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.

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 Bolivia, 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 SÃO CARLOS CITY

Buses
Bus fares cost R$3.90 in São Carlos;

Taxis
Taxi rides generally cost R$5.00 initially;

Bus Station
Estação Rodoviária de São Carlos (São Carlos Bus Station)
Rua Jacinto Favoreto, 777 - Jardim Lutfalla
ABOUT SÃO CARLOS

Located 230 km away from the capital São Paulo, São Carlos is a medium city in the east-central portion of the state of São Paulo. Comprising a floating population of approximately 20 thousand undergraduate and graduate students due to its intense higher education activity, the city of São Carlos is known as the “National Capital of Technology” and is home to the Federal University of São Carlos and one of Universidade de São Paulo’s campi. Served by several road and rail networks, São Carlos is an important agricultural, farming and industrial center in the region: it esteems its large production of orange, sugar, milk and chicken, besides the TAM Airlines Technology Center and two technical development centers of the Brazilian Enterprise for Agricultural Research (EMBRAPA).

São Carlos was founded in the second half of the 19th century. In 1840 the coffee plantations spread all over the fertile lands of the city, becoming its main export product and remaining so for decades.

At first, São Carlos received German immigrants and from 1880 to 1904, the city was one of the main attraction poles of immigrants in the state. However, the vast majority of immigrants not only in the state but also in the city of São Carlos were originally from the northern regions of Italy. The presence of Italian immigrants was so significant that, during the first decades of the twentieth century, the Italian government kept a Vice-Consulate in São Carlos, which at the time was known as “Piccola Italia”, due to the vast amount of Italians who immigrated there.

The manufacturing of shoes, fertilizer, hardware, furniture and pasta machines, as well as tailor shops, breweries, foundries, mills, weaving, a pencil industry (the German-based Faber-Castell) and pottery factories marked the economy of São Carlos in the 1930s. In the 50s and 60s, the city’s industrial power solidified with the installation of refrigerator, compressor and tractor factories, besides a lot of small and medium businesses that supplied products and services.

In the second half of the 20th century, the city received a great boost to its technological and educational development with the implantation, in 1953, of the São Carlos School of Engineering, pertaining to USP, and in the 1970s, with the creation of the Federal University of São Carlos (UFSCar).

Source: http://www.saocarlos.sp.gov.br

Total Area: 1,141 km²
Year of Foundation: 1857
Anniversary: November 4
Population: 251,983 inhabitants (2019-Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics)
Human Development Index: 0.81 (United Nations Development Program, 2010)
Ethnicities: 73% white; 21% pardo (mixed race); 5.1% black; 0.8% Asian; 0.1% native
Climate: Highland Tropical (warm rainy summers and cool dry winters)
Temperature: 22°C (annual average)
Elevation: 856 m (average)
SÃO CARLOS CAMPUS

The implantation of USP in São Carlos began in 1948 with the creation of the São Carlos School of Engineering (EESC). Before long, the school facilities were small. Thus, in 1956, the unit was transferred to a much larger area where the university campus was established and remains nowadays, geographically divided into two connected sections, both of them occupying the central region of the city.

In the new space, the activities of the School of Engineering multiplied and, as a result of such overflow, the campus expanded to other teaching units in the beginning of the 1970s, when four departments of the EESC gave rise to two major academic units: the Institute of Mathematical Sciences of São Carlos (ICMSC) and the Institute of Physics and Chemistry of São Carlos (IFQSC). Later, in 1994, the IFQSC split, resulting in the creation of the São Carlos Institute of Physics (IFSC) and the São Carlos Institute of Chemistry (IQSC); In 2005, with the growth of its structure over the years, the campus expanded to a second area called Campus 2, and in 2010, due to the consolidation of activities in the field, a new unit was created: the Institute of Architecture and Urbanism (IAU). Today these five teaching units - EESC, IAU, ICMC, IFSC and IQSC - alongside the Campus City Hall (PUSP-SC), the Computer Center of São Carlos (CISC), the Center for Scientific and Cultural Dissemination (CDCC) and other agencies form the São Carlos campus, which has more than 4,700 and 2,500 undergraduate and graduate students, respectively.

The CAASO (“Centro Acadêmico Armando de Salles Oliveira”) in São Carlos is Latin America’s largest Student Academic Center, and the third largest in the world. Founded in 1953 by the campus’ first class, CAASO has carried a great historical importance in Brazil’s democratization process.

Source: [http://www.Sãocarlos.usp.br](http://www.Sãocarlos.usp.br)  
[http://www.caaso.org.br](http://www.caaso.org.br)
How to reach São Carlos?

From Guarulhos International Airport, take the Airport Bus Service line to “Tietê”. At the Tietê Bus Terminal, take an intercity bus to São Carlos (tickets are sold at the “Cometa” and “Cruz” companies counters). Check out the schedules in the following links: http://www.empresacruz.com.br/ and http://www.viacaocometa.com.br/pt/, or <http://www.buscaonibus.com.br/horario/sao-paulo/sao-carlos>

Once on the São Carlos Bus Terminal, the São Carlos I Campus (located at Av. Trabalhador São-carlense, 400 - São Carlos / SP ) can be reached by walking, taking 10 minutes.

See the town’s urban transportation system at: <http://www.suzantursc.com.br/itinerarios/>

From one campus to the other, there are buses for the USP community. More information on <http://www.puspesc.usp.br/horario-de-onibus-areas-1-e-2/>
Integrated Center of Tourism (CIT)
2102 Treze de maio Street - Downtown
Phone: (16) 3376-1306 (www.visitsaocarlos.com.br)

Information Posts

PIT Anita Garibaldi
Dona Alexandrina Street, s/nº, Praça Jardim Público, Downtown;

PIT Terminal Rodoviário (Bus Terminal)
777 Jacinto Favoretto Street, 777; Phone: 3372-3493;

PIT Shopping Iguatemi
200 Passeio dos Flamboyants - Parque Faber

E-mail: turismo@saocarlos.sp.gov.br
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.

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 São Carlos 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. São Carlos 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

São Carlos features warm weather throughout the year, though July is considerably cooler than January. Its climate could be called Highland Tropical, with warm rainy summers (December - March) and cool dry winters (June - August). The average temperature in the city throughout the year is 22ºC.

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 denominations 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, 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 Dls) to U$780.00 (100 Dls), can be applied for related offenses.