



Belém welcomes the Rio 2016 Paralympic Torch Relay this Friday

- Flame will be lit in a ceremony at ProPaz Foundation, at Dorothy Stang Square, a 11:00AM
- Belém is the second of six cities to welcome the Paralympic torch relay, which proceeds to Natal, São Paulo, Joinville and Rio de Janeiro
- Stoke Mandeville, headquarters of the Paralympic Movement, in England, also lights up its flame this Friday, September 2nd

Belém is the second travelling destination of the Paralympic flame through Brazil. The capital of Pará welcomes the flame this Friday, September 2nd. The relay will go through all the regions of the country, represented by six Brazilian cities, to announce the arrival of the Rio 2016 Games. The Paralympic values will be remembered at each city. The great novelty of the Paralympic flame is the lighting up mechanism: human heat. On a virtual campaign released by the Rio 2016 Committee, people from all over the world may send positive messages, through the hashtag #ParalympicFlame, gathering enough energy to light up each flame.

This Friday, at 7:00PM (3:00PM Brasília time), the tradition flame will be lit at the city stadium of Stoke Mandeville, headquarters of the Paralympic Movement, in England. The event's theme is "Diversity Seeds" and the idea is to show that the Paralympic values have spread through the world, sharing the movement's ideals about diversity. The ceremony will be led by Bradley Hemmings, one of the directors of the opening ceremony of the London 2012 Paralympic Games. After the lighting, the flame will be virtually sent to Brazil to make the Paralympic flame that will be carried to Maracanã stadium for the Opening Ceremony, on September 7th.

- The Belém flame will be lit in a ceremony at Propaz Foundation, at Dorothy Stang Square, at 11:00AM, but activities will start at 10:00AM with sports and dancing performances, such as capoeira ensembles, ballet, hip hop, contemporary and saloon dance.
- At the Pará capital, the flame will symbolize **determination**, a fundamental value for sports, which takes us ahead in pushing physical abilities to their absolute limit.
- Athlete Dayane Victória will be the messenger of this value at Belém. She practices boccia since 2013. Aged only 12, she was champion of the Pará Student Paralympic Games on BC3 class (athletes with high degree of motor compromise). In 2015, she achieved her third championship and was champion of the national edition of the School Paralympics, at the city of Natal.
- The flame proceeds for the headquarters of the Serviço de Atendimento em Reabilitação (Saber), an NGO which has as its goal to pursue social inclusion and life independence for children and young people with disabilities.
- From Saber, the relay heads for Centro Integrado de Inclusão e Cidadania (CIIC – Integrated Centre of Inclusion and Citizenship). The programme will have attractions with characteristics of Pará culture, such as Carimbó and other folkloric dances. A libras choir will open the event at 10:00AM with the national anthem and a trio of wheelchair dancers will make a performance. During the afternoon, the Paralympic flame also passes by Apae.

· Alltino Pimenta Gymnasium will welcome the flame in celebration. Several projects for inclusion of people with disabilities by the state government will be represented in performances for the public. More than 150 students from Pará counties, such as Belém, Barcarena, Moju and Augusto Corrêa, will participate at the programme which will have boccia, 7-player football, goalball and adaptive basketball demonstrations. Among the scheduled artistic presentations there are performances of Siriá dance, Carimbó and an inclusive Zumba lesson. The Paralympic Torch Relay will also go through the streets of Belém, ending the day at Frei Caetano Brandão Square at 5:10PM, with a celebration ceremony.

· On Saturday the 4th, the Paralympic Torch Relay proceeds to Natal (RN).

