

Overseas Travel

Risk Assessment: Student Mobility_Brazil

The purpose of this Risk Assessment is to ensure that members of the University community are unlikely to be exposed to unacceptable risks which could affect their health, safety or security when travelling abroad on behalf of the University.

This form should be completed by the individual wishing to travel prior to making any firm arrangements to travel, and must be completed in discussion with the relevant line manager or supervisor, allowing sufficient time in advance of travelling for any issues to be addressed.

Before completing this form you should ensure that you (and your manager/supervisor) are familiar with the contents of the Health and Safety and Insurance webpages on travelling abroad.

When completed and approved this risk assessment and its associated itinerary should be carried by the traveller(s) and a copy retained by the Department. Queries on the completion of this assessment should be directed to HealthSafetyHelpdesk@warwick.ac.uk.

Please consider when completing this form how the country you intend to visit is managing the Covid-19 outbreak. In particular, it may be helpful to consider access to local medical facilities, how local transport is being managed and any local guidelines and social behaviours you may need to adopt

Department:	Student Mobility, Student Opportunity
Location(s) to be visited:	BRAZIL
Purpose of journey:	Student Mobility
Name and role of traveller(s):	List held with Student Mobility, and on SITS
Name of line manager or supervisor:	Maria Fox (Head of Student Mobility)
Dates of proposed travel:	Academic Year 2026 – 2027
Information taken from:	https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/brazil
Living In Country Guidance	https://www.gov.uk/world/living-in-brazil

[Sign-up for FCDO travel advice email alerts](#) and follow FCDO travel advice on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)

<i>Hints and Tips from previous Student Mobility participants</i>	
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Hazard/Consideration	Risk (High / Medium / Low)	Mitigating Actions (please add to or amend as appropriate)	Comments / Actions
Coronavirus			Countries may restrict travel or bring in rules at short notice. Check with your travel company or airline for changes. If you test positive for COVID-19 while in BRAZIL, you may need to stay where you are until you test negative. You may also need to seek treatment there. Visit TravelHealthPro (from the UK's National Travel Health Network and Centre) for general COVID-19 advice for travellers. Coronavirus travel health Check the latest information on risk from COVID-19 for Brazil on the TravelHealthPro website See the TravelHealthPro website for further advice on travel abroad and reducing spread of respiratory viruses during the COVID-19 pandemic. Entry and borders See Entry requirements to find out what you will need to do when you arrive in Brazil. Be prepared for your plans to change

		No travel is risk-free during COVID-19. Countries may further restrict travel or bring in new rules at short notice, for example due to a new COVID-19 variant. Check with your travel company or airline for any transport changes which may delay your journey home. If you test positive for COVID-19, you may need to stay where you are until you test negative. You may also need to seek treatment there. Plan ahead and make sure you: • can access money • understand what your insurance will cover • can make arrangements to extend your stay and be away for longer than planned Healthcare in Brazil If you think you have COVID-19 symptoms, you should self isolate for 14 days. You should only go to hospital if you are feeling breathless. The public healthcare system varies across the country, and in some states in Brazil the additional burden of treating COVID-19 patients might affect services such as accident & emergency care. Some private hospitals are no longer accepting credit card payments for admissions and only accepting patients with valid health insurance. Check if your travel or health insurance has comprehensive cover for coronavirus and refer to official channels in your location for further details. For contact details for English speaking doctors visit our list of healthcare providers. Your emotional and mental wellbeing is important. Read guidance on how to look after your mental wellbeing and mental health View Health for further details on healthcare in Brazil. See also the guidance on healthcare if you're waiting to return to the UK.
Money		Research and make yourself fully aware of the cost of living for Brazil. Some countries have a significantly higher cost of living than the UK, and this can seriously impact your placement. We have received feedback from previous students that being aware of this and having fully

