

Mega price hike for Rio World Cup hotels

Football fans heading to Rio for the World Cup will have to pay at least double the going rate for hotel accommodation despite government attempts to limit price-gouging during the tournament, a study found Thursday.

Globo's G1 news portal cited a study by the TripAdvisor travel website that rates in the swish Copacabana beachside district had been hiked by up to 229 per cent. The study says average hotel accommodation prices in the district will hit a wallet-busting 1543.99 reais (US\$650) per night on match days during the June 12 to July 13 competition. For Rio as a whole, the nightly average will be 1,077 reais for rises topping 100 per cent, making rooms even more expensive than Times Square in New York, according to estimates. Rio will host seven matches, including the final.