Numbers of the Rio 2016 Paralympic Torch Relay in Belém

- 62 torchbearers
- 8km travelled by torchbearers
- 27.5 km travelled by the retinue

Check out some of the day's torchbearers:

Valdir Soares de Moura – A pioneer on the creation of the first adaptive basketball team in Pará, he was president of the Pará Association of the Physically Disabled. He coordinated the permanent forum of unified actions for people with disabilities, great abilities and typical conducts and was executive director of the Brazilian confederation of adaptive basketball. Coordinator of programs and special projects from the Sports and Leisure Secretariat (Sejel), he helped on the creation of the Pará Federation of Paralympic Sports (Fepepa). Due to a car accident, he became paraplegic aged 22.

Rosilene Cardoso Barreira – First female athlete in the state to play basketball on a wheelchair. First athlete from Pará to be summoned for the adaptive basketball national team. Currently, she practices sportive dancing on wheelchairs. Rosilene was a victim of poliomyelitis.

Paulo Douglas de Oliveira Andrade - He was summoned to make part of the medical department of the Brazilian sub-23 athletics national team. A former athlete of 400m with hurdles. In 2008, he represented Pará on the national conference of rights for people with physical disabilities, the year in which he created the project Estrelas do Futuro (“Stars from the Future”). He was a physical therapist and coach for Paralympic athlete Felipe, six times national champion at the school Paralympics and Brazilian vice-champion of the Caixa Paralympic Circuit. Currently he coordinates the project Talentos Paralímpicos (“Paralympic Talents”), through the Educational Inclusion Reference Centre (Crie), which has as its objective to favour the process of school inclusion for children with disabilities through the practice of sports.

Bruno Lins - He is 27 years old and has overcoming as the word which best describes his journey. Upon being born, he presented a serious case of icterus breathing failure (lack of oxygenation to the brain) and was told the truth by the medical team. He left the hospital with a prognosis of cerebral paralysis and only gave his first steps aged 10. Hippotherapy was fundamental for his developing. Bruno discovered his gift for sports and became a running athlete, competing on 100, 200 and 400 metre contests. He has a degree in human resources and in physical education; currently coursing a specialization in physiology and sportive training. Bruno carries the torch at Saber, where he made all of his rehabilitation treatment, at Nissan's invitation.

Elielson Silva – He is an athlete and has competed on several marathons, achieving important results. He is bi-champion of the International Marathon of São Paulo; also having competed at editions of Rio's Meia Maratona and Volta da Pampulha. With brain paralysis, he went through treatment at Saber, where he done a programme of multi-professional rehabilitation. He carries the torch there at Nissan's invitation.

Wilson Corrêa - An adaptive basketball coach, he led the Brazilian team at the Beijing 2008 and London 2012 Paralympic Games. He carries the torch at Claro's invitation.

Débora da Costa – She has played adaptive basketball since 17 years old and has been Brazilian champion at 15 editions of the competition. With the national team, she competed at two editions of the Paralympic Games: Beijing 2008 and London 2012. In 2011, she won the title of best player of the modality in an election by the Brazilian Paralympic Committee.

João Batista da Silva – He participated at two gold campaigns for Brazil at Paralympic Games, in Athens 2004, when the modality made its debut at the Games, and in Beijing 2008. In Greece, besides the title along with the national team, João took another award home: of biggest scorer. He scored 9 of the 14 goals by Brazil at the competition and became the first biggest scorer of the history of 5-player football at the Games.

Aline Corrêa – She dedicates herself to the practice of audio description. Due to her charisma and work of high level and emotion, she was chosen as Miss Belém on the city's 400-year anniversary. She works on communicational accessibility for people with sight disability.

Cleber Menezes – After suffering an accident in 2002, Cleber became paraplegic. He became a Paralympic athlete of athletics, adaptive basketball and adaptive volleyball. Currently he acts as Physical Education teacher and as an adaptive volleyball coach at the Integrated Centre of Inclusion and Citizenship (CIIC).

Luiz Rabello – At 28 years old he suffered an accident which caused multiple fractures. In consequence, he had his left leg shortened, and so uses a crutch. Today, at 62 years old, he is proud of his more than 40-year old career as percussionist and member of maestro João Carlos Martins' Orchestra. For the past 3 years, he has been recovering from a throat cancer, which didn't shake his spirit of overcoming. He carries the torch at Nissan's invitation.

