

Informação do Brasil

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Welcome!

This third edition largely consist of a lot of information regarding the excursions we will visit. Thijs Homan wrote a piece with short, useful, descriptions of the projects we will definitely visit. I hope this practical insight into the excursions will inspire you! Further, Peter and Julieta will introduce themselves in Oi, eu sou... Also, we have found some newflashes from Brazil. Last, in this edition some important dates are given. Let's start with that right below. Have fun reading!

On behalf of the committee,
Niels

Important dates

- 13th of April: Deadline Macro
- 19th of April: Start Language Courses
- 4th of May Presentations Meso
- 19th of May: Workshop Day
- 2nd of June: Dura Vermeer Excursion

Oi, eu sou.. (= Hi, I am..)

This edition Peter Schoonderbeek and Julieta Matos Castaño introduces themselves to all other participants.

Peter
Hi!, I am Peter J.
Schoonderbeek, born in

the beautiful city of Arnhem at the 30th of July in 1987. Now I'm 22 years, and a fourth year student of Civil Engineering. I just finished my Bachelor, and now I follow the master Construction Management and Engineering.

The preparation of the study tour is also fully in operation. The Marco study is already in its review stage. I studied the economics part, which was very interesting to do. The differences between Brazil and the Netherlands are so big. They have totally different economies. I'm enthusiastic to read the other topics. In a few weeks we are going to do the Micro and Meso study, this is a study on company level with its direct environment. The language course is also on its way, can't wait to talk some Portuguese. While I'm writing this, I see it is 21 degrees in Enschede. The summer is coming! This makes me go to Brazil even more. Good weather affects your mood, so I think everybody will be very cheerful in Brazil! Ainda cinco meses!

Julieta

Since I know about my participation in the Study Tour, I remember myself listening to Bossa Nova at my place in Madrid when I was a child. My mother always put on João Gilberto's albums, constantly singing at the charms of his "Garota de Ipanema". It is easy to imagine that I grew up dreaming of remote Brazilian landscapes and their warm delights. At that time, Brazil appeared to be far away, only easy to reach in the books.

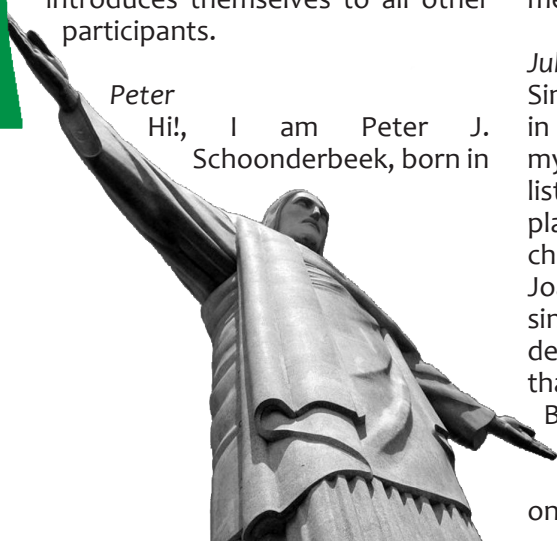
However, "few" years later... there we go!

Far-off countries and adventures have always attracted me very much. As most of you know, I am Spanish. However my first family name, "Matos", is originally Portuguese and very common in Brazil. You will meet few "Matos" in Spain, but really a lot in Brazil. Maybe these hidden Brazilian origins gave me the exploratory and brave boost to come to the Netherlands looking for new experiences.

And indeed, coming here was an adventure for me: I've never heard anything about Enschede before! However, and since the first moment, I really like it. My experience here is showing me again how great may be learning from different cultures and ways of thinking. Joining the study tour with you appears as a great opportunity to learn about Brazil and... also the Netherlands for me! I promise you something: I will do my best to learn some (little) Dutch before going there!

Update on excursions

In the last month a large number of excursions were arranged. Time for a big update! At this moment about half the study tour related excursions in Brazil are certain. There is much diversity in the different excursions and we think that all the excursions will be interesting to visit. Of course there are excursions in all the three specializations of civil engineering: Construction, Traffic and Transport and Water management. In the list below you can find short descriptions for the excursions which we will certainly visit. Contact Thijs Homan for more information!



São Paulo

The Dutch Consulate-General

We are welcome to the Dutch Consulate-General in São Paulo. Here we will hear about the relations between Brazil and the Netherlands and we are also invited to a business drink which is held in the building of the Consulate-General.

Coast Sanitation Project

This project aims to improve and expand the sewage system, develop an environmental monitoring system and upgrade the living environment of the local inhabitants of the coast area of São Paulo. In a day trip we will visit and hear about different aspects of this project.

INPE remote sensing deforestation in the Amazon

The Brazilian National Institute for Space Research (INPE) acquires high-resolution satellite images of the entire 5 million square kilometers of the Amazon rainforest. Since 2004 INPE's program to monitor deforestation has dramatically reduced the rate of logging in the Amazon. We will get a presentation about this deforestation monitoring system at the INPE.

