

Itamaracá Apartments

sonhe - relaxe - aproveite

WI – FI

**BEACH1
BEACH2
BEACH3**



PASSWORD

aproveite

Welcome to Itamaracá Beach Residence

by Itamaracá Apartments

Thank you for coming to stay with us, we hope that you will enjoy your time with us and love Itamaracá as much as we do.

This booklet contains useful information to assist you whilst staying here – should you have any additional questions or need assistance we live in Apartment No 7 on the ground floor and our caretaker Antonio is also here every day.

Jac & Mark

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Itamaracá Beach Residence

Your apartment comes fully furnished and equipped, should you require any additional items please do not hesitate to ask.

ATM

To the side of Supermercado Regente. To go there by foot just go out the front gate, turn right & then left, follow the cobble stone road until you reach the main road and then turn right and it's just down on the left-hand side

BBQ

There is a large BBQ in the garden that you are welcome to use, but please ensure you clean it after you use it, so it is ready for the next person to enjoy.

Check-out at 11.00

If you wish to check out earlier or later then this it may be possible but contact us to let us know what time you wish to leave.

Before leaving please ensure everything is washed up and bins are emptied.

Cleaning & Laundry

Apartments are cleaned, and laundry changed weekly. If you require additional cleaning please contact us – an additional charge will be made for this dependent upon your requirements.

Electricity

Please switch off lights and A/C when not needed or when you leave the apartment. If we notice A/C units turned on when you have left the apartment we will access and switch off to control electricity consumption.

Inventory

Please ensure that all decorative items, furniture and appliances provided in the house are still present when you leave. Breakages can happen so please highlight to us anything you break. Please do not move furniture.

Keys

There are two entrance gates. You will receive a key fob for the main electric entrance gates. When exiting the building please ensure that you press the button to close the gate. The beach gate is open during the day and locked at night fall.

Should you lose keys please report it immediately to us.

Library

There is a selection of books in the lavandaria which you are welcome to take & read, please replace before you leave & we always appreciate more books!

Parking Places

Parking spaces are not allocated, please park with consideration to other users.

Plumbing

To prevent any plumbing problems please ensure that any paper, sanitary towels, napkins, baby wipes, etc are placed in bins and **not** flushed in the toilet.

Pool & Safety

Pool rules are shown on a separate sheet at the back of this booklet, please read and follow for your own and everybody else's safety and enjoyment of the pool area. The pool is approx. 1.5m deep – take care of non-swimmers.

Quiet Hours

To show consideration to other apartments please make sure noise is reduced between 10.00pm & 7.00am.

Rubbish

There are rubbish bins in the centre of the apartment block.

Smoking and Drugs

There is a strict no smoking or drug taking policy in the apartment. If the apartment smells of smoke when you leave, we will have to charge extra for deep cleaning.

Towels

Bath, hand and beach towels are provided. White towels should only be used in the apartment, please use coloured beach towels around the pool area or outside.

Use of Water

Please use water carefully as supplies are limited and at busy times on the Island street water is restricted.

Drinking water is provided; just ask us if you need a replacement.

Visitors

It maybe possible to have guests for the day but only by prior agreement and always depends upon number of people within the condominium.

Washing Machine

There is a washing machine you are welcome to use, it is situated in the lavanderia which is on the right hand side of the main gate

Food & Drink

Supermarkets

Mercado Patrícia

Mercado Patrícia is the nearest supermarket – they offer a good selection of food & general household items and have a bakery on site.

To go there by foot just go out the front gate, turn right & then left, follow the cobble stone road until you reach the main road and then turn right and it's just down on the right-hand side.

Or, as an alternative, you can go to the beach, turn left follow the beach and walk until you see a little wooden hut with some flags on top of it (Aldo's hut). You can take the first street you see after that, go straight and cross a little bridge over the mangrove, and that will take you to the main road where you can go right until you see the supermarket (25 meters to the right).

There are many other small supermarkets between the apartments and Pilar Town, you can also see some fruit stands by the road that sell mostly mangoes and some other fruits and vegetables.

Cafes, Bars & Restaurants

Beach Bars

There are beach bars right along the beach in either direction that serve a variety of food including freshly caught fish every day. Another popular dish served in basically all beach bars (sold as well by beach vendors walking up and down the beaches) is the “Caldinho.” Caldinho is a soup, usually served in small plastic cups and eaten as an appetizer. The most popular ones are the sea food caldinhos (made with fish, shrimp, mussels, etc), and the bean caldinho. The price usually ranges from R\$5 to R\$7.