Mariana dos Santos – In love with goalball, she practices this sport since 15 years old. Before that, she used to swim, and recently has started to practice judo. Mariana carries the Paralympic flame at Bradesco's invitation.

About the Rio 2016 Paralympic Torch Relay

Between September 1st and 7th, the Paralympic torch relay will travel through all of the country's regions, represented by six Brazilian cities, to announce the arrival of the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games. The great novelty of the Paralympic flame is the lighting-up mechanism: human heat. On a virtual campaign launched by the Rio 2016 Committee, people from all over the world may send positive messages, through the hashtag #ParalympicFlame, gathering enough energy to light up the flames. Each one will represent a Paralympic value: Brasília – equality; Belém – determination; Natal – inspiration; and Joinville – courage. São Paulo will participate with the power of transformation and Rio de Janeiro with passion for sports.

NUMBERS

- 6 Brazilian cities
- 250 kilometres travelled on the relay
- 4650 air miles travelled the by the retinue's airplane
- 700 torchbearers
- 28 special visits

For the latest news on the Rio 2016 Paralympic Torch Relay, go to our website and the Rio 2016 Organising Committee's social network pages at:

www.rio2016.com/tocha-paralimpica

www.twitter.com/rio2016

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Sponsors of the Rio 2016 Paralympic Torch Relay:

About Bradesco Sports The Bradesco bank has an impressive track record as a Brazilian sports sponsor, and unsurprisingly, is an official sponsor of the Rio 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games, handling financial services and insurance for Team Brazil and the Olympic Torch Relay. It has sponsored Rio 2016 since 2008 when the wonderful city first submitted its candidature to host the event. Bradesco also sponsors six national sports confederations: judo, basketball, aquatic sports, rugby, sailing and rowing.

Nissan in Brazil

Nissan, one of the world's biggest vehicle manufacturers, set up in Brazil in 2000 and now has over 160 dealerships throughout Brazil. The company has produced cars at its Renault Nissan Alliance plant in São José dos Pinhais, State of Parana, since 2002, and invested R\$ 2.6 billion in building its own Industrial Complex in the State of Rio de Janeiro. The industrial plant was inaugurated in April 2014 and has the capacity to produce 200,000 cars and 200,000 engines per year. The plant currently produces the Nissan March and Nissan Versa, as well as 1.0 12V and 1.6 16V flexible-fuel engines.

Nissan in Brazil is an official sponsor of the Rio 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games. The partnership agreement covers the supply of some 4,000 vehicles of various types to satisfy the needs of the Games and Team Brazil. In addition to partnering the Games, Nissan also sponsors the Rio 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Torch Relay. Nissan's role in the Rio 2016 Games also includes Team Nissan, an initiative providing counselling for 31 Brazilian athletes and parathletes whose aim is to qualify for and bring their best performance to the first ever Olympic and Paralympic Games hosted by Brazil. Counsellors include the group formed by Hortência Marcari, the Brazilian women's basketball star, and Clodoaldo Silva who has collected no fewer than 13 Paralympic medals.

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About Claro

Claro is one of the leaders of the cell phone market, acting nationally and supplying for more than 64 million clients. It is present at more than 3.700 counties with the GSM, 3GMax and 4GMax technologies. It stands out on the offer of innovative contents and services and possesses roaming agreements in more than 170 countries for voice services and more than 150 for data traffic, on all five continents. It is controlled by América Móvil, a leader in telecommunication services in Latin America and one of the three biggest groups of mobile telephony in the world. In the corporative responsibility field, the operator holds the Embratel Claro Institute, which has as its objective to structure private social investment and stimulate the use of new technologies on education.

Loterias Caixa is official supporter of the Rio 2016 Paralympic Torch Relay.

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