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buenos aires international students

Introduction

Buenos Aires is the capital of Argentina and is often referred to as 'the Paris of the South' with a mixture of European and Latina American culture. The city is divided in different neighborhoods, each of which holds its own charismatic characteristic. Known for its charming café's, shops, bistros, steak houses, tango shows, galleries and museums this city really is as cosmopolitan as its reputation makes it out to be. However, Buenos Aires has still been able to maintain its old fashioned, traditional



customs, allowing it to attract thousands of tourists every year. Every Saturday and Sunday, *porteños*, the name appointed to people from Buenos Aires, as well as travelers, gather at flea markets with Recoleta, San Telmo and Plaza Serrano being the most popular of them all. Other activities to do at the weekend include watching a soccer game, which will not leave you disappointed as every match has a tendency to be intense and passionate. You should also not leave Buenos Aires without visiting its world famous zoo and Botanical Gardens or its nightlife. Clubs get busy at 2am and usually go on into the early hours of the mornings. With such a wide variety of pastimes, this city without doubt will keep you entertained!

Geography & Weather

Buenos Aires is the capital of Argentina. Argentina is the second largest country in South-America and the eighth largest country in the world. Argentina is approximately 3,900 km long from north to south, and 1,400 km from east to west. The highest point in Argentina is located in Mendoza. Cerro Aconcagua is with 6,962m the highest mountain of the Western Hemisphere. January is the warmest month of the year with an average of 24,5 °C but it can rise up to 40 degrees easily. The summer months January and February tend to be very hot and therefore many of the locals leave the city for a holiday in the mountains or at the coast. In the middle of the winter, July, the temperatures have an average of 11.1 °C. The winter months are moist, but not cold.



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Time zone

Buenos Aires is within the time zone GMT -3 and it is not currently modified during summer. The official time is numbered from 0 to 24 (13 hours = 1pm, 18 hours = 6pm, etc.).

Pre-Departure Information

Vaccinations

Argentina requires no vaccinations to enter the country. Health wise, Argentina is a relatively safe country to travel in. However, there are recommended vaccinations which you can see below. Travelers should visit either their personal physician or a travel health clinic 4-8 weeks prior departure. Recommended vaccinations for Argentina are as followed:

Hepatitis A	Recommended for all travelers.
Typhoid	For travelers who may eat or drink outside major restaurants and hotels.
Yellow fever	Recommended for all travelers older than nine months who are going to the northern and northeastern-forested areas of Argentina, including Iguazú Falls and all areas bordering Paraguay and Brazil.
Rabies	For travelers at high risk for animal bites or involved in any activities that might bring them into direct contact with bats.

Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR)	Two doses recommended for all travelers born after 1956, if not previously given.
Tetanus-diphtheria	Re-vaccination recommended every 10 years.

Malaria medication is recommended for rural areas of Salta and the Jujuy province (along the border with Bolivia) and the Misiones and Corrientes province (along the border with Paraguay). Malaria is also present at the Iguazú Falls. Please consult your personal physician or a travel health clinic for more information about this.

Passport & Visa

Make sure your passport is valid long enough, also after you left Argentina! Generally, tourists can stay 90 days (+/-) 3 months on a tourist visa which you get upon arrival. For longer stays, consult the embassy of your country of residence.



Luggage restrictions

You should check with your airline(s) before departure to find out about the luggage restrictions. With most airlines you are allowed to take one carry-on piece of luggage and two pieces of checked luggage, although some airlines have limited this to one piece so please be aware of this. Also check the weight allowance, if you exceed this your airline will charge you for this excess weight. Consult your airline if you want to know how much they charge for excess baggage.



What to bring?

There are no special items that you need to bring to Argentina. As long as you remember to take clothes that are right for the season, you should travel comfortably. Basically, if you have doubts about whether you should bring something or not, don't bring it. Any personal items you may have forgotten can be purchased at pharmacies that are widely available and you should also save some rooms for purchases you do here and souvenirs. Leave your treasured jewelry at home.

