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ALTOS DE SANTA TERESA

CATEGORIES: Budget, Hotels

Make a Call: +552125525824

Visit Website: http://altosdesantateresa.com.br/index.html

Get Directions: R. Alm. Alexandrino, 3476 - Santa Teresa, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20241-260, Brazil

Rua Almirante Alexandrino, 3476 | Santa Teresa

Altos de Santa Teresa is a hostel with a home feel. Perched on a hill overlooking Guanabara Bay and the Downtown area, you can enjoy the views, the atmosphere, the colorful breakfast and the swimming pool. Many of the hotels in the area are quite fancy, so Altos de Santa Teresa offers the same kind of style on a lower price range.

BRIGITE'S

CATEGORIES: Casual Dining, Drinking, Eating, Restobar

Make a Call: +552122745590

Visit Website: https://www.facebook.com/Brigites-402289946464341

Get Directions: Cond Edifício Dias Ferreira - Rua Dias Ferreira, 233 - Leblon, Rio de Janeiro - RJ,

Brazil

Rua Dias Ferreira, 233 | Leblon | Italian, seafood and drinks Monday to Friday from 7pm to 1am Saturday from 1pm to 1am Sunday from 1pm to 12midnight

Brigite's serves very good Italian food in a cozy and intimate atmosphere. There is plenty of seafood in their menu. Many *cariocas* pass by Brigite's for a drink as the bar is quite famous for its colorful concoctions.

ORO

CATEGORIES: Eating, Fine Dining

Make a Call: +552125408768

Visit Website: http://www.ororestaurante.com.br/

Get Directions: Av. Gen. San Martin, 889 - Leblon, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22441-014, Brazil

Avenida General San Martín, 889 | Leblon | Contemporary Dinner from Tuesday to Saturday from 7:30pm to 11pm Lunch on Saturday from 1pm to 3:30pm

This famous restaurant by chef Felipe Bronze is in its third incarnation, now in Leblon. The attention to detail goes from the choice of furniture and lighting to each gram of salt used on the dishes. Patrons need to make a reservation and there are two options of the chef's menu (4 or 6 dishes). Each dish coming to the table is like a small work of art where taste, color and texture find perfect balance. Worth every penny.

BAR LUIZ

CATEGORIES: Casual Dining, Eating

Make a Call: +552122626900

Visit Website: http://www.barluiz.com.br/

Get Directions: Rua da Carioca, 39 - Centro, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20050-020, Brazil

Rua da Carioca, 39 | Centro | Brazilian Monday and Saturday from 11am to 4pm Tuesday to Friday from 11am to 8pm

Founded in 1887, Bar Luiz has been in Centro for longer than most other businesses around, apart from <u>Casa Cavé</u> pastry shop. The Carioca street, once a very important comercial artery of Downtown Rio is now home to many music instrument shops and Bar Luiz, who stood the test of time serving traditional dishes such as meat cuts, rice, beans, French fries, salads and draft beer, the Brazilian choppe. If you are visiting the Centro area it is worth to program a lunch break at Bar Luiz as it is one of the best options around.

ANCORAMAR

CATEGORIES: Eating, Nice Restaurants

Make a Call: +552135131842

Visit Website: http://ancoramar.com.br/

Get Directions: Praça Mal. Ancora, 184 - Centro, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20021-200, Brazil

Praça Marechal Âncora, 184 | Centro | Seafood Monday to Saturday from 11am to 10pm

Sunday from 11am to 6pm

A few steps from the Guanabara Bay, near the entrance to the Museu Histórico Nacional, an art-nouveau looking structure that could be mistaken with a fancy and huge birdcage houses one of Rio's oldest restaurants. The Ancoramar has been dishing out great seafood since 1933. It was called Albamar in the past. With the recent refurbishment, to set it in line with the whole transformation in the Port area, a new name was given, as well as some add-ons to the interior. It may look unassuming from the outside, but once you walk in, you will feel more confident and the food is really good.

EMILIANO

CATEGORIES: Hotels, Splurge

Make a Call: +552121478044

Visit Website: https://emiliano.com.br/?hotel=rj

Get Directions: Av. Atlântica, 3804 - Copacabana, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

Avenida Atlântica, 3804 | Copacabana

The <u>Emiliano in São Paulo</u> has been part of the luxury hospitality scene in the city for quite a long time. With their new sister property in Rio, the brand has sought to fill the gap for boutique luxury properties in Rio's seaside, especially Copacabana. Expect amazing views from the swimming pool, cream colored rooms, top notch food and impeccable service.

APRAZÍVEL

CATEGORIES: Eating, Nice Restaurants

Make a Call: +552125089174

Visit Website: http://aprazivel.com.br/

Get Directions: R. Aprazível, 62 - Santa Teresa, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20241-270, Brazil

Rua Aprazível, 62 | Santa Teresa | Brazilian Tuesday to Saturday from 12noon to 11pm

Sunday from 12noon to 6pm

Aprazível could be translated as "pleasant" and this is truly a very comforting and enjoyable dining experience in Rio. Perched high on a Santa Teresa neighborhood hill, overlooking the harbor, you can enjoy delicious Brazilian food paired with excellent wines and caipirinhas.

CASA CAVÉ

CATEGORIES: Coffee & Sweets

Make a Call: +552122242520

Visit Website: http://www.casacave.com.br/

Get Directions: R. Sete de Setembro, 133 - Centro, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20050-006, Brazil

Rua Sete de Setembro, 133 | Centro | Pastry and Coffee Shop

Monday to Friday from 8:30am to 7:30pm

Saturday from 9:30am to 2pm

Casa Cavé in Downtown Rio is one of the oldest Portuguese pastry shops in town. It is not as famous as its nearby rival Confeitaria Colombo just because the setting is not as beautiful, but when in comes to the Portuguese custard cakes (pastéis de nata) or the soft Pão de Ló cake, Cavé beats Colombo! If I were you I would check both.

GRAND HYATT RIO

CATEGORIES: Hotels, Splurge

Make a Call: +552137971234

Visit Website: http://riodejaneiro.grand.hyatt.com/en/hotel/home.html

Get Directions: Av. Lúcio Costa, 9600 - Barra da Tijuca, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

Avenida Lúcio Costa, 9600 | Barra da Tijuca

The Grand Hyatt Rio de Janeiro in Barra da Tijuca is the newest addition to the city's 5-star grand hotels. Set in between the beach and one of Barra's lagoons, the Marapendi Lagoon, no luxury has been forgotten in this beautiful project with windows facing the lush vegetation of the area. There are plenty of gastronomic options and a wonderful spa. The Grand Hyatt Rio is ideal for those who will be in and around Barra as moving to the Zona Sul of Ipanema and Leblon can be quite a hassle. It is the perfect place to relax and enjoy the hotel's facilities.

GETTING AROUND RIO

CATEGORIES: City Areas, Getting Around

Visit Website: http://www.rio.com/practical-rio

Get Directions: Rio de Janeiro, State of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

To and from the airports

Rio has two airports. Galeão (GIG), in Zona Norte, is the main international hub and also very busy with domestic flights. Santos Dumont (SDU), in Centro, has only domestic flights, most notably the "air bridge" or shuttle to São Paulo Congonhas (CGH).

From Galeão to the city you can opt for a pre-paid cab, a normal cab (yellow cars), the Premium buses to Zona Sul (via Santos Dumont airport) or Barra da Tijuca or have someone from your hotel waiting for you. If it is your first time in Brazil and you are a bit insecure, the pre-paid cab could be a good safe option albeit a tad more expensive than the normal cabs. Hopefully before the Olympics Uber will also be working from Galeão.

Depending on the time of the day, due to traffic conditions, it may take from 30 to 90 minutes to get into town. To Zona Sul you will take the Red Line whereas to Barra you will take the Yellow Line. If you are staying at Barra da Tijuca, Galeão is more convenient than Santos Dumont.

If you land at Santos Dumont, apart from having an amazing view from the window (generally the right-side windows are better at landing) you will be in the heart of Centro and not more than 30 minutes by taxi from Copacabana and Ipanema. There is a taxi queue at the arrivals hall where you just wait for your turn and take a metered yellow cab into town. For prepaid trips you need to go to the special counter beforehand.

Around town

Hailing a cab on the streets is easy. Some bus routes around Zona Sul or to and from the Corcovado and Centro areas are also

quite convenient. Just ask at your hotel's reception the bus number. You pay when you board. Have small change and dress down, like a local. I would not venture into Zona Norte by bus (nor would I take a bus on the weekends).

The subway can also be a convenient way to move from Ipanema and Copacabana towards Centro. It is quite safe and cheap. Plans to have the subway all the way to Barra da Tijuca for the Olympics will not bare fruit. The transition from the subway to the BRT (special bus lanes) is not that straightforward either.

There is a bike sharing scheme in place but you will need a local mobile number to be able to use it. Renting a bike is a good idea to visit the areas around the Rodrigo de Freitas Lagoon and along the coast from Leblon all the way to Leme.

OUIOUI

CATEGORIES: Delicious Bistros, Eating

Make a Call: +552125273539

Visit Website: http://www.restauranteouioui.com.br/

Get Directions: Rua Conde de Irajá, 85 - Botafogo, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22271-020, Brazil

Rua Conde de Irajá, 85 | Botafogo | Brazilian Comfort Food Monday to Friday from 12noon to 3:30pm and 7pm to 12:30am Saturday from 8pm to 1am

OuiOui is owned by the same group of talented girls at MiamMiam. The setting is vintage, with some well-thought details like the way the food is presented at the table, on traditional azulejos (tiles), earthen pots and teak baskets. The food is always very good, with starters and main courses more of less of the same size, so you can order several dishes to enjoy with a glass of award-winning Cave Geisse, the Brazilian prized sparkling wine.

CLARICE LISPECTOR

CATEGORIES: Guides & Books, Insider Info

Get Directions: Rio de Janeiro, State of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Clarice Lispector is one of Brazil's most innovative writers who used the Portuguese language with an incredible mastery to bring feelings and emotions out of the combination of words and the cadence of phrases. Her style is almost mystical and her subjects vary from the essays to the novels. Reading Clarice is not the easiest of tasks, but those who fall in love with her books, do so with a life-lasting passion.

Clarice was born in the Ukraine and moved to Recife, in the Northeast of Brazil, with her parents fleeing the pogroms of the time. However, it was Rio where she finally called home, studied, got married, had kids and, later on, lived her last days in 1977. There is a connection between her writing and the city.

One of the best books to understand her life and her body of work is Benjamin Moser's "Why this World: a Biography of Clarice Lispector". He translated many of her books into English and fell in love with Brazil through her work._

For those who enjoy getting intimate with a culture via literature, Clarice Lispector is a good entry point to Brazil in the most unexpected ways.

SKYRIDE PARASAIL

CATEGORIES: Keep Fit

Make a Call: +5521969439220



Visit Website: http://www.parasailinrio.com.br/

Get Directions: Av. Infante Dom Henrique, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

Avenida Infante Dom Henrique, s/n | Marina da Glória

Parasail in Rio gives you the chance to see the city's landscape from a prime perspective. Boats leave from Marina da Glória and the tour takes around two hours, going over to Copacabana and Ipanema. You can book your flight in advance to guarantee a space and check the departure times. There is the possibility to fly with a friend and take unforgettable pictures. Tours only depart if weather conditions are perfect.