Manaus

Balbina dam - Amazonas Energia

The Balbina Dam is a hydroelectric dam and power plant on the Uatumã River in the Amazon Rainforest. The dam was established to provide a

renewable electricity supply but the project was controversial because of the loss of forest, displacement of tribal home grounds and its expensive construction and maintenance costs. Amazonas Energia is the owner of the Balbina dam and we will hear their side of the story and we will be informed about the operation of such a dam.

SEPLAN Monorail project

The new public transportation system in Manaus provides a route for a monorail which can serve up to 170 thousand persons per day, reducing the average time shift of passengers to 1 hour on the travel time. The system will be completed with a BRT lanes through the areas east and south of the city. We will visit the government's planning bureau (SEPLAN) to be informed about the plans for this monorail and we will tour around the monorail itinerary.

SEPLAN PROSAMIM project

PROSAMIM is a project that aims at social, urban and environmental restoration. The government has been building new places to take away poor people who used to live in areas of flooding risk nearby the Rio Negro. We will be informed about this project and we will visit the PROSAMIM area.

Rio de Janeiro

CADAE Clean-up Program of the Guanabara Bay

The clean-up program of the Guanabara Bay is interesting to visit because it prioritizes long term actions targeting sanitation infrastructure works and significant social investments. The bay is also a location for the Olympic Games of 2016. We will visit a wastewater treatment plant and will hear about the pollution in the Guanabara Bay and its cleaning up program.



IBISS Favela program

With more than sixty projects IBISS aims at the most deprived groups within the Brazilian society

such as inhabitants of the favelas. IBISS wants to contribute to the development of a society in which social sicknesses such as leprosy and tuberculosis are eliminated, social inequality is combated and human rights are respected. We will be informed about the programs IBISS conducts in the Favelas in Rio de Janeiro and hopefully we can visit a Favela.

Newsflashes from Brazil

This month our newsflashes focus on living soccer legend Ronaldo, the Brazilian football and the upcoming production and sales of cars in Brazil.

Ronaldo makes obscene gesture after loss in Brazil

25/03 (AP) — SAO PAULO - Ronaldo on Thursday apologized for making an obscene gesture toward Corinthians fans who were upset with the surprise loss to Paulista in the Sao Paulo state championship. A photo by the private Agencia Estado news service depicts Ronaldo showing his middle finger as he was leaving the stadium on Wednesday after the 1-0 defeat, a result that left the club in danger of not advancing to the semifinals. Local media said about 30 fans cursed and shouted at the striker as he was about to enter a car to leave the Arena Barueri. Some called him fat.

Ronaldo said the gesture was



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made to someone who offended him morally and personally at the stadium's parking lot. He did not elaborate.

"I would never make a gesture like that to Corinthians fans, who have adopted me and supported me since my arrival," Ronaldo said. "I want to apologize if any Corinthians fans felt offended and (I want to) reiterate my admiration for them." Television images shown later did not clarify to whom the gesture was made, but the group of fans was in Ronaldo's direction.



Ronaldo understood and accepted the criticism from fans but is hoping they will start supporting the team again in the match against

rival Sao Paulo on Sunday. Corinthians, the defending state champion, is fifth in the 20-team standings, but it could drop further after Thursday's matches.

Only the top four will advance to the semifinal stage, which begins next month.

Ronaldo struggled in the team's home loss to Paulista and admitted he was far from his best. "I made childish mistakes," he said.

The three-time world player of the year has scored two goals in the nine matches he has played this year. He is still a long way from reaching the physical condition that allowed him to help Brazil win the 2002 World Cup and has been rested in some of Corinthians' matches.

The 33-year-old Ronaldo returned to Brazilian football last year after the third serious knee injury of his career.

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The link below gives a short insight into what we can expect from the Brazil national team in South Africa.

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Daimler expands commercial production in Brazil

30/03 (AP) — FRANKFURT - German automotive group Daimler AG says it will expand commercial vehicle production through its Mercedes-Benz plant in Juiz de Fora in the state of Minas Gerais, Brazil, starting in 2011.

The Stuttgart-based company did not provide details Tuesday about cost, or what models it might produce, but said it was increasing capacity because of sales growth in Latin American markets, especially in Brazil. Daimler says it expects to increase the number of jobs there, but wasn't more specific.

Daimler announced earlier this month that it would expand production at its Sao Bernardo do Campo truck and bus plant, near



Sao Paulo.

Daimler is the world's biggest truckmaker with brands including Mercedes-Benz, Freightliner and Mitsubishi-Fuso.

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As minhas primeiras palavras

This month our participants will really start learning Portuguese in our language course, but the following Brazilian Portuguese words or phrases will always come to use:

Kisses.

"Beijos."

And, so:

Beijinhos means little kisses.

Beijões means big kisses.

Beautiful girl.

"Bonita garota."

My eyes!

"Caramba!"

Cool.

"Legal."

How's it going, baby? (lit. "kitten", pickup line).

"Como vai, gatinha?"

When you miss someone desperately you can end your E-mail with:

"Saudades!"

(I have no direct translation).

Hey, ref! Where's the penalty?

"Ói, árbitro! Cadê o penalty?"

Thank you for reading!

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