			prepared for the increased cost is essential. The official currency of Brazil is the Real (BRL /R\$). It is easy to convert most major currencies at specialist money exchange bureaus and some banks and hotels. Passport identification usually will be required to make the exchange. ATMs are widely available and most will accept foreign-issued bank cards. Credit card transactions are accepted across Brazil's establishments and mobile money transaction are common. Requirements for opening a bank account in Brazil may include: • The Cadastro de Pessoa Fisica (CPF) - the national individual taxpayer registration • Passport • Utility bill/ lease agreement (for purpose of verifying your physical address) • Foreigner identity card (Carteira de Registro Nacional Migratório – CRNM)
Visa Applications			Visa requirements You must ensure you have the correct visa. If you are studying, you will be provided with details directly from our partner university. If you intend to work, you must have the correct visa to enable you to work in the country otherwise you may be denied entry to the country. It is your responsibility to arrange the correct visa. Entry requirements The authorities in Brazil set and enforce entry rules. If you're unsure how Brazil's entry requirements apply to you, contact its UK embassy, high commission or consulate. Check your passport and travel documents before you travel Check with your travel provider to make sure your passport and other travel documents meet their requirements. Passport validity Your passport should be valid for a minimum period of 6 months from the date of entry into Brazil.

Visas

British nationals can normally enter Brazil without a visa as a tourist. For further information about visas, see the website of the [Brazilian Consulate in London](#).

Ensure you comply with Brazilian immigration laws on arrival in the country. You must satisfy the Federal Police (the Brazilian immigration authority) of the purpose of your visit. You will need to demonstrate that you have enough money for the duration of your stay, provide details of your accommodation and evidence of return or onward travel. Make sure your passport is stamped. If it is not, you may be fined on departure.

If you wish to extend your stay in Brazil, you should apply to the Federal Police for an extension. If you overstay, you are likely to be given notice to leave the country at your own expense and you may be fined or deported.

Studying in Brazil

If you plan to study in Brazil, you must meet all visa requirements before you travel. Read the Brazilian Consulate in London [guidance on study visas](#).

Read guidance on Brazilian visas for:

- [Study, internship \(VIVIS\)](#)
- [Study \(VITEM IV\)](#)

Contact the relevant higher education provider in Brazil to check what fees you may have to pay.

Dual nationality

The Brazilian immigration authorities often require dual British/Brazilian nationals visiting Brazil to travel on Brazilian (rather than British) passports.

Yellow fever certificate requirements

Check whether you need a yellow fever certificate by visiting the National Travel Health Network and Centre's [TravelHealthPro website](#).