Electric power

Electric power in Argentina is 220 volt, 50-cycle alternating current. Power outlets have 2 cylindrical holes or 2 flat holes with ground connection. You may bring an adapter from your home country in order to use electric devices, although it is also easy and cheap to buy them once you arrive as they are sold in most hardware stores.

Getting to Argentina

Air

Buenos Aires's main International Airport is Ezeiza Ministro Pistarini (EZE), located 37KM away from the City Centre. Domestic arrivals land at Aeroparque Jorge Newbery.



Car

You can reach the city by the Teniente General Ricchieri freeway (information: Tel. 5480-6111). Please note that when leaving the country, tax must be paid (+/- US\$18-29).

Bus

Company Manuel Tienda Leon (Av. Madero and San Martín, Tel. 4315-5115) offers a bus service from 5.00am to 8.30pm. This service costs between AR\$40 and \$45 (please see exchange rate section), and takes approximately 40 minutes. Taxis and chauffeur-driven rented cars are also available (from \$100 to \$150). You can also catch a bus from the airport, although this usually takes 2 hours it is the cheapest way to reach the city center.

Taxi

Taxis are the easiest mode of transport if you have a lot of luggage with you. You will find that there are a large number available however avoid the taxis positioned exactly outside the airport as they are generally overpriced. Instead, go to the booth inside the airport, labelled "Taxi Ezeiza" where you can pay a fixed price for your desired destination. Alternatively if you organize it before hand, ring BAIS' taxi contact Luis (+54911 5810 4493) who offers discounts to those who quote BAIS.

Customs

As customs go, porteños seem to be very relaxed which even extends to social functions such as dinner invitations where you can find guests arriving up to one and half hours late. However in comparison/contrast with this norm, theatres, concerts, movies, business meetings and diplomatic affairs start on time. Argentines are not used to eat a big breakfast. They will have a light meal like café con leche y media lunas (coffee with milk and croissants). Lunch is from 12.30pm to 02.00pm. You may also find it strange to discover that most restaurants do not open until at least 9pm and by which time at around 11pm, you will find the place will be heaving, even with customers still arriving at midnight. In terms of food, Buenos Aires prides itself on its famous parrilla, grilled meats which will surely leave your mouth watering. Mate is Argentines equivalent to tea, and is considered to be a privilege to be offered this by a local. An empanada, a pastry filled with cheese and meat is the perfect, most delicious snack to help satisfy hunger while ice cream is extremely popular due to Argentines crafting a creamy recipe influenced by their Italian roots.

Dress in BA is relatively formal. The styles are European and classic, and tend to be much more body-conscious than many expatriates are used to. In contrast though, people in the suburbs dress a little more relaxed than downtown especially amongst younger people, who wear more informal clothes such as jeans and t-shirts. Don't be shocked if a stranger gives you a kiss on the cheek when you have never met him before. It is a really normal way of greeting each other. And guys, yes, you will also get a kiss on the cheek from another guy!

Safety

Like any big city anywhere in the world, you should be cautious and aware of your surroundings. Although BA is a relatively safe city compared to other big cities in the world, there has been an increase in petty crime. The rules to be followed are the same ones as for any other city: keep jewelry out of the public's sight, do not leave your belongings on chairs in public places, avoid walking along badly lit streets, guard your wallet and handbags, especially while travelling on public transportation or in a crowded street, change locks when you move into a new home, etc. Particular care should be taken while in tourist areas as foreigners are often targets for scams or pick-pocketing. Be alert and ignore people who try to approach you, as they will strike when you are distracted. A common scam is to spray mustard or a similar substance on the



tourist from a distance. A pickpocket will then approach the tourist offering to help clean the stain, and while doing so, he or an accomplice robs the victim. Another common scam is for victims to be approached by someone who distracts them, for example by unfolding a map and asking for directions, while an accomplice robs the victim. Make sure to make your relatives and friends who are visiting, aware of this as well. If you have to rely on taxis for transportation, order one by phone or when you have to catch one whilst on the street, only use Radio Taxis.

Also, demonstrations are very common in Buenos Aires as in any other major city. Protestors often block streets, highways and major intersections causing traffic jams and delaying travel. While demonstrations are usually without violence, hooligans of some groups sometimes seek confrontation with the police and vandalize private property. We recommend you to avoid gatherings or any other event where crowds are protesting.

