

# Olympics 2016

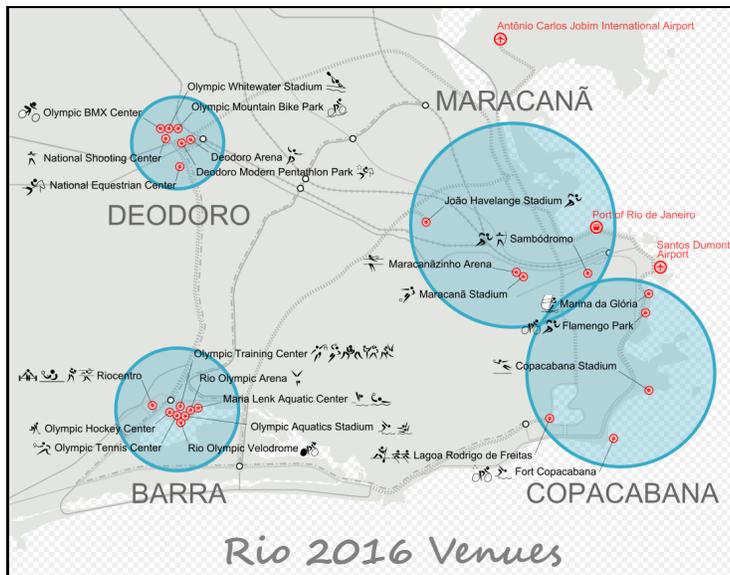
## Staying Safe in Brazil



The 2016 Summer Olympic Games will be held in Rio de Janeiro from August 5 to August 21, 2016 and the 2016 Paralympic Games are scheduled for September 7 through September 18, 2016. Unlike the World Cup, the vast majority of Olympic events will be in Rio de Janeiro

itself, although some soccer games will be played in other cities around the country. The focus on fewer cities does not necessarily make it easier in terms of security. The Summer Olympic Games event is expected to attract over 500,000 tourists. Furthermore, a record number of athletes and countries will be represented, with over 10,000 athletes and 206 countries set to compete. Although the Olympics and Brazilian officials are doing all they can to ensure safety and security, factors such as social unrest, crime, water con-

tamination, Zika virus, and lack of infrastructure safety are all risks to consider when deciding whether or not to visit the Olympics.



Volunteers wishing to attend the Olympic Games must purchase tickets and confirm accommodation and travel arrangements well in advance of planned arrival dates. Volunteers are also highly encouraged to request vacation from their Country Director no less than thirty days before departure from their post of service and provide detailed information related to their itinerary, accommodations and how to be contacted in an emergency. Volunteers should refer to the official Olympics website <http://www.olympic.org/rio-2016-summer-olympics> for information on ticketing, accommodation, stadiums, schedules, and other relevant topics. A travel visa is not required for US citizens entering Brazil at this time (see page 3).

### Official Guidance

- Volunteers are highly encouraged to request vacation 30 days in advance for any travel to Brazil during the World Cup. Requests should include detailed itineraries, accommodation plans, emergency contact information and which games the Volunteer plans to attend.
- Volunteers are highly encouraged to register with the State Department through the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program <https://step.state.gov/step/>
- Volunteers must avoid any political protests, demonstrations, social unrest or outbreaks of hooliganism.
- Volunteers must enter Brazil with a valid passport. It is recommended to also carry a copy of your passport to keep with you at all times, while storing the official passport in a safe location.
- Volunteers should always carry a cellular phone in case of emergency. SIM cards and rental phones are easily available throughout Brazil. More information can be found here: <http://www.liveinbrazil.org/5-easy-steps-cellular-phone-brazil/>

**Crime Environment in Brazil**

- The prevalence of crime and violence in Brazil is high. The crime threat rating for all of Brazil as rated by the U.S. Department of State is Critical (highest rating).
- Common crimes in Brazil range from minor petty theft to more serious incidents, such as kidnapping, carjacking, home invasions, robbery and sexual assault. Criminals often use weapons to carry out these crimes.
- Foreign visitors may be susceptible to targeting for certain crimes. Public transportation hubs, hotel sectors, and tourist areas are the locations with the highest crime rates.
- Several Brazilian cities are transshipment points for illicit drugs, and Brazil is the number two consumer of cocaine in the world (behind the U.S.). As such, a large proportion of crimes are linked to narcotics. Drug users may commit street assaults and robberies to support their addictions.
- The majority of kidnappings are “express kidnappings”, in which the victim is abducted for a short time in order for the perpetrator to take advantage of debit/credit cards at ATMs or to purchase items at a retail store. Express kidnappings are common with unlicensed taxis.
- Urban slum areas, known as Favelas, have historically been ruled by drug lords and are areas of high crime and violence. Such areas should be avoided.