Cafes

In the evening there is a selection of cafes/bars in Pilar, mostly around the main square.

Restaurants

Pousada Ruínas do Pilar

Pousada Ruínas do Pilar (a guesthouse) offers a very good breakfast buffet (from 07:30 am – 10:00 am) for just 15 Reais per person. A nice idea is to combine an early morning beach walk up north, starting at Itamaracá Beach Residence, with a breakfast at the pousada, and a stroll in Pilar’s Town centre.



Pousada Ruínas do Pilar

The Orange Praia Hotel

The Orange Praia Hotel is open for breakfast, lunch & dinner. It is located 300m from Fort Orange.

Célia Bar e Restaurante

Célia is at the beach, located near Pilar Town/Pilar Beach, has a nice setting with chairs and tables under little straw thatched roofs and one can have a good lunch there. Open 08:00 to 18:00 hours, basically every day and certainly on weekends.

Restaurante Tempero Nordestino

Tempero Nordestino is a restaurant that offers simple and tasty lunch. It's located on the main street, about 300m to the right (north of the island) of Mercado Regente.

Boteco da Ilha

Good beers. Live music most weekends. Located on the road to Pilar opposite the Evangelical Petrol Station. Open 18h – 01h, Wednesday - Sunday

Restaurante Bela Vista

With stunning views, good sized shady garden and swimming pool. Open weekends & holidays.

Food Delivery

We can recommend two delivery services:

Forno Na Ilha – Pizza

On-line ordering: <https://site.anota.ai/Fornoilha>

Naka Oriental – Chinese

81 98722 4161

Available here for sale

To help you enjoy your holiday we have a stock of beer & wine available for sale.

Case of Premium beer is R\$45

Recommended everyday red or white wine for R\$40 a bottle;

Emergency Contacts

Emergency Ambulance	192
Emergency Police	190
Emergency Fire Brigade	193

If there is any emergency, there is a Hospital on the island. There is also a 24 hrs urgent care centre (UPA - Unidade de Pronto Atendimento) in Igarassu. It's located on the BR-101, in the direction of Recife, in front of the Atacadão supermarket. Telephone: +55 (81) 3184-4280.

We are generally at the condominium but if you need us you can call or WhatsApp message us on:

Jacqueline + 55 (81) 98141 – 0411

Mark + 55 (81) 98294 – 0411

Getting Around

For simple trips around the island you can hail the white VW Kombis that run up & down the Island– it’s very inexpensive (around R\$4.- single fare). Some Kombis also go off the island, to Igarassu and Abreu e Lima, for about R\$8. You can stop them at any point on the main road and get off by shouting or banging on the roof.

A Tourist Train also runs the length from North to the South of the Island, from *Jaguaribe* to *Forte Orange*, but is much less frequent than the Kombis (prices around about R\$ 2 to R\$ 3 single fare).

For longer trips we would recommend a taxi. Negotiate the fare before you leave, we would recommend the following drivers:

Aluoz	+55 81 99457 – 8177
Marconi	+55 81 99476 – 1734

Francisco Bravo is a tour guide who can organise trips to Recife, Olinda & beaches of Pernambuco in English, Spanish or Portuguese – 99999-3445 or ask us for more details.

There is also Uber service on the island, but usually there aren’t any drivers actually on the island, they prefer to stay in Igarassu, a much bigger city. However, in the high season sometimes there are a few drivers on the island, and sometimes they do come from Igarassu to get you, so it’s worth a try.

Subject to our own availability we can also offer airport transfers for R\$200.

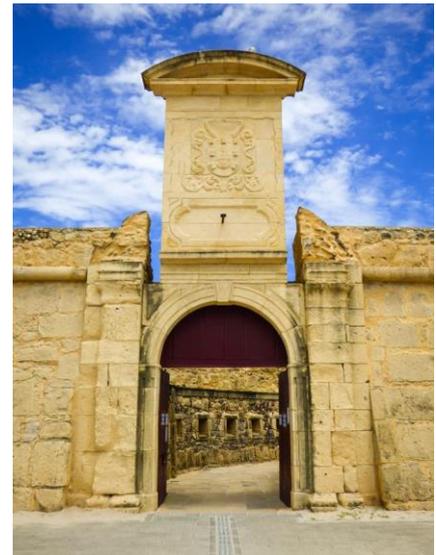
Things To Do On The Island

Laze by the pool or enjoy one of the many beaches is definitely nice, but there is also lots more to do on the Island besides that.

