



## INFORMATION TO PARTICIPANTS 27<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> August 2018, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

We take great pleasure in welcoming you to the **“44<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Very Large Data Bases 2018”** from 27<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2018 at The Windsor Barra Hotel & Congresses.

We are truly delighted that you will attend the conference to share your ideas and experience and wish to provide you with the following information:

### I) Conference Venue

Windsor Barra Hotel & Congresses  
2.630 Lúcio Costa Ave.  
22620-172 - Barra da Tijuca  
Rio de Janeiro – RJ  
Brazil

VLDB2018 is organized at the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor at the conference area.  
For more information, please contact [vldb2018@bureauventos.com.br](mailto:vldb2018@bureauventos.com.br)  
Phone: + 55 21 3323-3500/3323-3513





## II) Arrival and Departure

Rio de Janeiro International Airport Antônio Carlos Jobim (Galeão) is the entry port to the city. At your arrival at Galeão, you will be welcomed by a VLDB2018 desk in the baggage claim area. You may use the help of the desk receptionists to assist you during your first contact with the city (eg. Transportation, exchange, etc.).



## III) Secretariat

Opening hours: 8:00 AM to 6 PM

- On-site registration, only by credit/debit card;
- Participant kit retrieval;

## I) Visa for Brazil

Make sure you have obtained your Visa for attending the Conference. If you haven't applied yet, please, check at the Brazilian consulate web site the requirements for issuing a Brazilian VISA. Consider that it may take some time depending on the local consulate procedures. The VLDB organization would be happy to provide you with an Invitation letter, if needed.

In case of any clarification, please feel free to write to us at [vldb2018@bureaueventos.com.br](mailto:vldb2018@bureaueventos.com.br). You may also find VISA information at the conference web site – participant information tab.

## II) Currency Exchange



For more convenience, participants can easily exchange currencies at exchange desks at the International Airport Antônio Carlos Jobim (Galeão) (next to the Luggage claim/international arrival). Special exchange rates have been negotiated with the exchange desks at the luggage claim area. Please, identify yourself as a VLDB2018 attendee.

You may also choose to change money at the hotel or at exchange offices authorized by the Central Bank of Brazil. Please, during the conference, ask for information with the organization of the event, for the most reliable way to exchange your Money.

#### *The Brazilian Real*

Since 1994 the Brazilian Real is the legal currency of Brazil, signed as R\$ and ISO-coded 4217 BRL. As of today, it is the strongest currency in Latin America and the Central Bank of Brazil is the authority in charge of minting it in coins of **5, 10, 25** and **50** centavos and **1 real** and banknotes of **2, 5, 10, 20, 50** and **100** reais.

### **III) Credit and Debit Cards**

Using a credit or debit card can be an ideal way to avoid carrying more cash than you require for just incidental expenses. Most hotels, restaurants and stores in Brazil readily accept Visa and Master Card. After you've made your purchase (in *reais*), the charge is sent on to Visa or Master Card. They convert the charge from *reais* to dollars or the currency of your country at the official exchange rate the day the charge is processed. When you receive your monthly statement, the charge will be listed in dollars or the currency of your country. The only problem with using credit cards is that most issuing banks will charge a foreign transaction fee of from 2 to 3% and may have additional fees. If this is of concern to you, you may want to check with the bank that issued your credit card before using it in Brazil.

American Express cards are not as widely accepted in Brazil as Visa and Master Card but most hotels as well as many restaurants and stores (especially in the larger cities) do accept American Express. There are also American Express offices in Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo where you may obtain a cash advance using your American Express card. While somewhat of a dinosaur in North America and elsewhere in the world, the Diner's Club card is accepted at many stores, restaurants and hotels in Brazil.

### **IV) Communications**

Brazil has extensive fixed and cell phone systems which will allow you to call anywhere in the world. Almost all hotels have a telephone in the room where you can make local, intercity, interstate or international calls. However, just as with hotels everywhere else, you'll pay a for calls made from your room.

