



SETOURS

HANDCRAFTED JOURNEYS®

ARGENTINA TRAVEL INFORMATION

General facts



Currency

The official currency in Argentina is the Argentine Peso, divided into 100 cents. Travelers are advised to take funds to Argentina in the form of cash and in either US dollars or euros to change into pesos (notes should be unmarked and undamaged, otherwise might not be accepted). Dollars are accepted in some hotels and tourist centers. Currencies can be exchanged at banks and authorized 'cambios' (currency-exchange houses) which are available in all major cities, other currencies might be difficult to change outside of Buenos Aires. Banks are open weekdays from 10am to 3pm and Saturday 9am to 1pm. For exchange transactions, a passport must be shown. When traveling outside of Buenos Aires you should always carry some pesos to make payments as US dollars are often not accepted for fear of forgeries.



Tipping

Tipping in Argentina is voluntary yet expected. The staff members that receive tips are mostly porters bellmen and waiters. Here's our quick guide to tipping in Argentina: Porters in hotels and airports would appreciate 1 US dollar for 2 pieces of luggage. In most restaurants, service charges are not normally included. Although never mandatory, tipping at restaurants is certainly appreciated. If you receive good service and want to leave something, 10% will show your satisfaction with the service. Tipping on credit cards is not possible and you will need to leave a tip in cash. Tipping on tours: If you've been given a good service on a tour, you may like to consider tipping your guide and/or driver. 1 US dollar per hour or 10 US dollars per day would be a reasonable amount to tip per person. Even though US dollars are always accepted as tips be sure to have plenty of change in your pocket for tipping—there is a serious shortage of it, and many restaurants and shops will refuse to break bills.



Bargaining

Bargaining is not practiced in street markets or stores. It is more common to ask for a discount if you are paying in cash.



ATMs, travelers' checks and credit cards

In Argentina cash is definitely king. ATMs are available in most urban cities (except for El Chaltén in the south). Though, there is a 4,000 Argentine Peso limit on ATM transactions (approx. USD 100) as well as a limit of 2 withdrawals per card, per day. Travelers are strongly advised to carry alternative forms of payment as daily withdrawal limits are low and machines don't always work or can run out of cash. Credit cards are accepted, with Visa and MasterCard being the most popular ones, however, there are a large number of businesses that do not accept any kind of card payment and it is advisable to carry cash on you for these purchases. There is often a high surcharge on card transactions and withdrawals. Taxis are also cash only.



Taxis

Taxi service is very common in Argentinean cities, especially in Buenos Aires. Be sure to select one from a certified company. The rate is charged at the end of the ride according to the taximeter. It is also possible to use cab hailing services such as Uber in Buenos Aires and Mendoza.



Electricity

The standard voltage is 220 -240 volts and the standard frequency is 50 Hz like in most of Europe, Australia and New Zealand. If the standard voltage in your country is in the range of 100V - 127V (as in the US, Canada and most South American countries), you will need a power (voltage) converter to use your appliances.



The power sockets that are used in Argentina are of type I / C.

General facts (2)



Time zone

Mainland is GMT -3 hours



Phone calls and Internet access

The international access code for Argentina is +54. Argentina has three network providers: Movistar, Personal and Claro. All offer prepaid SIM cards that can be purchased at their stores. For purchase, identification is required, so bring your passport or ID. Top-ups can be made at many locations all over the country (even in the remotest town there is a 'tienda' small shop able to add credit 'recarga'). Internet cafes are widely available in most tourist cities in Argentina. Most have high-speed access.

Health Recommendations



Immunizations

Before a trip to Argentina you should consider getting hepatitis A, typhoid and rabies vaccinations.

Some people who suffer from allergies, asthma, sinusitis and bronchial ailments can have aggravated flair-ups caused by pollution in Buenos Aires and the high level of pollen during Spring. Make sure you take enough medical supplies for the duration of your visit and any unexpected delays.

Entry into Argentina could be subject to Covid-19 restrictions, the guidelines of which can be found on our website: <https://www.setours.com/coronavirus-update-south-america/> Please be sure to check with your local embassy or travel agent before your departure for the most up-to-date regulations regarding your journey.



Food & Drink

The standards for health and hygiene in the larger cities and touristy regions are relatively high. Water is safe to drink in larger towns and cities, but if you are traveling to more remote regions of Argentina, it's best to stick with bottled water for drinking.

You are safer eating fruits that you can peel or salads and fruits washed with purified water, as well as foods that have been thoroughly cooked. Your best bet is to eat at clean restaurants and to avoid street vendors.