Historic sites

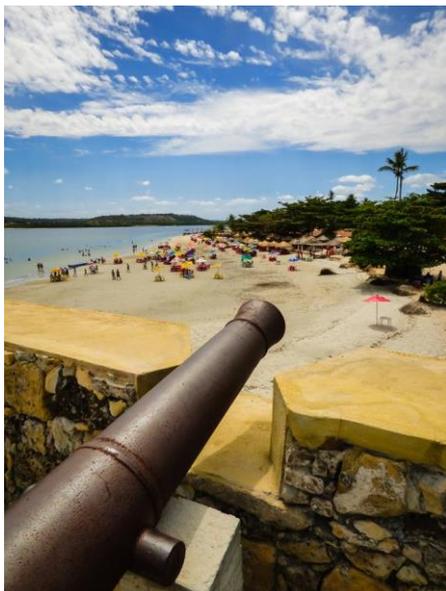
Forte Orange/Fortaleza de Santa Cruz

Any Brazilian will know Itamaracá because of Forte Orange, a fort built by the Dutch in 1631 to protect their domain from invading forces. The Portuguese destroyed the Dutch fort when they took over in 1654. However, the location was so unique that they created a new fort in stone on the site, which still stands today and it's called Fortaleza de Santa Cruz (although everyone still knows it by Forte Orange). You can still see archaeological remains of the Dutch fort inside.



Entrance of Forte Orange

The Fort is open every day from 9am to 1pm, and the entrance is free of charge.



View from Forte Orange

To reach the Fort you can take a Kombi or the tourist train on the main road (the Kombis go much more often). Just be sure to say that you want to go to the Fort before getting in, because not all Kombis go there. You can also walk from Itamaracá Beach Residence to the Fort, it's about 5.5km distance.

Pilar Square /Town Centre

Pilar neighbourhood is the administrative centre of the island, and its beach is quite popular. It is also a meeting place for impromptu music and dancing on weekend evenings.

As it's the headquarters of the municipality it's where you find the biggest variety of shops and the biggest supermarket on the island (Mercadinho Patrícia).

There you can explore a bit around, around the main square there are some shops, restaurants, pharmacies and guesthouses, and a few meters away there's also a smaller square in front of the Nossa Senhora do Pilar church, with many stands selling all kinds of things, from clothes, shoes and hats, to fruits, vegetables and live crabs.



Nossa Senhora do Pilar Church



Fish market in Pilar

In Pilar you can also find a sea food market, with freshly caught fish by the local fishermen. It's located on the same street as Pousada Ruínas do Pilar, a few meters south from the main square. Plus, in the evenings the food stalls on the main square are open, with a range of snacks and drinks to choose from.

From Itamaracá Apartments you can get there by going to the main street and getting a Kombi – just ask the driver to stop at Pilar, it's a popular stop. Alternatively, you can also walk there through the main street just going straight to the right (North of the island) or by the beach, where you can walk until you see the blue and white building of Pousada Ruínas do Pilar, which is located right at the main square. It's about 3 km.

Vila Velha

Inland from the sea south of the island (near Forte Orange) is the small village of Vila Velha at an altitude of about 53 metres. It is one of the oldest villages of Brazil, since the colonization started here in the Northeast.

The main landmarks in the village are the historic 16th century church (Igreja de Nossa Senhora da Conceição), the ruins and the old cemetery (still in



Nossa Senhora da Conceição Church



View from Vila Velha

use) of Igreja de Nossa Senhora do Rosário dos Homens Negros, and the “Forno da Cal” - an old rustic lime kiln where limestone was decomposed to obtain quicklime and later, with the adding of mud, lime mortar (which was used as a replacement of cement). Plus, the village has spectacular views of the island and the mainland, making it well worth a visit.

If you don't have a car, you can get there by walking the Dutch trail (for more info see our *Hiking* section in this guide) or by taxi.

Beaches

(Note: the word *Beach* translates to *Praia* in Portuguese)

Itamaracá Beach Residence is located almost in the middle of the island. If you like walking, you can reach most beaches by foot, just by going left (it's about 6 km plus another 5km after the Jaguaribe river cross to reach the north tip of the island) or right (about 5.5 km until you reach the Fort Beach at the southernmost point of the island).