Adaptation

Local attitudes towards expatriates are very good and the local people are inclined to be quite friendly and helpful towards foreigners, whether referring to the work area or socially. Without doubt, expatriates will face a few challenges on a daily basis with regards to moving to Argentina, just as they would when moving to another foreign country which might include a language barrier and communication problems such as with maids, sales advisors and making new friends. More specific challenges might include getting used to driving patterns, especially in BA; coming to terms with the average Argentine not being punctual for social affairs; and realizing that simple things like opening up a bank account or waiting for service people takes more time than normal.



Language

The main spoken language in Argentina is Spanish, and although a large number of people do speak English, it is advisable to make an effort to learn the local language. It is also recommended to try and have some knowledge of Spanish before your arrival in Argentina. If you have learnt Spanish in another country, you will notice some differences upon arrival, for example the use of *vos* instead of *tú*, the way they pronounce the Y or LL and some words might have different meanings. However try not to worry too much though, as your local Spanish teacher here will explain all about this to you.

Food & drinks

Dining in Buenos Aires is famous for the quantity and quality of meat offered, but don't worry if you are not a big fan of large quantities of meat: Buenos Aires has much more to offer. Buenos Aires has Italian, Spanish, Japanese, Chinese, Arab, French, Nordic, Mexican, Turkish and Armenian restaurants. There are also a number of restaurants that serve vegetarian and macrobiotic food. Buenos Aires has sophisticated food to fast food chains and everything in between satisfying every taste and every pocket.

However, the most popular meal remains 'el asado' or 'parrillada', a mixed grill of steak and other cuts that no visiting carnivore should miss out on when visiting Buenos Aires. Restaurants who only serve barbecued meat and chicken are often referred to as 'Parrilladas'. Some restaurants are called "Tenedor Libre", which means all-you-can-eat for a fixed price. As dessert, Porteños often have fresh fruits, ice cream or flan with "dulce de leche" (sweet caramel). We recommend that you try the flan because it is delicious and a typical local delicacy.



Argentines really like to drink mate. This is a traditional drink very similar to the taste of 'tea'. It is usually and traditionally a social drink and is served with a metal straw from a shared hollow calabash gourd. The straw is called a 'bombilla'. Porteños carry their mate with them pretty much everywhere and drink it all day. If a porteño offers you to drink mate, don't turn it down but try it! Note: when you go to a restaurant you are not obligated to leave a tip for the waiter but it is common here to give a tip of around 10% of the total amount.

Tango

Buenos Aires is the city where tango music and dance was born. The music is a fusion of European and African music. During your stay in Buenos Aires you will see a lot of tango houses, '*milongas*', with live orchestras and dancers. Often it's possible to attend a live tango show including dinner. A lot of '*milongas*' also offer tango classes: a must-do when you are in Buenos Aires.



Nightlife

Nightlife may be somewhat different than in your country of residence. When the *porteños* go out to clubs, called '*boliches*', they do not go before around 2am. If you arrive at a *boliche* before that time, you will find that there is nobody in the club. It is quite common for young people to go to more than once place in the same night and have breakfast before going to bed. Discos and clubs open at midnight and close between 6 and 7am. The music differs from club to club, check their websites for up to date agendas and information.



Communications



Buenos Aires has many public telephone boots. They operate with 5, 10, 25, 50 and 1 peso coins. If you wish to use a telephone card, you can buy one at any kiosk. There are also many so-called '*locutorios*' in the city where you can make local and international calls for a fixed rate. Most of the *locutorios* also have an Internet connection, which you can use for a couple of pesos. For longer stays it might be useful to buy a local cellular phone. The major operators are Movistar, Claro, Nextel and Personal.

Country code: 54

Area code Buenos Aires: 11

To call cellular phones in Buenos Aires you should dial 15 followed by the cell phone number. To call a cell phone from outside the country you must dial 54911 followed by the cell phone number. For international calls from Argentina you must dial: 00 + country code + area code + local number.