Local knowledge, understanding of customs and conditions		• Experience of travel to, or working in, the region before • Obtain guidance and information from the host organisation • Research via relevant web-sites • Consider dress, behaviours and sensitivities • Local laws, fees or levies.	Before you travel No travel can be guaranteed safe. Read all the advice in this guide as well as support for British nationals abroad which includes: • advice on preparing for travel abroad and reducing risks • information for women, LGBT and disabled travellers Local laws and customs Drug trafficking is widespread in Brazil. If you are caught trafficking the penalties are severe, often involving long prison sentences in a Brazilian prison. The penalties for possession of drugs for personal use range from educational classes to community service. Some British nationals have been targeted through email scams in which online fraudsters offer a financial reward for them to travel to Brazil, where they are then asked to carry some items/gifts out of Brazil, including to the UK. These items are often illegal drugs and anyone caught will face detention for drug trafficking regardless of the circumstances. The sexual abuse of children is a serious crime and widespread in Brazil. The UK and Brazilian authorities are committed to combatting travelling child sex offenders and the Brazilian government continues to crack down on those who commit such offences. If you commit sex offences against children abroad you can be prosecuted in the UK. There is no legislation against homosexuality in Brazil. Same-sex marriage has been legal in Brazil since 2013, and LGBT couples have equal rights in law. Human rights are protected by the Brazilian Constitution, and Brazil is a signatory to international and regional agreements protecting LGBT rights. Name changes on official documents for transgender people are also provided for by law, although this right is not always applied consistently across the country. Sao Paulo holds the world's largest Pride celebration, which typically passes off very peacefully – incidents of violence at the event are rare. Rio's Pride and those of other cities also attract large numbers. Brazil generally has had a tradition of tolerance. However, Brazilian society is quite conservative, particularly outside the larger towns and cities, and LGBT-phobic violence is a concern - you should exercise discretion. See our information and advice page for the LGBT community before you travel.
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Equality and Diversity LGBTQ information		Unless provided here there is no statement given by the FCDO on Equality and Diversity and LGBTQ information, issues or concerns	Please see the link below which you may find useful: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/lesbian-gay-bisexual-and-transgender-foreign-travel-advice There is no legislation against homosexuality in Brazil. Same-sex marriage has been legal in Brazil since 2013, and LGBT couples have equal rights in law. Human rights are protected by the Brazilian Constitution, and Brazil is a signatory to international and regional agreements protecting LGBT rights. Name changes on official documents for transgender people are also provided for by law, although this right is not always applied consistently across the country. Sao Paulo holds the world's largest Pride celebration, which typically passes off very peacefully – incidents of violence at the event are rare. Rio's Pride and those of other cities also attract large numbers. Brazil generally has had a tradition of tolerance. However, Brazilian society is quite conservative, particularly outside the larger towns and cities, and LGBT-phobic violence is a concern - you should exercise discretion. See our information and advice page for the LGBT community before you travel.
Cultural differences		- Awareness of attitudes towards protected characteristics, e.g. disability, sexual orientation, gender reassignment etc. - Dress in accordance with local laws/customs - Avoid behaviour that may fall foul of local customs/laws/cultures. - Report and support at Warwick: https://warwick.ac.uk/students/welcome/spring/livingatuniversity/reportand support	Laws and cultural differences Favelas Favelas (Portuguese for 'slum' or 'shanty town') are urban neighbourhoods of high density informal or unplanned housing. They exist in all major Brazilian cities, range in size from a few blocks to large sprawling areas, and can border areas frequented by tourists and visitors. The security situation in many favelas is unpredictable. Any visit to a favela can be dangerous. You're advised to avoid these areas in all cities, including 'favela tours' marketed to tourists and any accommodation, restaurants or bars advertised as being within a favela. In Rio de Janeiro, there are favelas located around the city, including close to the tourist area of Zona Sul and Maré, as displayed in this map showing approximate locations of many favelas. If you're unsure about a location, seek local advice from your hotel or the local authorities. In São Paulo and other cities, favelas tend to be located further from the city centre. Armed clashes have also occurred on major thoroughfares, including the main highway to and from the international airport in Rio de Janeiro which runs alongside a large favela. There have been incidents of tourists participating in favela tours in Rio de Janeiro being accidentally shot dead during a police operations. There is a risk of violence spilling over into nearby areas, including those popular with tourists. There have been injuries and deaths as a result of stray bullets in and near favelas.

			Take extra care in all Brazilian towns and cities. If you're using GPS navigation, whether by car or on foot, make sure that the suggested route doesn't take you into a favela. Avoid entering unpaved, cobbled or narrow streets which may lead into a favela. Tourists have been shot after accidentally entering a favela. Check with your hotel or the local authorities if unsure. Carnival and other large-scale celebrations If you are attending a large scale celebration in Brazil, such as the Carnival celebrations in Rio de Janeiro or other major cities, you should be aware that criminals can target people who appear to be wealthy or easy targets, such as people who have drunk a lot of alcohol. Be aware of your personal security and surroundings, be cautious about proposals from strangers which might take you away from public settings. Swimming Strong currents can be a danger off some beaches. Take local advice before swimming including paying attention to warning flags on beaches and the location of lifeguards if present on the beach. Shark attacks are a danger particularly on the beaches around the north eastern city of Recife. You should pay attention to warning signs and consult lifeguards if unsure. Do not enter the water where warning signs are present; sharks have been known to attack in waist deep water and fatalities have occurred.
Social/Political Unrest or Terrorism:		• Check the FCO website for up-to-date advice. • If the FCO advises against travel to destination(s) on safety/security grounds then seek approval from HoD/Line Manager • Consider not just the country in question but also any territories as identified in FCO pages • Reschedule visit or modify itinerary if at all feasible.	Terrorism There is a high threat of terrorist attack globally affecting UK interests and British nationals, including from groups and individuals who view the UK and British nationals as targets. You should remain vigilant at all times. UK Counter Terrorism Policing has information and advice on staying safe abroad and what to do in the event of a terrorist attack. Find out how to reduce your risk from terrorism while abroad. Terrorist attacks in Brazil can't be ruled out. Attacks, although unlikely, could be indiscriminate, including in places frequented by foreigners. Protests and civil unrest Protests, demonstrations and strikes take place regularly in cities across Brazil with reports of arrests and clashes between police and protesters. More common in urban areas, they can