CRAB

CATEGORIES: Arts & Culture, Museums

Make a Call: +552133801850

Visit Website: http://www.crab.sebrae.com.br/

Get Directions: Praça Tiradentes, 71 - Centro, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

Praça Tiradentes, 71 | Centro

Tuesday to Saturday from 10am to 5pm

CRAB stands for Reference Center for Brazilian Handicraft and is a new cultural venue in the center of Rio dedicated to showcasing Brazilian craftmanship. From purses to hats, pots to sandals, the aim is to portray the items as objects of desire that can be purchased and used as accessories and fashion. (Diazepam) The area around the CRAB is full of other cultural institutions such as the Real Gabinete Português de Leitura and the A Gentil Carioca Art Gallery.

Image by TravelVince

Image by TravelVince

LASAI

CATEGORIES: Eating, Fine Dining

Make a Call: +552134491834

Visit Website: http://www.lasai.com.br/

Get Directions: Rua Conde de Irajá, 191 - Botafogo, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22271-020, Brazil

Rua Conde de Irajá, 191 | Botafogo | Brazilian

Dinner

Tuesday to Saturday from 7:30pm to 10:30pm

Lunch

Saturday from 1pm to 2:30pm Reservations are a must!

Lasai chef Rafa Costa e Silva's inspiration is the cuisine from the Basque Country in Spain, where each ingredient plays a special role on the taste and presentation. In Rio he uses local produce to create a gastronomic experience worth checking. Lasai is number 64 in the "World's 50 Best Restaurants" list and number 16 in Latin America.



CASA MARQUES

CATEGORIES: Boutique, Hotels

Make a Call: +5521999227528

Visit Website: http://casamarquesrio.com/

Get Directions: R. Alm. Alexandrino, 3780 - Santa Teresa, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

Rua Almirante Alexandrino, 3780 | Santa Teresa

Casa Marques is a beautifully appointed boutique hotel with 12 rooms, a nice restaurant and an infinity pool overlooking Guanabara Bay and the Sugar Loaf Mountain. The owners, a French-Brazilian couple, have used Brazilian designers and materials in the decoration. The views are incredible. It feels as if you are hanging over the city. Going up and down to the city may not be the easiest thing, so enjoy the hotel, the views and the peacefulness of it all. Leave Ipanema and Leblon for the next days. It is a great place for a weekend getaway.

MERCADO MODERNO

CATEGORIES: Home & Design, Shopping

Make a Call: +552125086083

Visit Website: http://www.mercadomodernobrasil.com.br/

Get Directions: R. do Lavradio, 130 - Centro, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

Rua do Lavradio, 130 | Lapa Monday to Friday from 9am to 6pm Saturday from 9am to 1:30pm

MeMo, as the Mercado Moderno is called, is a paradise for design, architecture and vintage lovers. It sells Brazilian furniture pieces from big classic names such as Sérgio Rodrigues and Lina Bo Bardi to contemporary ones such as Zanine. The area of Rua do Lavradio has plenty of nice furniture stores but MeMo is one of the best, with a friendly and knowledgeable staff.

RIBA

CATEGORIES: Drinking, Restobar

Make a Call: +552120517870

Visit Website: http://www.ribabotecagem.com.br/

Get Directions: R. Gen. Urquiza, 188 - Leblon, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22431-040, Brazil

Rua General Urquiza, 188 | Leblon Tuesday to Sunday from 12noon to 2am

Riba is Leblon's newest stylish *boteco*. As the trend goes, even the simple carioca botecos are getting a revamp and Riba sets the example. (www.drogueriasanjorge.com) The décor is nice, the menu has most of the traditional boteco fare but with a twist such as artisanal sausage, burrata and a few vegetarian options. Their IPA beer is very good.

Image from Riba on Facebook



S.P.A. PANE

CATEGORIES: Coffee & Sweets, Gourmet & Food, Shopping

Make a Call: +552132530640

Visit Website: http://www.spapane.com/

Get Directions: Av. Epitácio Pessoa, 3666 - Lagoa, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

Avenida Epitácio Pessoa, 3666 | Lagoa | Artisanal Bakery

Monday to Friday from 8am to 8pm Saturday and Sunday from 9am to 8pm

S.p.A. Pane's owner Marcos Cerutti was a successful economist who loved baking his own bread. His hobby turned into his new profession after his son was born. In search of a more balanced life, Marcos travelled the world learning in the best bread institutes how to make slow fermentation breads, the natural thing, the bread that you eat and feel good. (editorialrm.com) He is the purveyor of many of Rio's top tables and the sandwiches of Da Roberta are made with his delicacies. He bakes breads with capital B!

Image by Tomas Rangel from SpA Pane on Instagram

DA ROBERTA

CATEGORIES: Eating, Street Food & Trucks

Make a Call: +552122391103

Visit Website: https://www.facebook.com/garagemdaroberta **Get Directions:** R. Tubira - Leblon, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

Rua Tubira, 8 | Leblon | Gourmet burgers and hot dogs

Tuesday to Sunday from 12noon to 10pm

Da Roberta is star-chef Roberta Sudbrack's venture in the street food market. It is a food truck parked in a garage space, so some people refer to it as Roberta's garage. But all food is of extremely good quality. Her Pita Falafel is a favorite as well as the Pastrami Sandwich with special bread from <u>S.p.A. Pane</u>. If you like hot dogs, ask for the Sud Dog. And enjoy. Is there any space left? Try the "wet chocolate cake". And if you like beer, there is a special one developed with <u>Jeffrey</u> (the store nearby) with grapefruit, honey and ginger to spice it up.

LA CARIOCA CEVICHERIA

CATEGORIES: Casual Dining, Eating

Make a Call: +552125228184

Visit Website: http://www.lacarioca.com.br/

Get Directions: Rua Garcia d'Avila - Ipanema, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22421-010, Brazil

Rua Garcia d'Ávila, 173 | Ipanema | Peruvian with another branch in Lagoa at Rua Maria Angélica, 113

Monday to Friday from 6:30pm to 1am Saturday and Sunday from 1pm to 1am

La Carioca Cevicheria has taken Rio by storm with its delicious ceviches and piscos to go along. It is the perfect place to be with friends and share a few small plates. They also have their own brand of La Carioca artisanal beer. Tables outside are very much in demand. Service is super friendly.

AC HOTEL PORTO MARAVILHA

CATEGORIES: Hotels, Very Comfortable

Make a Call: +552135065502

Visit

Website: http://www.marriott.com.br/hotels/travel/riopm-ac-hotel-rio-de-janeiro-porto-maravilha/ **Get Directions:** R. Cordeiro da Graça, 598 - Santo Cristo, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20220-400, Brazil

Rua Cordeiro da Graca, 598 | Santo Cristo

In Rio's fastest changing area, the Porto Maravilha, this brand new hotel has all amenities of the AC Marriott chain and gives you easy access to the <u>Museum of Tomorrow</u>, the Centro area and, in case you enjoy clubbing, the super <u>The Week</u>. There is nothing better than a new hotel. (<u>laserbounce.com</u>) _

Image from AC Hotels Marriott website

KRAFT CAFÉ & BISTRÔ

CATEGORIES: Coffee & Sweets

Make a Call: +552134355893

Visit Website: https://www.facebook.com/kraftcafebrasil

Get Directions: R. Aníbal de Mendonça, 55 - Ipanema, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22410-050, Brazil

Rua Aníbal de Mendonça, 55 | Ipanema | Coffee shop & snacks

Monday to Thursday from 8am to 9pm Friday and Saturday from 8am to 10pm

Sunday from 9am to 4pm

Brazil is the world's largest producer of coffee beans but until a little while ago it was quite hard to drink good coffee in the country. Brazilians usually drink filtered coffee with lots of sugar. When they order a cappuccino, they expect it to come with cream and cinnamon... But things are changing rapidly. One of the new places in Rio to drink seriously good coffee is Kraft, in Ipanema.

Don't be surprised to know the owner is Australian. Nowadays, Australia (and New Zealand) leads the world when it comes to preparing a good cup of coffee. And at Kraft it is done to perfection. The beans are roasted in-house and the milk is fresh. To accompany there is a selection of brunch food served all day long and power juices to go along. (https://fleshbot.com) It is probably the only place in Rio serving a real flat white (as Starbucks does not count) and sourdough bread. A gem!

Image from Kraft Café & BIstrô on Instagram

LAGUIOLE

CATEGORIES: Eating, Fine Dining

Make a Call: +552125320755

Visit Website: http://www.bestfork.com.br/laguiole/en/

Get Directions: Av. Infante Dom Henrique, 85 - Praia do Flamengo, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20021-060,

Brazil

Avenida Infante Dom Henrique, 85 - Museu de Arte Moderna | Flamengo | Contemporary Haute Cuisine Monday to Friday from 12noon to 5pm

Laguiole Restaurant serves contemporary haute cuisine in one of Rio's modernist postcards, the Modern Art Museum. Being very close to Centro and the Santos Dumont Domestic Airport, it attracts the businessmen crowd for lunch. The food is very good, as well as the service. It can be a good option for lunch before exploring the colonial monuments of Centro or just before catching a flight at the ponte aérea to São Paulo.

CARIOCANDO NO RIO

CATEGORIES: Guides & Books, Insider Info

Visit Website: https://www.instagram.com/cariocandonorio/

Get Directions: Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro - State of Rio de Janeiro, Brazilr

Cariocando no Rio is both an app, available at the app Store for iPhone and iPad, and an Instagram feed, with very nice and upto-date tips about Rio. Behind the scenes is Nicole Casares, a very carioca girl who loves the city and is always out and about. If you want a personalised tour of the city or some different and weird request, she is the one who will be able to help you. ps: the app is in Portuguese only but it is not that hard to use it.

T.T. BURGER

CATEGORIES: Burger Joints, Eating

Make a Call: +5521964588674

Visit Website: http://www.ttburger.com.br/

Get Directions: R. Francisco Otaviano, 67 - Copacabana, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22080-040, Brazil

Rua Francisco Otaviano, 67 | Arpoador | Burger & Shakes with another branch in Leblon, at the Reserva Store in Rua Ataulfo de Paiva, 1240.

Sunday to Thursday from 12noon to 12midnight

Friday and Saturday from 12noon to 2am

Thomas Troisgros, together with his father, Claude, pilot some of Rio's iconic restaurants such as CT Boucherie and the traditional French Olympe. With his knowledge of where to get the best ingredients and his wish to have a Brazilian burger, Thomas opened T.T. Burger in Arpoador, serving Brazil's most famous burger. The recipe is simple and there is not too much to choose from. (https://daveseminara.com) One of the ingredients is the famous guava ketchup. The fries are crunchy and the shakes are sublime. He has teamed up with the brand Reserva to open up shop at some of the brand's addresses in Rio (Leblon and Barra). If you enjoy burgers, this one is a must.

Image from T.T.Burger on Instagram

YOO2

CATEGORIES: Great Location, Hotels

Make a Call: +552134452000

Visit Website: http://www.yoo2.com/riodejaneiro

Get Directions: Praia de Botafogo, 242 - Botafogo, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22250-040, Brazil

Praia de Botafogo, 242 | Botafogo

Opened in June 2016 just in time for the Rio Olympics at the Botafogo Beach, this brand new hotel, signed London design studio Yoo owned by Philippe Starck and John Hitchcox, is set to be the new darling carioca trendsetters.

Botafogo is one of Rio's best connected areas and is gentrifying quite fast. There are numerous bars, shops and restaurants in the area with more city dwellers than tourists. It is "the" place to be if you want to mingle with the cool crowd, therefore Yoo2 is a blessing, since all Botafogo was lacking was a great hotel.

The Rooftop Bar and Swimming Pool, with striking views of both Sugar Loaf and the Christ Redeemer Statue will be the talk of the town. Young and talented Brazilian chef <u>Marcelo Schambeck</u> will take control of the kitchen. Rooms are beautifully designed and comfortable at the same time. You can already make your reservation!

