Shuttle and Taxi Service in Rio - Helpful Tips

October 16, 2013 - Transport Advice from our Host

Karynne,

the airport taxi is accredited as soon as he has landed a shed these taxis. **They are white in color, are not yellow**. Are a bit more expensive, but super trustworthy, payment by credit card. Taxis have special prices for pre-defined regions and the main neighborhoods of Rio

Follow one of these accredited taxi companies: Cootramo: www.cootramo.com.br

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Other helpful tips from Internet:

Shuttle Rio, is a newer passenger van service that takes people from the international (Galeao- GIG) or city airport (Santos Dumont) to participating hotels and hostels in Rio de Janeiro. They also offer return shuttle service for your departure. The cost is R \$20 per person for transport to hotels or hostels in Copacabana or Ipanema or elsewhere in the Zona Sul (South Zone). Simply make a reservation on their easy to navigate website, print a copy, and write down the directions to the shuttle meeting point. Shuttle Rio's vans depart every hour daily from 8am to 7pm. One bag per person is included in the rate. Extra bags are R \$5 each.

Tour companies, such as Gray Line Tours, also offer airport transfer service to/from south zone (Zona Sul) hotels for about

US \$34 per per person round trip or US \$21 one way. You can easily make a reservation on line.

Hiring a Taxi

Hiring a taxi at the Rio de Janeiro airport is probably the most common transfer method. If you have two or more people, or a lot of luggage, the cost may be no more expensive than taking a shuttle.

You can hire a "radio" taxi at one of the booths as you exit customs and just before you enter the main terminal. Booking at a taxi booth is a bit more expensive than hiring a taxi at the curb, but you are assured of hiring a reputable taxi service at a fixed rate.

You can't miss these radio taxi booths that are staffed by women who call out and wave as you exit the international terminal. There is no need to book ahead. The taxi will drop you off anywhere in the south zone (Zona Sul)which includes Copacabana or Ipanema. You can pay for the taxi service by credit card.

We have had very good results with the TranScootour company. Pay cash or by credit card and ask for a 10% discount (you have to ask for a "desconto"). The fixed price discount is currently R\$99 to anywhere in Copacabana or Ipanema. Note - you are not expected to tip the contracted taxi drivers. Visit the Transcootour website for rate information.

Another Radio taxi service at the airport offering good rates, is AeroCoop, which has been reported as charging just R \$50 (cash only) for transportation to the beaches.

You can also walk out to the curb at the Rio de Janeiro airport and hire a "yellow taxi" and pay the metered fare. **In early 2013, the city government announced fixed yellow taxi fares from the international or city airport to Copacabana and Ipanema.** You will see signs in the airport announcing the fixed rates of R\$65-\$75 for transport to Ipanema and Copacabana. This eliminates any potential hassle encountered

with a metered fare.

A return "yellow" taxi ride to the airport is less expensive and usually costs about R\$65 from anywhere in Ipanema or Copacabana. Simply hire a taxi in front of your hotel or apartment.

Insider's Tip - The cost for a taxi transfer from the Rio de Janeiro Airport is the same price for one person or up to four people. You might find other tourists on your flight, with whom you can share a taxi cab to the beaches. We did this recently and were dropped off in Ipanema, while the other people were driven up to Copacabana. There was no extra charge for the two location drop-off. If you are bringing a lot of luggage, you will need to ask for a larger taxi. Usually there is no extra charge.