



Embratur

## 5a. At Home in Rio with Cristina

Come and meet two children who live in different parts of the country. See how their lives are similar and different to yours.

### At Home in Rio de Janeiro

With Maria Cristina Pereira Campos, aged 9

This locality study is based around the life of Cristina and her family who live in Rio de Janeiro in Brazil. Cristina is nine years old and lives with her mother, father, her four sisters and one brother.

### 1. Meet the Campos Family

Here is the Campos extended family sitting down to a meal in their flat. Nine-year-old Cristina is sitting at the far end of the table below.

The Campos family lives in an apartment or flat in a residential area of Rio.



BREAKFAST

**Rua Antonio Basílio 225**  
**Apartamento 702**  
**Tijuca**  
**20511-170 Rio de Janeiro - RJ**



If you look at the address above, it tells you the following:

The name of the road (rua) that Cristina lives on:  
Rua Antonio Basilio

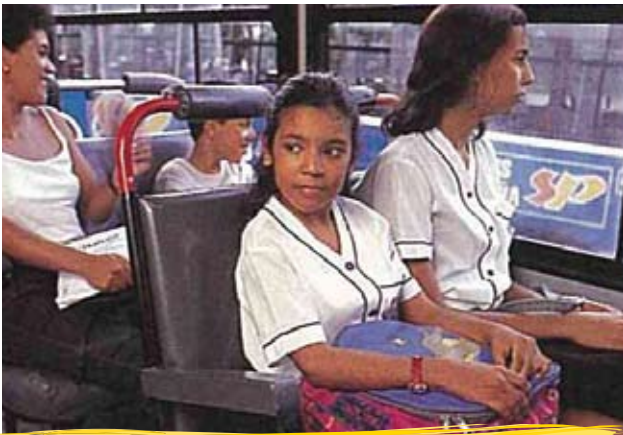
The number of the block of flats where she lives: 225

The number of her flat: 702

Tijuca is the name of one of the residential districts of Rio.

Many Brazilian people live in blocks of flats in the cities. Cristina's family live in a pleasant four-bedroom flat.

Cristina's day starts early. She gets up at 5am to catch the bus to school at 6am with her sister Clarissa. At school, lessons last from 7am to 12 noon. She and Clarissa get home about 2pm and have lunch. Cristina's school is called Colégio Pedro II, after the last emperor of Brazil. It is a very good school so it is worth the long journey by bus across the city. It is in Humaitá, in the south of Rio de Janeiro.



IN THE BUS

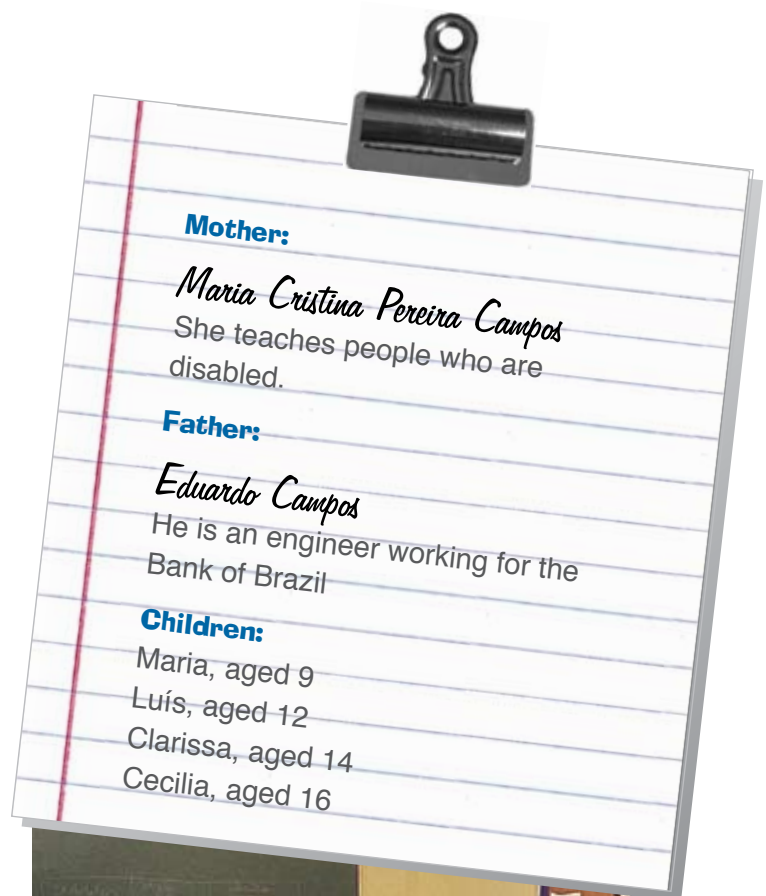
What does Cristina Study at School?

