* and *acarajé* (a stuffed *vatapá* cake).

### REGIONAL VARIETIES

Before leaving the Northeast, snack on *tapioca* (an Indian delicacy much like a pancake), and for a hearty lunch try the dried beef and black-eyed peas. Minas Gerais is the land of milk caramel and cheeses, wild game dishes and chicken with rice. When in Rio de Janeiro, don't leave out Brazil's most traditional dish: the *feijoada*! Southerners in Brazil prefer barbecue, and in Santa Catarina, everyone loves shrimp and fish. The national drink – besides fruit juice – is *guaraná*. That's a soft drink made from *guaraná* berries, which Indians drink for extra energy while hunting.

## WORLD-CLASS COOKING

São Paulo-style couscous is named *paulista* after the city, but no matter where in the world you're from, you'll find your kind of food in São Paulo. From Portugal, we inherited sweets and codfish dishes. From Italy came pasta, pizzas and ice cream. From the French we got mousses and pies, and from the Germans, sausages. The Japanese gave us sushi and sashimi, from China, we got Kung pao chicken and from Arabic culture, kibes and sfiha.

## CHECK OUT ALL THE GOODIES!


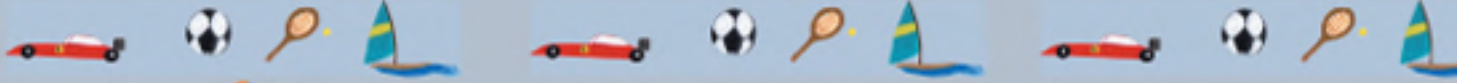
You're going to like rice and beans – everyday fare in Brazil – with a thin steak, french fries and a salad. The desserts are mouthwatering! *Brigadeiros* (chocolate caramels), *quindim* (egg and coconut) and ice cream are delicious!

Pineapple, cashew, bananas and persimmons are all typical fruit. Brazil nuts are the dried fruit of the 160-foot-tall *castanheira* tree. These nuts from northern Brazil are very nutritious; two of them have as much food value as an egg. Youngsters really like *açaí* juice, which gives them energy for sports. At the beach, have some coconut water and *acarajé* (African shrimp cake), an *empadinha* (a cupcake-size Portuguese pie) or a *pastel* (Chinese fried pie). Nobody – but nobody – can resist 100% Brazilian *pão-de-queijo* cheese bread. Just be careful not to eat too much!




Mangoes (top) and Brazil nuts (bottom)





## A Nation of Soccer Players

IT'S TIME TO PLAY BALL. BRAZIL IS FAMOUS FOR SPORTS, ESPECIALLY SOCCER. ON ANY BRAZILIAN BEACH YOU CAN FIND A GROUP OF BOYS PLAYING AN INFORMAL SOCCER GAME, OR "PELADA." THE GAME IS PLAYED ON BACK STREETS, CITY LOTS, AND GRASSY COUNTRY FIELDS.



### SOCCER STARS

It's no accident that Brazil is home to a lot of famous soccer players like Ronaldo, Romário, Ronaldinho Gaúcho, Zico, Garrincha... and the greatest of them all, Pelé – the highest scoring player in history, with 1279 goals, many of them unforgettable. He was decisive in winning three World Cups for Brazil: in 1958, 1962 and 1970. Pelé became so famous that in 1999 he was elected International Olympic Committee Athlete of the Century, even though he never played in the Olympic Games. A movie, *Pelé Eterno*, tells his story.


Ronaldo, nicknamed *Fenômeno*, also made history in winning the World Cups of 1994 and 2002. In 2002, he made the two winning goals in the final match. Ronaldo was named the world's best soccer player three times (1996, 1997 and 2002) by the FIFA soccer Federation.



Pelé



Ronaldo at the Match for Peace, Haiti, 2004



### RACECAR DRIVERS

Soccer isn't the only sport; racecar driving is also a tradition in Brazil. Brazilian racers – Emerson Fittipaldi, Nelson Piquet and Gil de Ferran — were international winners at races like Formula 1 and Formula Indy. Three-Time Formula 1 champion Ayrton Senna was more than a racecar driver. He became a mythical figure thanks to the willpower that gained him surprising victories when things looked really bad. Rubens Barrichello is now one of the top Formula 1 racers.



Ayrton Senna



## VOLLEYBALL, JUDO AND WATER SPORTS

Volleyball is another real popular sport. The Brazilian men's team won a gold medal at the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens. Brazilians also do well at judo, with a number of gold medals won.

Take a tropical country with an immense coastline where all the youngsters like swimming and surfing, and of course you're going to have a lot of champion yacht crews, surfers, swimmers and sailboat racers. Brazil also does real well at indoor soccer and beach volleyball.

WASHINGTON ALVES-CORREIA/GAÏO



Men's volleyball: Olympic gold medal at Athens

## GYMNASTICS



Olympic gymnastics has traditionally been dominated by athletes from Eastern Europe (Russia, Romania, Poland and Bulgaria). Gymnasts Daiane dos Santos and Diego Hypólito won Brazil a place in the limelight. In this difficult sport, in which you have to be a gymnast, an acrobat and a dancer, Daiane dos Santos did somersaults no one had ever seen before. Her Arabian double front was named a "Dos Santos." Daiane won four Olympic gold medals for Brazil as a solo gymnast.

Our most famous names in artistic gymnastics are Diego and Danielle Hypólito. Diego has already won four gold medals. He won the 2005 World Cup in Birmingham with a career-best: a double spin double somersault combination.

## TRACK

Brazilians are fond of races and marathons. At the Olympic Games in Athens, Vanderlei Cordeiro de Lima was outstanding. He was leading the marathon when someone rushed onto the track, grabbed him and dragged him away, spoiling the race. Vanderlei returned to the track with help from one of the Greeks and, despite the lost time, went on to win a bronze medal.

OSWALDO TEIXEIRA/CORBIS/LEAGÃO



Daiane dos Santos created a new somersault

# BRAZILIAN CITIES



JANUARI SANDSTONHÄUBGEN



**BELÉM**



**SALVADOR**

CHRISTIAN KNEPPER/EMBRATUR



**FORTALEZA**

CHRISTIAN KNEPPER/EMBRATUR

CHRISTIAN KNEPPER/EMBRATUR



**BRASÍLIA**



**RIO DE JANEIRO**

CHRISTIAN ANZUREZ/CEBRATUR



**PORTO ALEGRE**

TRAVEL & SOCIETY/EMBRATUR



**SÃO PAULO**

EMBRATUR/  
CHRISTIAN KNEPPER



**FLORIANÓPOLIS**

CHRISTIAN KNEPPER/EMBRATUR