			disrupt transport. Even events intended to be peaceful can sometimes turn confrontational and escalate into violence. Police have used rubber bullets and tear gas extensively to disperse protesters. The effects of tear gas can be felt several hundred metres beyond the immediate site of demonstrations. In Sao Paulo, protests take place regularly and often without warning. Roads and public transport are frequently disrupted and there can be delays along the main road to Guarulhos International Airport. Popular locations for demonstrations in major cities are: Avenida Paulista, and the historic downtown area in São Paulo, Esplanada dos Ministerios in Brasilia and Copacabana Beach in Rio de Janeiro. If you're travelling or live in Brazil, take common sense precautions, follow local news reports, avoid political rallies or other events where crowds have congregated to protest and comply with the instructions of local authorities. If you encounter a political protest or feel uncomfortable in a large gathering, try to leave the area straight away.
Personal attack / kidnap: Dangers associated with travelling alone; arriving at night, etc.:		• Precautionary measures should be taken to protect personal safety. • Inform hosts of itinerary. • Be aware of specific local risks. • Travel during daylight hours if possible.	Warwick Business Travel Insurance Details: 24 hour Emergency Medical Assistance Helpline +44 (0)1243 621066 Quote reference NUBT 0105 and policy number 100735754GPA Please note that there is no emergency medical cover if you are a national in the country you need medical attention. Security Assistance If there is a risk to your personal safety please call: 24 hour Security Helpline +44 (0)2077412074 Quote reference NUBT 0105 and policy number 100735754GPA Report and Support: https://reportandsupport.warwick.ac.uk/ Wellbeing Services: https://warwick.ac.uk/services/wss/

Crime:		• Awareness of risk of theft or pickpockets • Awareness of local scams or hotspots • Cash and card security/awareness	Crime There are high levels of crime, particularly robberies, within Brazil's cities and the murder rate can be very high. This can vary greatly within a city, so familiarise yourself with the geography of a city and take local advice to identify the riskier areas. Crime, including violent crime, can occur anywhere and often involves firearms or other weapons. Pickpocketing and robbery Pickpocketing is common. You should be vigilant, in particular before and during the festive and carnival periods. Do not go on to city beaches after dark. If threatened, hand over your valuables without resistance. Attackers may be armed and under the influence of drugs. Do not attempt to resist attackers – this increases the risk of injury or worse. You should: • avoid wearing expensive jewellery and watches • avoid carrying large sums of money - consider wearing a money belt • avoid using a mobile phone in the street • keep cameras out of sight when not in use • leave your passport and other valuables in a safe place, but carry a copy and another form of photo ID, if you have one, with you at all times. Thefts are particularly common on public beaches and include 'arrastões' where large groups of thieves run through an area of the beach grabbing possessions. Keep your possessions close and avoid taking valuables to the beach. The most common incidents affecting British nationals in Rio de Janeiro are thefts and pick pocketing around Copacabana Beach, Ipanema Beach and the areas of Lapa and Santa Theresa. Tourists in Rio de Janeiro have reported armed robberies on the Corcovado walking trail to the Christ the Redeemer statue. You're advised not to use the trail at this time. The most common incidents affecting British nationals in Sao Paulo are thefts or pickpocketing around Avenida Paulista and the historical downtown area. The red light districts located on Rua Augusta (north of Avenida Paulista) Catedral da Sé, Praça da República and the Estacao de Luz metro area (where Cracolândia is located), are especially dangerous.
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			Victims of crime If you or another British citizen becomes the victim of crime abroad, you should contact the local police and the nearest British embassy or consulate. You can find more information on how we can support you in our Support for British Nationals Abroad guide. Emergencies For emergencies in Brazil dial the following numbers • 190 for police • 192 for ambulance • 193 for fire Services If you have been the victim of a rape or sexual assault in Brazil, read the guidance Brazil: information for victims of rape and sexual assault. See also Victim of rape and sexual assault abroad. Find a lawyer in Brazil If you're the victim of a crime, have been arrested, or are affected by a crisis, contact the British Embassy in Brasilia or the Consulates in Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo.
Theft or loss of ID documents and other belongings: passport, driving license, bank cards, travel tickets, laptop		• Keep items secure. • Record details of numbers, issue dates, etc. and store separately both with you and at home. • Have emergency contact numbers • Report to police if theft suspected • Minimise amount of cash carried	Keep your passport secure at all times. Unless you are required to carry the original document, keep your passport in a safe location. If your passport is lost, stolen or damaged while you are on a trip overseas, you will need to apply for an emergency travel document so you can get back home. Make sure you have access to enough funds to cover emergencies. Check expiry dates on your credit or debit card(s). Inform your bank of your travel plans. Use a money belt or secure inside pocket. Do not openly display your cash. Do not carry all your cards with you – leave one in a secure location. If your passport or valuables are stolen abroad, report it at once to the local police and get a statement, as you will need one to claim against your insurance. You will need to cancel any bank cards, so take relevant phone numbers.

