



NOTES FOR VISITOR

UNIVERSITY OF SÃO PAULO

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USP

Ribeirão Preto



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

BRAZIL AND SÃO PAULO

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 Tamanduateí. 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.

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 Bolívia, 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\$4.40. 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 RIBEIRÃO PRETO CITY

Ribeirão Preto maintains a great transportation infrastructure. At the City Hall's website (<http://www.ribeiraopreto.sp.gov.br/transerp/central/i07indi.php>), you may consult the itinerary of all municipal buses. You will also find a list of all taxi stations' phone numbers and addresses.

Buses

Bus fares cost R\$4.40 in Ribeirão Preto;

Taxis

Taxi rides generally cost R\$5.00 plus R\$4.50 per ridden km;

Bus Station

Estação Rodoviária de Ribeirão Preto (Ribeirão Preto Bus Station)
Avenida Jerônimo Gonçalves, 640
Phone: **(16) 3610-6538**.

ABOUT RIBEIRÃO PRETO

Ribeirão Preto is located 310 km northeast of the capital of the state of São Paulo. Founded in 1856, the region received a lot of migrants in need of appropriate pasture for livestock and in the beginning of the 20th century, the city attracted many immigrants to work in the crops and in the incipient industries. During the second half of the last century, investments in health care, biotechnology, bioenergy and information technology increased, transforming the city into a technological hub.

The city is also part of a huge highway system that crosses the state of São Paulo and connects it to Brasília, the capital of Brazil, providing Ribeirão's diverse production a privileged logistics system. The industry sector ranks second as the greatest responsible for the gross domestic product (GDP) of the city, and agroindustry's main products are sugar and alcohol, made from the sugar cane produced there as well. Furthermore, the city houses units of several multinational companies, such as Coca-Cola, Nestlé, 3M, Microsoft, among others. Ribeirão Preto Airport "Doutor Leite Lopes" is one of the main airports of São Paulo's countryside, the fourth biggest in the state, and it offers similar conditions to those major airports in the country.

Total Area: 651 km²

Year of Foundation: 1856

Anniversary: June 19

Population: 703,293 inhabitants (2019-Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics)

Ethnicities: 69.8% white; 22.7% pardo (mixed race); 6.3% black; 1% Asian; 0.2% native

Human Development Index: 0.80 (United Nations Development Program, 2010)

Climate: Tropical (hot rainy summers and cool dry winters)

Temperature: 24°C (annual average)

Elevation: 546 m (average)

RIBEIRÃO PRETO CAMPUS

The Campus is well known for both its beautiful park-like setting and academic excellence. Hosting schools of Physical Education, Pharmaceutical Sciences, Law, Administration and Economics, Philosophy, Sciences and Languages, Medicine and Dentistry, it is not only the 2nd largest USP campus in terms of academic specialties, but also in scientific production.

USP Ribeirão Preto also houses two University Hospital Complexes, a Rehabilitation Center, a Maternity Hospital Complex and a State Hospital, one of the most advanced research centers in Latin America, as well as several Community Health Centers.

The Campus has a single International Office for the eight schools that integrate USP Ribeirão Preto. It helps international visitors and international students to get settled and feel the hospitality of the city. In addition, the Campus City Hall maintains an information office near its main entrance, where visitors can obtain further information on locations and services at USP, events, courses, etc.

Moreover, the Campus comprises a Blood Center, a lake, a set of residences for teachers, student accommodation, bank agencies, a running track, libraries, restaurants, a gymnasium, an Olympic swimming pool, a post office, a publishing house, and a botanical garden.

TOURISM



If you are looking for cultural activities, Ribeirão hosts nine theaters, including Pedro II Theater, an opera house downtown with six floors that hosts several presentations. Furthermore, you will find six other cultural centers spread around the city, where courses and activities related to handicraft, dance, music and cookery are offered. Moreover, Ribeirão Preto also houses four museums and the Cinematographic Center, a non-governmental organization that fosters the development of audiovisual and cinematographic industry in the region. Besides its inherent cultural nature, the city also has a busy schedule with several festivals and cultural events - for example, the Ribeirão Preto Cinema Festival. The city's Carnival is one of the biggest of its kind in the state, with some of the oldest samba schools in Brazil and a very traditional street parade.

For further information, you may contact the Municipal Secretariat of Tourism of Ribeirão Preto, located on Rua Álvares Cabral, 322 - Centro - Cultural Palace - 2nd floor, at the following telephone numbers: (16) 3632-6060, 3625-4242, or 3610-7717.



Photos: Ribeirão Preto Town Hall

INFORMATION



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.



The drawing above represents Brazil's official standart power outlet, the NBR 14136.

The standart was created to secure the user, avoiding the possibility of eletric shock and fire. Adapters can be found in household and hardware stores.

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 Ribeirão Preto 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)

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.

Drinking water

It's recommended to drink filtered water whenever it is possible although the water of the State of São Paulo is potable. Ribeirão Preto 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.

Smoking

It is forbidden to smoke cigarettes, cigarillo, 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 DIs) to U\$780.00 (100 DIs), can be applied for related offenses.

Weather

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