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GET READY FOR ARGENTINA



The Local
Experience Curator

KUODA

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KUODA TIPS

Preparing for Your Trip & Answers to Other Frequently Asked Question

We are so delighted that you've decided to travel with us and we can't wait to host you in beautiful Argentina! In order to help you pack and prepare, we've put together this list of helpful tips. If you have any additional questions, don't hesitate to contact your Travel Designer. See you soon!

- Your Kuoda Team

Entry and Exit Requirements

To enter Argentina

- Argentina is open for travelers. Non-resident foreigners are able to enter Argentina following the next measures:
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- Argentina eliminated its COVID-19 entry requirements effective August 26, 2022. International travelers are no longer required to present COVID-19 vaccination cards, proof of a negative COVID-19 test, or a sworn declaration prior to entering the country.
- If a traveler is suspected or reported to be infected with COVID-19 at the port of entry, the same preventions and controls will apply as if it were any other acute respiratory condition.
- Immigration has eliminated the stamp on passports regarding entry and exit procedures for Argentina. The entity must request the personal email address and send a QR code directly to the passenger as proof. It will be necessary for passengers to carry out a procedure to obtain the QR code. This must be presented at the time of check-in at the hotels in order to apply for the accommodation benefit without tax. For this reason, you can follow the step-by-step procedure to get the code, [click here](#).

Passports and Visas

Most travelers to Argentina do not need to obtain a visa beforehand. However, travellers from China must pay a one-time Reciprocity Fee before entering the country. All Kuoda guests entering Argentina with Chinese passports must pay this fee in advance of traveling – please contact your nearest embassy to do so.

Packing

Weather and Activities Considerations

- Weather in Argentina varies greatly by region and season, so dressing for success (and comfort) means packing lots of different items!
- Buenos Aires: Buenos Aires has a mild and warm climate almost year-round. Winters are fairly mild (between June to August) with fog and mist present in the mornings and evenings. Summers are warm and sunny, though they can be a little humid (December to February). The temperature in Buenos Aires rarely falls below 40°F (4°C) or gets above about 90°F (31°C) year- round.
- Iguazu Falls: Bring a poncho! The spray from these magnificent falls is all-permeating, and you'll be glad to have a waterproof with you. Make sure to also remember plastic coverings for items such as cameras and cell phones. You'll want close-toed shoes for near the falls and along the trails in the nearby National Park, and breathable clothing with natural fibers to combat the tropical temperatures!
- Patagonia: Weather in Patagonia can be remarkably unpredictable, though the days are often sunny and warm and the nights quite cool. During the summer, you will have long daylight hours (from about 4:30am to 10:30pm), and with temperatures ranging from 60-68°F (15-20°C) during the day and 35-45°F (2-8°C) at night. Please check websites such as www.weather.com for up-to-the-minute information before you travel, as weather conditions can vary greatly in this beautiful part of the world.

Fashion and Dress Codes in Argentina

Argentina takes pride in being a casual yet fashion-forward country. In larger cities, such as Buenos Aires, you will see a preppy-casual look on most city-goers such as collared shirts, lightweight cardigans, and nice jeans. Women will wear nice skirts or slacks, strappy sandals, and heels, and on the beach, very little in general. Please wear what makes you feel comfortable and remember that flashy jewelry and accessories should be left at home, as they are a draw for pickpockets.

Baggage Size and Weight Restrictions

Please triple-check luggage restrictions for your international flights secured on your own. You will likely want to pack for greater restrictions on domestic flights and ground transportation within Argentina, which means packing a bit lighter and bringing something that can serve as an overnight bag if you don't want to be subject to extra baggage fees on your domestic flights.

Permitted baggage on domestic flights (you'll have all your luggage):

- Argentinian airlines: Checked bags are one piece of 50 lbs. (23 kg) and carry-on is 33 lbs. (15kg)
- Latam: Checked bags are 50 lbs. (23kg). Carry-on is 17.6 lbs.

Allowances depend on the category of ticket bought, so please check carefully before your travels.

Suggested Packing List

Our experience tells us: that the lighter the better. Most hotels provide laundry services, which helps cut down on the amount to pack. Here's a short list:

- Passport and flight tickets; after you've been given the all-clear by Argentine migrations and customs, you'll need to have your passport at most hotels and attractions, including on treks
- We recommend also bringing an extra photocopy of your passport, kept in a secure location separate from the original.
- Small day bag with enough space for a camera, water bottle, snacks, and hand sanitizer. - Lightweight poncho or waterproof jacket.
- Lightweight trousers or shorts.
- T-shirts and loose long-sleeved shirts, for layering.
- Hat or cap to protect from the sun.
- Comfortable walking shoes with good ankle support.
- Sun lotion (high factor), lip balm and sunglasses.
- Insect repellent with DEET (if visiting Iguazu).
- Basic first aid kit.

- Sanitizing hand gel (good to keep in your daypack).
- Basic toiletries (though most of your hotels will provide shampoos and soaps).
- Secure money belt or pouch.
- Camera, battery charger, spare battery and plenty of memory cards.
- Bathing suit/plastic sandals.
- Plenty of USD \$.

When traveling to Patagonia or Iguazu, add:

- Binoculars
- Long pants and long sleeve shirt made from a light-colored, breathable material
- Good water-resistant walking shoes
- Windbreaker for unexpected air currents
- Flashlight or headlamp with extra batteries
- Ziploc plastic bags, these will help protect spare batteries or equipment from humidity

Voltage

Voltage, Sockets and Plugs

Electricity in Argentina is 220 volts, with plugs and sockets being 100% different from those found in the USA. Please plan on bringing a voltage and plug adaptor if you would like to charge electronics while visiting Argentina.