BARRA DA TIJUCA

CATEGORIES: City Areas, Neighborhoods

Get Directions: Barra da Tijuca, Rio de Janeiro - State of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Barra da Tijuca is Rio's western suburb, made of glitzy towers, gated communities, shopping malls and heavy traffic. It is easy to reach Barra from Galeão International Airport via the Yellow Line but to access the rest of the city, especially the Centro, things get complicated. To explore this area you will need a car, or a taxi. If you happen to ride to Zona Sul, ask the driver to take you via the beautiful and scenic Avenida Niemeyer all the way to Leblon.

This is Brazil's version of Miami, the area to where the upper middle classes have fled. You will stay there if you are in town for a concert at the HSBC Arena or a meeting at RioCentro Convention Center. Many of the events during the Rio 2016 Games will also be held in the neighborhood.

One of the city's most luxurious malls is nearby, the <u>Shopping Village Mall</u>, as well as the the city's biggest one, <u>Barra Shopping</u>. As for hotels, consider staying at the <u>Grand Mercure RioCentro</u>, the <u>Grand Hyatt</u> or the <u>Hilton Barra</u>.

VIASETE

CATEGORIES: Delicious Bistros, Eating

Make a Call: +552125128100

Visit Website: http://viasete.com.br/

Get Directions: Rua Garcia d'Avila, 125 - Ipanema, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22421-010, Brazil

Rua Garcia d'Ávila, 125 | Ipanema | Contemporary Bistro with another branch in Centro at Rua Sete de Setembro, 43.

Sunday to Wednesday from 12noon to 12midnight

Thursday to Saturday from 12noon to 1am

Viasete's tables on the front-side patio are the best to see the world go by at the shopping street Garcia d'Ávila in Ipanema. Their menu makes everybody happy with dishes such as spaghetti pomodoro with grilled fillet, tuna tartare, squid with manioc flour and the famous brownie with vanilla ice cream. (<u>Ultram</u>)

Image from Viasete's home page

RESERVA

CATEGORIES: Fashion & Accessories, Shopping

Make a Call: +552122475980

Visit Website: https://www.usereserva.com/

Get Directions: R. Maria Quitéria, 77 - Ipanema, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22410-040, Brazil

Rua Maria Quitéria, 77 | Ipanema. Also at Rua Afrânio de Melo Franco, 290 in Leblon and other locations, mostly in Rio's

shopping malls.

Monday to Friday from 9am to 9pm

Saturday from 9am to 8pm

Sunday from 11am to 5pm

Rony Meisler and Fernando Sigal, two *carioca* friends, looked around at the gym and realized: most of the men were using the exact same shorts on the streets and to work out. There was a market. That's how the idea for Reserva, a casual yet upscale men's clothing brand was born. Very trendy, the pieces also have a fun and laid-back elements – the t-shirts, that can easily cost more than R\$ 150, usually display humorous quotes. The concept store at Rio Sul mall, for example, offers video-game sessions, free beer and barber services for the clients. They often launch products in partnership with cool labels, like New Balance, Birkenstock, Vans and others. There is a collection for boys and babies.

By the way, their womenswear brand is called **EVA**.

A GENTIL CARIOCA

CATEGORIES: Arts & Culture. Galleries

Make a Call: +552122221651

Visit Website: http://agentilcarioca.com.br/

Get Directions: Rua Gonçalves Lédo, 11 - Centro, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20060-020, Brazil

Rua Gonçalves Lêdo, 11/17 | Centro Monday to Friday from 12noon to 7pm

Saturdays by appointment

The A Gentil Carioca Art Gallery has, since 2003, pioneered in various fronts at the Brazilian Art World. Set in the center of Rio, in a dynamic area, it is a few blocks from the <u>CRAB</u> and the <u>Real Gabinete</u>. It represents a variety of YBA, Young Brazilian Artists, who showcase their work the world over. A Gentil Carioca is one of the few Brazilian galleries with a presence at the ARTBasel fair.

MAR MUSEU DE ARTE DO RIO

CATEGORIES: Arts & Culture, Museums

Make a Call: +552130312741

Visit Website: http://www.museudeartedorio.org.br/en

Get Directions: Praça Mauá, 5 - Saúde, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20081-210, Brazil

Praça Mauá, 5 | Centro

Tuesday to Sunday from 10am to 5pm

Free admission on Tuesdays

MAR, Museu de Arte do Rio, is part of a huge renovation project of the city's port area, abandoned for so many years and now the main showcase for the Summer Games of 2016. The Praça Mauá, with MAR and the Museum of Tomorrow, has turned into a lively area, visited by locals and tourists alike. ArtRio, the yearly art fair, is also in the vicinity. A leisurely walk from the old centro, from the Paço Imperial to the Praça Mauá is a trip through Rio's history.

Once you reach MAR you will notice that two different buildings have been united into a museum. The former king's palace and a modernist old transport hub are now an arts center dedicated to the history or Rio and carioca artists. The collection is still in the process of being assembled, from donations and acquisitions. So come for the temporary events. There is a nice restaurant on the top floor, Mauá, overlooking the bay and the mountains. If you prefer just a coffee, go for Cristóvão Café e Bistrô near the ticketing counter.

JUNTA LOCAL

CATEGORIES: Eating, Food Markets

Visit Website: http://www.juntalocal.com/

Get Directions: Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro - State of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Events happen across town. Check their website or Facebook for listings.

The Junta Local is a food market in the shape of a cool pop-up event where there is music, drinks, food and always a good vibe. It follows the trend of the locally sourced, the artisanal, the good quality and, whenever possible, organic. Those producing the goods are behind the stalls, so you get to meet the person who shares a passion for what they do. There are over 40 producers, from beer, to salami, ice cream, jams, bread and cachaça. If you happen to be in town when the Junta Local is meeting, do not miss the event as they are usually in very cool venues such as the Fábrica Behring, Casa da Glória or Praça Mauá.

One of the first Junta Local events in Casa da Glória

RIO SUNRISE TO SUNSET BY CRANE.TV

CATEGORIES: Films & Videos, Insider Info

Visit Website: http://crane.tv/sunrise-to-sunset-rio-de-janeiro

Get Directions: Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro - State of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

FÁBRICA BEHRING

CATEGORIES: Arts & Culture, Exhibitions & Fairs, Galleries

Make a Call: +552122130014

Visit Website: http://www.fabricabhering.com/

Get Directions: R. Orestes, 28 - Guaratiba, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 23032-220, Brazil

Rua Orestes, 28 | Santo Cristo - Porto Monday to Saturday from 9am to 8pm

The Fábrica Behring is an old chocolate factory near Rio's port that has been occupied by several artists. Much like the Tacheles building in Berlin, the derelict place has become a center of culture, first attracting people for its cheap rents, than becoming a cool and happening place for the local arts scene. There are over 80 different spaces rented out to all types of creatives, from video artists to sculptors, photographers to writers. There is always something going on at Fábrica Behring. Video by Crane.TV

MARACANÃ STADIUM

CATEGORIES: City Areas, Sights

Visit Website: https://www.tourmaracana.com.br/

Get Directions: Maracanã, Rio de Janeiro - State of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Avenida Presidente Castelo Branco | Maracanã

Perhaps a *carioca* symbol as famous as the Christ the Redeemer, Maracanã is literally the soccer temple in Brazil. Built for the World Cup in 1950, the stadium has been eye-witnessing major sports milestones, like Pelé's thousandth goal, in 1969, or the final match during 2014 World Cup. After going through a three-year renovation, the attraction is closed again on account of the Olympic Games. During regular seasons, there is a Maracanã Tour available, where visitors can play with interactive attractions, walk around the local museum, step on the field and enter the locker room. Fla x Flu (Flamengo and Fluminense, two main carioca rival teams) is the most iconic match to attend; check the games calendar.

CONFEITARIA COLOMBO

CATEGORIES: Coffee & Sweets

Make a Call: +552125051500

Visit Website: http://www.confeitariacolombo.com.br/

Get Directions: R. Gonçalves Dias, 32 - Centro, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

Rua Gonçalves Dias, 32 | Centro with an outpost in Copacabana Fort, near the Sofitel | Bakery, Café, Sweets

Monday to Friday from 9am to 7:30pm Saturday and holidays from 9am to 5pm

Established in 1894, Confeitaria Colombo is the most traditional cafe/pastry shop in Rio. Getting inside feels like being transported to the Belle Epoque era: stained-glass windows, marble countertops, enormous jacaranda-framed mirrors, mosaics, tiled floors... It was a place where the *carioca* high society used to meet at the turn of the 20th century. Skip the famous afternoon tea and try the Portuguese desserts, like *pastel de nata* (custard tart), or very typically Brazilian snacks, like

coxa-crema (deep-fried chicken and cream cheese croquette). The waffles are also a highlight. The Centro unit is the most traditional address, but there is another location at Forte de Copacabana, with outdoor tables facing the ocean.

REAL GABINETE PORTUGUÊS DE LEITURA

CATEGORIES: City Areas, Sights

Make a Call: +552122213138

Visit Website: http://www.realgabinete.com.br/portalWeb/

Get Directions: R. Luís de Camões, 60 - Centro, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20051-020, Brazil

Rua Luís de Camões, 30 | Centro Monday to Friday from 9am to 6pm

One of the greatest (and most gorgeous) libraries in Latin America, the Real Gabinete Português da Leitura (Portuguese Reading Room) was conceived by Portuguese traders as a gift for Brazil, back in 1887. Today this architecture jewel houses the largest Portuguese literature collection outside Portugal, with more than 350 thousand titles. Highlights include rare copies, like a first-edition of "Os Lusíadas", from Portuguese writer Luís de Camões, printed in 1572. Note that the construction is under renovation, but it is open to the public.

MOSTEIRO DE SÃO BENTO

CATEGORIES: City Areas, Sights

Make a Call: +552122068333

Visit Website: http://www.mosteirodesaobentorio.org.br/

Get Directions: R. Dom Gerardo, 68 - Centro, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20090-030, Brazil

Rua Dom Gerardo, 68 | Centro Daily from 7am to 6pm

At 7:30am on weekdays and 10am on Sundays there is mess with Gregorian choir

Behind a modest and restrained facade, the abbey hides a richly carved gold Baroque interior. In the inside, this gem has opulent woodwork Rococo ornaments, paintings, Portuguese tiles and beautiful saints statues. It is considered one of the most beautiful churches in Brazil. Built between 1617 and 1640 on top of a hill, the church went through a 11-year renovation, reopening for the public in 2015. Run by the Benedictine Order, on Sundays, the 10am mass presents a monk choir, that sings Gregorian chants. To reach the monastery from Rua Dom Gerardo, it is necessary to take an elevator at number 40 up to the 5th floor.

CCBB CENTRO CULTURAL BANCO DO BRASIL

CATEGORIES: Arts & Culture, Exhibitions & Fairs

Make a Call: +552138082020

Visit Website: http://culturabancodobrasil.com.br/portal/rio-de-janeiro/ **Get Directions:** R. Primeiro de Março, 66 - Centro, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

Rua Primeiro de Março, 66 | Centro Wednesday to Monday from 9am to 9pm



Occupying a beautiful 1906 neoclassic building, Centro Cultural Banco do Brasil (CCBB) is one of the most famous and important cultural centers in Rio. Besides its impressive interior, with marble stairways and greek columns, the complex hosts highly-rated changing exhibitions from big international artists. There is always something going on, so it is important to check the events calendar. Right in the middle of Downtown Rio, there is also a cinema, two theatres and a permanent exhibition about the history of the Brazilian currency (this used to be the Bank of Brazil's main branch, after all).

