

Pokémon Latin America International Championships Travel Guide

<http://www.pokemon.com/us/pokemon-news/brazil-hosts-the-latin-american-international-championships/>

Brazilian Visas

Brazil adopts a policy of reciprocity regarding visas. This means that nationals of countries that require visas for Brazilian citizens will need a visa to travel to Brazil.

To check if you need a visa or not, check the link below:

<http://www.portalconsular.itamaraty.gov.br/images/qgrv/QGRV-simples-ing-08-12-16.pdf>

To get your Brazilian visa, reach your local embassy or consulate.

Transport from and to the Airports

There're two Airports in São Paulo surrounds – Guarulhos International Airport (GRU) and Congonhas Airport (CGH). If you are making a connection flight in other city, you may arrive in CGH.

UBER drivers does not pick passengers in the Airports due taxi drivers conflict, but they can drop you on your trip back home.

There's a special bus line between Airports and venue. It costs around R\$50:

<http://www.airportbusservice.com.br/>

Public transport

From GRU, you can take a bus and get a subway/train network to get to the venue. It's cheaper (less than R\$10), but takes more time to get at the destination. Recommended only for people who are familiar with public transportation in São Paulo.

The Venue

The event will occur at World Trade Center (WTC), the largest business complex of the Latin America:

<http://wtc.com.br/en/>



Most of the restaurants and shops around the venue are closed on weekends and holidays.

Food

The venue will be selling food. Also, there're two shopping malls attached to the WTC – *Shopping D&D* and *Shopping Nações Unidas* – both have a food court with a wide range of prices available.

Note that as April 21 is a national holiday, only *Shopping D&D* will be open on Friday-Sunday from 12PM-7PM.

Nearby Hotels

The following hotels are located near the venue:

- Sheraton WTC
- Gran Estanplaza Berrini
- Hilton
- Meliã
- Wyndham
- Othon
- Transamerica

Cheaper options may be found in other neighborhoods.

São Paulo's Public Transport and Ticketing

Public transport in São Paulo is made by bus, trains and subways. You can reach any part of the city by using any of these.

<http://www.sptrans.com.br/>

Unfortunately, there's no English version of the public transport website.

You can pay the fares in money, right after boarding the bus or before entering the train/bus station. There's also a rechargeable card that costs R\$3,80 with a minimum recharge of R\$5,00. It allows you to get discounts and free rides.

The distance of the ride does not affect the fares.

Mobile Internet and Open Wi-Fi

TIM is a mobile operator that offers a prepaid SIM card for visitors. You can find a TIM store in almost every shopping mall. Make sure to check the bandwidth of your device.

<http://www.tim.com.br/sp/para-voce/atendimento/international-visitors>

Other mobile operators also offer prepaid SIM plans, although there's no specific information for visitors on their websites:

- VIVO
- Claro
- Oi
- Nextel

Open Wi-Fi is rare in Brazil.

Extra Activities

There's an official São Paulo City Tourism site (PTBR only):

<http://www.cidadedesapaulo.com/sp/>

Some guides, handbooks and maps can be found at (Portuguese, English and Spanish):

<http://cidadedesapaulo.com/download/>

Other Information

Remember - April 21 will be a national holiday, so many restaurants and shops around the venue will be closed during the event.

The official language in Brazil is Portuguese and most Brazilians do not speak a second language.

The official currency is Brazilian Real (BRL). Check the link below for exchange rates and information:

<http://www.xe.com/currency/brl-brazilian-real>

There are two series of banknotes and coins. Check the links below to learn more and recognize them:

<http://www.bcb.gov.br/en/#!/n/COINS>

<http://www.bcb.gov.br/en/#!/n/REALBANKNOTES>

There's no 1 cent coin, so it's very common to round up/down to the nearest 5 cents when paying with banknotes/coins – (R\$9,99 to R\$10,00 or R\$6,53 to R\$6,55) – unless you're paying with credit/debit card.

Tax is **included** in price tags when purchasing anything. Brazilians usually don't tip. Instead, on restaurants there's an **optional** 10% addition to be paid as "service fee" (this does not apply on fast food restaurants). If you don't want to pay, just let the staff know. Taxi drivers and hotel staff does not expect tips, but they will accept if offered.

Temperature in São Paulo can vary a lot. It's worth to check the forecast before traveling into.

Brazil uses an exclusive power plug - type N. Make sure to bring an adapter. A type C power plug also works on the socket. São Paulo voltage is 127V/60Hz, but there's also 220V/60Hz on the hotel rooms. Check with the hotel staff before charging your devices.

Brazilian laws prohibit smoking in enclosed public areas like buses, trains, hotel halls and restaurants, except for specifically designed areas. The drinking age is 18 and it is legal and socially acceptable to drink alcohol in public areas.

Although Brazil received a lot of bad press about the violence and high crime rate, the country is usually safe for tourist. Just stay alert at your surrounds and avoid using your electronic devices on the streets. The venue neighborhood has a low crime rate compared to the rest of the city.