**Strategies to Mitigate Victimization**

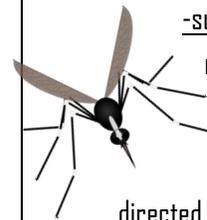
- Volunteers should practice common-sense preventative techniques and remain vigilant of their surroundings at all times. Remember your training!
- Volunteers should not carry or wear valuable items (electronics, jewelry, etc.) that will attract attention or present easy opportunities for thieves.
- If robbed, Volunteers should not physically resist the robbery, yell, or draw attention to themselves; rather they should give up whatever is asked. Statistics show that resistance can lead to severe consequences.
- In many inner-city locations of Brazil, public transportation is not safe. Using licensed taxis at taxi stands or from hotels is much safer.
- Both female and male Volunteers should not accept drinks from strangers. Scopolamine or other disabling drug may be added to drinks. Victims often awaken robbed of possessions or sexually assaulted after accepting open beverages.
- Volunteers must avoid any suspicious large gatherings of crowds and any area where protests are being held.

**Water Contamination in Brazil**

- A 2015 Associated Press investigation that found enough sewage from the surrounding community was being dumped into the bodies of water in which the 2016 Olympic athletes will compete to create high levels of viruses and bacteria in the venues.
- Volunteers should avoid swimming in highly polluted areas, including Guanabara Bay, Copacabana, and Ipanema Beach.



Brazil, along with many countries in the Americas, is experiencing an outbreak of Zika virus. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) has issued a travel notice regarding the Olympics. Please read <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices/alert/2016>



-summer-olympics-rio for more information.

To protect yourself, use insect repellent. Reapply as directed. Remember to apply sunscreen first and then insect repellent. Cover exposed skin when possible. Stay and sleep in screened-in or air-conditioned rooms. Use a bed net if you're sleeping outside. Zika can also be spread through sex, so use latex condoms if you have sex.

**Don't forget:**

\*Clothing and gear treated with permethrin

\*Bed net (if mosquitoes can get to where you're sleeping)

\*Condoms (if you might have sex)

\*Insect repellent (Look for these ingredients: DEET, picaridin, IR3535, OLE, or PMD.)

\*Long-sleeved shirts and long pants

**VISA Information**

- Typically, American visitors need a travel visa to get into Brazil. That requirement is being waived for a select few countries, including the United States, during the Olympic games. The temporary visa waiver program will be in affect from June 1 to September 18.
- Travelers must have a valid U.S. passport and may stay for up to 90 days. For entry to Brazil before or after these dates, or for travel to Brazil that is not strictly for tourism, U.S. citizens are required to have a Brazilian visa. Visas for U.S. citizens normally are valid for 10 years and cost \$160.00. If you do need a visa, you must apply through a Brazilian Consulate. Apply for your visa well in advance, as processing will likely take longer the closer it gets to the Games.

**Ticket Information**

- According to State Department website, <https://www.cosport.com/> is the only legitimate source to purchase tickets.
- Rio 2016 <https://www.rio2016.com/en> has announced that they will sell any remaining tickets at venues throughout Rio and in the soccer host cities during the Games.
- Be aware of scams, fake ticket websites, and unlicensed ticket resellers.
- It is a criminal offence to sell or supply Olympics tickets for higher than the face value.

**Accommodation/Travel Information**

- Shortages of hotel rooms are likely throughout Brazil during the Olympics, so you should **book your rooms well in advance**. Given the increased demand for hotel rooms, prices may be higher than normal. Advertised rates for standard rooms are currently as much as \$350 to well over \$1,000 USD per night. Many hotels have lengthy minimum stays, require prepayment for the entire stay, and will not offer refunds in the event of cancellations. These rates and policies may fluctuate up until the time of the Games, but you should be prepared to pay premium rates for hotel accommodations. **Confirm your reservations before you depart for Brazil.**
- Volunteers should not hitchhike or accept rides from private vehicles. Volunteers are encouraged to travel in groups as much as feasible.

**Using ATMs**

- ATM and credit card fraud is very common in Brazil.
- Use ATMs within banks or other safe locations to avoid cloning or theft of your PIN. Cover your pin number when entering.
- Keep your credit card in sight when paying.
- Contact your bank or credit card company for security tips prior to travel, including setting daily withdrawal limits.