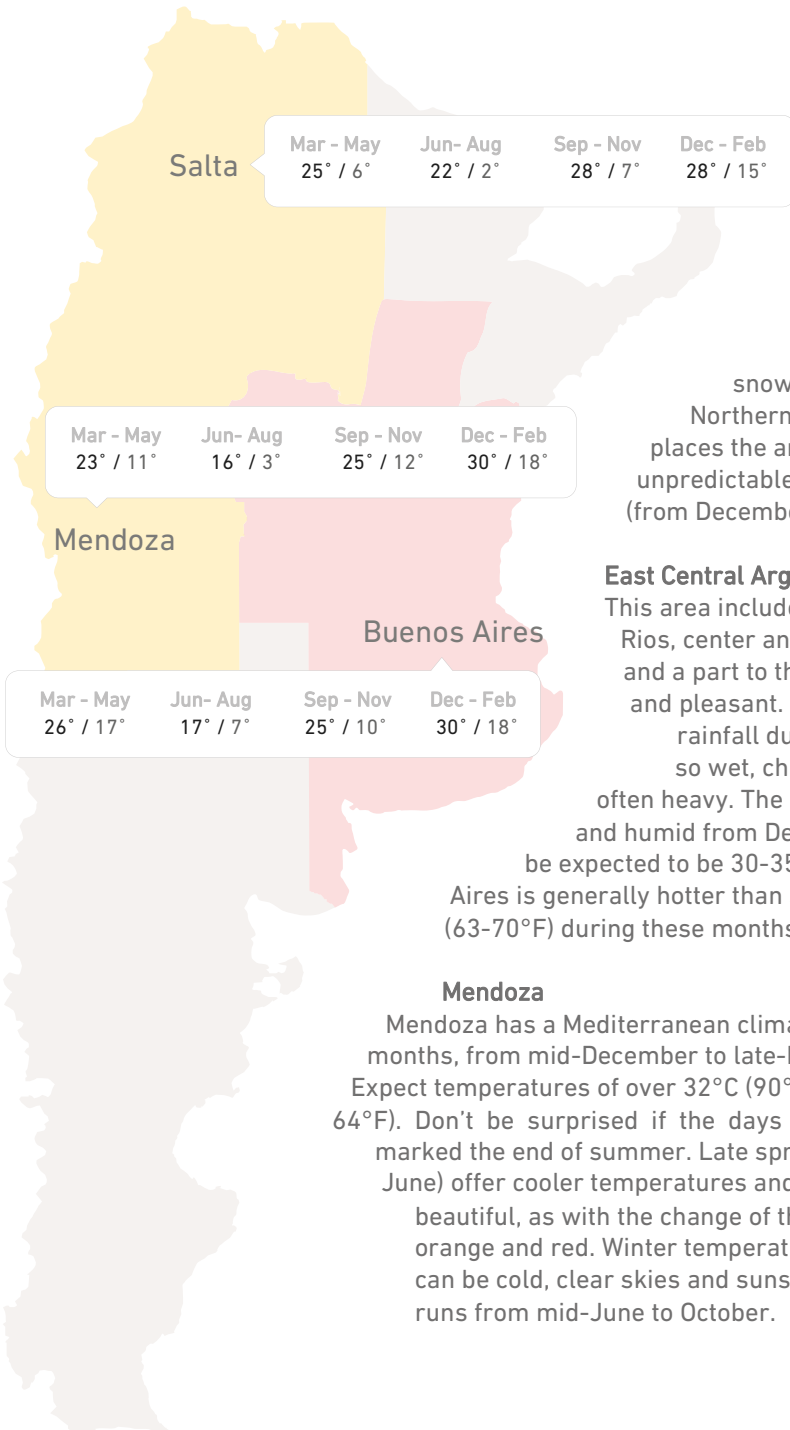


Altitude sickness

First signs of altitude sickness may already emerge in Andean regions as Salta surpassing 2,800m altitude (6,500ft). The lack of oxygen causes many individuals to suffer from headaches, nausea, shortness of breath & physical weakness. You are advised to take it easy for the first few days and to avoid alcoholic beverages for the first day or two. Try to eat light food and drink a lot of water.

Climate

Argentina is a large country with an area exceeding 2.60 million sq km, which lends itself to the country's diverse climate. Argentina can be divided into four broad climatic regions: East Central Argentina or the Pampas, the Northeastern interior, Western Argentina, and Patagonia or Southern Argentina, to which should be added the distinctive mountain climate of the high Andes.



