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Ola, Rio de Janeiro!

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About Rio de Janeiro

Rio de Janeiro is a city in Brazil, which is in South America.
Rio is in the east, where the land meets the sea.

Rio is not the capital city. It's not the biggest city.
However, it is the most popular city for foreign visitors.





Rio de Janeiro, usually just called Rio, is a popular travel spot.

The city is known for its beauty. On one side are mountains with thick, green **forests**. On the other side are pretty white **beaches** and the sea.



Brazil is in the southern part of the world. Summer and winter are different in the south. When it's winter in the northern part of the world, it's summer in the south. Summer in Rio is from December to March.

The city is hot in summer, with frequent, short rains. The temperature is warm the rest of the year.

A Short History of Rio

Small groups of people lived in Brazil for centuries.

Then 500 years ago, people came from Portugal. These settlers soon ruled the land and started building cities. Rio was one of those cities.



Did You Know?

Brazil has a lot in common with Portugal. The main language in both countries is Portuguese. Some buildings show the Portuguese **influence**.

More Portuguese people settled in Brazil. They planted large fields to grow **sugar**. Sugar had great value in those times. Brazil sold sugar to other countries. Rio became an important city.

Then people found gold in Brazil. More **settlers** moved there.



These sticks of sugarcane were cut to be sold at market.

In 1822, Brazil declared its freedom from Portugal. Rio was the capital of the new country. That lasted until 1960.

The city continued to grow. Most new citizens were poor people from other parts of the country.



Today Rio is a crowded city with over 6 million people.