For example if the number you want to dial is 7777 7777, from Argentina you should dial: 15 7777 7777, from another country you should dial 0054911 7777 7777.

Transportation & Getting Around

Unless you are a confident, assertive driver and know where you are going, it's best to leave the driving to others in Argentina and take public transportation.

Bus

There are a lot of buses, called '*colectivos*', in Buenos Aires. The system might be difficult for foreigners at first (there are more than 180 lines!), but the The "Guia "T" de Bolsillo" is a big help. You can purchase this little guidebook for only 10 pesos at pretty much every kiosk. Once you know where to go, find a bus stop and flag your bus down. You have to buy your ticket through a machine which only accepts coins in the buses, so make sure that you save some up! You pay AR\$1,10, \$1,20, \$1,25, \$1,5 per one-way ticket, depending on your destination.



Taxi



Taxis are everywhere in Buenos Aires and you'll almost certainly use them during your trip. They are convenient and generally cheap and you rarely have to wait more than a couple of minutes (unless perhaps if it's raining). Just make sure that you only take '*Radio Taxi's*' as they are generally thought to be the most reputable. Hotels, restaurants and other business can order remises or radio taxis, or provide phone numbers for such services, upon request.

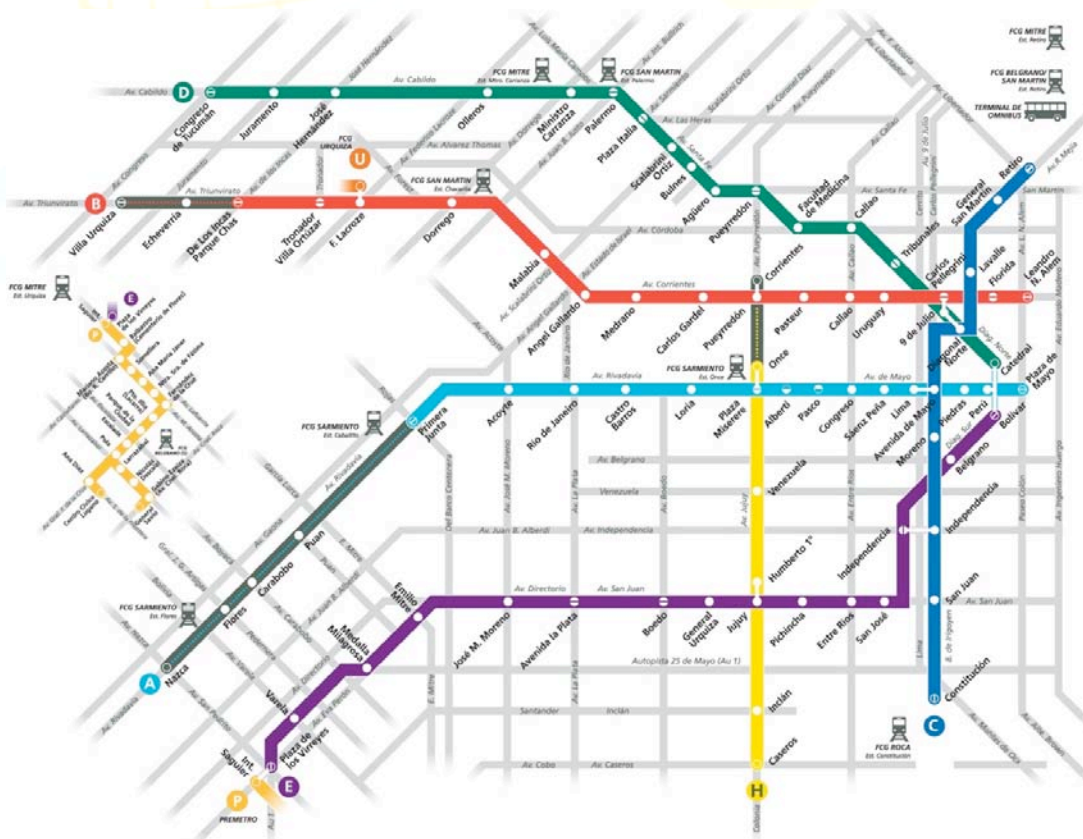
Train

You can take the train, but with caution. Many trains are not well-maintained. However, the train from Buenos Aires to Mar del Plata is very luxurious and comfortable. If you do travel by train, please note that often you can choose up to four classes. The best and most comfortable class is called '*coche de cama*', which has sleeper compartments. The 'pullman class' has reclining seats and air-conditioning. The first class, or '*primera*', has air conditioning and smaller reclining seats. It's best to avoid the '*turista*' class.

