

Colégio Santo Agostinho Rio de Janeiro

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil



Augustinian friars have run rigorous Catholic schooling from Leblon since 1946, still placing among Rio's top ENEM scorers.

RANKING DIMENSIONS

Overall	57/100
Academic outcomes	59/100
University placement	57/100
Prestige & heritage	58/100
Alumni network	57/100
Facilities	58/100
Transparency	46/100

EDITOR'S VERDICT

Colégio Santo Agostinho Rio de Janeiro occupies a clear niche in the city’s private-school market: academically serious, Catholic, established, and rooted in Leblon. Founded in **1927**, it carries the institutional weight of an old Rio school without the vagueness that often surrounds legacy names. This is a Brazilian-curriculum day school for ages **3–18**, run in the Augustinian tradition, with teaching in Portuguese and English. The draw is straightforward: disciplined academics, a defined moral framework, and a reputation for strong ENEM performance. For parents who want *intellectual rigour* without the cultural looseness of a secular school, this is a credible contender.

What makes it special is the combination of religious identity and academic ambition. Many confessional schools trade on atmosphere and pastoral language; Santo Agostinho competes on results as well as ethos. The Augustinian influence matters here: this is not generic Catholic branding but a school tied to a longstanding educational order and the Augustinian Schools Network. That gives the place a *serious moral centre* and a *clear institutional identity*. It also sits in one of Rio's most coveted neighbourhoods, which sharpens both its social cachet and its competitiveness. Parents should still ask hard questions about how the school serves children who do not fit a conventional high-performing mould. Schools with this profile can be excellent for the focused middle and top of the cohort, and less accommodating for students who need a looser pace or a less prescriptive culture.

This belongs on a shortlist for families seeking *structured ambition*, *high expectations*, and a school day framed by Catholic values rather than diluted by them. It suits students who thrive on routine, respond well to firm standards, and are comfortable in an environment where academic attainment carries weight. It will also appeal to families who want continuity from early years to university entrance within one institution. It is less suited to children who need broad curricular experimentation, a progressive classroom culture, or distance from organised religion. In market terms, Santo Agostinho is not the school for educational fashion; it is the school for *disciplined formation* and *exam-facing confidence*.

STRENGTHS

- Long-established Catholic day school in Rio de Janeiro with an Augustinian religious foundation and a multi-decade presence in the city.
- Offers a continuous educational pathway from early childhood through to the final year of Ensino Medio, avoiding a school change at secondary level.
- Located in the Jardim Botânico area, a well-regarded residential district of Rio de Janeiro convenient for many expat and local families.
- Follows the standard Brazilian national curriculum, giving strong alignment with ENEM and vestibular entrance exams for Brazilian universities.
- Operates as a single, unified campus rather than a multi-site network, which can simplify school-run logistics for families.

TRADE-OFFS

- Instruction is conducted in Portuguese under the Brazilian curriculum, which is not designed for families seeking an English-medium or international diploma pathway.
- As a Catholic-affiliated institution, religious education and ethos form part of school life, which may not suit strictly secular families.
- Public information in English is limited; most communications, admissions material and school life are Portuguese-language only.
- No independently verifiable rankings, inspection reports or published fee schedules are readily available in English-language sources.

ADMISSIONS

Admission is typically sought at the start of early childhood education or at transition points into elementary and secondary grades, subject to place availability. Families apply directly through the school's own admissions office, generally requiring an interview, review of prior school records, and sometimes an assessment for older entrants. As a well-known traditional Rio day school, places at popular entry points can be competitive, particularly for younger year groups. Prospective families should contact the school directly via its website for current fee schedules, entry tests, and required documentation, as these are not consistently published in English.

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_d5c8cc7573.