- Mathematics
- Science
- Portuguese
- Literature
- Geography and History
- Computing
- Art
- Gymnastics

After lunch Cristina does her homework and then plays games and listens to music in her room. In the evening she usually watches her favourite television programmes.

The Campos do not have a garden so they like to go for walks in the parks and woodlands around Rio de Janeiro. They sometimes take a bus to Leblon beach, one of the city's many beautiful beaches

The district of Tijuca has all kinds of shops, like the ones you would find in any city suburb. At the weekend, for special shopping trips or to visit



CRISTINA IN SCHOOL



FEIJOADA

Rio de Janeiro's old buildings, they can catch the Metrô underground train to the city centre. Just as in the UK, the Campos may have a special family meal at the weekends. Brazil is a large country, so people living in different places eat different kinds of food. A popular dish in the South-East around Rio is 'feijoada'. This is a stew made of black beans and pork, served with rice, kale (a kind of cabbage) and manioc flour.

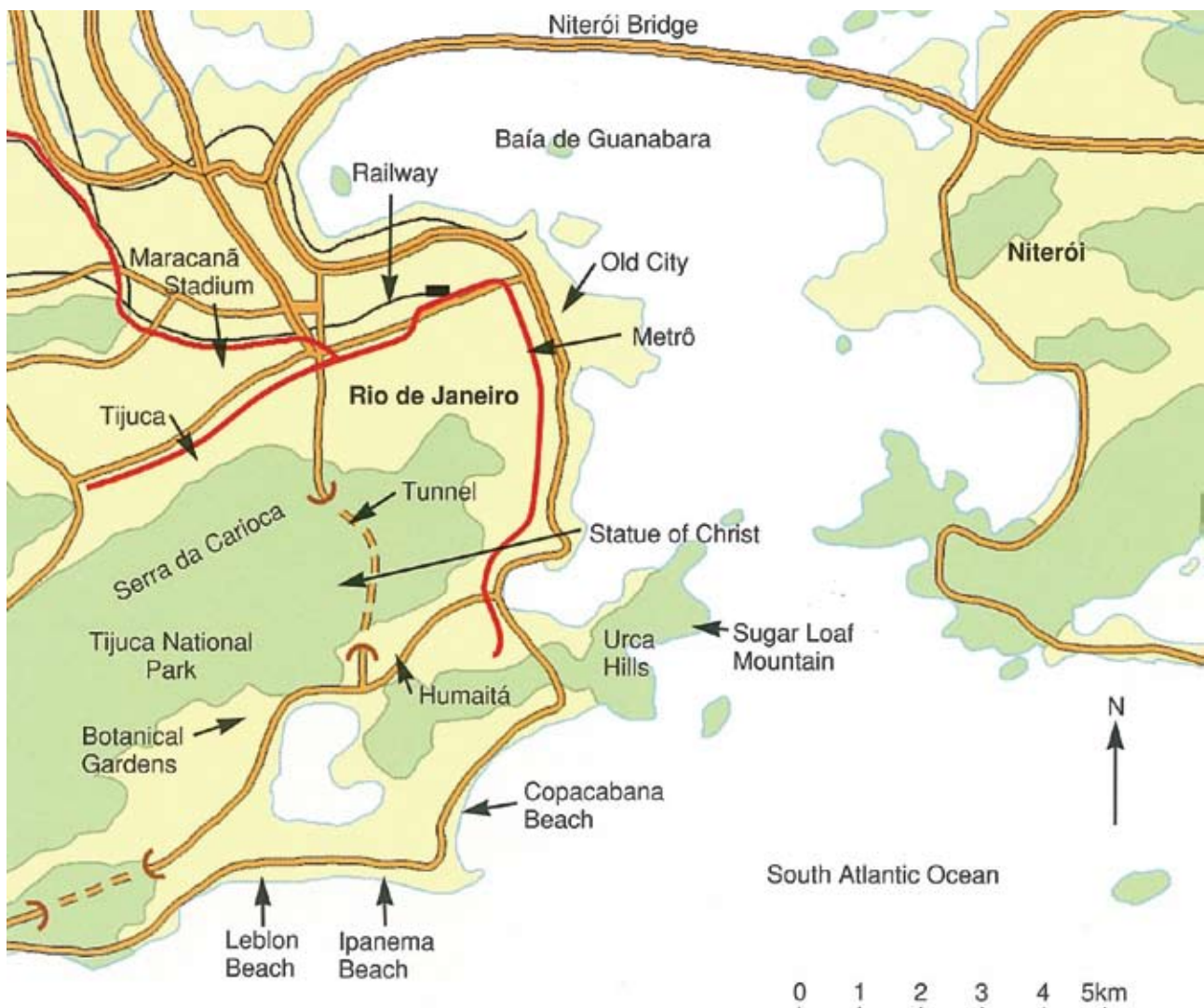