In general, apart from the bars and restaurants you'll basically find very little shadow when walking on the beach, so mind to take some sun protection, including cap or hat, with you.

Outside, at the reception wall (apartment of Jackie and Mark), you'll find a calendar of the upcoming sea tides, which can be handy to plan your beach-sightseeing activities.

NORTH

Praia do Rio Âmbar

This is the beach right in front of Itamaracá Beach Residence.

Praia Baixa Verde

>> 10 min to reach by foot, about 800 m starting at Itamaracá Beach Residence.

This beach lies between Praia do Rio Ambar and



Praia do Rio Âmbar

Pilar Beach. It starts around Bar Do Peru and goes until the beach bends to the left, where Pilar beach starts.

Praia do Pilar

>> 40 min to reach by foot, about 3 km starting at Itamaracá Beach Residence.

Praia do Pilar (Pilar Beach) is the beach closest to the town's centre. It's basically the most popular beach on the island, and especially on the weekends it is often crowded. To reach it, just walk out the residence, go to the beach, turn left, and follow the coast line walking along the beach.

You'll pass by many beach bars and restaurants and when you see a blue and white building, a guesthouse called "Pousada Ruínas do Pilar" you can turn left (just before the pousada you'll find a passage with artistically painted walls) and you will reach the town centre.

Another reference point is a white cross in the ocean---when you see that you know you're at Pilar beach and near the town centre.

Praia de Jaguaribe & Pontal de Jaguaribe

>> 1 hour and 20 min to reach by foot, about 6 km starting at Itamaracá Beach Residence.

To reach Jaguaribe beach, you just continue walking on the beach without going into Pilar town centre. From Itamaracá Beach Residence it will take you about 1 hour and 20 minutes to reach it, depending on your pace and how many times you stop to take pictures and rest.

On the way there aren't many trees that provide shade, but you'll find plenty of options of beach bars and restaurants where you can stop and rest under their parasols, or you can bring your own, of course. Apart from the high season, many bars just open on weekends, and only in the morning /afternoon, but anyway you can enjoy the shade even if they are closed.



Pontal de Jaguaribe beach

You can walk until you see a coconut tree plantation on your left, that's the tip of Jaguaribe beach (also called Pontal de Jaguaribe) and depending on the tide it can offer you some nice views of rocks, natural pools and sand banks. And of course, of Praia do Sossego on the other side of the river.

From there, you'll see a path next to the fence of the coconut plantation, so you can use that to go back, then turn to your right until you reach the main road. Continue going straight and then right again, until you'll see a little pier. There you can cross over the Jaguaribe river by a wooden raft with seats (called Jangada, typical from this region) to Praia do Sossego. It takes about 5 minutes and it will cost you about 2 Reais. However, if the tide is low, you can also walk over to Praia do Sossego through the beach (with water more or less up to your shins or knees).

From the pier you can also just take a Kombi to go back to Itamaracá Beach Residence.

Praia do Sossego

Praia do Sossego can be reached by crossing the Jaguaribe river by a wooden raft. It takes about 5 minutes and it will cost you about 2 Reais. See the section of *Praia de Jaguaribe* for directions of how to get at the pier.

Officially Praia do Sossego is the name of the whole beach, up to the North tip of the island. However, many people refer to 3 other beaches, which basically follow the name of the neighborhoods there: Praia da Enseada dos Golfinhos, or just Praia dos Golfinhos (Dolphin's beach), Praia do Fortinho and Pontal da Ilha.



Pier to cross to Praia do Sossego



Sign marking a sea turtle's nest

From the beginning to the end of Praia do Sossego it's about 5,5 km. As soon as you arrive there, you'll find a beautiful beach with shallow and transparent waters, perfect for children and with amazing views of sand banks that change constantly depending on the tide.

For the first 3 km you will pass by some beach bars, but arriving closer to the tip of the island – you know you'll get close when the beach bends to the left – there are no beach bars, and almost no shade. That area is the spot for sea turtles laying eggs, and you can often see little yellow flags marking their nests.

Going further, you'll reach the northern most point of the island (commonly known as Pontal da Ilha), and there you will again find a beach bar. There you

can see the sea on the right side, and the mangrove area already close on the left side.

Beware that there are no Kombis or public transportation on that side of the island. So if you decide to go walking to the tip of the island, you'll need to go back walking as well – you can also try hitchhiking with locals or other tourists to get a ride back.