MAC NITERÓI

CATEGORIES: Arts & Culture, Museums, Out of Town

Make a Call: +552126202400

Visit Website: http://www.macniteroi.com.br/ Get Directions: Boa Viagem, Niterói - RJ, Brazil

Mirante da Boa Viagem | Niterói

The museum is closed for renovation, scheduled to open in May 2016. However, there is not much in terms of a collection. The architecture itself is the attraction.

Jutting out from the rocks by the sea like a spaceship, MAC is an impressive contemporary art museum, designed by worldfamous Brazilian architect Oscar Niemeyer. Located at Mirante da Boa Viagem, in Niterói, Rio's neighbor city, it boasts breathtaking views from Baía de Guanabara. The building itself is well worth a visit: it is sustained only by its cylindrical base rising from a water mirror in the patio. Or a "flower emerging from the rocks" as Niemeyer poetically preferred to describe it. The museum displays temporary exhibitions, but has a small permanent collection. But the competition with the scenario outside the panoramic windows is hard to beat. At the underground level, Bistrô MAC has a diverse contemporary international menu and also serves on weekends a breakfast buffet.

INSTITUTO MOREIRA SALLES

CATEGORIES: Arts & Culture. Galleries

Make a Call: +552132847400

Visit Website: http://www.ims.com.br/ims/

Get Directions: R. Marquês de São Vicente, 476 - Gávea, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22451-041, Brazil

Rua Marquês de São Vicente, 476 | Gávea Tuesday to Sunday from 11am to 8pm

Former residence of banker family Moreira Salles, today this modernist house, a 1950's architecture landmark, functions as one of the Rio's best cultural centers. Hidden in a leafy street at Gávea, IMS hosts highly rated exhibitions (mostly about photography), live music and films sessions (off the commercial circuit). Plus it displays a vast archive of photography, music, literature and Brazilian iconography. The beautiful tropical garden was designed by Brazilian landscape architect Burle Marx. There is also a charming cafe serving breakfast on weekends and special afternoon tea on Thursdays.

CHÁCARA DO CÉU MUSEUM

CATEGORIES: Arts & Culture, Museums

Make a Call: +552139701093

Visit Website: http://museuscastromaya.com.br/

Get Directions: R. Murtinho Nobre, 93 - Santa Teresa, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20241-050, Brazil

Rua Murtinho Nobre, 93 | Santa Teresa Wednesday to Monday from 12noon to 5pm

Former mansion of industrialist and art collector Raymundo Ottoni de Castro Maia, the museum displays an interesting collection of Brazilian and European modern art. Highlights from his former private collection include works from Brazilians Di Cavalcanti, Iberê Camargo, Portinari, but also boast international names like Picasso, Matisse, Miró, Monet, Degas and Dalí. The complex also features Brazilian furniture dating from the 18th and 19th centuries. At Santa Teresa district, the building is surrounded by a lovely garden with breathtaking views of Guanabara Bay

MUSEUM OF TOMORROW

CATEGORIES: Arts & Culture, Museums

Make a Call: +552138121812

Visit Website: http://www.museudoamanha.org.br/en

Get Directions: Praça Mauá, 1 - Centro, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20081-240, Brazil

Praça Mauá, 1 | Centro

Tuesdays to Sundays from 10am to 6pm

The box office closes at 5pm

Rio's brand new postcard, Museu do Amanhã (Museum of Tomorrow) is a futuristic tribute to the history of the planet and the future of Humankind. Opened in late 2015, the complex is a state-of-the-art contemporary science museum, designed by award-winning Spanish architect Santiago Calatrava. Using digital features and impressive visual effects, the museum encourages visitors to reflect on topics such as climate change, population growth, technology and others. All the content is available in Portuguese, English and Spanish. More than displaying a physical collection, the experience is very interactive – which turns out to be a great kids-friendly attraction. It is located at Porto Maravilha, a huge gentrification project at Rio's old port area, in the Centro.

RIO DE JANEIRO BY VANESSA ALMEIDA

CATEGORIES: Friends in Town

Get Directions: Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro - State of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Vanessa is a long time friend who lived in Madrid, Fortaleza, Barcelona and now calls Rio home. With her French husband David and daughter Chloé, the family is always on the lookout of interesting new areas to explore. I asked her to give me a few local tips and here they are:

A place to eat

After a day at the beach a stop at the *botecos* (bars) is a must. They are Rio's classic meeting points and very much the face of the city. In Ipanema I like <u>Bar Lagoa</u>. In Leblon, Bracarense. <u>Adega Pérola</u> is in Copacabana. <u>Braseiro da Gávea</u>, at Gávea, is not so close to the beach, but is worth the extra walk.

Canastra

<u>Canastra Bar</u> is Ipanema's French meeting point, serving cheeses, good wines and fresh oysters on Tuesdays. It fills up and people spill over to the sidewalk and the street in front of it. Very lively.

Nice outings

We live close to Lagoa, it is practically our garden. We take Chloé for walks Saturday mornings, meet friends after work, have a drink at <u>Palaphita Kitch</u>, go cycling, watch the sunset and so on. During summer, when the beach is overcrowded, the Lagoa is a great option to escape the crowds.

The Centro (Downtown) during the week is good for strolls around the Paço Imperial or lunch at one of the restaurants at Travessa do Comércio or Rua do Ouvidor. The art exhibitions at CCBB (Centro Cultural Banco do Brasil) are great. If you have



time, walk all the way to Praça Mauá to visit MAR (Museu de Arte do Rio) or the brand new Museum of Tomorrow.

The <u>Instituto Moreira Salles</u> at Gávea is a beautiful place to visit, even when there is not exhibit in place. Just walk around the modernist house, the garden and sit down for a coffee.

The Feira do Lavradio, every first Saturday of the month from 10am in Centro, is a flea market where you can find special trinkets and antiques. The street is full of small stores, restaurants and cafés. It is a charming spot amidst the chaos of Downtown Rio.

My favorites

The Carnival *blocos* (groups) preparing for Carnival. Before the mayhem in February, it is great to enjoy the bands and discover the true spirit of the celebration. I recommend <u>Orquestra Voadora</u> and <u>Fanfarra Black Clube</u>.

The <u>Junta Local</u> street fair belongs to a community that values the local artisans and producers and sell organic produce. They get together at <u>Casa da Glória</u>, a beautiful house near Gloria Church with a huge garden and swimming pool open to the public. Other venues include the old Urca Casino, now home of IED (Istituto Europeo di Design) and the MAM (Museu de Arte Moderna) gardens.

A store

<u>Tarsila</u>, selling wonderful handmade bags and shoes. There is a store in Ipanema and another in Centro but I like to visit their workshop at <u>Fábrica Behring</u> when there are open house events.

BRAZILIAN BEACH HOUSE

CATEGORIES: Apartments, Hotels

Make a Call: +59826056913

Visit Website: http://brazilianbeachhouse.com/

Get Directions: Copacabana, Rio de Janeiro - State of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

When it comes to upscale places to stay, one has to agree that Rio's hotels are quite limited. The Fasano in Ipanema being the only truly luxury property in a great location. (<u>Ultram</u>) The Belmond Copacabana Palace is a grande dame of hospitality, but can be quite crowded on weekends and holidays, especially with big Brazilian families, full of noisy children jumping around. So a good idea is to rent an amazing apartment in the city, with breathtaking views of the Atlantic or the Lagoa. Brazilian Beach House is a specialist in the sector, with amazing properties. Have a look at their website and you will not be deceived! There are incredible apartments and houses not only in Rio but in other Brazilian and South American destinations.

Picture of Copacabana One, part of Brazilian Beach House portfolio of properties for rent in South America – image taken from BBH website

B, DE BURGER

CATEGORIES: Burger Joints, Eating

Make a Call: +552125236098

Visit Website: http://www.bdeburger.com.br/

Get Directions: R. Teixeira de Melo, 21 - Ipanema, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

Rua Teixeira de Melo, 21 | Ipanema | Burger Sunday to Wednesday from 12noon to 12midnight Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 12noon to 2am

B de Burger is a small yet outstanding burger joint in Ipanema, just a few meters away from the beach. They use the best ingredients and grill the burger in an open flame for superb taste (the bread could be crunchier, but ok, nobody is perfect).

You can order your fries with bacon and wasabi and for the sweet tooth, an Oreo milkshake.

LA BICYCLETTE

CATEGORIES: Coffee & Sweets

Make a Call: +552135942589

Visit Website: http://www.labicyclette.com.br/

Get Directions: Rua Pacheco Leão, 320 - Jardim Botânico, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22460-030, Brazil

Rua Pacheco Leão, 320 - Ioja D | Jardim Botânico | Café with another branch nearby at Espaço Tom Jobim, inside the Botanical

Garden.

Monday to Friday from 8:30am to9 pm

Saturday, Sunday and holidays from 8:30am to 8pm

Wandering around Jardim Botânico (Botanical Garden) palm-lined promenades would be an attraction in itself, however it wouldn't be complete without a stop at this charming French café. Homemade croissants, baguettes and all sorts of whole wheat breads are served along with organic jams, cheeses, natural juices and delicious pastries – all ingredients are fresh and chemical-free. As one of the most popular spots to have breakfast in Rio, you can also go there for lunch and try the hearty sandwiches, salads and quiches. It can get very crowded, but even so this café is the perfect place to relax in a lovely environment, while drinking a nice cup of coffee. (Alprazolam) There are two units: one inside the Botanical Garden, just across Tom Jobim museum; and the other in the park surroundings.

Image taken from La Bicyclette's Instagram

FUNDIÇÃO PROGRESSO

CATEGORIES: Arts & Culture, Theatre, Concerts & More

Make a Call: +554132120800

Visit Website: http://www.fundicaoprogresso.com.br/

Get Directions: R. dos Arcos, 24 - Centro, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

Rua dos Arcos, 24 | Lapa

Opening hours vary according to events, check their website for details

Considered one of the best places in Rio to enjoy live music, Fundição Progresso has quite a story. In the heart of Lapa, the *carioca* bohemian neighborhood, this beautiful historic two-story former foundry was about to be demolished when a group of artists managed to turn it in a cultural center, in the late 80's. Since then, the venue pulls crowds (up to 5,000 people) to watch performances by local and international artists – Caetano Veloso, Jorje Ben Jor, Franz Ferdinand, Manu Chao and Motörhead have already played on its stage. Besides music, Fundição is also home for theatre and circus groups.

GALERIA CAFÉ

CATEGORIES: Dance & Music, Drinking, Party places

Make a Call: +552125238250

Visit Website: http://www.galeriacafe.com.br/

Get Directions: R. Teixeira de Melo, 31 - Ipanema, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

Rua Teixeira de Melo, 31 | Ipanema

Wednesday to Saturday (check the parties online for themes and timings)

Even though the name says Galeria Café, this is a bar that gets very busy on Fridays and Saturdays with the beautiful boys from Rio and abroad. Sign up on the "lista amiga" via email (each party has a different email, just check on <u>Facebook</u>) and head to the dance floor. It can get extremely crowded, but it is a fun crowd. (https://theshabazzcenter.org/)

Galeria's dance floor, image by Beto Vilella (taken from venue's Facebook page)

CARTIÊ BRESSÃO

CATEGORIES: Guides & Books, Insider Info, Social Media

Visit Website: http://www.cartiebressao.com.br/

Get Directions: Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro - State of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Cartiê Bressão is the alias of carioca photographer Pedro Garcia de Moura. He became a hit on Instagram with his canny images of Rio's life followed by titles mixing up Portuguese and French as if he were a tropical version of the French photographer Cartier-Bresson. He published books and his pictures featured at ArtRio. (eluminoustechnologies) You can follow him on Instagram at @cartiebressao. He also published a book titled "Cartiê Bressão, liberté, egalité, brasilité" on sale at Rio's best bookshops.