## 2. Rio de Janeiro on the map

When you have found Rio de Janeiro on the map you will see that it stands on the shores of a large bay – the Baía de Guanabara. The old town centre is at the entrance to the bay. The tourist beaches are on the coast of the Atlantic Ocean – Ipanema, Copacabana and Leblon. The city is surrounded by ranges, or 'serras', of hills and mountains. Rivers flow from them into the bay. The main part of the city is on the west side of the bay. A bridge across the bay joins Rio to Niterói, on the east side. Roads and railways run round the bay. They join other smaller towns, like Petrópolis, to Rio de Janeiro.

## 3. Getting about in Rio de Janeiro

The map and photos on the next page show many of Rio de Janeiro's famous landmarks and some of the places that Cristina visits. Tijuca, where she lives, is on the west of the map.

Can you see that tree-covered hills are found right in the centre of and all around the city? They are not built on because they are so steep. In some places roads go right through them in tunnels. One tunnel links Tijuca to Humaitá.



The city has a Metrô underground system which joins different parts of the city.

The international airport, which links the city to other countries like the UK, is on the outskirts of the city on an island in the bay.



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**RIO AND THE GUANABARA BAY**



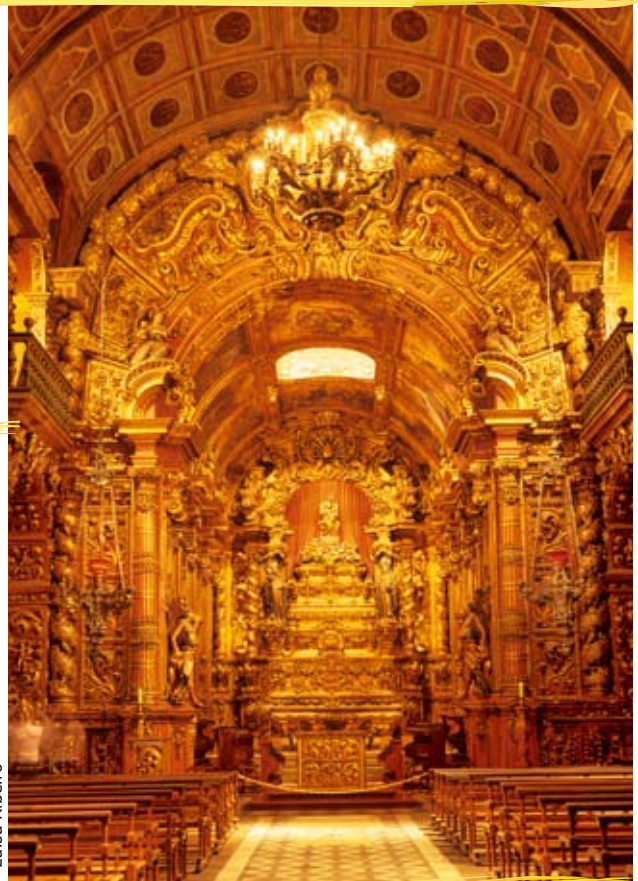
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**RIO IS A HUGE CITY!**



