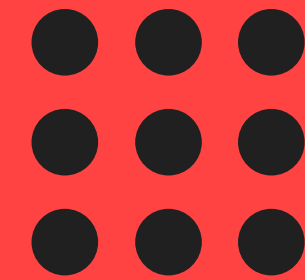




WELCOME TO UPE

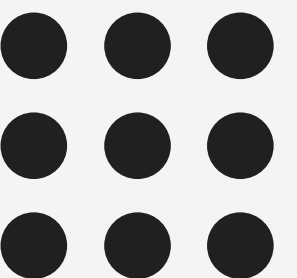
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT GUIDE





WELCOME


This pre-arrival and orientation guide has been produced for students who are coming to study at UPE from outside Brazil. It provides practical guidance on coming to live and study at this institution and information on some of the University's central support services. Its intention is to complement other sources of guidance you are likely to have.



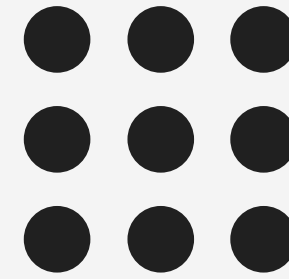


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ABOUT UPE



The University of Pernambuco is a multicampus state public university located in the state of Pernambuco, Brazil. It currently has 15 campuses around the state area, and about 18,000 students in total. The university currently offers 64 undergraduate, 18 master's, 5 doctoral and 109 Lato Sensu postgraduate courses. Every year nearly 2,000 places in UPE's undergraduate courses are offered at the National High School Exam (Enem) and the Serial Evaluation System (SSA). The competition is about 7 candidates per vacancy, in general. UPE is well evaluated in the national university rankings, having several courses among the best in Brazil. In addition, it is the best North-Northeast state university in terms of research and internationalization, according to the 2017 Folha de S. Paulo ranking.



DISCOVERING BRAZIL

Brazil, officially the Federative Republic of Brazil, is the largest country in both South America and Latin America. At 8.5 million square kilometers and over 208 million people, Brazil is the world's fifth-largest country by area and the fifth most populous. Its capital is Brasília, and its most populated city is São Paulo. The federation is composed of the union of the 26 states, the Federal District, and the 5,570 municipalities. It is the largest country to have Portuguese as an official language and the only one in the Americas; it is also one of the most multicultural and ethnically diverse nations, due to over a century of mass immigration from around the world.



DISCOVERING PERNAMBUCO

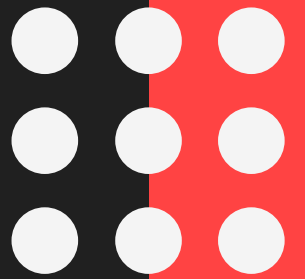
Pernambuco is a state of Brazil, located in the Northeast region of the country. The state of Pernambuco also includes the archipelago Fernando de Noronha. With an estimated population of 9.2 million people in 2013, it is the seventh most populous state of Brazil, and is the sixth most densely populated and the 19th most extensive among the states and territories of the country. Its capital and largest city, Recife, is one of the most important economic and urban hubs in the country. As of 2013 estimates, Recife's metropolitan area is the fifth most populous in the country, and the largest urban agglomeration in Northeast Brazil.



DISCOVERING RECIFE

Recife was founded in 1537, during the early Portuguese colonization of Brazil, as the main harbor of the Captaincy of Pernambuco, known for its large scale production of sugar cane. The city is located at the confluence of the Beberibe and Capibaribe rivers before they flow into the South Atlantic Ocean. It is a major port on the Atlantic. Its name is an allusion to the stone reefs that are present by the city's shores. The many rivers, small islands and over 50 bridges found in Recife city centre characterise its geography and led to the city being called the "Brazilian Venice". As of 2010, it is the capital city with the highest HDI in Northeast Brazil and second highest HDI in the entire North and Northeast Brazil.

STARTING YOUR STUDENT LIFE IN RECIFE



CPF

In Brazil tourists and other non-resident foreigners and even foreigners who are domiciled overseas are eligible for a CPF, which stands for Cadastro de Pessoa Física (Physical Person Registration). Whoever wants to participate in the official economy will need a unique CPF number which identifies them and their documents in a variety of contexts including banking, credit applications, some purchases, activating a cellphone, renting an apartment, or any other transaction in which someone would engage if intended to stay in a country for more than a month. The process for foreigners to obtain a CPF is different from that for Brazilians. The process is simple and is explained on their official website:

<http://www.receita.fazenda.gov.br/Aplicacoes/ATCTA/CpfEstrangeiro/fcpf>.

STUDENT CARD

A Brazilian student card allows you to get 50% discounts at cinemas, theaters, sporting events, musical concerts and others.