Western Argentina – Salta, Jujuy, Tucuman

Western Argentina, including the Northern Andes, is a dry region. Even on the higher mountains snowfall is light and the dryness matches that of Northern Chile on the western side of the Andes. In many places the annual rainfall is below 250 mm/10 inches and is very unpredictable. Rainfall is more frequent during the summer months (from December to March) which are generally hot and very sunny.

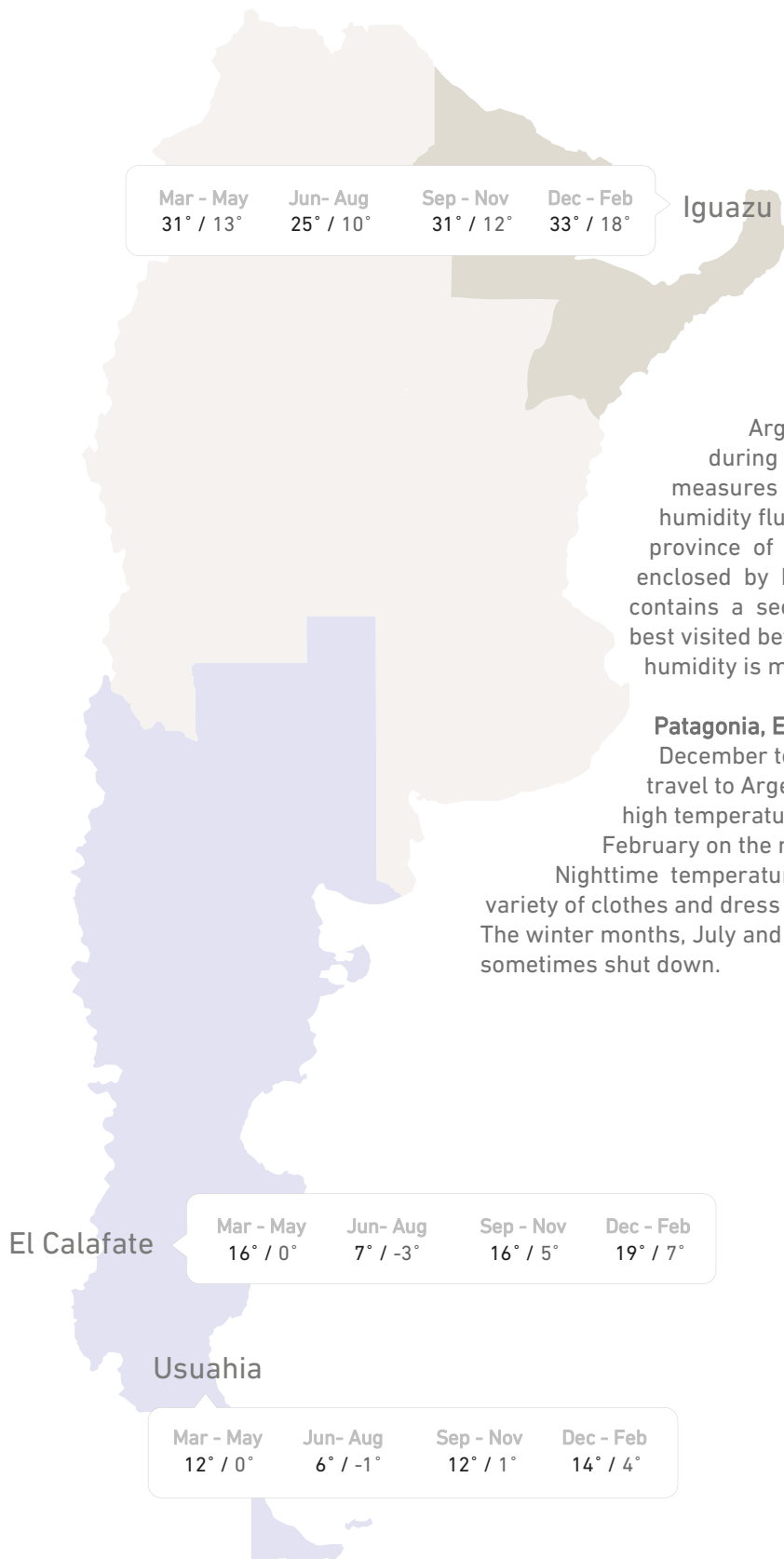
East Central Argentina or the Pampas

This area includes the province of Buenos Aires, a large area of Entre Rios, center and south of Santa Fe, the eastern strip of Cordoba and a part to the NE of La Pampa. The climate is generally healthy and pleasant. Winters are mild and summers warm, with more rainfall during the summer months. rainfall lasts a few days so wet, changeable weather is not very frequent and rain is often heavy. The weather in Buenos Aires can be expected to be hot and humid from December to January. Daytime high temperatures can be expected to be 30-35°C (85-95°F) with up to 70-75% humidity. Buenos Aires is generally hotter than Santiago. Nighttime lows should average 17-21°C (63-70°F) during these months.