			Only emergency medical treatment is covered under the University of Warwick Business and Travel Insurance policy. In the event of an emergency please call: 24 hour Emergency Medical Assistance Helpline +44 (0)1243 621066 Quote reference NUBT 0105 and policy number 100005565GPA Please note that there is no emergency medical cover if you are a national in the country you need medical attention. Security Assistance If there is a risk to your personal safety please call: 24 hour Security Helpline +44 (0)2077412074 Quote reference NUBT 0105 and policy number 100005565GPA
Travel Preparation		Valid vehicle insurance (you cannot use the Business Travel Insurance policy).	At least 8 weeks before your trip, check the latest country-specific health advice from the National Travel Health Network and Centre (NaTHNaC) on the TravelHealthPro website. Each country-specific page has information on vaccine recommendations, any current health risks or outbreaks, and factsheets with information on staying healthy abroad. Guidance is also available from NHS (Scotland) on the FitForTravel website. General information on travel vaccinations and a travel health checklist is available on the NHS website. You may then wish to contact your health adviser or pharmacy for advice on other preventive measures and managing any pre-existing medical conditions while you're abroad. The legal status and regulation of some medicines prescribed or purchased in the UK can be different in other countries. If you're travelling with prescription or over-the-counter medicine, read this guidance from NaTHNaC on best practice when travelling with medicines. For further information on the legal status of a specific medicine, you'll need to contact the embassy, high commission or consulate of the country or territory you're travelling to. While travel can be enjoyable, it can sometimes be challenging. There are clear links between mental and physical health, so looking after yourself during travel and when abroad is important. Information on travelling with mental health conditions is available in our guidance page. Further information is also available from the National Travel Health Network and Centre (NaTHNaC).
Exposure to infection: Known endemic illnesses in destination(s)		- Take medical advice and arrange vaccination/inoculation/prophylaxis as appropriate - Consider the following conditions in particular: Cholera, Diphtheria, Hepatitis B, Japanese Encephalitis,	FOR INFORMATION AND FAQs SEE WARWICK WEBSITE @ https://warwick.ac.uk/coronavirus During the COVID-19 pandemic, it is more important than ever to get travel insurance and check it provides sufficient cover. See the FCO's guidance on foreign travel insurance.

		Malaria, Meningitis, Poliomyelitis, Tetanus, Tick-borne Encephalitis, Tuberculosis, Typhoid and Yellow Fever.	Health Before you travel check that: • your destination can provide the healthcare you may need • you have appropriate travel insurance for local treatment or unexpected medical evacuation This is particularly important if you have a health condition or are pregnant. At least 8 weeks before your trip, check the latest country-specific health advice from the National Travel Health Network and Centre (NaTHNaC) on the TravelHealthPro website. Each country-specific page has information on vaccine recommendations, any current health risks or outbreaks, and factsheets with information on staying healthy abroad. Guidance is also available from NHS (Scotland) on the FitForTravel website. General information on travel vaccinations and a travel health checklist is available on the NHS website. You may then wish to contact your health adviser or pharmacy for advice on other preventive measures and managing any pre-existing medical conditions while you're abroad. The legal status and regulation of some medicines prescribed or bought in the UK can be different in other countries. If you're travelling with prescription or over-the-counter medicine, read this guidance from NaTHNaC on best practice when travelling with medicines. For further information on the legal status of a specific medicine, you'll need to contact the embassy, high commission or consulate of the country or territory you're travelling to. While travel can be enjoyable, it can sometimes be challenging. There are clear links between mental and physical health, so looking after yourself during travel and when abroad is important. Information on travelling with mental health conditions is available in our guidance page. Further information is also available from the National Travel Health Network and Centre (NaTHNaC).
Pre-existing medical conditions		• Take medical advice. • Carry written details of medical condition, adequate supplies of prescribed medication, details of blood group, etc.	Medication The legal status and regulation of some medicines prescribed or bought in the UK can be different in other countries.