Beach bar at the most northern point of the island

Nevertheless, you can reach Sossego beach also by car. Just go to the main road in the direction of the bridge to get off the island, about 3.5 km after the roundabout (about 2km before the bridge), you'll see a dirt road on your right. There will be some signs of guesthouses and real estate advertisement for Sossego beach at the beginning of it. Just follow this dirt road and after about 8 km you'll reach Sossego beach. Beware that it is a dirt road and the conditions of it in some parts are not the best.

SOUTH

Praia Forno da Cal

>> 6 min to reach by foot, about 400m starting at Itamaracá Beach Residence.

From your apartment, go to the beach and turn to your right, walking to the south of the island. After passing through the rocks and the houses neighbouring Itamaracá Beach Residence, you'll reach a very small beach that goes until the Yacht Club. If the tide is low, you can walk in front of the Yacht club on the rocks by the ocean and you'll reach the beginning of Forno da Cal beach. If the tide is high or the waves too violent, you can walk on the street behind the Yacht club. After that, the beach goes on until the next one. You will pass by the Marina and a big house with a balcony by the ocean, these two buildings may force you to go behind them if the tide is high, otherwise you can just walk straight on the beach.



Pedra Furada

About 1.5 km from the Marina, you can see another natural attraction of the island, known as “Pedra do Anel” (Ring rock) or “Pedra furada” (Rock with a hole). It is basically a rock formation with a hole in the middle, looking like a ring, that surfaces during low tide.

Praia de São Paulo

>> 45 min to reach by foot, about 4km starting at Itamaracá Beach Residence.

This beach is located between Forno da Cal beach and Fort Orange. The beach starts about 2 km after the ring shaped rock formation. You’ll pass by a beach bar called Bar Coqueiral, which has a Brazilian flag near the tables. Shortly after that you’ll see the green sign marking the beginning of São Paulo beach. From there you just go straight, passing by many beach bars, until you reach Fort Orange.

If the tide is low, you can continue walking on the beach and pass in front of the Fort until you reach Praia do Forte, otherwise you’ll need to walk behind the Fort, passing next to a mangrove area, then turn left, passing by the entrance of the Fort until you reach Praia do Forte.



Praia de São Paulo sign

Praia do Forte Orange

>> 1 hour and 20 minutes to reach by foot, about 5.5 kilometres starting at Itamaracá Beach Residence.



Praia do Forte Orange

Known more commonly just by “Praia do Forte”, this is one of the most popular beaches of the island. It’s located immediately next to Fort Orange. There are many beach bars and restaurants there, all concentrated in about 100 meters from the fort. On the weekends it typically gets quite busy. If you’re looking for a quieter spot you can just walk on the beach further to your right, passing the Marina, and enjoy an almost private beach. This area

beyond Forte beach is where the ocean meets the river, so the water is a bit darker, with almost no waves, and you can often see crabs around.

If the tide is low, you can actually walk by the beach until Vila Velha, an alternative to the Dutch Trail.

Coroa do Avião Islet

Coroa do Avião is a large, desert-dune like sand bake, formed in the 80's. Technically, this territory doesn't belong to Itamaracá, but to Igarassu.

From Fort Orange beach just by the fort, jump on a water taxi (speed boat) to the small Island of Coroa do Avião. It takes about 2 minutes to get you there. Currently the trip costs about 15 Reais per person (way-and-back).



Hammocks in the water at Coroa do Avião

The islet is non-inhabited but used daily by many Brazilians. You'll find some small natural pools/lakes formed by the tides, dune-like structures, and it's an observation point for migratory birds.



Shrimp dish with fries and salad

You can also enjoy a fresh seafood lunch of lobster, oysters, or shrimps, and the hammocks in the sea - a highly recommended not to be missed relaxing day.

With low tide you can basically walk to the mainland and you'll see many locals fishing, catching crabs, shrimps, clams, mussels and so on. Make sure to take some sun protection with you, including a hat or cap, because apart from the restaurants, there's basically no shadow.

Lagoons

(Note: the word *Lagoon* translates to *Lagoa* in Portuguese)

Blue Lagoon (Lagoa Azul)

An inland freshwater lake/lagoon surrounded by tropical forest where you can enjoy a cool drink in the lakeside restaurant. Hire a pedal boat, swim, or even get the adrenalin pumping on The Slide of Death Zip-Line!



