

Introduction

History is the living record of the human race – exciting as it is varied. The *Time Traveller Series* will aid you as you teach the colourful history and culture of countries around the world to your students. Explore such topics as geography, city and rural living, art and music, historic events, holidays, famous cities, and meet the historic personalities who helped shape the cultures of countries today.

After each topic is presented, activity pages are provided for your students to implement suggested vocabulary, conduct further research, and provide creative answers or solutions to historical situations. Fun activity pages are also included to review the historical and cultural facts studied on the preceding pages.

Each book contains the following:

- topic information pages
- research/activity pages (including maps, charts, research topics and creative thinking activities)
- reproducible activity pages

The *Time Traveller Series* was created to spark the sense of intrigue in your students and lay a foundation for enjoyable history and culture instruction and learning. Have fun!

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The History of Brazil

'Independence or death!' Emperor Pedro I

Brazil is named for a tree found in the jungle. The bark of this tree was used to make a red dye. Portuguese settlers called the tree 'paubrasil', which means blazing wood, or brazilwood. Portuguese is the official language of Brazil.



The Line of Demarcation, drawn by Pope Alexander VI in 1494, gave Portugal the right to claim land that is now eastern Brazil. By 1500, a Portuguese explorer, Pedro Álvares Cabral, had arrived at what is now Porto Seguro in the state of Bahia to establish the first colony.

There were between one and five million native people living in Brazil at the time Portuguese settlers started arriving. The settlers soon established large plantations and grew sugarcane, which was exported to Europe. The Portuguese used native people and, later, West Africans, as slaves to work in the fields. The sugar made Portugal a wealthy nation.

The discovery of gold in 1695 and diamonds in 1729 brought many Portuguese to the southern states of Minas Gerais and Mato Grosso. Plantation owners planted coffee and cotton. Ranchers raised cattle to supply the miners. The Portuguese continued to profit from Brazilian resources.

Pedro I was made emperor when Brazil declared its independence in 1822. The next emperor, Pedro II, reigned for 49 years. He built roads and a railway into the jungle, and started a public school system. Slavery was abolished in 1888. On 15 November 1889, Brazil was declared a republic.

At the start of World War I, demand for manufactured products was high. After the war, exports decreased. Coffee prices fell and the country went into a period of general economic and political unrest. During this time, Getúlio Vargas was made Brazil's president.

Vargas wrote a constitution that helped workers by increasing wages, establishing a minimum wage and allowing trade unions. Women were granted the right to vote. During the Great Depression, Vargas made himself