Subway

One of the most convenient ways to travel in Buenos Aires is by subway, the so-called '*subte*'. At the present, Buenos Aires is the only Argentine city with a metro system.

There are 6 lines which can take you pretty much (anywhere close) to your destination. The *subte* is cheap to use, it is AR\$1.10 for one way (and you are allowed to change lines with the same ticket). You can buy your ticket at any *subte* station. The *subte* service operates from 6:00am to 11:00pm Monday through Saturday and 8:00am to 10:00pm on Sundays. Please note that the *subte* can be really busy and that this is the perfect time for thieves to steal your belongings. They often work in teams so make sure to watch your belongings closely.



Car rental

If you want to rent a car, it's required to be older than 21 and to have your driving license for at least 2 years. To rent a car you often need a credit card to which you use to make a deposit. It is compulsory to wear a seatbelt. If you are an inexperienced driver we do not recommend you to rent a car in Buenos Aires. If you do, however, a GPS system could be of use. For the website, please look at 'useful websites', which is at the bottom of this page.

Buenos Aires and its Neighborhoods

The neighborhood you choose to live or stay in will most probably be of more importance to you than the actual house or hostel itself. Buenos Aires City consists of 48 neighborhoods, of which the most significant includes Puerto Madero, San Telmo, Palermo, Recoleta, Retiro, Belgrano and Microcentro. When house hunting, start by getting familiar with neighborhoods and suburbs so you can decide which one appeals more to you. Areas that are preferred by expatriates are the City (Down Town) or the Northern Suburbs (Olivos, La Lucila, Martinez, Acassuso, San Isidro Lomas de San Isidro and gated communities). However having said this, generally there is not a concentration of foreigners in one specific neighborhood or suburb, so take a look around: it may just prove to be beneficial.

Recoleta (downtown)



Your stay would be incomplete without taking a stroll down along Recoleta, with a walking distance of around 1.5km in an exclusive and elegant residential area, passing along the most expensive shops. Rented accommodation consists mainly of apartments/condominiums with garages; however, free-standing houses are also available.

The area also contains several hotels and serviced apartments. It is bordered in the north by parks and has a pedestrian area with several mainly up-market restaurants. There are a number of small convenience shops in Recoleta selling groceries and one main supermarket, and the 'Patio Bullrich' shopping mall is only half a kilometer away.

Palermo (downtown)

Not only is this area considered to be the most exclusive neighborhood to live because of their proximity to the Downtown Buenos Aires, but also because of their cultural life and many parks. Many elite restaurants, cafes and bars and the Alto Palermo Shopping Mall can be found here. Palermo is a popular area to visit because of its large concentration of bars or 'boliches' as well as elite restaurants, cafes and the Alto Palermo Shopping Mall.



Belgrano (downtown)

Belgrano is a residential area, relatively close to downtown Buenos Aires, which offers housing mainly in large apartment buildings. Many shops, supermarkets, cafes, restaurants and cine mas are located here as well.

You will also find that there are several foreign schools located in Belgrano. There are two train stations (Belgrano R and Belgrano C) and the "D"subte line, which provides an easy commute to the city.

Northern Suburbs

Vicente Lopez, Olivos, Martinez, Acassuso, San Isidro, Los Lomas de San Isidro are all residential suburbs on the outskirts of Buenos Aires (30-minute drive). Housing here is mixed. There are apartment buildings as well as entire blocks of private houses with gardens. This is one of the preferred areas of international families with children, as most international schools are found here. If you should choose to live in one of these suburbs, a car for general use is recommended; but for commuting to the city, train or remis is a good option as well. There are several shopping areas, as well as a variety of restaurants and cafes. Many private clubs are located within these suburbs and you can also find an abundance of public tennis and squash courts as well as work-out clubs.