Pedal boats at Lagoa Azul

If you go by car, just follow the main road off the island (direction of the bridge) and you will see a sign “Lagoa Azul” on your left hand and a dirt road turning left (the sign is after about 5 minutes driving starting at Itamaracá Apartments). This dirt road leads to the lagoon. You can also take a Kombi and get off at the sign and walk the dirt road up to the Blue lagoon (about 30 minutes’ walk).

Forest Lagoon (Lagoa da Mata)

Just like the Blue Lagoon, the Forest Lagoon is an inland freshwater lake surrounded by tropical forest. It’s about a 35 minutes’ walk away from the Blue Lagoon. This lagoon is about twice the size of the Blue Lagoon, but there are no restaurants or bars to be found. Very quiet, beautiful and natural setting and very nice to relax and swim.

You can reach the Forest Lagoon by car following the road off the island (direction of the bridge) and you will see the sign “Vila Velha” on your left hand and a cobble stone road turning left (the turn to Vila Velha is after about 10 minutes driving starting at Itamaracá Apartments).

You’ll find the entry to the Forest Lagoon after a 2 minutes ride on your left hand (not signed) or a 15 minutes’ walk if you used the drop off with a Kombi minibus at the turn to Vila Velha.



Beautiful Lagoa da Mata

Kite Surfing

There is a Kite Surfing school at São Paulo beach, about 800 from Forte Orange. It's located next to Manga Verde Beach Residence.

They offer a 10 hour kite surfing course, to be divided in how many days you wish – also depending on the wind conditions and their availability. The price is around R\$1,020. To schedule your classes, you can message Marquinhos, the instructor: +55 (81) 98201-9608. He also has an Instagram account: @marquinhos_kite.

Kayaking

We have one kayak you can use here at the Itamaracá Beach Residence. Ask Jackie or Mark.

Boat Trips – Snorkelling, Fishing and Mangrove tours

There are some options of boat trips to do while on the island.

The snorkelling trip takes you to some natural swimming pools with reefs about 3 km from the beach shore. Best to plan it when the tide is low and there is not much wind.

The mangrove tour takes you sightseeing on the South point of the island, passing by many mangroves.

For both trips you can take the speedboat at Praia do Forte, and it will cost between R\$40 to R\$60 per person (depending if it's just 2 people or more). Both trips will end at Coroa do Avião islet, with the boat trip back to Itamaracá island already included on the price.

You can also schedule a fishing trip, the price will vary depending on your needs.

For more information about the boat trips you can message the skipper Willamis Pereira: +55 (81) 98781-9416 / +55 (81) 99461-9353.

We can also arrange rather more luxurious cruiser suitable for up to 8 people, hire for the day with skipper for a tour right around the Island – ask us for details.

Sea Turtle spotting

The sea turtles come to the island to lay their eggs when the ocean is the warmest (from September to March). So during those months, especially in February, you might be able to see the sea turtles laying their eggs on the northern beaches. And later on, about two to three months after the eggs have been laid, you may be able to see the eggs hatching and the baby sea turtles running to the sea.

Manatee Centre (Projeto Peixe-Boi)

The Manatee (Sea Cow) rescue centre on the island (near Forte Orange) is currently closed. Ask Jackie and Mark for updates on reopening.

Hiking

There is only one official hiking path on the island (The Dutch trail). The hiking culture is still new and growing in Brazil.

Yet, apart from the Dutch Trail, there are many other hiking options as well, with unexpected beauty, although not so easy to find or get information about. In fact, you're a bit on your own there discovering things for yourself using, for instance, Google Maps and a ... machete. Sometimes paths suddenly end or are accessible with difficulty and overgrown by forest.

Trilha dos Holandeses (The Dutch Trail)

The Dutch trail is the only "official" hiking path of the island. It goes from Praia do Forte (Forte Orange) until Vila Velha. The hike takes about 45 minutes over 3.5 kilometres and is easy.

The starting point at Vila Velha is marked by a sign, easy to spot. However, the entry point of the path from Praia do Forte is not signalized. The easiest way to find the entrance is to go to São Paulo Church, which is located on the main road to Fort Orange, just 500 meters before you reach the Fort.



São Paulo Church



Brick wall and the beginning of the path on the right

From there, you go walk passing the church and turn to the first street on your left (after 20 metres). Go straight until the end of this street (just 2 blocks, about 75 meters) and turn to your right. Then, walk further for about 200 m until you'll see a small path on your left, next to a brick wall with "nº 142" written on it (opposite the path you'll see a high antenna structure).

