NOTES FOR VISITOR
UNIVERSITY OF SÃO PAULO

USP International Cooperation Office
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The Portuguese village of São Paulo de Piratininga was marked by the founding of a Jesuit college of twelve priests on January 25, 1554, with a small structure built of rammed earth by the Indian (native) workers and located on top of a steep hill between the rivers Anhangabaú and Tamanduatei. For the next two centuries, São Paulo developed as a poor and isolated village that survived largely through the mostly native population’s cultivation of subsistence crops. For a long time in the colonial period, São Paulo was one of the poorest regions of the Portuguese colony and the only village in Brazil’s interior, as travel was too difficult to reach the area. In 1681 the Marquis de Cascais, donee of the Captaincy of São Vicente, moved the capital to the village of São Paulo, designating it the “head of the captaincy”. But it was only in the end of the 17th century with the discovery of gold in the region of Minas Gerais that São Paulo gained importance, bringing attention to new settlers. The town became a center for the bandeirantes or “flag-bearers” (intrepid explorers who marched into unknown lands in search for gold, diamonds, precious stones and Indians to make slaves of), who organized excursions into the land with the primary purpose of profit and the expansion of territory for the Portuguese crown. The bandeirantes eventually became politically powerful as a group, and were considered responsible for the expulsion of the Jesuits from the city of São Paulo in 1640, after a series of conflicts with them over the trade of Indian slaves. When the gold ran out in the late 18th century, São Paulo shifted to growing sugar cane, which spread through the interior of the Captaincy. In 1827 (five years after Brazil became independent from Portugal), a law school was founded at the Convent of São Francisco, and is now part of the Universidade de São Paulo; the influx of students and teachers gave a new impetus to the city’s growth. The expansion of coffee production was a major factor in the growth of São Paulo, as it became the region’s chief export crop and yielded good revenue. Nowadays, São Paulo has become one of the most ethnically diverse cities in the world.

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**About Brazil**

Official name: **República Federativa do Brasil**  
Language: **Portuguese (official)**  
Currency: **Real (R$), 1 real = 100 centavos**  
Its total population is: **210,100,000**  
Source: IBGE, Instituto Brasileiro de Geografia e Estatística, 2018
TRANSPORT

IN SÃO PAULO CITY

Taxis
In São Paulo cabs can be a good option when facing heavy traffic, since they are allowed to ride on buses’ exclusive lanes. The initial fare is R$ 4.10. Depending on the time of the day, the ridden kilometer either costs R$ 2.50 (“flag 1”, Monday to Saturday, 6:00 AM to 8:00 PM) or R$ 3.25 (“flag 2”, Monday to Saturday, 8:00 PM to 6:00 AM, Sundays and holidays).

Intermunicipal and Interstate Bus Station
In São Paulo there are three bus stations that provide destinations across the country and even abroad (some South American countries). The main one is Tietê Bus Station. To the west, northwest and southwest of São Paulo state, North of Paraná, Mato Grosso, Mato Grosso do Sul, Rondônia, Acre and Bollívia, Barra Funda Station is the right place. Jabaquara Bus Station takes passengers to the coastal cities of Bertioga, Guarujá, Santos, Praia Grande, Cubatão, São Vicente, Mongaguá, Itanhaém and Peruíbe. For further information about these bus stations, please call 3866 1100, from 6:00 AM to 10:30 PM.

Metropolitan Transport Network
In São Paulo, the subway stations are also local bus terminals. Some online services, such as SPTrans and Google Maps, can provide quite accurate routes. Bus, train and subway fares within São Paulo cost R$3.00. Bilhete Único (Unified Ticket, in English) is a service offered by the City Transport Department. It consists of a card that can be charged at authorized retailers throughout the city. The map of São Paulo’s metropolitan transportation can be found here: http://www.metro.sp.gov.br/redes/mapa.pdf

IN PIRACICABA CITY

Buses
Bus fares cost R$ 4.80 in Piracicaba;

Taxis
Taxi rides generally cost R$3.45 per km initially;

Bus Station
Estação Rodoviária de Piracicaba (Piracicaba Bus Station)
Avenida Armando Salles de Oliveira, 2344 - Centro
Phone: (19) 3433-8003
ABOUT PIRACICABA

Located in the center of São Paulo State and 160 km away from the capital São Paulo, Piracicaba is a medium city whose name comes from the native Tupi language, meaning “place where the fish stop” due to the waterfalls and rapids that rush through the river that bisects it, providing downtown Piracicaba with a beautiful riverfront view lined with cafes and restaurants. Although its population is mostly urban, Piracicaba has a vast countryside filled mainly with sugar cane that produces one of the largest amounts of sugar and alcohol in the world, and is known nationwide by its “country accent”. Besides its economic relevance, Piracicaba is also an important cultural center in the region, holding annually the Salão Internacional de Humor de Piracicaba, an international graphic humor festival. The city also has renowned universities, such as the Faculty of Dentistry pertaining to State University of Campinas (UNICAMP) and Luiz de Queiroz, one of our university’s 11 campuses.

