

Checklist: Giving Birth in Brazil 2026

Documents • timeline • budget • steps. Updated: February 2026

Print or save on your phone. Tick items as you go. Timelines are approximate and may vary by state, Cartorio (civil registry office), consulate, and immigration rules.

1) Before you fly (8-12 weeks out)

- Check passports: validity covers the trip plus extra buffer.
- Gather originals: marriage certificate and birth certificates (both parents).
- Get apostilles/legalization if required for your home-country processes.
- Prepare Portuguese translations (if needed) for key documents.
- Obtain police clearance certificates for each parent (often required for residency).
- Choose city/clinic/doctor; request a written cost breakdown (what is included vs extra).
- Build a budget: 3-4 months living costs, medical care, documents, and a 10-20% buffer.
- Arrange travel/health insurance (confirm maternity/newborn coverage and exclusions).

2) On arrival (first week)

- Settle in: rental contract and address proof (useful for applications and services).
- Connectivity: local SIM/eSIM; set up payments/banking.
- First OB appointment: care plan, tests, hospital admission plan, emergency contacts.
- Birth plan: preferences, partner rules, what to bring.
- Get CPF for parents if needed (Brazilian tax ID, widely requested for services).

3) Birth and hospital

- Confirm fees: deposit, anesthesia, pediatrician/neonatologist, lab work - included or extra.
- Prepare a 'birth folder': passports, CPF (if you have it), contract, prenatal records, insurance (if any).
- Pack hospital bags (mom/baby/partner) and plan transportation.

4) After birth: baby's documents (usually first 3-15 days)

- Cartorio: register the birth and receive the Brazilian birth certificate (Certidao de Nascimento).
- Baby CPF: request the Cadastro de Pessoas Fisicas for your newborn.
- Baby Brazilian passport: apply if you need to travel.
- Home-country documents: check your consulate's rules (registration, passport, nationality).

5) Parents' residency (if applying based on a Brazilian-born child)

- Prepare the package: passports, police certificates, proof of relationship, baby's documents, address proof.
- Check current requirements and appointment rules at Policia Federal (rules can change).
- Submit the application/biometrics, pay fees (if applicable), track status.

6) Budget (quick cross-check)

- Flights (family) and extra luggage.
- Housing x months plus deposit/utilities.
- Birth costs (SUS/public or private) plus possible add-ons.
- Prenatal tests/ultrasounds/medications.
- Local transport, food, and basics x months.
- Documents/fees plus translations/apostilles (if applicable).
- Buffer 10-20%.

DISCLAIMER: This checklist is informational and not legal advice. Rules and timelines can change.