Money and Budgeting

Exchanging Money and Using ATMs

- The official currency of Argentina is the Argentine Peso (ARS). The symbol for the Argentine Peso is (\$) and coins of 5, 10, 25, and 50 centavos are regularly used, along with \$1 and \$2 coins. Bills that are frequently used are \$2, \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50, and \$100.
- Argentina's economy has had a few large fluctuations in the last decade or so. The official exchange rate for USD\$ to ARS\$ is much lower than the unofficial exchange rate, or the "Blue Dollar" rate found on the street.
- It is highly recommended to bring as many USD\$ with you in cash as you think you will need for the duration of your trip. Please ask your local Kuoda guide and host to help you exchange your USD\$ into Argentine Pesos, as they will be able to help you get the best possible exchange rate in a secure location.
- Withdrawing Argentine Pesos from ATMs is another possibility, though many ATMs charge a per-transaction fee and give you the lower, official exchange rate. Please make sure to call your bank before your trip, to let them know you will be in Argentina – this will avoid potential fraud scares, and ensure your card is not blocked while traveling.
- It is not recommended to exchange cash in Argentinian airports, as the exchange rates airports offer are often much lower. If you must acquire Argentine Pesos while at the airport, we recommend finding and withdrawing from an ATM to get a better exchange rate.

Tipping

Tipping is not required, but is a welcome gesture if you feel you received excellent service.

- Your guide – \$ 20 USD per day (from your whole party, not "per person")
- Your driver – \$ 10 USD per day (from your whole party, not "per person")
- Wait staff at restaurants – 10% (sometimes service is included in your bill, so check first. If tipping your waiter, make sure to give cash to them directly and not leave it on the table.) - Bellboys – 1 USD\$ per two pieces of luggage.
- Whoever you tip will likely appreciate receiving USD as opposed to ARS!



Budgeting

While most charges are included in your trip cost, you will need a bit of extra cash for:

- Meals not included in your itinerary.
- Souvenirs
- Taxis or other transport on your free days – this will depend on where you are. Your guides can provide estimates for costs, as it varies per city. Feel free to round up to the dollar for a very small taxi tip, but larger tips are not customary.
- Tipping. We've provided more information below.

Health, Safety, and Insurance

Before You Go: Vaccinations, Questions for Your Doctor

- There are no vaccinations required for entry into Argentina, but the CDC recommends Hepatitis A and Typhoid. They also recommend bringing malaria pills if you are visiting certain areas of the jungle, and the Yellow Fever vaccine if you are visiting certain affected areas like Iguazu. For more information please visit this [website](#)
- We highly recommend speaking with your health care provider 4 to 6 weeks before you travel; it is better to speak with a doctor at a travel clinic.
- If you experience an emergency while travelling in Buenos Aires and surrounds, please dial 911. The number for the Tourism Police in Buenos Aires is: 0800-999-5000 or 0800-999-2838 (English is spoken).

Travel Insurance

Kuoda does not include travel insurance in its trip prices, but we strongly encourage you to purchase a plan before you travel in Argentina. This is relatively inexpensive (can be under \$100 USD) and it protects you financially from sickness abroad and cancellations due to unforeseeable events. If you are trekking, you are required to have insurance coverage. We are happy to recommend the following providers: www.insuremytrip.com or www.travelguard.com

Food and Water Precautions

While in Argentina, please drink bottled mineral water that is readily available in all hotels and local stores. Tap water is generally safe to ingest, though most complain of a lingering chlorine taste. The tap water is perfectly safe to use for food preparation and brushing teeth.

Medical Care

In Buenos Aires, as well as most of the rest of Argentina, medical care is modern and safe. If you have any medical issue whatsoever, contact your Kuoda Team and they will help you find the best medical care nearest to you.

Safety Tips

Extra caution should be taken in large cities, where petty theft is more common. Do not wear flashy jewelry or display expensive electronics! Keep purses and bags securely closed, cab doors locked and cab windows rolled up. Use caution throughout the rest of Argentina and always be aware of your surroundings. That said, you'll most often be with a guide who will be on the lookout for you and there is no need to be worried!

Staying in Touch

Internet

Almost every hotel in Argentina will have Wi-Fi, as well as internet-connected computers for guest use.

Your Mobile Phone

It may be possible to use your mobile phone in Argentina. You'll first need to check with your home provider to see if your phone will recognize the local networks. You can then buy a prepaid SIM card from one of the Argentinian telecommunications companies. This can often be a lengthy process and frustrating if you do not speak Spanish, so if at all possible, stick to communication via the internet!

Time Zones

Argentina is GMT - 03:00.

Calling Argentina and Calling Home

The telephone country code for Argentina is +54. When dialing Argentina from overseas, dial the country code (54), followed by the regional code (see below), and then followed by the number. Regional codes for often-visited cities:

- 11 Buenos Aires
- 351 Cordoba
- 261 Mendoza
- 3757 Puerto Iguazu

For more information regarding making calls to Argentina, please visit this [website](#). From within Argentina, there are plenty of places available to make long-distance calls easily. Phone cards are also available - just ask your guide to help you purchase one. In order to call home, dial the country code (e.g. 001 for the United States) then the area code and number. If you are bringing a smartphone or tablet on your journey, certain apps allow you to make phone calls and send messages via Wi-Fi for free. We recommend the Viber and WhatsApp apps. Skype is also popular and allows video calls.

Cultural Considerations

Language

Argentina's primary language is Spanish, with a very distinct accent. Argentinians also use the vosotros verb form in Spanish, which sets it apart from most of the rest of the Spanish-speaking Americas. Luckily, you'll be with your English-speaking guide most of the time, so even if you don't speak Spanish, you won't miss a thing!



*“Traveling – It Leaves You Speechless,
Then Turns You Into a Storyteller”*

-Ibn Battuta