

Escola Suíço-Brasileira Rio de Janeiro

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil



Brazil's first bilingual school, still running three parallel language tracks and blending Swiss Matura with IB in Barra da Tijuca.

RANKING DIMENSIONS

Overall	52/100
Academic outcomes	53/100
University placement	51/100
Prestige & heritage	52/100
Alumni network	51/100
Facilities	51/100
Transparency	40/100

EDITOR'S VERDICT

Escola Suíço-Brasileira Rio de Janeiro occupies a niche that very few schools can match: a 3–18 day school in Barra da Tijuca running Portuguese, German and English across a declared mix of Swiss Matura, Brazilian and IB pathways. Founded in ****1965****, it has the weight of history behind it, but the more important point is structural. This is Brazil’s first bilingual school, and it still operates with a **distinctly complex** multilingual model rather than a token international gloss. For families who want a child educated inside Brazilian society without giving up a serious European academic frame, that mix puts it in a **rare bracket**.

Its market position is clear. At an average annual day fee of ****BRL 98,025**** across the full age range, this is an expensive school by local standards, but the price reflects a specific proposition rather than generic prestige. The school sits inside the Swiss Schools Abroad system, holds IB World School status and has MEC recognition in Brazil. That combination matters. It gives parents three concrete anchors: a Swiss institutional link, an internationally portable diploma route, and full standing in the national system. What is special here is not glossy facilities or inflated university talk; the school does not publish that kind of boastful data in the public domain. Its real distinction lies in the **serious academic hybridity** of the offer and in the discipline required to sustain three languages across a full school ladder.

This is not the right fit for every internationally minded family in Rio. Parents looking for a simple Anglo-American pathway, a softer bilingual model or a broad church of curricular choice will find more straightforward alternatives elsewhere. Escola Suíço-Brasileira suits students who are linguistically confident, academically **hard-working** and comfortable moving between systems rather than settling into one. It will appeal to Swiss, German-speaking, bicultural Brazilian and globally mobile families who value formal academic structure over trend-driven schooling. For the right child, that makes it a **compelling** shortlist school: internationally credible, nationally rooted, and unusual in a market where many schools promise globalism but offer only one language of thought.

STRENGTHS

- Offers three distinct exit qualifications - Swiss Matura, the Brazilian national curriculum, and the IB - a rare combination for a single day school.
- One of a small number of schools worldwide authorised to prepare students for the Swiss Matura outside Switzerland itself.
- Location in Rio de Janeiro gives access to the city's established Swiss and German-speaking expatriate community and cultural network.
- Multilingual instruction model (Portuguese alongside German and/or English) reflects genuine biculturalism rather than a single foreign curriculum bolted onto a local one.

TRADE-OFFS

- Very low public profile internationally - limited independent inspection reports, published results, or third-party rankings are available to verify outcomes.
- Niche curriculum focus geared toward Swiss and Brazilian pathways may be less relevant for families not connected to either system.
- As a single-campus day school, facilities, extracurricular breadth and cohort size are likely modest compared with larger international schools in Sao Paulo or Rio.
- Fee structure, class sizes and university placement data are not transparently published, making cost-benefit comparison difficult for relocating families.

ADMISSIONS

Admission appears to run on a rolling basis across primary and secondary entry points, with places offered subject to space and, for older students, prior academic records in Portuguese and/or German. The school's small size suggests moderate rather than fierce selectivity, driven more by capacity than competition. Families should contact the school directly via its website for current fee schedules, entrance assessments, and language proficiency expectations, as these are not detailed in public sources.

WTS RATING 

This profile summarises editorial research by World's Top Schools. Verify all admissions dates directly with the school before submitting. Sources are cited in the full online profile at WorldsTopSchools.com/schools/sch_4ecb29a605.