Pages from "Cartiê Bressão, liberté, egalité, brasilité".

SANTA TERESA HOTEL

CATEGORIES: Boutique, Hotels

Make a Call: +552133800200

Visit Website: http://www.santateresahotelrio.com/

Get Directions: R. Alm. Alexandrino, 660 - Santa Teresa, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

Rua Almirante Alexandrino, 660 | Santa Teresa

You can indulge at the world-famous Copacabana Palace or Fasano, but, when it comes to coolness, there's no way to beat Hotel Santa Teresa. On the hillside area of Santa Teresa, an artsy and bohemian cobbled-street district, this 44-room luxury hotel occupies a former colonial mansion, which was meticulously restored. The "tropical design" sets the atmosphere, blending typical Brazilian elements, like indigenous artwork, rustic wood furniture and burnt cement. The pool lounge features amazing views of the city, surrounded by a lush garden. Locals and *gringos* meet at the award-winning contemporary restaurant, Térèze, or at the Bar dos Descasados to enjoy some fancy *cachaça* cocktails.

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STUZZI

CATEGORIES: Drinking, Restobar

Make a Call: +554122744017

Visit Website: http://www.stuzzibar.com.br/

Get Directions: Rua Dias Ferreira, 48 - Leblon, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22431-050, Brazil

Rua Dias Ferreira, 48 | Leblon | Italian Gastrobar Monday to Saturday from 7pm to 2am Sunday from 7pm to 12midnight

Bar hopping can be a great way to spend the evening around Leblon's bars, but plan a longer stop at Stuzzi. The gastrobar serves a wide range of stuzzichini, Italian version of tapas, which match perfectly the top-notch mixed cocktails and wine menu. Chef Paula Prandini worked at a Michelin-starred restaurant in Lombardy and, back to Brazil, she presents creative creations like polenta dumplings, hazelnut-crusted rack of lamb croquettes or gorgonzola bruschettas. The dim light sets a romantic atmosphere inside, but go for the charming tables on the sidewalk.

RIO ME

CATEGORIES: Dance & Music

Visit Website: https://www.facebook.com/festariome

Get Directions: Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro - State of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

If you are into electronic music, you have to follow Rio Me on Facebook for updates on their amazing parties in several of the city's landmarks, including Pier Mauá and MAM, the Modern Art Museum. They also have an Instagram feed at @festariome.

THE WEEK RIO

CATEGORIES: Dance & Music, Drinking, Party places

Make a Call: +552122531020

Visit Website: http://www.theweek.com.br/#home

Get Directions: R. Sacadura Cabral, 135 - Saúde, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20081-262, Brazil

Rua Sacadura Cabral, 135 | Saúde

When it comes to the LGBT scene, The Week is the number one spot in Rio. Stylish, modern and huge, the venue attracts crowds (up to 2,000 people) to dance and party on its 2 dance floors: one exclusively for electronic music and the other for diverse styles, especially Brazilian hits. Saturday is the most packed night, hosting popular parties like Babylon and Wallpaper - so you can expect lines, but much more fun. International and local guest DJs are a constant, so as the go-go boys performances. Try the pool area to unwind a bit.

LA FRUTERIA

CATEGORIES: Eating, Food Markets, Gourmet & Food, Shopping

Make a Call: +552122492944

Visit Website: http://www.alafruteria.com.br/index.html

Get Directions: R. Visc. de Pirajá, 547 - Ipanema, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

Rua Visconde de Pirajá, 547 | Ipanema Monday to Friday from 8:30am to 8:30pm

Saturday from 10am to 6pm

This small yet charming store evokes the old *quitandas*, tiny greengrocers that were very common decades ago in Brazil. Billing itself as a "fruit boutique", La Fruteria is a place to buy fresh fruits and healthy products, like detox juices or gluten free ingredients. Also you can order to go a cup of fruit salad topped with greek yogurt or granola – perfect match for a hot day in Rio! In the back, there is a tiny cafe that serves whole wheat snacks and Brazilian delicacies like *broa de milho* (corn bread) or *tapioca* cake.

JAEÉ

CATEGORIES: Eating, Street Food & Trucks

Make a Call: +552125405627

Visit Website: https://www.facebook.com/jaeerj

Get Directions: Av. Ataulfo de Paiva, 1228 - Leblon, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

Rua Ataulfo de Paiva, 1228 | Leblon | Salads, wraps, healthy food, juices

Daily from 8am to 11:30pm

Cariocas are, in general, very conscious about having a healthy lifestyle. Not surprisingly, Rio offers plenty of "green" options when it comes to restaurants. Jaeé, however, brings a new concept to this scenario: it functions as a healthy fast food, where clients pick up from the stall ready-to-eat meals, such as salads, soups and sandwiches. What about a zucchini spaghetti or a quinoa caponata? It also sells a great variety of detox and functional juices. Despite being a "grab-and-go" shop, there are a couple of tables if you prefer to eat over there.

TOGU

CATEGORIES: Eating, Nice Restaurants

Make a Call: +552122942749

Visit Website: http://togu.com.br/novo/

Get Directions: Rua Dias Ferreira, 90 - Leblon, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22431-050, Brazil

Rua Dias Ferreira, 90 | Leblon | Asian Fusion

Monday from 7:30pm to 1am

Tuesday to Friday from 12noon to 1am

Saturday from 1pm to 1am Sunday from 1pm to 12pm

Japanese food is a fad in Brazil, but most places always serve the same traditional dishes. This is not the case of Togu. In a small, cozy restaurant in the heart of Leblon, the menu blends Brazilian ingredients with flavors from Asian cuisines (Japanese, Thai, Vietnamese, Korean, Indian and Chinese). As a result, exotic creations like quail sushi with truffle sauce or the coconut-crusted tuna with edamame puree. If you are truly hungry, ask for the *rodízio*, an all-you-can-eat menu for a fixed price.

MIRANTE DO ARVRÃO

CATEGORIES: Budget, Drinking, Hotels, Party places

Make a Call: +552131141868

Visit Website: https://www.facebook.com/mirantearvrao

Get Directions: R. Armando Almeida Lima, 8 - Vidigal, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

Rua Armando de Almeida Lima, 8 | Vidigal Always open, according to them □□

In a not-so-far-away past, it would be unimaginable to have hotels and cool hotspots inside a *favela*. But time has changed and Vidigal, the community very close to Ipanema, gained this hip hostel, with impressive architecture and modern décor. At the top of the hill, the rooms have glass walls with breathtaking views of Rio's skyline and beaches. It features a dorm for 12 guests and 3 private suites. The place also hosts parties and *rodas de samba* (when samba musicians perform together) that attract a very trendy crowd. Just note that it will be necessary to take taxi or moto-taxi to go up or down the hill.

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CAIS DO ORIENTE

CATEGORIES: Casual Dining, Eating

Make a Call: +552122332531

Visit Website: http://caisgourmet.com.br/

Get Directions: R. Visc. de Itaboraí, 8 - Centro, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20010-060, Brazil

Rua Visconde de Itaboraí, 8 | Centro | Contemporary Restaurant

Daily from 11:30am to 10pm

In the past, the 1878 charming colonial building used to be a spice warehouse, selling products from the Orient. Today the house has become one of the best spots to eat at Rio's old and historic downtown area. In this antique atmosphere, Cais do Oriente serves dishes with diverse influences, such as Brazilian, French, Thai and Mediterranean. As a starter, the goat cheese breaded in Brazil nut with palm heart and watercress sauce is a hit. Highlights from the menu include octopus carpaccio and pork carré with rustic potatoes. It is very close to Centro Cultural Banco do Brasil. Service can be quite slow sometimes, so be patient. Ask for a table in the back garden.

BRASEIRO DA GÁVEA

CATEGORIES: Casual Dining, Eating

Make a Call: +552122397494

Visit Website: http://www.braseirodagavea.com.br/

Get Directions: Praça Santos Dumont, 116 - Gávea, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 24050-060, Brazil

Praça Santos Dumont, 116 | Gávea | Brazilian Steakhouse

Sunday to Thursday from 11am to 1am Friday and Saturday from 11am to 3am

There is a reason why this casual steakhouse is always packed with locals, with long lines at the door: the perfectly grilled steaks for reasonable prices. Very informal, the eatery is famous for its hearty *picanha* (rump steak) with broccoli rice, egg farofa and fries. But order first the *linguiça na brasa* (grilled pork sausage) as an appetizer along with some ice cold *chope* (draught beer). Located at Baixo Gávea, a very young and bohemian area, the restaurant is a great place to start the night, before moving to a bar or nightclub, or to eat after it, since it is open until late. (https://whatthefab.com/)

Image taken from Braseiro's Facebook

RIO DE JANEIRO BY FERNANDA BRAGA

CATEGORIES: Friends in Town

Get Directions: Gávea, Rio de Janeiro - State of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Image by Fernanda Braga

Fernanda Braga is not a *carioca*. She does not live in Rio. However, her heart certainly belongs to the city and given the opportunity, Fernanda packs up and spends long weekends and various holidays exploring Leblon, the samba schools, and her favorite restaurants, just an hour's flight away from her native Curitiba. Therefore she qualifies as a Friends in Town for Rio de Janeiro, for I would usually ask her where to go when visiting the city myself. (https://hoyoskitchen.com/)

Her perfect weekend in Rio would start with a chicken salad with bread at BB downed with a glass of refreshing green juice at <u>Jaeé</u>, before heading to the beach at Posto 12. When hungry, she heads to <u>Gula Gula Ipanema</u> for lunch or <u>Togu</u> for dinner, preferably with an outdoor table so she can observe *cariocas* come and go. Instead of dessert, she goes for a drink a <u>Stuzzi</u>, just a few blocks away. For people watching late into the night, Jobi is her place to go.

When Rio wakes up cloudy or when going to the beach could wait, she heads for an excellent breakfast at Empório Jardim, a beautiful place. Afterward, there are several shops worth a look. For lunch, <u>Braseiro</u> or <u>Guimas</u> at Gávea, preferably late, so by the time she had her *cafezinho*, it is almost time to head for a play at the theater in Shopping da Gávea.

You can follow Fernanda on Instagram at <a>@ferbragamaia

Image by Fernanda Braga

CAVERNA

CATEGORIES: Drinking, Party places

Make a Call: +552135075600

Visit Website: http://www.caverna.net.br/

Get Directions: Condomínio do Edifício Marsan - R. Assis Bueno, 26 - Botafogo, Rio de Janeiro - RJ,

22280-080, Brazil

Rua Assis Bueno, 26 | Botafogo | Bar, cocktails, burgers Monday from 6pm to 12midnight Tuesday to Thursday from 6pm to 1am Friday from 6pm to 2am Saturday from 7pm to 2am

If the combination between rock and roll, hamburger and drinks sounds like paradise, Caverna is a must-go for you. Hidden in

a calm Botafogo street, the bar has a pub atmosphere, with neon lights, classic rock soundtrack and brick exposed walls decorated with vintage posters. The menu offers creative (and killer) hamburgers; on Monday, they prepare a vegan version of the sandwich. Save some space for the cocktail listing that surprises with suggestions such as Porn Star (vanilla vodka, passion fruit and sparkling wine). For the 80's fans, there is a video arcade machine – clients can play for free.