Toll free 800 numbers used in North America and elsewhere are **not free** when calling from Brazil. You'll be charged at the same rate as if you called any other international number in the same country. If your credit card offers such, get international collect call numbers before you leave home.

Internet service is readily available in Brazil. Many hotels include (or offer for an additional fee) high speed Internet access, if not in the room or wireless, then at least somewhere in the hotel. Additionally, most larger Brazilian cities have *Cyber Cafés* offering inexpensive, high speed Internet access on their computers or yours.

Internet wi-fi will be available for participants during the Conference.

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<http://vldb2018.incc.br/>



Check some hints that might save you a headache when it is time to use your cell phone or to call home. To make a call within Rio de Janeiro, simply dial the intended number.

To call another city or state within Brazil, dial 0 + Operator Code + City Code(e.g. 11, for São Paulo) + the intended number.

To call to another country, dial 00 + the area code (e.g. 212, for NYC) + the intended number.

Watch cell phone costs, which may be too expensive when you are outside your area code.

Please refer to your operator for details.

#### **V) Transportation**

International flights to Rio de Janeiro arrive at Terminal 2 of Antônio Carlos Jobim International Airport. The Airport is located 38 kilometers from The Windsor Barra Hotel & Congresses, and the journey takes approximately 49 minutes, in normal traffic conditions.

Give preference to book your shuttle service to/from the Hotel using the official travel agency services at (<http://vldb2018.lncc.br> Accommodation Tour Package box). In case your preference is to book a taxi at the airport, follow the indications given by the welcome desk at the arrival luggage claim area.

#### **VI) Time**

For the Northeast, Southeast and South regions, where the largest cities in the country are located, such as São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Salvador, Fortaleza, Belo Horizonte, Curitiba, Recife and São Luís. time zone is UTC -3:00.

#### **VII) Electricity**

In Brazil the power sockets are of type N. The standard voltage is 127 / 220 V and the standard frequency is 60 Hz.

*Which power plugs and sockets in Brazil?*

In Brazil the power sockets are of type N. Check out the following pictures.

Type N: used in Brazil and South Africa. This socket also works with plug C.



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Don't forget to bring your own power plug adapters. Older socket models are still being used.



### VIII) Restaurants

Restaurant must clearly state the amounts they charge, including artist's cover charge, whenever the case.

A first course of hors d'oeuvre is optional. You are not supposed to pay for items you have not ordered.

It is common practice to include an extra 10% charge as gratuities to waiters. However, you are not forced to pay that amount. The 10% charge may also appear in the receipt.

### IX) Weather Conditions

Maximum Average Temperature = 25.5

Average Temperature = 21,8

Minimum Temperature = 18,9

Rainfall = 44,5mm

Humidity = 77%

Hours of Sun = 184,8 hours

### X) Some Safety Tips - "Do's & Don't's"

#### *Don't's*

- leave your bag unattended.
- don't keep your wallet in the back pocket or in the external pocket of a bag.
- open your wallet on the street.
- walk in unlit areas at night.
- walk on the street talking on the cell phone.
- leave your cell phone or other valuables away from your sight.
- leave electronic equipment visible when you are on the street.

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- wear flashy jewelry in the street, even if it is fake.
- make payments with large amounts of money.
- take more than you need to the beach.
- take drugs or get involved with them.
- think that you are a better swimmer than the Brazilians.
- think it can't happen to you.

#### ***Do's***

- At your arrival look for the VLDB 2018 welcome desk at the luggage claim area
- take with you the address of the venue and the hotel where you will be staying.
- preferably use the transport provided by the official tourism agency or accredited from the airport.
- put your money, passport and ticket in the safe deposit box of your hotel.
- take cabs rather than buses.
- ask policemen for help if you need it.
- ask your hotel for information. They know most of the answers.
- use our emergency number(#190) if you have any problem avoid crushes.
- act like a traveler rather than a tourist.
- wear comfortable clothing.
- eat light meals and drink water.
- invite a friend to join you. Avoid walking alone.
- have a good time.
- be sensible.

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