The Piracicaba River valley began to be occupied by descendants of Europeans during the 17th century, when some settlers entered the forest and began to inhabit the land around the river, practicing subsistence agriculture and plant exploitation. The town of Piracicaba was founded on August 1st, 1767. In the late 18th century, the region developed rapidly based on shipping on Piracicaba River and sugarcane cultivation. Piracicaba became the main city of its surroundings, polarizing other villages that would give rise to the current cities of São Pedro, Limeira, Capivari, Rio Claro and Santa Bárbara d’Oeste. Interestingly, the city remained linked to the cultivation of sugar cane, ignoring the arrival of coffee in the West of São Paulo State, a farming that would become the engine of the state’s economy in the late 19th century. Due to the cultivation of sugar cane, the region became a major center of slavery, with great presence of slaves and freed blacks. In 1877, through its then councilman and future president of Brazil, Prudente de Morais, the city adopted the name “Piracicaba”. In 1900, Piracicaba established itself as one of the greatest centers in São Paulo: it was the fourth largest city in the state, had electricity, phone service and, in the land donated by Luiz Vicente de Souza Queiroz, started the formation of Luiz de Queiroz College of Agriculture (ESALQ), which would later pertain to Universidade de São Paulo. The city became one of the first in the country to achieve industrialization, which was still very much based on the sugar cane cycle. Recently Piracicaba has seen good levels of development, restoring degraded areas and investing in biotechnology and exports for its future development. The city has managed to remain in the position of second largest in population and third largest economy in the Administrative Region of Campinas and could also remains as one of the largest producing poles of sugar and alcohol in the world, besides having an important industrial center and several leading universities like USP, UNICAMP and FATEC.

**Total Area:** 1,378 km²  
**Year of Foundation:** 1767  
**Anniversary:** August 1  
**Population:** 400,949 inhabitants (2019 - Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics)  
**Ethnicities:** 72% white; 21% pardo (mixed race); 6% black; 0.7% Asian; 0.3% native  
**Human Development Index:** 0.79 (United Nations Development Programme, 2010)  
**Climate:** Highland Tropical (warm rainy summers and cool dry winters)  
**Temperature:** 23.5°C (annual average)  
**Elevation:** 547 m (average)
PIRACICABA CAMPUS

Luiz de Queiroz College of Agriculture (ESALQ) was founded in 1901 as one of the several already existing institutions that were taken over as units of USP when the University was founded in 1934. The campus offers 8 undergraduate courses (mainly in the fields of Engineering, and Biological, Earth and Environmental Sciences) and 16 graduate programs. It has 12 departments, 150 laboratories and 4 experimental stations (Anhembi, Anhumas, Itatinga and Areão Farm, where the Technology Incubator ESALQTec is located), plus two national institutes of science and technology, one park, and one library.

The Piracicaba Campus comprises ESALQ and also the Center for Nuclear Energy in Agriculture (CENA), founded in 1966 as an institute attached to ESALQ. The establishment of CENA derived from the initiative of a group of ESALQ professors who saw the great potential of the use of nuclear techniques in agricultural and environmental applications. They started a planning to establish dedicated facilities concentrated in one place, in order to rationalize the use of existing equipment, increase the safety of laboratories and promote greater interaction among scientists.

The total yearly number of students in Luiz de Queiroz Campus is about 2,000; there are 250 professors and the technical-administrative staff is made up of more than 500 employees. With over 13,500 graduate students, it is the first higher education institution in Brazil to surpass the number of 10 thousand agronomists. The campus is established into the internalization process promoted by USP through partnerships with foreign universities, ministries, departments and state programs managed by the Coordination for Improvement of Higher Education Personnel (CAPES), National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq) and Foundation for Research Support of the State of São Paulo (FAPESP).
How to reach Piracicaba?

From São Paulo International Airport (GRU), take the Airport Bus Service line to “Tietê”. At the Tietê Bus Terminal, take an intercity bus to the town of Piracicaba (tickets are sold at the “Piracicabana” and “São Paulo-São Pedro” company counters). Check out the bus schedules at the following links: <http://www.viacaopiracicabana.com.br/> and <http://www.spaulospedro.com.br/>, or <http://www.buscaonibus.com.br/horario/sao-paulo/piracicaba>.