THE MAZE JAZZ

CATEGORIES: Dance & Music

Make a Call: +552125585547 Visit Website: http://jazzrio.com/en/

Get Directions: R. Tavares Bastos, 414 - Catete, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

Rua Tavares Bastos, 414 | Catete

Favelas were the cradle of samba, but at this iconic building at Tavares Bastos community, crowds go uphill to enjoy jazz sessions. Every first Friday of the month, the famous hostel throws a Jazz Night with live music performances, having as a scenario some breathtaking views of Guanabara Bay and the Sugar Loaf. The service is very informal and basic, but prices can be slightly expensive (note that they don't accept credit cards). At the slopes of Catete district, it is possible to go up by taxi or van, followed by a ten minute walk. The place primarily functions as a hostel – it was the first favela guesthouse/hostel in Rio, thanks to owner English-born Bob Nadkarni, who fell in love for the area in the 80's and built the house.

THE SOUL OF RIO GUIDEBOOK

CATEGORIES: Guides & Books, Insider Info

Visit Website: http://reptileditora.com.br/catalogo/guias/alma-do-rio.html **Get Directions:** Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro - State of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

"The Soul of Rio" is a beautiful guide to the city in the shape of a diary dividing the city in neighborhoods. Written by nutrition expert and health guru Cynthia Howlett, carioca da gema (true carioca), with her impressions, digressions, and stories in the city. Alongside interesting information about history, events and her daily life you will find her recommendations. A true gem. The best thing is that her book is in Portuguese and English. Published by independent Reptil Editora, you can find it at Livraria Argumento and Travessa.

FARM

CATEGORIES: Fashion & Accessories, Shopping

Make a Call: +552138133817

Visit Website: http://www.farmrio.com.br/

Get Directions: R. Visc. de Pirajá, 365 - Ipanema, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22410-003, Brazil

Rua Visconde de Pirajá, 365 | Ipanema and other locations, mainly at Rio's malls.

Monday to Friday from 9am to 9pm

Saturday from 9am to 7pm

Sunday from 12noon to 6pm

No other brand translates better the carioca young women's way of life than Farm. Colorful pieces, floral prints, lace details,

comfortable but sexy clothes, fluid dresses and skirts: in other words, the perfect outfits to spend a sunny day in Rio! A total hit, Farm is able to create clothes and accessories that perfectly mix the laid-back and fashionable *carioca* elements. Also they make partnerships with others cool brands like Adidas, Perky, Havaianas or Jansport. Prices can be quite steep.

DONA COISA

CATEGORIES: Fashion & Accessories, Gifts & Specialties, Home & Design, Shopping

Make a Call: +552122492339

Visit Website: http://www.donacoisa.com.br/

Get Directions: R. Lopes Quintas, 153 - Jardim Botânico, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

Rua Lopes Quintas, 153 | Jardim Botânico Monday to Friday from 11am to 8pm Saturday from 11am to 6pm

Located in a modern two-story house at Jardim Botânico, Dona Coisa is one of the top boutiques in Rio. The upscale multi-brand fashion retailer sells clothes, accessories and shoes from an edited selection of coveted Brazilian and international designers, plus very unique and limited editions. The curated mix of labels includes names like Gloria Coelho, Huis Clos, Isolda, Pedro Lourenço, Melissa and others. The second floor, named *Lá em Cima* (means "upstairs"), is totally dedicated to objects for the home, books and wines.

GRANADO PHARMÁCIAS

CATEGORIES: Gifts & Specialties, Shopping

Make a Call: +552132316746

Visit Website: http://en.granado.com.br/

Get Directions: R. Primeiro de Março, 16 - Centro, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

Rua Primeiro de Março, 16 | Centro and other locations in Lapa, Leblon and Fashion Mall.

Monday to Friday from 8am to 8pm Saturday from 10am to 2pm

A journey in time. This is the feeling you get when you walk into one of Granado's stores. The old pharmacy atmosphere with beautiful wooden shelves and exposed brick walls attracts the customers, but the products are as good as they are beautiful. Founded in 1870, Granado is one of the oldest Brazilian manipulation pharmacies – it used to be a Brazilian Imperial Family favorite. After a brand rejuvenation process in the 90's, Granado repositioned itself by selling toiletries with a vintage look and feel. Top hits include liquid soaps, hand creams, lotions, nail polish, make up, talcum powder and others. The Primeiro de Março concept store was the company first address, back in the nineteenth century.

CHOCOLATE Q AQUIM

CATEGORIES: Gourmet & Food, Shopping

Make a Call: +552125235009

Visit Website: http://chocolateq.com/site/?lang=en

Get Directions: Rua Garcia d'Avila, 149 - Ipanema, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22421-010, Brazil

Rua Garcia d'Ávila, 149B | Ipanema with another location at Village Mall (there are two kiosks at Galeão International Airport). Monday to Saturday from 10am to 6:30pm

Chocolate is not only an ingredient for Q Aquim: the family who runs the company developed its own chocolate formula in order to produce the most pure delicacy. Their product is milk-free, with no artificial essences and made with handpicked cocoa beans, resulting in an intense flavor and creamy texture. At the store, clients can buy chocolate bars with different cocoa percentages and also French *macarons* stuffed with, of course, chocolate. Very sophisticated, the late architect Oscar Niemeyer designed the shape of a limited edition of chocolates.

LIVRARIA DA TRAVESSA

CATEGORIES: Books & Magazines, Shopping

Make a Call: +552131950200

Visit Website: http://www.travessa.com.br/

Get Directions: R. Voluntários da Pátria, 97 - Botafogo, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

Rua Voluntários da Pátria, 97 | Botafogo with various other locations across town, most notably at Rua Visconde de Pirajá, 572

in Ipanema.

Sunday to Thursday from 10am to 10pm Friday and Saturday from 10am to 11pm

Rio's favorite bookshop, Livraria da Travessa is a local chain of beautiful stores, stocked with the best of Brazil's publishing industry as well as foreign titles. If there is a book you are looking for, Travessa will have it. Many independent publishers and authors get a space at the shelves making them a throve of treasures. The bookshops have a café and are open for long hours becoming a meeting point of cariocas at all times of the day. There are book signings almost on a daily basis so you may run into a celebrity or two.

VEJA RIO

CATEGORIES: Insider Info, Magazines

Visit Website: http://vejario.abril.com.br/

Get Directions: Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro - State of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

<u>Veja</u> is one of Brazil's most widely read weekly magazines. It brings news, interviews, articles and opinion to over 1 million readers. In Rio and Sao Paulo it comes out on Friday with a special pullout, almost the size of the actual magazine, detailing what is on in town plus articles specific to life in the metropolis. For theatre, cinema, restaurants, bars other entertainment listings it is second to none. Unfortunately it is in Portuguese only.

MIAM MIAM

CATEGORIES: Delicious Bistros, Eating

Make a Call: +552122440125

Visit Website: http://www.miammiam.com.br/

Get Directions: Rua General Góis Monteiro, 34 - Botafogo, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

Rua General Góis Monteiro, 34 | Botafogo | Fusion + Contemporary

Monday to Friday from 12noon to 3:30pm and from 7pm to 12midnight Saturday from 8pm to 1am

Located in Botafogo, the charming colonial house used to be Chef Roberta Ciasca grandmother's home. The retro decor, furnished with items from the 60's and 70's and exposed brick walls, set the cool-chic environment. The menu calls itself as "comfort food", but the creative dishes have a French and contemporary touch. Highlights include the arugula stuffed roast beef rolls, duck breast with watercress risotto and basmati rice with pork ham chips. The award-winning cocktail listing boasts great options, like *caipi du bois* (vodka, cassis, blackberry and Sicilian lemon) or *gueixa* (Japanese liquor shochu, lychee, peach and basil). It is one of Rio's best kept secrets.

MR LAM

CATEGORIES: Eating, Nice Restaurants

Make a Call: +552122866661

Visit Website: http://www.mrlam.com.br/

Get Directions: R. Maria Angélica, 21 - Lagoa, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22470-202, Brazil

Rua Maria Angélica, 21 | Lagoa | Chinese Monday to Thursday from 7pm to 12:30am Friday and Saturday from 7pm to 1am Sunday from 1pm to 11pm

Considered one of the best Chinese restaurants in Brazil, Mr. Lam serves excellent Asian food plates – some more traditional, others with a contemporary touch. Clients can order shared set-menus; the Peking duck dish takes one hour to be prepared but is worth the wait. Menu highlights include chicken satay and *uhn ehggi* (a passion fruit and coconut dessert in the shape of a fried egg). The sumptuous three-story house in front of Lagoa is beautiful: high ceilings, huge windows, *feng shui* style decoration and some Chinese ornamental pieces (there are two original terracotta Xian warriors statues). Owned by Eike Batista, a Brazilian famous and controversial magnate, he opened the restaurant in partnership with Chinese chef Sik Chung Lam, former Mr. Chow NYC chef; all the cuisine staff comes from Hong Kong.

GUIMAS

CATEGORIES: Delicious Bistros, Eating

Make a Call: +552122597996

Visit Website: http://www.restauranteguimas.com.br/

Get Directions: R. José Roberto Macedo Soares, 5 - Gávea, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22470-100, Brazil

Rua José Roberto Macedo Soares, 5 | Gávea | Brazilian

Everyday from 12noon to 1am

A true *carioca* institution, Guimas has a faithful clientele since its opening in the 80's, attracted by its tasty menu and cozy ambience. With a bistro feeling, Guimas stands out for its very "carioca" meals, like Portuguese duck rice, *picadinho* (beef stew) or breaded beef with potato salad. Besides the food, Guimas has a very particular tradition: clients can spend time doodling on the paper tablecloth with crayons provided by the house – the staff pick the best ones to hang on the walls.

OSKLEN

CATEGORIES: Fashion & Accessories, Shopping

Make a Call: +552122272911

Visit Website: http://osklen.com/lojas

Get Directions: R. Maria Quitéria, 85 - Ipanema, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22410-040, Brazil

Rua Maria Quitéria, 85 | Ipanema (flagship store) and in all major Rio's shopping malls

Monday to Friday from 9am to 8pm Saturday from 10am to 7pm Sunday from 11am to 5pm

The cool and modern *carioca* lifestyle is the motto of Osklen. Its clothes and accessories feature fashionable designs and the use of eco-friendly materials, such as organic wool, certified leather, silk shantung, natural latex, recycled fish skin and others. (https://www.fargomonthly.com/) Its signature sneaker collection quickly became a fashion hit. Cherished by a very modern and sophisticated crowd, Osklen has stores all over the world – it is one of Brazil's most famous fashion brands, chaired by charismatic Oskar Metsavaht.

Image taken from Osklen's website

LIVRARIA ARGUMENTO

CATEGORIES: Books & Magazines, Shopping

Make a Call: +552122395294

Visit Website: http://www.livrariaargumento.com.br/

Get Directions: Rua Dias Ferreira, 417 - Leblon, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22431-050, Brazil

Rua Dias Ferreira, 417 | Leblon with a second branch at Rio Design, Barra da Tijuca

Monday to Saturday from 9am to 12midnight Sunday and holidays from 9am to 11pm

One of Rio's most traditional bookshops, with a nice café on the backyard, called Severino, good for a quiet breakfast. Several book launches attract the TV starts. It is a nice place to seek refuge on a rainy day or from the scorching heat on a summer day.

