



Culture Notes: Brazil

The Brazilian culture is one of the world's most diverse, with various historic influences from other cultural groups and nationalities.



One particularly significant influence came from the Portuguese. The most lasting effects of this influence are the official language of Brazil (Portuguese) and the large Roman Catholic population.

The culture as a whole emphasizes the importance of the family structure and the resulting family-centered values. Families tend to be large, and extended families provide a great deal of support for each other. Brazilians' weekend plans often include going out with friends or having lunch at a relative's home. Brazilian students typically like to socialize and often dislike being alone.

As a result of their social nature, Brazilian students are used to a busy daily schedule full of activities. The majority of these students are constantly looking for new things to do and learn.

Our Foreign Partners have noted that since Brazilian kids are very attached to their natural families, they might feel homesick at the beginning of the exchange and might need to communicate more with their parents. As they start to feel more secure and adapt to their new settings, communication with home tends to be less frequent.

- * Capital: Brasilia
- * Population: 201 million
- * Area: About 3,290,000 sq.mi.
- * Nationality: Brazilian * Language: Portuguese
- * Climate: Mostly tropical/semi-tropical with temperate zone in the south
- * Fun Fact: The 2nd, 4th, 5th, 9th, and 10th largest sports stadiums on Earth are located in Brazil.