Luisa Ribeiro

**HEAVY TRAFFIC**



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**MONASTERY IN CENTRAL RIO**

## 4. From Cristina's window

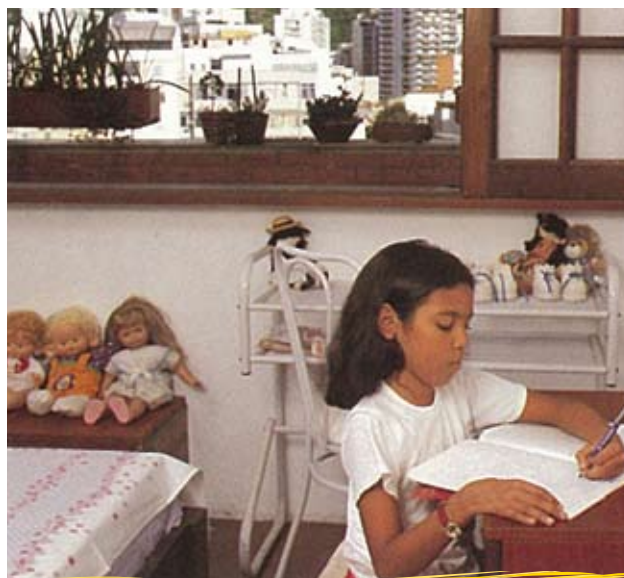
Cristina has her homework to complete. She has a desk in her room where she can work. The weather in Rio is warm on most days so she can leave her window open because Rio has a tropical climate.

The summer starts in December and temperatures may rise to over 40°C. No wonder people like to visit the beach! However, storms and sea breezes can help to cool the air. Average temperatures are between 23°C and 35°C. Winters are cooler and damp, but it is never cold. Further inland, where the land is higher above sea level, nights can be frosty in the cooler season.

Look out through Cristina's window on the right. You can just see the steep wooded hillsides that come close to her home. These are the lower slopes of the hills on which is one of Rio's most famous landmarks – the Statue of Christ the Redeemer, on Corcovado mountain – is situated.

You can reach the statue by a narrow winding road or on a train from Corcovado railway station. Corcovado's peak is 710 metres above sea level and the statue is another 30m high.

The view from here over Rio is one of the most famous in the world. The statue of Christ and the view from it are just two of the many sights tourists and Brazilians come to see in Rio. Other popular tourist attractions include the Copacabana and Ipanema beaches, Tijuca Forest and the Maracanã stadium.



**HOMEWORK**



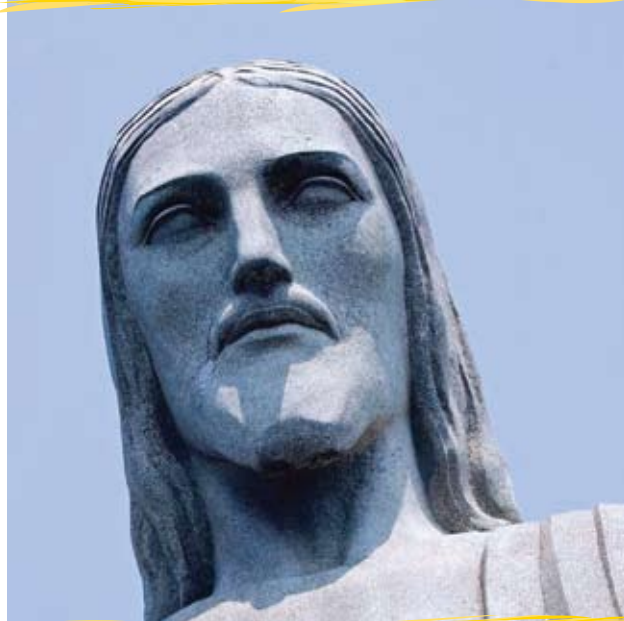
Sara Tomlinson

**FUN ON THE BEACH IN SUMMER**



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**CABLE CAR TO THE TOP**



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**CHRIST THE REDEEMER**



Érika Tamboke

**FAVELA**

The pictures show how Rio de Janeiro is made up of bays, beaches, woods and steep rocky hillsides. There are old crowded streets and wide modern roads, old and new buildings, tall modern apartment blocks on the flatter ground and poorer housing, or “favelas”, on the slopes. See them in the photograph.