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CITY OF GOD

CATEGORIES: Films & Videos, Insider Info

Get Directions: Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro - State of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

The movie "City of God" was an instant hit in Brazil. It depicts the life of kids growing up amid violence and crime in the Rio favelas and shows a hard side to the disturbing issue. Distributed in several countries, it received 4 nominations at the Academy Awards in 2004. It became a cult movie, with far too much shooting (more than in a Tarantino movie). Worth watching, but don't let it scare you and discourage a trip to the city. Fernando Meirelles, the director, was the man behind the successful opening ceremony of the Rio Olympics 2016.

Documentary about the influence of the movie, 10 years after its release

RIO, I LOVE YOU

CATEGORIES: Films & Videos, Insider Info

Get Directions: Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro - State of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

"Rio, I Love You" portrays several aspects of a day in the city. A series of short stories directed each by a different movie director and with an ensemble of actors from all corners of the globe. A good way to see the city from different perspectives.

BAR ASTOR

CATEGORIES: Drinking, In Restaurants or Hotels

Make a Call: +552125230085

Visit Website: http://www.barastor.com.br/

Get Directions: Av. Vieira Souto, 110 - Ipanema, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

Avenida Vieira Souto, 110 | Ipanema Monday to Wednesday from 6pm to 1am Thursday from 6pm to 2am Friday from 1pm to 3am Saturday from 12noon to 3am Sunday from 12noon to 10pm

Although it was first opened in São Paulo, Astor was inspired in the traditional bohemian carioca bars from the past. In this vintage-chic atmosphere, it serves first-class cocktails - there is even a menu entirely dedicated to Gin & Tonics. Another hit is the ice cold and creamy chope (draught beer); perfect after a day at the beach, which, by the way, is just across the street. You can also expect great food; from appetizers to steaks. At sunset, the outdoor terrace is the most popular spot, facing Arpoador and Ipanema beaches.

CASA CARANDAÍ

CATEGORIES: Coffee & Sweets, Eating, Food Markets, Gourmet & Food, Shopping

Make a Call: +552131140179

Visit Website: http://casacarandai.com.br/

Get Directions: R. Lopes Quintas, 165 - Jardim Botânico, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

Rua Lopes Quintas, 165 | Jardim Botânico Monday to Saturday from 9am to 9pm Sunday from 9am to 5pm

If strolling through stalls filled with homemade breads, cheeses, jams, wines is your idea of vacation, Casa Carandaí should



not be missed. Very close to the Botanical Garden, this elegant place is more than a deli: it also functions as a bakery, a cafe, a winery and a rotisserie. Among plenty of European products such as wines and olive oil you also fin Brazilian artisanal premium cheeses, especially the ones from Serra da Canastra and Serrano. At the charming Café Carandaí, on weekends clients can enjoy a hearty buffet breakfast for a fixed price (ask for a pão na chapa, a Brazilian delicacy: grilled buttered bread). It also serves meals during the day, from salads to sandwiches.

QUINTA AZUL

CATEGORIES: Boutique, Hotels

Make a Call: +552132531021

Visit Website: http://www.quintaazul.com/home-br-1/

Get Directions: R. Alm. Alexandrino, 256 - Santa Teresa, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20241-260, Brazil

Rua Almirante Alexandrino, 256 | Santa Teresa

Surrounded by a lush garden, this blue charming guesthouse occupies a historic three-story colonial mansion from the nineteenth-century. On Santa Teresa's main street, the artsy and bohemian district of Rio, Quinta Azul features 13 glamorous boho-chic style accommodations - some have four-poster beds and 400-thread count sheets. Although it is located 20-30 minutes away from the beaches, the hotel is within walking distance to various restaurants, cafes and shops in this lively area. Note that this is a hilly neighborhood; so be prepared for some uphill walks.

POUSADA BONITA

CATEGORIES: Budget, Hotels

Make a Call: +552122271703

Visit Website: http://www.bonitaipanema.com/en/

Get Directions: Condomínio do Edifício Sito a Rua Barão da Torre - R. Barão da Torre, 107 -

Ipanema, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22411-001, Brazil

Rua Barão da Torre, 107 | Ipanema

Former Tom Jobim's house, the world famous Brazilian musician from Garota de Ipanema song, this charming and colorful guesthouse features nine private rooms and two shared dorms (up to six people each). Guests can enjoy an outdoor swimming pool and a lively bar. Daily breakfast is also available. As most of Rio's hostels, Bonita does have a party atmosphere - so it can get a little bit loud at night. Situated in Ipanema, only three blocks away from the beach, the hostel is within walking distance from restaurants, bars and subway station

RIO SCENARIUM

CATEGORIES: Dance & Music

Make a Call: +552131479000

Visit Website: http://www.rioscenarium.art.br/

Get Directions: R. do Lavradio, 20 - Centro, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20230-070, Brazil

Rua do Lavradio, 20 | Centro Tuesday to Thursday from 6:30pm Friday from 7pm Saturday from 8pm

Lavishly decorated with antiques (does get kitschy at times), the beautiful colonial three-story mansion is already an attraction in itself. But more than that, Rio Scenarium has become an unmissable spot for anyone (*cariocas* and tourists alike) who wants to spend the night dancing samba, *gafieira*, *pagode* and other Brazilian rhythms in the heart of Lapa, the veritable samba district. On weekends, this huge venue attracts crowds (up to 2,000 people) to enjoy live music performances – yes, there will be lines. If you do not feel able to samba dance, the restaurant on the second floor serves nice meals, like grilled *picanha* (rump steak) with garlic *farofa* or the flambé shrimp with *cachaça*.

CANASTRA BAR

CATEGORIES: Cocktail Bars, Drinking

Make a Call: +5521996561960

Visit Website: https://www.facebook.com/Canastra-Bar-825976007465428/

Get Directions: R. Jangadeiros - Ipanema, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

Rua dos Jangadeiros, 42G | Ipanema Tuesday to Sunday from 6:30pm to 1am

Don't be surprised if you walk past Canastra's unassuming battered entrance: embodying the "boteco pé sujo" vibe (how Brazilians call a dive bar), Canastra has only a small counter at the door, a few sidewalk tables and most of the drinks are served in plastic cups. The informality, however, hides an excellent list of Brazilian wines for reasonable prices and a very modern good looking crowd. (linksmagazine.com) Also the appetizers have a bistro twist (the owners are French), such as pâté de campagne, cooked octopus and some charcuterie items. It has become an informal French consulate in Ipanema. It is close to General Osório subway station.

Image taken from Canastra on Facebook

BAR URCA

CATEGORIES: Drinking, In Restaurants or Hotels

Make a Call: +552122958744

Visit Website: http://www.barurca.com.br/

Get Directions: R. Cândido Gafree, 205 - Urca, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22291-080, Brazil

Rua Cândido Gaffrée, 205 | Urca Weekdays from 6:30am to 11pm Weekends from 8am to 11pm

Bar Urca is a bar and restaurant in the quaint Urca neighborhood, on the steps of the Pão de Açúcar, or Sugar Loaf Mountain. Opened since 1939, it is part of Rio's cultural heritage. (Alprazolam) It is not a fancy place, but this is where its charm lies. The bar is famous for a low wall on the sidewalk, where people sit down to watch the sunset. Step by after your visit to the famous mountain and join the locals with a portion of *pastel* and a beer.

Image from Bar Urca on Instagram



SAVÁ

CATEGORIES: Delicious Bistros, Eating

Make a Call: +552125406916 Visit Website: http://savarj.com.br/

Get Directions: R. Aníbal de Mendonça, 55 - Ipanema, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22410-050, Brazil

Rua Aníbal de Mendonça, 55 | Ipanema | Healthy & Organic Monday to Friday from 10:30am to 8pm

Saturday from 9:30am to 6:30pm

When it comes to eating healthy and organic, it's not always easy to find places to grab a quick bite. Functioning as a healthy fast-food, Savá offers tasty meals like tapiocas, salmon with quinoa or zucchini spaghetti with shrimps. Sugar-free or lactosefree desserts are to die for - try the "brigadeiro fit", made from green banana biomass. Produced with organic and fresh ingredients, the food comes in plastic containers. Despite being a takeaway and delivery restaurant, there are a few seats as well - usually attended by a much diversified crowd, like suited businessmen or local surfers. (https://bestsellerpublishing.org/)

Image taken from Sava's Instagram

MONOCLE RIO GUIDE

CATEGORIES: Guides & Books, Insider Info

Visit Website: https://monocle.com/travel/rio-de-janeiro/

Get Directions: Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro - State of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

The Monocle Travel Guide Series is a collection of travel guides edited by super informative magazine Monocle and printed by super quality publishing house **Gestalten**. They bring curated tips, articles and insider information. Worth having a look.

ARMAZÉM SÃO THIAGO

CATEGORIES: Drinking, Restobar

Make a Call: +552122320822

Visit Website: http://www.armazemsaothiago.com.br/

Get Directions: R. Áurea, 26 - Santa Teresa, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20240-130, Brazil

Rua Áurea, 26 | Santa Teresa Monday to Saturday from 12noon to 1am Sunday from 12noon to 11pm

Brazilians love a good boteco, a gathering place to meet friends, to watch a soccer match or to just enjoy a beer and some appetisers. Armazém São Thiago, in the middle of Santa Teresa, brings tourists and local residents together. Have a pork sandwich with a caipirinha, or a chopp (draught beer) with caldinho de feijão (black bean sauce) while you test your Portuguese with a carioca. On weekends it fills up towards sunset and there is always music to set the scene.

MEZA BAR

CATEGORIES: Casual Dining, Cocktail Bars, Drinking, Eating

Make a Call: +552132391951

Visit Website: http://mezabar.com.br/

Get Directions: R. Cap. Salomão, 69 - Humaitá, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22271-040, Brazil

Rua Capitão Salomão, 69 | Humaitá Monday to Wednesday from 6pm to 1am Thursday from 6pm to 2am Friday from 6pm to 3am Saturday from 11am to 3am Sunday from 11am to 1am

Located in Humaitá, a very charming residential district, Meza takes being a bar very seriously. Its creative cocktail menu features blends like New Belly Guava (cachaça, guava jam and cheese cubes) or Batida de Paçoca (cachaça, whipping cream, sweetened condensed milk and paçoca, a kind of peanut candy). However food is no less important in this venue. Very original, the meals are served in small bowls (or potinhos), which is a great way to try a little bit of everything. Go for the Sicilian lemon risotto or the picadinho (beef stew) with dark beer sauce. On weekends, Meza offers a much sought-after brunch. (Diazepam)

Image taken from Meza's Instagram

PALAPHITA KITCH

CATEGORIES: Cocktail Bars, Drinking

Make a Call: +552122270837

Visit Website: http://palaphitakitch.com.br/casa/lagoa/?lang=en **Get Directions:** Av. Epitácio Pessoa - Lagoa, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

Avenida Epitácio Pessoa, s/n | Lagoa there is another venue, not as charming and well positioned for an amazing sunset as this one.

Daily from 6pm to 12midnight

On the banks of Rodrigo de Freitas Lagoon, this outdoor bar bills itself as a "tropical lounge". Surrounded by coconut trees and with sofas facing the water, it is decorated with rustic furniture, wood ornaments, indigenous pieces and bamboo torches that settle something like an "Amazon jungle oasis" vibe. The menu is very creative, sometimes exotic, featuring appetizers and sandwiches with ingredients from the Amazon. At sunset, the place is quite romantic. In the evenings it has a vibrant and lively atmosphere, great for drinks like *caipikitch*, a mix of vodka, watermelon, mint and ginger.