		- Consider translation of information into local language. - Share with colleagues where appropriate	TravelHealthPro explains best practice when travelling with medicines. The NHS has information on whether you can take your medicine abroad. If you are on a prescription for any medication you should ensure you have a supply of it, or are able to obtain it when in Brazil. Certain medicines may not be available in Brazil, and you may be prohibited from taking them into the country. You should consult your GP before travelling to Brazil to find out about any alternative medication.
Health and Local medical facilities		- Hospital proximity and standards. - Access to doctors/dentists. - Payment methods for medical treatment.	Make sure you have adequate travel health insurance and accessible funds to cover the cost of any medical treatment abroad and repatriation. If you have a health condition, or you are pregnant, you may need specialist healthcare abroad. Check whether your destination country can provide the healthcare you may need and ensure you have appropriate travel insurance for unexpected medical evacuation or local treatment. At least 8 weeks before your trip, check the latest country-specific health advice from the National Travel Health Network and Centre (NaTHNaC) on the TravelHealthPro website. Each country-specific page has information on vaccine recommendations, any current health risks or outbreaks, and factsheets with information on staying healthy abroad. Guidance is also available from NHS (Scotland) on the FitForTravel website. General information on travel vaccinations and a travel health checklist is available on the NHS website. You may then wish to contact your health adviser or pharmacy for advice on other preventive measures and managing any pre-existing medical conditions while you're abroad. The legal status and regulation of some medicines prescribed or bought in the UK can be different in other countries. If you're travelling with prescription or over-the-counter medicine, read this guidance from NaTHNaC on best practice when travelling with medicines. For further information on the legal status of a specific medicine, you'll need to contact the embassy, high commission or consulate of the country or territory you're travelling to. While travel can be enjoyable, it can sometimes be challenging. There are clear links between mental and physical health, so looking after yourself during travel and when abroad is important. Information on travelling with mental health conditions is available in our guidance page. Further information is also available from the National Travel Health Network and Centre (NaTHNaC).

		Before you travel check that: • your destination can provide the healthcare you may need • you have appropriate travel insurance for local treatment or unexpected medical evacuation This is particularly important if you have a health condition or are pregnant. Healthcare in Brazil There is no reciprocal National Health Service agreement in Brazil and medical costs must be met by the individual. We strongly recommend you have adequate travel/health insurance that provides coverage overseas and accessible funds to cover the cost of any medical treatment abroad. This should include coverage for repatriation. Foreign nationals are entitled to emergency medical treatment in Brazilian public hospitals. Public hospitals in Brazil, especially in major cities, can be overcrowded and there's often a long wait for a bed and a lack of medication. Private hospitals will not accept you unless you can present evidence of sufficient funds or insurance. If you need emergency medical assistance, dial 192 and ask for an ambulance. You should contact your insurance/medical assistance company promptly if you are referred to a medical facility for treatment. Health risks Problems have been reported with the tap water supply in Rio de Janeiro. To avoid associated health risks, you should use only bottled water. UK health authorities have classified Brazil as having a risk of Zika virus transmission and chikungunya, yellow fever and dengue are present. Cases of dengue fever have increased, especially in the north, south-east and central-west of Brazil and the state of Minas Gerais is on alert due to an increase in dengue, chikungunya and Zika cases. Malaria is present in parts of the country. You should take steps to avoid mosquito bites.
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			For more information and advice, visit the website of the National Travel Health Network and Centre and check the recommendations for vaccination The sun can be extremely strong and UV levels are higher than in the UK. Local medical care Foreign nationals are entitled to emergency medical treatment in Brazilian public hospitals. Public hospitals in Brazil, especially in major cities, tend to be overcrowded and there's often a long wait for a bed and a lack of medication. Private hospitals will not accept you unless you can present evidence of sufficient funds or insurance. Make sure you have adequate travel health insurance and accessible funds to cover the cost of any medical treatment abroad and repatriation. If you need emergency medical assistance during your trip, dial 192 and ask for an ambulance. You should contact your insurance/medical assistance company promptly if you are referred to a medical facility for treatment.
Accommodation		• Pre-book accommodation • Stay in recognised accommodation • Familiarise yourself with emergency exits • Security staff and arrangements • Secure storage/safes	Student mobility students hosted at a partner University will be supported with finding accommodation by the partner. Work placements students are required to find their own accommodation with local support. Suitable accommodation can be difficult to identify and secure, it is recommended that you don't leave it too late to find this. We have had students whose placements have been impacted by being unable to secure suitable accommodation.

