

# **7a. Living in Brasilia**

Explore the wonderful city of Brasilia with its modern designs.

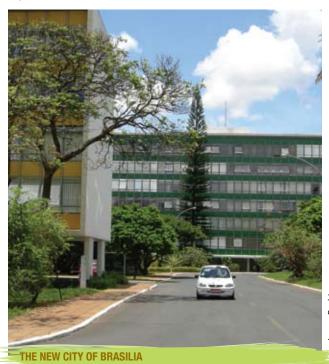
#### 7.1 Where is Brasilia?

Brasília is situated away from the coast in the Central West region of the country. The government decided to create a new capital city away from the coast and near the centre of the country. The site was like a desert area with very little growth – few animals or plants, and no people. Look at the map to see its position in relation to the other major cities.

#### 7.2 How was Brasilia established?

The name Brasília was decided in 1823 when José Bonifácio, a famous Brazilian statesman, proposed that a new capital city be built and named Brasília. But it took 99 years before the foundation stone was laid in 1922 and a further thirty-four years before construction actually started in 1956. However, it then only took four years before the city was inaugurated in 1960.

The best architects in Brazil were invited to compete to produce the design for the city. The winner was Oscar Niemeyer and his design produced a modern city. He then worked with Lúcio Costa, a famous city planner, to produce this imaginative city.



Laura Barb



WWW.BRAZIL.ORG.UK/BRAZILINBRIEF/LAND.HTML



THE MODERN CATHEDRAL

#### What does Brasilia look like?

The city was planned for around 50,000 people but its population has now risen to over 2 million. It has a very modern design and its roads were planned to ensure the smooth running of transport through the city. Look at the photograph gallery below.

### SEE THESE LINKS!

Use this link to view the photographs of Brasilia:

http://www.geocities.com/
TheTropics/3416/minis\_i.htm



## **Photo Gallery**



memorial to original workers



cathedral at night



inside the cathedral



Central Bank building