**Stay Informed**

U.S. Citizen Services: Information about services the Embassy and Consulate offers to U.S. citizens, security and travel information, fraud warnings, etc.

#USinRio blog: All the practical details you need for your Olympics journey.

USinRio Facebook Event: Add your "RSVP" so you'll have the latest news on the Games.

@USCitsBrazil on Twitter: Follow Mission Brazil's Twitter for U.S. citizens living and traveling in Brazil.

Google ACS Olympics Brochure: Learn about American Citizen Services during the Olympics.

Mission Brazil Facebook and Consulate Rio: Follow the U.S. Mission's Facebook pages for the latest Olympics news and security updates.

**SMS Notifications**: If you would like to receive important messages from the U.S. Mission on your phone during your stay, send a message with your U.S. or local phone number to [optinrio@state.gov](mailto:optinrio@state.gov). The service will terminate after the conclusion of the Olympic Games.

**Conduct**

- Volunteers must adhere to Peace Corps policy on conduct, as outlined in PC Manual Section 204 : <http://www.peacecorps.gov/about/policies/docs/manual>

*Safety doesn't happen by accident!*



**Glossary of Health Terms:**

English	Portuguese	Pronunciation
I feel sick.	Eu me sinto doente.	<i>AY-oo may SEEN-to da-EN-tee</i>
I have a...	Tenho...	<i>TEN-yoo</i>
...headache.	...dor de cabeça.	<i>door deh kah-BAY-sah</i>
...stomachache.	...dor de barriga.	<i>door deh bah-HEE-gah</i>
...fever.	...febre.	<i>FEH-bree</i>
...sore throat.	...dor de garganta.	<i>door deh gahr-GAHN-ta</i>
...rash.	...rash cutâneo.	<i>hash koo-TAHN-ee-ah</i>
I sprained my ankle.	Torci meu tornozelo.	<i>Tore-SEE MAY-oo tore-noh-ZAY-loo</i>
I am dizzy.	Estou tonto (fem. = tonta).	<i>Es-TOE TONE-too / TONE-tah</i>
I have been bitten by mosquitoes.	Fui picado por pernilongo (muriçoca).	<i>fwee pee-KAH-doo poor pare-nee-LONE-goo (moo-ree-SO-kah)</i>
I am allergic to...	Tenho alergia a...	<i>TEN-yoo ah-lair-JEE-ah ah</i>
Where is the nearest hospital?	Onde fica o hospital mais próximo?	<i>OWN-gee FEE-kah ah os-pee-TAH_oo mize PROH-see-mah</i>
Where is the nearest pharmacy?	Onde fica a farmácia mais próxima?	<i>OWN-gee FEE-kah ah far-MAH-see-ah mize PROH-see-mah</i>
Can I see a doctor/nurse?	Posso ver um médico/enfermeiro?	<i>POH-saa vair oom MEH-dee-kah / en-fair-MAY-roh</i>

U.S. consular personnel will be stationed throughout Rio de Janeiro and in the soccer host cities (Brasília, Belo Horizonte, Salvador, São Paulo, and Manaus) to provide a range of emergency services to U.S. citizens in need. For emergency services in Rio de Janeiro, please email [acsrio@state.gov](mailto:acsrio@state.gov) or call +55 (21) 3823-2000. Outside of Rio, you may contact the U.S. Embassy or the nearest U.S. consulate. Passport replacements and other services requiring fees, however, must be conducted at the Embassy or a consulate.

**In Case of Emergency:**

- Retreat to a place of safety, preferably a police depot, or if near the stadium, look for a security tent.
- Report the incident to the local authorities. The nationwide emergency numbers are : 190 (Police), 192 (Ambulance), 193 (Fire). You can also dial 911 from a mobile phone and be re-directed to the necessary emergency service.
- Contact the State Department (see above) or Embassy (see below).
- Notify your Peace Corps Post if it will affect your return to Post.

US Embassy, Brasilia:

SES 801 – Avenida das Nações, Lote 3  
 Telephone: 61-3312-7000  
 Emergency after-hours telephone: 61-3312-7400  
 Fax: 61-3225-9136

**Brazil country code: 55**



Home page: <http://brazil.usembassy.gov>

US Consulate General Rio de Janeiro:

Avenida Presidente Wilson, 147, Castelo  
 Telephone: 21-3823-2000  
 Emergency after-hours telephone: 21-3823-2000  
 Fax: 21-3823-2003

Home page: <http://riodejaneiro.usconsulate.gov/>