Transport		• Use only registered taxis • Arrange airport collection where possible • Check safety and road worthiness of any hire vehicle • Avoid driving at night • If possible, share long distance driving • Ensure all internal transfers are booked in advance of travel (where possible).	Local travel The Brazilian authorities publish useful information about travel to Brazil and specific advice for travel to Rio de Janeiro and travel to São Paulo. Check the integrity and safety standards of any adventure travel companies before you use them. Public transport Public transport is likely to be disrupted during demonstrations or civil unrest. Be vigilant when using public transport, especially during rush-hour as petty crime is common. Generally, the metro systems in Rio and São Paulo are safer than buses. Criminals often work in gangs robbing large numbers of people concentrated in the same place: public transport hubs can be particular hotspots. There have been incidents of hijacking and robbery of tour buses in recent years. Only use licenced taxis. You can pick up a licenced taxi from the many recognised taxi ranks around Brazilian cities. Always check your taxi has the company details on the outside. Taxi apps are also a useful way to call a registered taxi; request your taxi inside if possible to avoid displaying your smartphone on the street. If your app allows this, share your journey with friends or family so they can track you. Be aware that some taxi apps are reliant on GPS and run the risk of entering a more dangerous area of the city, in particular favelas. Most airports have licenced taxi desks inside the baggage reclaim areas. You can pay for your taxi in advance using a credit card or cash inside the airport rather than in the street. Most major cities in Brazil have facilities adapted for disabled travellers, including easy-access public buses and lifts to tube stations and platforms. Road travel You can use your UK driving licence to drive in Brazil for 180 days, but an international driving permit is recommended. After 180 days you need to apply for a Brazilian driving
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		licence. When driving on federal motorways (BR roads) you must turn on your headlights or face a penalty. Always observe the speed limit. Brazil has a high road accident rate. Overall standards of driving are poor. Travellers should be vigilant on the roads and avoid riding bicycles. In many rural areas the quality of roads away from the main highways is poor. Bus and coach crashes are frequent. Brazil has a zero tolerance policy on drink driving and check points are often set up. If you're caught driving under the influence of alcohol, you will be prosecuted. Penalties range from fines and a suspension from driving for 12 months, to imprisonment for up to 3 years. All accidents involving personal injury should be reported immediately to the police by calling 190 or by attending to a police station to file a police report. Medical help can be obtained with the fire and rescue brigade at 193 or with the local emergency services (SAMU) at 192. Call the police on 190 if the vehicles involved are obstructing traffic and you need help. In Rio de Janeiro, go directly to the nearest police station or Tourist Police (DEAT). You can also file a police report using the online service "Delegacia Online". The Military Police has a safety app called 190RJ, which allows you to report incidents and access the latest protective security advice. Read the guidance on what actions you must take to drive legally in Brazil Driving abroad Road travel in Brazil Taking your vehicle out of UK If you're asked for a letter authenticating, certifying or validating your UK driver's licence, you should contact your UK issuing office (eg the DVLA)
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Air travel

Always use recognised national air carriers. There have been accidents involving light aircraft, which sometimes have poor maintenance standards. A list of recent incidents and accidents can be found on the website of the [Aviation Safety Network](#).