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**TWO LIFESTYLES**



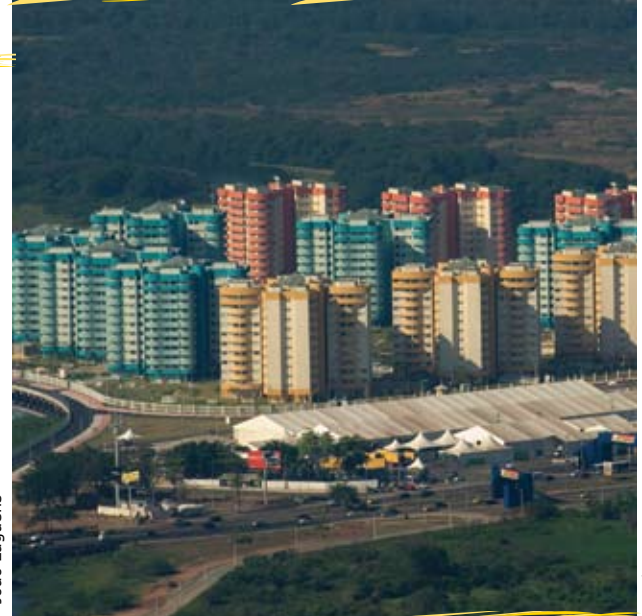
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**ONE OF RIO'S RESIDENTIAL AREAS**



João Laguens

**FAVELA AND MODERN APARTMENTS CLOSE TOGETHER**



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**PAN AMERICAN GAMES VILLA**

## 5. Cristina's History Project

At school Cristina's favourite subject is mathematics. She likes ICT and is lucky enough to have a computer at home. She also enjoyed doing her project on the history of Rio de Janeiro. She especially liked using the internet to collect information about Rio in the past. With her family she visited the old buildings and museums to see for herself what her own city used to be like.

Rio is changing so quickly as new buildings are built. Some of them, like the Riocentro and the Barra shopping mall 15 kilometres down the coast, are on the edge of town. Some are in the town centre, where old buildings have been knocked down to make way for new ones. It is now almost impossible to imagine what it was like back in 1500, before Rio existed. Here are some of the things that Cristina discovered to help her imagine what Rio used to be like.

In 1502 a party of explorers from Portugal, led by André Gonçalves and an Italian called Amerigo Vespucci, were the first people from Europe to see the coast where Rio now stands.



PORTUGUESE EXPLORERS ARRIVE



NEW BUILDING DEVELOPMENTS



KIOSK AT COPACABANA BEACH



BEAUTIFUL OLD BUILDING - NATIONAL LIBRARY

Nelson Lafraia

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What did they see?

Well, they saw no sign of people, although there were Indians of the Tupi tribe living in the area. From their ship, all they could see were hills covered in forests rising up steeply from the Atlantic Ocean. In places the hills rose straight up in steep cliffs. In others they were separated by long sandy beaches, onto which the Atlantic surf crashed.

In one place, however, there was what they thought was a sheltered river mouth. Because they found it on January 1 1502, they called it Rio de Janeiro — river of January. They did not know it was really a large bay which the Indians called Guanabara, or ‘arm of the sea’.

A little town began to grow on the shores of the sheltered bay. Cristina found this old picture of Rio in 1623. Notice the forts at the mouth of the bay and churches on hilltops. By looking at a modern photograph Cristina could see that the town had been built where the historic centre of Rio is today, on the flat ground between some low hills.

