Brazil is the largest country in South America. It is unique because it is the only country in South America to speak Portuguese. Like other countries, it has a flag that symbolizes the nation. Like all flags, there are specific meanings behind the colors in the Brazilian flag.

The green represents the family of Pedro I, the first emperor of Brazil. The gold diamond represents the family of Maria Leopoldina, the wife of Pedro I. The white stars in the blue circle symbolize the states that make up the country. When the flag was first designed in 1889, there were only 21 stars because there were 21 states. The current version with 27 stars was adopted in 1992 after Brazil added its 27th state. The placement of the white stars also shows nine actual constellations that can be seen in the sky over Brazil. The words written across the middle translate from Portuguese to “Order and Progress,” which is the national motto of Brazil.