We can't offer advice on the safety of individual airlines. However, the International Air Transport Association publishes [list of registered airlines](#) that have been audited and found to meet a number of operational safety standards and recommended practices. This list is not exhaustive and the absence of an airline from this list does not necessarily mean that it is unsafe.

Allow plenty of time to arrive at the airport for your flight. Traffic in the main cities, especially São Paulo and Rio, can be very heavy, particularly during rush hour.

Foreign nationals can travel on domestic flights with a valid photo ID or a police report in case of a lost or stolen passport.

Rail travel

The railway infrastructure is limited and there have been safety and security incidents on this system.

Sea and river travel

Be aware of safety procedures on board vessels and check the location of life jackets, including for children if travelling with them. Boat accidents on the Amazon river are not uncommon.

Southwest river routes in the Amazon & Solimões river basin are commonly used for drug trafficking and by pirates. Both drug traffickers and pirates are likely to be armed and you should avoid travelling by river in this area. If travel is necessary seek the advice of the local authorities and take an escort.

There have been armed and unarmed attacks on merchant vessels, including British flag vessels off the Brazilian coast and in some Brazilian ports.

Communications		- Consider access to landlines or alternative handsets if mobile phone is lost or stolen. - Back-up chargers or batteries for phones or electronic devices - Access to network or wi-fi	Loss of mobile phones or laptops are not covered on the University Insurance policy
Utilities/Cyber Issues		- Compatibility of equipment - Voltages and safety equipment - Power cuts or interruptions	Plug adapters will be required
Insect and animal bites		- Consider likely insect/animal issues in particular area - Avoid by prevention – repellents, clothing, etc. - Consider use of nets in accommodation - Carry appropriate treatment	
Contaminated water/food		- Avoid food or water which could be contaminated. - Carry water sterilising tablets.	Problems have been reported with the tap water supply in Rio de Janeiro. To avoid associated health risks, you should use only bottled water.
Minor injuries and ailments		Carry basic First Aid kit.	
Sunburn		- Avoid by prevention – hat, sunglasses, and sunblock. - Carry appropriate treatment.	
Leisure activities		- Ensure you are adequately insured (the University insurance does <u>not</u> provide cover for non-business related activity) - Skiing, white water, bungee jumping, diving. Etc.	The Warwick Business Travel Insurance will not provide cover for non-business (study) related activity. Ensure you take out personal insurance.

Natural disasters		Assessment of the risk of typhoons, earthquake, tsunami, avalanche, etc	Natural disasters The rainy season runs from November until March in the south and south east (including in Rio de Janeiro) and from April until July in the north east of the country. Heavy rains can often disrupt infrastructure, particularly in rural areas. Flash floods and landslides, especially in poorer urban areas, are common during heavy rains. Monitor local media and follow any instructions given by the local authorities. As a result of extreme flooding and landslides a state of calamity has been declared in the northern coastal areas of São Paulo state in the towns of São Sabastião, Ilhabela, Ubatuba, Guarujá, Caraguatatuba and Bertioga. Extreme caution is advised if travelling to these or other locations on the São Paulo coast, with heavy rain forecast to continue. Check local media and weather advice. Heavy rainfall in Rio de Janeiro (particularly in the summer months of January - March) can lead to landslides and localised flash floods including in tourist areas due to the proximity of the mountains to the coast. Be alert to local authority warnings which are displayed on digital signs in the street and sent to hotels and hostels. Avoid travelling on the road during heavy rain and instead wait for the rain to pass. Cars and buses have been caught in landslides resulting in deaths. If you are outside when the rain starts, avoid walking in flooded areas, and in particular do not cross fast flowing water, however shallow you think it is. People have been drowned when swept away.
Research or work activities		- Awareness of safe systems of work - Awareness of local safety measures - Remoteness of work sites	Will be covered by the Host Institution
Completed by Department:			Student Mobility, STUDENT OPPORTUNITY
Completed by Study Abroad:			Friday, 06 February 2026
			Frequently Asked Questions (warwick.ac.uk)