Like many Brazilian towns along the coast, Rio sent Brazilwood and sugar cane back to Europe. Then, in the eighteenth century, gold was found inland from Rio and as more people came to search for it the town became more important. Later, coffee was grown on the hills behind Rio. Nowadays coffee is grown further inland. Rio became the capital of Brazil in 1763. It was the capital until 1960. In that year the new city of Brasília, which is nearer the centre of the country, was made capital.

Many of the buildings in the historic town centre date from the time when Rio was the capital and the home of the royal family. Many of them are now open to visitors and tourists. Although Rio is no longer the capital city, and São Paulo is bigger, many Brazilians still think of it as the centre of Brazilian life. Certainly Cristina and her friends think it is an exciting and beautiful place to live.



## 6. Cristina's family weekend

Rio is a big city and is the capital of the state of Rio de Janeiro. Here are some facts about it.

Area, 1,171 square kilometres. Population, 6,500,000 The state of Rio de Janeiro has a population of 13,406,000; 12,806,000 of whom live in Rio and the other towns. You can see that very few people live in the countryside.

If you could spend a few days there with the Campos family, here are some of things you could visit or do. Many of them are marked on the map of Rio opposite. You could use the map to help you decide how to get to the places you would like to visit.

Copacabana, Leblon and Ipanema beaches are perhaps the most famous beaches in the world. Together they have eight kilometres of white sand. The waves provide good conditions for surfing. Close to the beaches are outdoor cafés, shops, boutiques and hotels. Visitors, as well as the 'cariocas' (people who were born in Rio de Janeiro city), love to stroll along the promenade in the sunshine, or at night under the bright lights.

Tijuca Forest covers a huge area which comes right into the heart of Rio. You can drive through its lush tropical forest. Because of the climate, the forest is nearly always green with exotic plants. Some of them are like the ones used as house plants in the UK.

These Atlantic Coast rainforests once covered most of the coastal mountains of South-East Brazil, but may have since been cleared for farming and timber.

Now, because they contain many rare plants and animals, they are to be protected by the government, with support from international organisations and foreign governments.

The Maracanã stadium lies just north of Cristina's home. It is one of the world's largest stadium.



RIO'S CITY CENTRE MAP



IPANEMA AND LEBLON - RIO'S FAMOUS BEACHES

Embratur



José Medeiros

TROPICAL BIRDS



José Medeiros

MACAW



Nelson Lafraia

RIO SKYLINE



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ORCHID

Many events if the Pan American Games, which Rio hosted in 2007, were held there.

On Sundays whole families go to watch their favourite soccer team play. At other times you might see a concert. — 180,000 people once came to the stadium to see Paul McCartney perform.

The historic centre of Rio is down by the bay.

Here are some of the oldest and most important buildings in Rio.

They stand where the first settlements were built in the sixteenth century. Since then, the city has grown up around them.

Petropolis is two hours drive inland from Rio. It is a mountain resort where the royal family used to spend summer in their palace, where it was cooler than on the coast.



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STROLLING ALONG THE PROMENADE



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**MARACANA STADIUM**



**OLD SCHOOL IN RIO**



**TEA HOUSE IN RIO**



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**CANDELARIA CHURCH**



**RIOCENTRO**

In the Imperial Museum in Petropólis you can see the crowns, jewels and furniture that once belonged to the royal family. Brazil had an emperor until 1889. Since then it has been a republic with an elected president.

The Nelson Piquet International Racing Circuit is about 15 kilometres west of the city centre. Brazilians are almost as interested in motor racing as they are in football and every year a Grand Prix is held in Brazil in São Paulo.

Close to the racing circuit is a massive conference centre called Riocentro. In 1992 the Rio Summit on the environment was held there, attended by 122 heads of state from all over the world. It has car parking space for over 5,000 cars — no wonder a large flat site was chosen for it! Around the edges of the marshy land are some of Rio's newest suburbs.

The carnival takes place every year in February or March. Remember that this is summertime in Rio so the cariocas can dance and parade in the streets in wonderful costumes. The samba schools practise their dancing and parades all year, so you could see carnival at any time.



**CARNIVAL**

Embratur

Erika Tambke



**CARNIVAL**

Erika Tambke



**PREPARING FOR CARNIVAL**

Erika Tambke