Mendoza

Mendoza has a Mediterranean climate, perfect for travel all year round. The summer months, from mid-December to late-February, are both the high season and hot season. Expect temperatures of over 32°C (90°F) during the day and mild nights of 15-18°C (59-64°F). Don't be surprised if the days hit the 40°C (104°F), either. The harvest of grapes marked the end of summer. Late spring (October to mid-December) and autumn (April to June) offer cooler temperatures and generally fewer tourists. Autumn is particularly beautiful, as with the change of the season the countryside becomes a blanket of orange and red. Winter temperatures range from 2-14°C (35-57°F). While mornings can be cold, clear skies and sunshine make afternoons enjoyable. The ski season runs from mid-June to October.

Climate (2)



Iguazu

Northeast – Iguazu, Posadas

Mesopotamia, a broad, flat plain between the Parana and Uruguay Rivers in Northern Argentina, is wet, swampy and extremely hot during the summer (December to March). Rainfall measures 2000 mm (78 in) yearly and the relative humidity fluctuates between 75% and 90%. The northern province of Misiones, a more mountainous region nearly enclosed by Brazil and Paraguay, is densely forested and contains a section of the majestic Iguazu Falls. Iguazu is best visited between May and September when the heat and humidity is more bearable.

Patagonia, El Calafate & Ushuaia

December to March (summer time) are the best months to travel to Argentine Patagonia and Tierra del Fuego. Daytime high temperatures during the months of November through February on the mainland will be between 15-22° C (58-72°F). Nighttime temperatures range between 4-7°C (40-45°F). Pack a variety of clothes and dress in layers. The winter months, July and August, can be extremely cold and facilities sometimes shut down.

El Calafate

Ushuaia

Safety

Argentina is, overall, among the safest countries in South America. However, in Buenos Aires, muggings and opportunistic crime - although not common - do occur. In Buenos Aires, 'distraction muggings' sometimes happen in quiet streets, in the daytime as well as at night. Although the political and economic crisis is over, there are still periodic outbreaks of social unrest and demonstrations. In the unlikely event that you are involved in a mugging, for your own safety, it is advised that you do not resist and rather hand over what is asked of you. There is however no specific threat to foreigners and travelers should not be discouraged from traveling throughout the country.

We suggest that you take the following precautions:

- Make a copy all important documents (passport, air tickets) and carry only copies with you.
- Leave your paper valuables in the hotel safe (caja fuerte), taking out with you only what you need for the day.
- Carry a copy of your passport. When traveling, carry paper valuables in a money belt under clothing, not in a 'bum-bag'.
- Avoid marginal areas and be alert in lonely streets in the day and at night. Also, always take special care in busy streets, around markets and in and around bus terminals; either avoid carrying a bag in such areas, or secure it, as bag-slashers and pickpockets sometimes operate.
- NEVER leave your bag(s) unattended, especially in airports, bus terminals and hotel lobbies.
- Avoid walking alone in quiet areas or at night. Travel in a group if possible and tell somebody where you go if you are alone.
- It's best to use taxis at night, wherever you are.
- In a medical emergency dial 107.
- Carry change, and check your 100 peso notes before giving it to the shop assistant – they can claim it was counterfeit and give you back the counterfeit!
- Remember that you are subject to the laws of Argentina, and it is your responsibility to familiarize yourself with these laws before leaving. Penalties for possession, use, or trafficking of illegal drugs are strict.

