



STUDY & VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

MACEIO, BRAZIL

PROGRAMS START EVERY MONDAY



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This Study & Volunteer program combines minimum 4 week Standard Group study program and minimum 4 week volunteer placement in the community for a total of 8 weeks minimum. All opportunities will work in partnership with local people in a variety of community-based projects. This unique program offers exciting hands-on volunteering opportunities, meaningful cultural immersion, and an enriching language program.



CITY AND COUNTRY INFO

Maceio is the capital of the state of Alagoas, in northeastern Brazil, with a population of approximately 325,000 people. It is situated below low bluffs between the Atlantic Ocean and the Norte (or Mundaú) Lagoon. Formerly called Macayo, the city dates from 1815, when a small settlement there was made a villa. In 1839 it became capital of Alagoas and was given city status. Though much of the colonial buildings are gone, giving way to modern architecture, there still remains the Government Palace, the Metropolitan Cathedral, and the Church of Bom Jesús dos Mártires.

Maceio has an outdoor market of local crafts ranging from dresses and t-shirts to handmade jewelry and hammocks. Many unique gifts can be found to take back to loved ones. The city offers a number of bars and discotheques, both on the beach and in the city, with live music or recorded Brazilian music playing. The cinema in Maceio has current Portuguese language films made in Brazil and abroad. The city also offers a wide range of annual events and the most famous are the street parties such as Maceio Fest (an out-of-season carnival in November) and, of course, the traditional Carnival in February.

HIGHLIGHTS OF PROGRAM

After participating in this Study & Volunteer Program in Maceio, students will gain experience in foreign poverty and need first hand while helping others in severe need, greatly improve foreign language abilities, gain personal growth and confidence both nationally and internationally through service, and combine travel, academics, and community service into one incredible life-changing experience.

What's Included

- **Tuition and Class Materials:** 4 week minimum-Group 20 Portuguese 50 minute lessons per week.
- **Volunteer Placement:** in local organization
- **Lodging:** In a Homestay and apartment
- **Meals:** Breakfast and Dinner in homestay
- **Placement Testing**
- **1-2 Organized Activities Weekly***
* Entrance fees, transportation, etc. may be at additional cost.
- **Access to E-mail**
- **Access to Multimedia Learning Center**
- **Certificate of Completion**
- **Pre-Departure Information**
- **Planning Guide**
- **Medical, Accident and Sickness Coverage ****
** See policy for definitions and exclusions.
- **Medivac Coverage**
- **Other Travel Coverage:** repatriation, baggage, personal effects, accidental death and dismemberment , etc.
- **24 Hour Emergency Multilingual Hotline:** call collect from anywhere in the world

FULL PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

STUDY PROGRAM

The Study Program of a minimum of 4 weeks includes 20 hours per week of Group Portuguese classes. Maximum number of students per class is 5, with the average being 2 students. Groups are organized in a way that each will always consist of students possessing the same level of Portuguese.

The method is based on the 4 language skills: listening, grammar, oral and written comprehension. No English will be used in class.

Classes are 50 minutes in length. Students may enroll for as many weeks as desired. In order to make sufficient progress and gain the maximum benefit from the course, the following program duration ranges are recommended: Beginner (4-12 weeks), Intermediate (2-12 weeks) and advanced (2-12 weeks).

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

During the minimum 4 week Volunteer program, the students will volunteer with different organizations and projects. There are several different projects students can choose to work on. Projects include the following:

- Lar da Menina
 - Works as a shelter for at-risk girls who spend the whole week there.
- Casa de adocao rubens colaco
 - An orphanage in Maceio for children sent by the State Department of Children and Juveniles.
- Sociedade eunice weaver
 - Works with at-risk girls left in their care during the week.
- Lar Sementes Do Amanha
 - Assists boys from 5 to 14 years old.
- Adefal
 - Works with handicapped kids, teenagers and adults.
- Lar Sao Francisco de Assis
 - Cares for about 70 senior citizens

LODGING

Students in this program stay with a homestay during their weeks of classes and then in a shared apartment during their weeks of volunteering.

HOMESTAY

Host families are the most frequently chosen housing option. The institute ensures that each family offers a quality living situation and respects each student's wishes as much as possible in the family selection.

The host families themselves are experienced and enthusiastic participants in the student's life. When it comes to immersion into life, language, etc., living with a host family is by far the most intense. It truly is an experience not to be passed up.

SHARED APARTMENT

Fully furnished apartments with one up to three bedrooms, convenient located, within walking distance from the school and across the beach. Students will possibly sharing a room depending on availability.

PRICE

Cost of minimum 4 week of classes, 4 week volunteer with 8 weeks of lodging is about:

\$2,932

ELIGIBILITY AND GUIDELINES

U.S. citizens traveling on regular passports for tourism or business do not need a visa for a stay of 90 days or less. Those planning a longer visit must obtain a visa in advance.

Minimum age of 18 unless accompanied by an adult. Volunteer positions on a space available basis. These are unpaid positions and there is a limited number of positions every month.

ACTIVITIES AND EXCURSIONS

Every week there are organized activities and excursions such as:

- Café Regional: Typical evening meal and (some!) participate in karaoke
- Ritmos Nordestinos: See a show of Northeastern Brazilian rhythms and dances in a historic setting.
- Futebol: Watch a Brazilian Major Soccer League match by night.
- Capoeira: Visit a Capoeira school to learn about this Brazilian martial art.
- Passeio das 9 ilhas: Boat ride along Lagoa Mundau, with stops to visit some of its islands.
- União dos Palmares: Visit to Quilombo dos Palmares, one of the biggest colonies of runaway slaves.
- Excursions are on the weekends, once every two weeks, in and around the cities of Maceio and Sao Paulo.

**Some at an additional cost

HOW TO REGISTER

To register for the STUDY & VOLUNTEER PROGRAM in Maceio, either follow the link below or call 1-888-678-6211.

<http://www.nrcsa.com/reg/on-line/regform.html>

When you register, \$140 USD is due to secure your place in the program.