

Spotlight on Ilhabela



ILHABELA

PORT & SHOPPING MAP



HISTORY

Ilhabela is an archipelago of several islands off the coast of Sao Paulo, Brazil. The largest island, although commonly called Ilhabela, is officially named São Sebastião Island. It and the other islands including Búzios and Vitoria make up the municipality of Ilhabela.

Before Portugal colonized Brazil in 1500, the Tupi-nambas Indians inhabited the island. They called it Ciribai, which means tranquil place. The island was named São Sebastião Island by Americo Vespuccio, on January 20th, 1502. During the 16th century, the Portuguese set up military points on the shore of São Sebastião Island. On September 3rd, 1805, the Governor of the Province of São Paulo, Antônio José da França e Horta, began the political-administrative independence of the county. The Island had already 3.000 inhabitants at that time. On November 30th, 1938, during the Getúlio Vargas' Estado Novo, an act altered the name of the county to Formosa. Six years later, on November 30th, 1944, another act ultimately changed the name to Ilhabela.

Ilhabela is known as "The capital of sailing", or in Portuguese as "Ilhabela, a capital da vela." Today, over 100,000 tourists vacation on the island.

SHORE EXCURSIONS

Please check your tour ticket for the correct meeting time and location for your tour. Your Shore Excursions team will direct you to your transportation.

TRANSPORTATION

Taxis are available to transport you around town.

SHOPS

Generally, shops are open from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm, Monday to Friday. On weekends and during the summer, the village stores are open until midnight.

BANK HOURS

Generally, banks are open from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, Monday to Friday.

EMERGENCY

In case of an emergency dial 192.

English



CAPITAL

The capital of Brazil is Brasilia.

SIZE

Ilhabela is approximately 130 square miles in size.

LOCATION

Ilhabela is an archipelago situated 4 miles off the coast of São Paulo state, in Brazil. Ilhabela is located 210 miles south of Rio de Janeiro and 138 miles north of São Paulo.

POPULATION

Approximately 23,000 people live in Ilhabela.

LANGUAGE

The official language of Ilhabela is Portuguese.

CURRENCY

The official currency of Ilhabela is the Real.

PLACES TO SEE

FAZENDA ENGENJO D'AQUA

This is a privately owned colonial plantation. While it is not open to visitors, you can get a glimpse of what Ilhabela looked like in sugar cane and coffee plantation days.

PRAIA DOS CASTELHANOS

This beach is completely undeveloped and well worth the trip. The bay was once a pirate hideout. Legend has it that this is where British pirate Thomas Cavendish (1555 - 1592), buried

a fabulous treasure stolen from São Vicente village on Christmas, 1591. Take the time to explore São Sebastião's colonial buildings, many of which are on the historical register. There are numerous beaches to enjoy both south and north of town. Enseada, Cigarras, Guaecá, Toque-Toque Grande, Toque-Toque Pequeno, Paúba, Maresias, Boissucanga, Camburi, Barra do Sahy and Juquehy are the most popular.

NOTES

PLACES TO SEE IN ILHABELA