You may get your student card at the school you are attending, at the beginning of the semester or at institutions like UNE (National Union of Students) at any time of your student year. Prices and some documents needed for getting the student card may differ depending on the institution you're getting it from. You can require your UNE student card at this link below:

<https://www.documentodoestudante.com.br/>

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Recife, as many other big city, has some traffic issues. Depending on the time of the day you may encounter several roads jammed, so you'd better schedule your appointments with that in mind. However, we do have an efficient public transportation.

Currently, the bus fare costs from R\$2.25 to R\$4,70 depending on your destination. The subway fare costs R\$2,60.

After getting your CPF number you are entitled to buy a VEM card, which provides a discount to students.

More on:

http://vemgranderecife.com.br/?page_id=163

SUS CARD - HEALTH

Any legal citizens, including foreign residents, are entitled to free healthcare at a public clinic or hospital by producing an RG (Brazilian identification card) and an SUS card (Cartão SUS).

Brazil's Unified Health System (Sistema Único de Saúde) is normally known simply as SUS. This is a collective term for the public, private, and supplemental healthcare systems. To access any of these, an SUS card (Cartão Nacional de Saúde - SUS) is needed.

How to apply for a SUS card:

SUS cards are issued by all Brazilian municipal offices , hospitals, clinics, and health centers. They can also be pre-ordered online. The SUS card is issued free of charge. The following documents are required to obtain an SUS card: 1, A Brazilian identity card or birth certificate. The identity card may be called a cartão/carteira de identidade, a cédula de identidade, or 'RG' (General Registry, Registro Geral) depending on the Brazilian state of residence. 2, Proof of residence 3, Cadastro de Pessoa Física - CPF 3, Marriage certificate or divorce certificate (where applicable) For more information on the SUS card visit the Ministry of Health website (in Portuguese)

SECURITY MATTERS

Here are some safety tips you should follow for a better experience in the city.

- When you open your wallet in public, avoid exposing large amount of money;
- Do not use your cellphone while walking down the streets, specially in areas you are not familiarized with.
- Do not carry large amounts of money in shoulder bags or wallets. Take only small sums of the country currency to the daily expenses;
- Leave your passport where you are hosted and walk only with a copy of it;
- Most theft occurs in places where there is a high concentration of people, such as markets, subway stations, bus stations, and crowded buses.
- Avoid walking around uninhabited places or neighborhoods identified as dangerous by the local population;
- Be wary of people approaching you to offer a clandestine taxi at an airport or any other location;
- If you go to the beach, do not leave your objects in the sand as you enter the water;

USEFUL NUMBERS

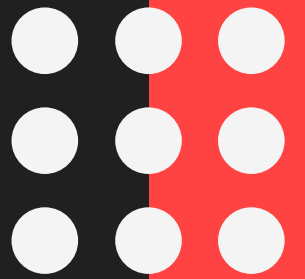
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CULTURAL MATTERS



Brazilians are typically open and friendly people, and this is reflected in their behaviour when dealing with others. When having a conversation with a Brazilian, expect them to be animated and engaged. Interruptions and interjections when someone else is speaking are not necessarily considered rude, as they demonstrate that you are engaged in what is being said.

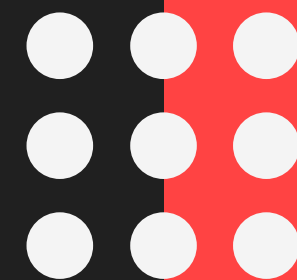
Bear in mind that physical contact and close proximity are both common, and that you will be expected to maintain good eye contact whilst speaking to someone.

Family is a very important part of Brazilian culture, and many smaller to medium sized companies are likely to be family owned and operated.

Music and dance are very important in Brazil, and Brazilians are generally very proud of their musical heritage. Few events in Brazil encapsulate the country's culture more than the famous Carnival, a very popular annual festival which takes place to mark the beginning of lent each year. Exact customs vary from region to region across the country, but samba dancing and exuberant colourful parades in the streets are common in the larger cities.

The majority religion of Brazil is Christianity, with around 60% of the population identifying themselves as Catholic, and a further 20% identifying as protestant. Being a diverse country, there are also a range of other minority religions throughout.

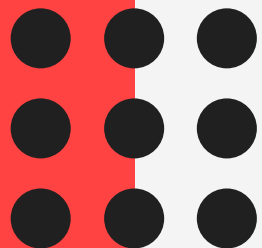
PLACES TO VISIT IN RECIFE





Recommended Links

Useful weblinks suggesting cultural attractions and touristic places to visit while in Recife.



LONELY PLANET

<https://www.lonelyplanet.com/brazil/recife/top-things-to-do/a/poi/363209>

TRIP SAVVY

<https://www.tripsavvy.com/top-things-to-do-in-recife-1635203>

CULTURE TRIP

<https://theculturetrip.com/south-america/brazil/articles/the-top-10-things-to-see-and-do-in-recife-brazil/>

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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**Get In Touch
With Us**

