

Brazilian Carnival

Carnaval do Brasil



Brazilian Culture

Brazil is often referred to as a 'cultural melting pot'.
What do you think this means?

This means that there is a very diverse population in Brazil with people originating from lots of different countries and cultures.

In the 1500s, many Portuguese people settled in Brazil along with Native Brazilian Indians and a large African population.

Even though Brazil is no longer under Portuguese rule, nearly all Brazilians speak Portuguese as their main language. The Brazilian accent is influenced by African, European and American words and dialects, so it is often seen as softer and more musical than typical Portuguese.

What Is Carnival?

Carnival (*or Carnaval do Brasil*) is a festival that occurs before **Lent** which is usually around February.

It is one of the most well-known carnivals in the world and takes place over 3-4 days in cities all across Brazil.

It involves large parades, costumes, masks and lots of singing and dancing.

Lent

The six weeks leading up to Easter, where people prepare by fasting or giving up something that they enjoy to reflect on Jesus' sacrifices.

Why Is Carnival So Important in Brazil?

Carnival in Brazil is not just a fun celebration, but a chance to experience the wonderful culture of this country.

Carnival sums up the Brazilian way of life and their way of thinking.

There are many parties, which take place throughout the day and during the night, which celebrate the songs, music and dances that are typical of Brazilian culture.



Most of the music played at carnival is samba music. It is a unique style of music and dance that originated in Rio.

What Happens During Carnival?

Carnival begins on the Friday before **Ash Wednesday** and continues up to and including this day.

There are lots of street parties with lots of carnival floats, dancers, singers and musicians.

People dress up in colourful, vibrant costumes and often wear fancy masks.



Where Is the Largest Celebration?

The largest and most famous celebration takes place in Rio de Janeiro. It is sometimes called the Samba Parade.

The 'Sambódromo' is an avenue that was specially made to host Carnival in Rio. Every year, thousands of people go to this area to celebrate carnival including over 500,000 foreign visitors!



Create a Mood Board based on Brazil

Examples of mood boards:



