Change the pace as a high school exchange student in Latin America’s most distinct and eclectic culture!

Semester and full-year programs available: pax.org/us-students
Did You Know?

Soccer fans, unite! Futebol is a passion here. Their national team has claimed the World Cup a record five times.

Beach bums, take note: Brazil has more than 4,600 miles of Atlantic coastline.

Star-spangled South American banner? Like the American flag, the stars on Brazil’s flag represent the country’s states—26 plus one for the Federal District.

What season is it? Because it’s in the southern hemisphere, Brazil’s summer months are December through February (don’t expect a white Christmas!) while winter runs from June through August.

Picture This!

Soccer. Carnivale. The Amazon. Yes, Brazil has all this and much more!

“Big” probably also pops into your head, and you’re right. Brazil is the biggest Latin American nation and the fifth largest in the world. It boasts the largest rain forest and the second longest river (the Amazon in both cases). The “B” in “BRICS” stands for Brazil, one of five major emerging economies impacting global affairs.

It’s big on diversity too. Its terrain ranges from jungle and savannahs to grasslands and mountains. The people include a broad mix of Europeans, Africans, Asians, and native peoples. That may be one reason Brazilians are known to be very open, friendly, and hospitable.
Live it Up

You’ll discover that family is at the heart of Brazilian social structure. Brazilian families are very close-knit and enjoy doing things together—whether dancing to *pagode* music, barbecuing (“churrasco”) on the weekends, or hitting the beach. Extended family members are important too, and if they live nearby, expect plenty of large family get-togethers.

Socio-economic levels and social circles can vary greatly in Brazil. Household maids are common, but if your host family has one, it doesn’t mean you won’t have chores.

You’ll delight in trying a variety of Brazilian staple foods and soon get used to the quick breakfast followed by two larger meals later in the day. Rice and beans are usually eaten daily; specialty dishes will depend on your host family’s region.

Keep Learning

Two of the biggest differences between school in the U.S. and Brazil are the academic year, which runs from February to December (with vacation in July and January) and the length of the school day—you will attend school in the morning only.

As a secondary school student, you’ll have required classes, including Portuguese, Brazilian literature, math, geography, history, a science, and probably English grammar, held two to five times weekly. A 10-hour intensive class in Portuguese will give you a jump on the language.

While American high schools offer a host of extracurricular activities, the same is not true here. Make arrangements with your friends to socialize outside of school, while pursuing soccer, samba, capoeira, beach volleyball, or whatever it is you find most inspiring.
Dates and Costs

- Duration:
  - 10 months (academic year)
  - 5 months (semester)
- Start dates:
  - July 2016
  - January 2017 (spring semester)
- Cost:
  - $8,500 (academic year)
  - $7,000 (semester)

Terms of Participation

- Between the ages of 15 and 18
- Currently enrolled in a U.S. high school
- GPA of C+ or better
- No Portuguese language requirement

Application Deadline

- May 1: fall semester or academic year
- October 1: spring semester

What's Included?

- Student selection interview
- Guidance through visa process
- Selection and preparation of host family
- High school enrollment
- U.S. pre-departure orientation
- Medical insurance
- Local support and progress reports
- 24-hour emergency support

What's Not Included?

- International and local airfare
- Visa application fees
- School fees (textbooks, lunch, etc.)
- Personal expenses, souvenirs, incidentals
- Transportation to and from school
- Phone cards or cell phone
- Brazilian ID card

How Does It Work?

- Visit pax.org/us-students for details on compiling application packet
- After application materials received and reviewed, student interview arranged
- Application packet sent abroad for final acceptance by partner organization
- Student matched with host family and school
- Details of exact host family, school, and community shared with student
- Correspondence between student and host family begins
- Pre-departure orientation session in the U.S.

Apply Now to become a high school exchange student in Brazil or one of our other exciting program countries! Everything you need can be found at pax.org/us-students. Questions? Call us at 800.555.6211.