ARPOADOR INN

CATEGORIES: Great Location, Hotels

Make a Call: +552125291000

Visit Website: http://hotelarpoador.com/en/

Get Directions: R. Francisco Otaviano, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

Rua Francisco Otaviano, 177 | Ipanema | Arpoador

This oceanfront hotel is so close to the beach that it is possible to have breakfast while feeling the sea breeze on your face. Between the vibrant Ipanema and Copacabana districts, the boutique hotel is located on Arpoador beach, famous for hosting one of the most beautiful sunsets in Rio. (womenautoknow.com) All 50 rooms are cozy and very functional – some of them overlook the ocean. The local restaurant, Temporada, has wide windows facing the Arpoador boardwalk. You will see scores of cariocas waiting for sunset at the Arpoador Stone. Once the sun sets, there is general clapping. A very Rio thing.

Image taken from Arpoador Inn website

MAR IPANEMA

CATEGORIES: Great Location, Hotels

Make a Call: +552138759191

Visit Website: http://www.maripanema.com/

Get Directions: R. Visc. de Pirajá, 539 - Ipanema, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22410-003, Brazil

Rua Visconde de Pirajá, 539 | Ipanema

The area around this hotel reflects pretty well the *carioca* way of life. Known as *Quadrilátero do Charme* (Charming Quarter), it offers plenty of restaurants, bars, fashion stores and entertainment venues. Also, the hotel is only 2 blocks away from Posto 10, the most popular (and beloved) spot at Ipanema beach, and very close to Lagoa Rodrigo de Freitas as well. Mar Ipanema 86-rooms are all decorated following Rio's elements, with a modern touch. Attached to the hotel, Armazém Devassa is a mix of 24/7 bar and restaurant, serving from breakfast to late-night snacks along with ice cold beer.

SANTÊ HOSTEL

CATEGORIES: Budget, Hotels

Make a Call: +552132170698

Visit Website: http://www.santehostel.com/

Get Directions: R. Felício dos Santos, 62 - Santa Teresa, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 20240-240, Brazil

Rua Felício dos Santos, 62 | Santa Teresa

Santê Hostel is a very good budget option if you are looking into staying at Santa Teresa. It is a friendly place where you can make lots of friends to explore Rio with. There are private suites as well as bunk beds, you can choose depending on how much you are willing to spend. The owners are constantly organising events and making guests feel at home.

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BELMOND COPACABANA PALACE

CATEGORIES: Hotels, Splurge

Make a Call: +552125487070

Visit Website: http://www.belmond.com/copacabana-palace-rio-de-janeiro/ **Get Directions:** Av. Atlântica, 1702 - Copacabana, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

Avenida Atlântica, 1702 | Copacabana

The Copa, as it is known to locals and frequent guests, is part of Rio's history. Countless kings, presidents, artists and celebrities have chosen it as their home away from home while in the Tropics. The hotel mixes old European charm with Brazilian touches in the colorful murals, the flowers and the staff, many at the hotel for decades. Reserve a room with a beach view

The hotel is also famous for its bar, the Copa Bar and its restaurants Pergola, Cipriani and Mee.

FASANO

CATEGORIES: Great Location, Hotels, Splurge

Make a Call: +552132024000

Visit Website: http://www.fasano.com.br/hoteis/fasano-rio-de-janeiro **Get Directions:** Av. Vieira Souto, 80 - Ipanema, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

Avenida Vieira Souto, 80 | Ipanema

The Fasano group, originally from São Paulo, has raised the bar in Rio's hospitality scene after the opening of Fasano. By far the best hotel in the city, with a superb view of Ipanema and Brazil's most famous swimming pool. Attention to detail and impeccable service are mantra at Fasano, which also focuses on promoting the best in Brazilian design, cuisine and amenities. If you are not a guest, pass by for a drink at the bar or a meal at Fasano Al Mare, the hotel's gourmet restaurant. However, if you get a chance to stay, enjoy each and every minute of it, especially the balconies facing the beach, as most rooms have sea views.

CASA MOSQUITO

CATEGORIES: Boutique, Hotels

Make a Call: +552135865042

Visit Website: http://www.casamosquito.com

Get Directions: R. Saint Roman, 222 - Copacabana, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

Rua Saint Roman, 222 | Ipanema

A great hotel in Rio, Casa Mosquito has a unique setting, high above Ipanema and Copacabana. Not far from Ipanema's metro station, it is an old mansion converted into a boutique hotel. (https://mrbonespumpkinpatch.com/) The owners are from France, so you have Brazilian charm with French flair, a perfect combination for a great holiday._

Image taken from Casa Mosquito's website

BROWNIE DO LUIZ

CATEGORIES: Coffee & Sweets

Make a Call: +552125298895

Visit Website: https://www.facebook.com/browniedoluiz/

Get Directions: Condomínio do Edifício 136 da Rua Cupertino Durao - R. Cupertinio Durão, 136 -

Leblon, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22441-030, Brazil

Rua Cupertino Durão, 79B | Ipanema with another store at Rua das Laranjeiras, 103 in Laranjeiras. You can also find the famous brownies for sale in several shops, supermarkets and convenience stores across town. For all locations click here, click here.

These famous brownies are part of a business success story. Luiz Quinderé used to prepare his own brownies to take to school, where he would share them with classmates. They liked them so much that he started selling them at school and everybody started talking about the brownies. Soon his startup became a well recognised brand and now he sells his products all over the city. The cans, called "veneno da lata" or, in English, canned poison, were named after a famous song by über carioca singer Fernanda Abreu. So by tasting a little desert you are participating in Rio's street culture.

BAR DA LAJE

CATEGORIES: Drinking, Party places

Make a Call: +552133235807 Visit Website: http://bardalaje.rio/

Get Directions: R. Armando Almeida Lima, 4 - Vidigal, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

Rua Armando Almeida Lima, 8 | Vidigal

Bar da Laje has become one of the trendiest spots in Rio since opening in May 2014. High up in a favela at the Vidigal Mountain, with those breathtaking views of the coastline and the city, it is a place to have fun and watch the sun go down. You can call ahead and book a pickup close to your hotel to save the trouble of convincing a taxi driver to go up the hill. Once up there, you can enjoy the drinks, the live music and just feel like the happiest person in the world.

CT BOUCHERIE

CATEGORIES: Eating, Nice Restaurants

Make a Call: +552125292329

Visit Website: http://ctboucherie.com.br

Get Directions: Rua Dias Ferreira, 636 - Leblon, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22431-050, Brazil

Rua Dias Ferreira, 636 | Leblon | Steakhouse, with another location at Rio Design, Barra da Tijuca

Monday to Friday, lunch from 12noon to 4pm and dinner from 7pm to 12midnight

Saturday and Sunday open from 12noon to 12midnight

In Rio, if you read CT before the name of any restaurant, it means the place belongs to Claude Troisgros, the French chef who conquered the city. The Boucherie is his steakhouse, where he sourced some of the best meat in the country. You choose your cut, how you want it cooked and the side dishes are served on a "all you can eat", what Brazilians call *rodízio*. In case you do

not eat beef, there is always a fish of the day.

VENGA TAPAS BAR

CATEGORIES: Casual Dining, Drinking, Eating, Restobar

Make a Call: +552122470234 Visit Website: http://venga.com.br/

Get Directions: Rua Garcia d'Avila, 147 - Ipanema, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

Rua Garcia d'Ávila, 147B | Ipanema | Tapas Bar, with another branch in Leblon, at Rua Dias Ferreira, 113B Daily from 12noon

Venga has two locations in Rio, one in Leblon and the other in Ipanema. Both fill up quickly and remain full till they close down, quite late at night. You will notice that lots of *cariocas* do not mind to wait for a table by the sidewalk, sipping sangria or a beer, having a chat, making new acquaintances while your work your hunger for the well thought of Spanish menu. The sangria is good, but I like a chilled rosé wine. For food, try the *Bomba*, the *Revueltos de Bacalao* and the *Pan con Tomate*, to go along with all of it.

ZUKA

CATEGORIES: Eating, Nice Restaurants

Make a Call: +552132057154

Visit Website: http://www.zuka.com.br/

Get Directions: Cond Edifício Dias Ferreira - Rua Dias Ferreira, 233 - Leblon, Rio de Janeiro - RJ,

Brazil

Rua Dias Ferreira, 233B | Leblon | Contemporary

Monday from 7pm to 1am

Tuesday to Friday, lunch from 12noon to 4pm, dinner from 7pm to 1am

Saturday from 1pm to 1am Sunday from 1pm to 12midnight

Zuka can please all tastes as the menu is very varied. Most dishes are cooked on the special charcoal grill, the ingredientes are of high quality and the restaurant's team work seamlessly, making service a joy. There are salads, pastas, vegetarian options as well as seafood, poultry and meat. Deserts are a special chapter, so save some space or at least share one with your dinner companions.

MEE

CATEGORIES: Eating, Fine Dining

Make a Call: +552125487070

Visit Website: http://kenhom.com/mee-restaurant/

Get Directions: Av. Atlântica, 1702 - Copacabana, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

Avenida Atlântica, 1702 at the Belmond Copacabana Plaza | Copacabana | Asian fusion

Sunday to Wednesday from 7pm to 12midnight Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 7pm to 1am The sino-american celebrity chef Ken Hom set foot in South America and got a one star Michelin for it at Mee. His elegant restaurant facing the <u>Copacabana Palace</u>'s famous swimming pool is a gem, with dishes from Japan, China and Southeast Asia. There is a sake sommelier and a drink list of exotic concoctions to go along with your tuna foie-gras sushi.

SUSHI LEBLON

CATEGORIES: Eating, Nice Restaurants

Make a Call: +552125127830

Visit Website: https://www.facebook.com/sushileblon

Get Directions: Rua Dias Ferreira, 256 - Leblon, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22431-050, Brazil

Rua Dias Ferreira, 256 | Leblon | Japanese

Monday lunch from 12noon to 4pm and dinner from 7pm to 1:30am

Tuesday to Saturday from 12noon to 1:30am

Sunday from 1pm to 12midnight

Sushi Leblon is a well known address in Rio because many of its patrons are TV celebrities. They come here not just to be seen, but for the amazing food. Let the simple nigiri and sashimi wait for another meal. Instead, have the grilled scallops with lychee, the white fish ussuzukuri with truffle oil or the octopus blinis. Save some space for banana and dulce de leche harumaki with passion fruit sauce. Yummy, isn't it?

BAR DO MINEIRO

CATEGORIES: Casual Dining, Eating

Make a Call: +552122219227

Visit Website: http://bardomineiro.net/

Get Directions: Rua Paschoal Carlos Magno, 99 - Santa Teresa, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

Rua Paschoal Carlos Magno, 99 | Santa Teresa | Brazilian

Daily from 11am to 1am

Bar do Mineiro, in the traditional neighborhood of Santa Teresa, is a typical Brazilian bar where you can order dishes such as feijoada (the black bean stew), moqueca (seafood with palm oil sauce) and the addictive minipasteis de feijão (black bean fritters). It gets very lively in the evenings, but it is a perfect spot for lunch during your Santa Teresa explorations.

FLASHBACK

CATEGORIES: Dance & Music, Eating, Nice Restaurants

Make a Call: +552122747657

Visit Website: http://flashbackrj.com.br/

Get Directions: R. Paul Redfern, 33 - Ipanema, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, 22410-080, Brazil

Rua Paulo Redfern, 33 | Ipanema | International Monday to Wednesday from 7pm to 1:30am Thursday to Saturday from 7pm to 2:30am

Flashback is a mix of bar, restaurant and concert hall dedicated to good food and music. I recommend it when there are live shows, generally once a week. When there are no concerts you can still enjoy music watching concerts on their flat screens or selecting the music videos to play. The food is good and their extended opening hours make it a good option in case you get hungry before going to sleep.

TRAVEL**VINCE**

Rio de Janeiro Destinations