At the Piracicaba Bus Terminal, take a local bus to Piracicaba Campus, located at Av. Paduá Dias, 11 - Piracicaba / SP.

See the town’s urban transportation system at: http://www.semuttran.piracicaba.sp.gov.br/

Lodging and General Information:
ESALQ International Office
http://www.esalq.usp.br/
international.esalq@usp.br
Phones: +55 (19) 3429-4419
+55 (19) 3429-4221
**TOURISM**

House of Settlers – located on the banks of Piracicaba River, it is a big house of wattle and daub built in the early 19th century that symbolizes the passage of the pioneers through the region;

Overlook Park – built in 1895 with a privileged view of the heels of rivers;

Leisure Center of Workers – situated in an area of 60 thousand square meters with a green and suitable area for sports, it is attached to the Rua do Porto Park, which has a pond, trails for exercise, playgrounds and an arena theater;

Water Museum of Piracicaba – tells the story of the capture and water pumping system in the city, exposing hydraulic pumps, old water meters and panels with photos of services from the first Capture and Pumping Station;

“Prudente de Morais” Historic and Pedagogical Museum – shows the home of Prudente de Morais (third president of Brazil) built in 1870, in addition to telling the story of the Constitutionalist Revolution of 1932;

“Luiz de Queiroz” Museum and Science, Education and Arts Center – part of ESALQ, it is the former home of deans and directors of the school;

Central Mill of Piracicaba – built by Estevão de Sousa Resende (the Baron Resende) in 1881, with the goal of replacing slave labor by salaried and by mechanization. In 1974 it was deactivated by the city hall and recognized as a heritage, being used as an important cultural, artistic and recreational space;

Neighborhoods of Santa Olímpia and Santana – ideal for Rural Tourism, these neighborhoods were founded more than a century ago by immigrants from Tyrol (region of Trent, which belonged to Austria until 1919, and currently belongs to Italy);

“Tupi” Horticulture and Forestry – environmental conservation area of 200 acres which provides hiking on its forest trails; Spa of Artemis – area for consumption of medicinal waters and baths with sulphurous water;
Electricity

Depending on the area, the exact voltage might be 115 V, 127 V, or 220 V. Dual-voltage wiring is rather common for high-powered appliances, such as clothes dryers and electric showers which tend to be 220 V even in 127 V areas. In older buildings, the types A, B, C, I can still be found, but are no longer manufactured or sold in Brazil.

Time zone and schedules

São Paulo state is inside UTC-03:00. Daylight saving time (DST) adds one hour during the period beginning in October and ending in March. In Piracicaba street banking hours are from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Commerce is generally open from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM, though malls have a different working time: from 10:00 AM to 10:00 PM (Mondays to Saturdays) and from 2:00 PM to 8:00 PM (Sundays and holidays).

Drinking water

It’s recommended to drink filtered water whenever it is possible although the water of the State of São Paulo is potable. Piracicaba offers a wide network of hospitals, public and private clinics. Emergency services in all hospitals and clinics are open 24 hours a day. If you have medical insurance, please verify if your card or papers are recognized in all hospitals in this country.

Weather

Piracicaba has a Highland Tropical climate with cool dry winters (June - August) and hot rainy summers (December - March), and average temperatures varying between 19 and 31º Celsius, according to CEPAGRI (Center of Meteorological Research Applied to Agriculture).

Currency and Exchange

For currency and money exchange in Brazil, presenting ID and CPF (for Brazilians) and passport (for foreigners) is required.

Currency conversion

Banco Central do Brasil (Central Bank of Brazil)
http://www4.bcb.gov.br/pec/conversao/conversao.asp?id=convmoeda

The official currency is the Real. Bill nominations use 2, 5, 10, 20, 50 and 100. Coins come in 5, 10, 25, 50 cents and 1 real. It is suggested to change money at the airport or in one of the many Money Exchange locations in the city.

Smoking

It is forbidden to smoke cigarettes, cigarillos, cigars, pipes or any other smoking product, made of tobacco or not, in closed private and public environments, except in those reserved for such purpose, properly isolated and with convenient air circulation. Public departments, hospitals and health centers, classrooms, libraries, working areas, theaters and cinemas are non-smoking areas.

In the State of São Paulo, a fixed fine ranging from 50 to 100 times the daily minimum wage, that is, from U$400.00 (50 Dls) to U$780.00 (100 Dls), can be applied for related offenses.

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