Packing Check List

Clothing

- Sweatshirts
- Fleece jacket
- Rain jacket
- Trousers or convertible pants
- Cargo shorts
- T-shirts
- Socks
- Underwear
- Hat or cap
- Hiking shoes
- Sandals
- Swimsuit

Toiletries

- Toothbrush and toothpaste
- Shampoo
- Nail scissors and nail file
- Shaving kit
- Cosmetics

- First-aid-kit
- Insect repellent
- Ointment
- Aspirin or light pain killer
- Sun block
- Sunglasses

Others

- Passport
- Air tickets
- Cash
- Credit or debit card
- Copies of all personal documents
- Camera
- Binoculars
- Daypack for short stays
- Adapter
- Vaccination record

Dining Recommendations



BUENOS AIRES:

DON JULIO

Guatemala 4691 (esquina Gurruchaga),
Palermo Viejo
+54 11 4831 9564
Argentinean steakhouse
Mon – Sun: 12:00 – 16:00 & 19:00 – 01:00
www.parrilladonjulio.com
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FERVOR

Posadas 1519
+54 11 4804 4944
Steakhouse, seafood, grill
Mon – Sun: 12:00 – 15:30 & 19:00 – 00:00
www.fervorbrasas.com.ar
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BULLER PUB & CRAFT BEER

Junin 1747, Recoleta
+54 11 4806 0556
Pub & craft beer
Mon – Sun: 12:00 – 02:00
www.bullerbrewingco.com
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EL CALAFATE:

LA POSTA

Ing. Hector Mario Guatti 1135 (inside Hotel Posada
Los Alamos)
+54 2902 491 144 ext. 473
Steakhouse, Argentinean (lamb)
Mon – Sun: 19:00 – 23:30
www.posadalosalamos.com/en/restaurante-la-posta
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LA ZAINA WINE BAR

Gobernador Gregores 1057, Esquina Espora
+54 2902 496 789
Argentinean, vegetarian friendly, gluten free options
Mon – Sat: 19:00 – 23:30 & closed in June
www.facebook.com/lazainarestaurant
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PURA VIDA RESTO BAR

Av. Del Libertador 1876
+54 2902 493 356
Latin American, healthy, Argentinean
19:30 – 23:30 daily, closed Wed and the month of June
<https://puravidaavlibertador1876.negocio.site>
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PUERTO IGUAZU:

ARGENTINE EXPERIENCE

Avenida Brasil 57
+54 3757 405 567
Argentinian, interactive
Mon – Sun: 18:30 – 00:00
www.facebook.com/theargentineexperienceiguazu
www.theargentineexperience.com
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AQVA

Cnr Av. Córdoba and Calle Thays
+ 54 3757 422 064
Argentinean, seafood, vegetarian-friendly,
gluten free options
Mon – Sun: 12:00 – 23:30
www.aqvarestaurant.com
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Dining Recommendations



BARILOCHE:

ALTO EL FUEGO

20 de Febrero 451, Rio Negro
+54 294 443 7015
Steakhouse, Argentinean
Tue – Sat: 12:00 – 15:00 & 20:00 – 00:00
Mon: 20:00 – 00:00
www.altoelfuego.com.ar
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MANUSH

Dr. Juan Javier Neumeyer 20
+54 294 442 8905
Argentinian bar/gastropub
Mon – Fri: 17:00 – 02:00
Sat – Sun: 12:30 – 14:00
www.cervezamanush.com.ar/home
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EL BOLICHE DE ALBERTO

Elflein 158 and Villegas 347
+54 294 443 4564 and +54 294 443 1433
Argentinean steakhouse, gluten free options
Mon – Sun: 12:00 – 15:30 & 20:00 – 00:00
www.elbolichedealberto.com.ar
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MENDOZA:

SIETE COCINAS RESTAURANT

Av. Bartolomé Miter 776
+54 261 423 8823
Argentinean, contemporary, gluten free options
Mon – Sat: 20:00 – 01:00
www.sietecocinas.com.ar
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AZAFRAN RESTAURANT

Sarmiento 765
+54 261 429 4200
Argentinian, wine bar
Mon – Sat: 19:00 – 23:00
www.azafranresto.com
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RAPA NUI

Miter 202
+54 294 443 3999
Artisanal chocolates and desserts
Mon – Fri: 08:30 – 22:00
Sat – Sun: 09:00 – 22:00
www.chocolatesrapanui.com.ar
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FAMILIA DE CASO

Calle Espana 590
+54 294 442 1596
Argentinian grill, vegetarian-friendly
Tue – Sat: 12:00 – 15:30 & 20:00 – 00:00
www.restaurant-familia-de-caso.negocio.site
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MAMUSCHKA

Mitre 298, Rio Negro
+54 294 442 3294
Artisanal chocolates and desserts
Mon – Fri: 10:00 – 18:00
Sat: 10:00 – 14:00
www.mamuschka.com
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LA LUCIA GRILL & BAR

Av. Sarmiento 658
+54 261 425 0452
Italian, steakhouse
Mon – Sun: 12:00 – 00:00
www.laluciagrillbar.com.ar
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