

Berlitz Brazilian Portuguese Phrase Book Dictionary

Berlitz Publishing

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Berlitz Publishing : Berlitz Brazilian Portuguese Phrase Book Dictionary before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Berlitz Brazilian Portuguese Phrase Book Dictionary:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. One StarBy Odette D'AntoniVery basic, incomplete information.2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Sophie LafitteVery useful during our trip to Brazil. Wish it had more verb conjugations, though.6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Good Phrasebook!By JeepwalkerBrazil is a fantastic and rewarding place to visit and the warmth of the Brazilian people are it's greatest attraction. If you plan on going anywhere in Brazil besides the international hotel in front of Copacabana beach that you booked online, you're going to 'need' (not want, but NEED) to know at least 'some' Portuguese words and phrases. Having this book as a reference is a great item to keep in your backpack, and I think Berlitz still makes the best phrase

book. Having traveled around Brazil in the past, I told my wife (she hadn't been there before) that not that many people in Brazil speak English, and it's not like in Europe where most Americans can point at an item, make some funny faces, speak twice as loud (like somehow louder will make them understand), hopefully someone within an earshot who speaks English will bail you outand muddle their way through a 2 week vacation like this. That's not going to fly in Brazil. There isn't going to be anyone in that earshot 90% of the time outside of the tourist belt. After about the 3rd day on our trip my wife said, "Wow, you were right, not very many people DO speak English." Well, I speak enough Portuguese to get around comfortably, and have some conversations with people, but for my wife, it was tough because people on the street wanted to visit with her and she really couldn't communicate, or even order food at restaurants. If you are the inquisitive type, or just don't want to be an ugly American, having a good reference book is a must because new words come up, or you may want to ask for certain things while doing things on the street, restaurant, shopping, and most of what you may need should be in this book. Sure you can use Google Translator, that's my wife's secret weaponto whip out the phone at the absolute first sign of confusion. While I think Google Translator is a powerful piece of technology, and it HAS saved our hide a few times, particularly in very esoteric situations, it looks (and feels) incredibly stupid to do soplus, once you get past the situation you were in you really don't retain anything using G-translator that you can build upon in the future. If you really want to get something meaningful out of your trip to Brazil, put a little work into learning the language and you will be RICHLY rewarded. It is very similar to Spanish and Italian in structure so the basics are easy to pick up on. Pro's of the Berlitz phrase books (like this one): 1) Compact size 2) Pretty well organized 3) Nice 'feel' with the paper stock they've selected. Better than some which use a cheaper paper 4) Dictionary in the back that contains most (but not all) of what you're likely to run into in both English and Portuguese. 5) "You May Hear" sections in the book are extremely helpful in pointing out what you are likely to hear back from waiters, ticket sellers, doctors, or other people you may encounter. Some books don't have this and due to the speed of conversation and the Brazilian accent, often times I wasn't able to understand what I was hearing, but later looking at it in the book, I was able to see the words and it made perfect sense ...something I was able to remember and use the next time. Things that could be better: 1) There are a few pages of basic grammar in the back, but I'd like to see Berlitz dump the table of Contents and a few other things, and quadruple the grammar section. If you understand basic grammar and verb tense rules, you can really build a lot of sentences and go a long way with a little knowledge. That's the problem with most early learners ...they want to quick fast approach but unless you understand the very basics of Latin language structure, it's going to be very difficult and not make sense. This isn't adequate here IMO. 2) Increase the "Romance" section. Ok, the first thing I do when I look at a Phrasebook is go to the 'Romance' section. Same with my wife. I don't know why, but we use the sentences on each other and make some jokes when we are traveling around, which makes our trip even more fun. I've read some phrasebooks (like Lonely Planet) which really get down to the nitty-gritty of romance and then some, almost makes ya blush! 3) Page of common verbs. I'd like to see a page or two with tables of common verbs and tenses. This has got to be the most important thing to know and Berlitz has very little of it. They have some, but woefully inadequate IMO. 4) Re-do their pictures - They have pictures on some pages, but rather than looking at that back of people standing at a subway station, why not put pictures of interesting places in Brazil that readers might not know about (and some type 6 text explaining the picture) that they may later want to visit? Overall, this is a good book to take with you and refer to during plane rides, in the hotel at night, or wherever. My ultimate suggestion before heading off to Brazil would be to buy a used copy of the Living Language Brazilian Portuguese - Complete Course with 4 CD's and Coursebook, and invest a little time each night a couple weeks before leaving. You will really learn something. The L/L Coursebook is really good, with a lot of grammar (but not overbearing). Then visit some You tube Portuguese language tutorial pages so you can also hear the Brazilian accent because it's more like French than Spanish and you need to start training your ear to start understanding the sounds, so you can recognize what you are hearing. I carried that L/L Coursebook with me when I was in Brazil and would thumb through it at night and on plane rides to learn things I forgot or how to say certain things, or verb tenses. Then keep the Berlitz as an everyday book in your backpack to brush up on things as you need. You can be conversational in no time.

Get ready for the World Cup with the brand new Berlitz Brazilian Portuguese phrase book and dictionary! This brand new title to the series features a fresh, crisp design with vivid color photography, eye-catching color-coding, and user-generated content, making it the phrase book created by the people for the people! Sections such as Survival, Food and Drink and In an Emergency provide words and phrases you'll hear used in everyday situations throughout Brazil, and there are snippets of information on etiquette, culture and travel. The handy bilingual dictionary at the back of the book contains over 3,000 useful words, and our new content includes essential phrases such as Whos playing?, Whats the score?, Ill put the pictures on Facebook, and much more. You'll never be lost for words with a Berlitz phrase book.