Following the path you'll soon see the signs saying "Bem vindo a Trilha dos Holandeses" and other signs like "Guarde seu lixo" (Keep your trash with you) and "Respeite a natureza" (Respect nature) on the way. On the path you should always go straight (there is only one bifurcation with an option to go right, just ignore it).

The hiking path is mostly flat, half of the path is covered by tall trees so you'll have some shade, but the beginning and the end are pretty much open, so always good to use sunscreen and wear a hat.



Sign written "Welcome to the Dutch Trail"



When you cross this bridge you'll be almost there!

You will pass by some ruins of a house on your left, there will be a sign marking it written "Ruínas da Casa de Padre Tenório". It's the house of a priest who lived there in the 19th century and was a key player in the Pernambucan revolt of 1817.

When you reach a bridge over a mangrove river you'll be nearly there – you can already see the church of the village up on the hill. After the bridge there will be a steep climb up the hill for about 300 m and then you'll reach Vila Velha, the oldest settlement of the island, and one of the oldest of Brazil.

Guided hiking tours

For guided hiking tours, you can contact Hare or Manu from Trilha na Ilha who offer 6 hiking options around the island. Prices around R\$40 per person.

Phone/Whatsapp: +55 (81) 99455792 Hare
+55 (81) 94144414 Manu

Fauna and flora

For more information about the fauna and flora on the island, please ask for our guide

Things To Do Off The Island

Olinda

Away from the island the beautiful town of Olinda is definitely worthy of a visit - Founded in 1535 by the Portuguese, it's built on steep hillsides and distinguished by its 18th-century architecture, baroque churches, convents, monasteries and brightly painted houses. Originally a centre for the sugarcane industry, it's now known as an artists' colony, with many galleries, workshops and museums. And is a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Igarassu

Igarassu, located about 10 km just off the island, is one of the oldest cities of the country. Its historic centre is home to numerous colonial-period historic structures and one of the oldest churches in the country - Church of Saints Cosme and Damião, built in 1535. It was registered as a national monument by the National Institute of Historic and Artistic Heritage (IPHAN) in 1972.

There is also a movie theatre in the newly built shopping mall.

Recife

Recife is the capital of the state of Pernambuco, and distinguished by its many rivers, bridges, islets and peninsulas. The city of Recife has lots to offer from museums & culture, to markets and large shopping malls with well-known designer brands.

Recife Antigo, on its own island by the harbour, is the historic old town centre dating of the 16th century. To its South, popular Boa Viagem Beach is sheltered by reefs and lined by tall apartment blocks, modern hotels and restaurants.

João Pessoa

João Pessoa is located about 100km from the island and is the capital of the state of Paraíba. It was founded in 1585 and it's the easternmost city in the Americas. Its historic centre has a variety of buildings, churches, museums and other landmarks with different architecture styles since the colonization and has been registered as a national monument by the National Institute of Historic and Artistic Heritage (IPHAN) in 2007.

Plus, it has many beaches to be enjoyed and many green areas distributed among its avenues, parks, and residential neighbourhoods - notably the Botanic Garden Benjamim Maranhao with its 515 hectares of preserved Atlantic forest.

Other Beach Resorts

There are many other beach resorts both north & south of the Itamaracá island. Just to name a few of the most famous:

Porto de Galinhas Beach (Pernambuco)

About 45 minutes South of Recife, located in the municipality of Ipojuca is Porto de Galinhas, probably the most famous beach resort in Pernambuco. It's famous for its crystal clear waters and natural pools with coral reefs very close to the shore, where you can snorkel simply by stepping off the beach.

Fernando de Noronha Archipelago (Pernambuco)

This famous archipelago consists of 21 islands and islets in the Atlantic Ocean, 354 km offshore from the Brazilian coast. It's a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 2001 because of the importance of its environment and it's known for its crystal clear waters, recreational diving and sea animal spotting. There are daily flights from Recife which take about 1 hour. Be advised that there is an "environmental preservation" daily fee to visit the island, and other fees may apply to have access to the National Park attractions.

Pipa Beach (Rio Grande do Norte)

Located about 3 hours North of our island, in the municipality of Tibau do Sul, is one of the most famous beaches of Brazil: Pipa. Famous for its crystal-clear waters, fine, white sand, areas of preservation of Atlantic Forest, 10-meter-high vertical cliffs, and friendly locals, it's an international hotspot, specially loved by backpackers and surfers.