San Telmo



San Telmo is the oldest neighborhood of Buenos Aires. It is characterized by its colonial buildings. San Telmo holds some of the most unique architectural buildings of Buenos Aires. There are a lot of cafes, tango places and antique shops. On Sunday there is a fair with mainly antiques. Later in the afternoon, at the main public

square, Plaza Dorrego, you can watch people dance the tango. Other important attractions of San Telmo are mainly the old churches, museums and antique stores. When you visit San Telmo you will see many artists, musicians and dancers, which create a very good atmosphere!



La Boca

La Boca is a neighborhood located in the south of the city, near the old port. Many immigrants from Spain and Italy came to live here. It is a very popular place for tourists because of the colorful houses (*conventillos*) and the pedestrian street 'the Caminito', where tango dancers perform. The houses are made of wood and zinc and are painted with boat paint. Some other important attractions of La Boca are the theatre 'La Ribera', the tango clubs and the Italian taverns. La Boca is also the hometown of the football club 'Boca Juniors', where Diego Maradona, considered as one of the best football players ever, started his career.

Access to the River

The River, River Plate/ Rio Plata, is accessible at many points and offers many recreational possibilities. The riverside also offers a variety of places to eat out or have a drink. San Isidro's restaurants and bars are often located in old renovated houses, and offer the possibility to sit outside and enjoy the special atmosphere.



San Isidro, like Acassuso, Martinez, La Lucila, Olivos and Vicente Lopez, is on the electrified train line that runs from Retiro Station (in the city center) to Tigre (at the start of the Rio de la Plata Delta).

Money issues

Banking and currency exchanges



Currency exchanges (*Casas de Cambio*) are prevalent throughout the city. Many hotels also offer currency exchange. You can find ATMs throughout the city. Upon arrival you can get cash from ATM's in the airport and get a decent exchange rate. ATM's that are part of the Banelco and Red Link network are the most prevalent. They're identified by a burgundy sign, and

you'll find them in banks, service stations, and malls. Many high end store will accept payment in US dollars. American companies like McDonald's also accept US Dollar. Some stores will not accept bills over US\$20.

American Express traveler's checks are not widely accepted but you can take AmEx travelers checks to the American Express Headquarters in Buenos Aires and exchange the checks without commission charges. Contact: American Express (Arenales 707, El Centro. 11/4310-3000).

Coins

Coin denominations are as follows: 1 cent, 5 cents, 10 cents, 25 cents, 50 cents and 1 peso. The coins of 5, 10, 25 and 50 cents have both gold and silver versions in circulation. Remember to save some coins for the buses, as this is the only way to pay for your ticket.



Bills

Bill denominations are \$2, \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50 and \$100 pesos. There are two versions of the \$2, \$5, \$10 and \$20 notes because there are still notes that circulate with the old design even though the design has now changed.



How to detect false AR\$100 bills? Click [aquí](#)

How to detect false AR\$50 bills? Click [aquí](#)

Currency exchange

The best option to exchange money is at the bank (banking hours are 10am - 3pm). You can also use official currency exchanges or exchanges in hotels and you may even find that some hotels and commercial establishments accept US dollars as well. In some parts of the city you'll encounter people in the street offering to exchange money. Do not use this method.

Below are a few places around Buenos Aires where you can exchange money:

UNICAM CAMBIO, TURISMO Y BOLSA S.A.
AV. CORRIENTES 571
(C1043AAF) CAPITAL FEDERAL
Tel: (011) 4328-8800

FOREXCAMBIO S.A.
CARHUE 33
(1408) CAPITAL FEDERAL
Tel: (011) 4641-3901

MAXINTA S.A.C.T. Y B.
SARMIENTO 378, PISO 6°
(1041) CAPITAL FEDERAL
Tel: (011) 4334-4400

FOREXCAMBIO S.A.
AV. AVELLANEDA 2820
(1406) CAPITAL FEDERAL
Tel: (011) 4611-7051

PUENTE HNOS. S.A.
SARMIENTO 444
(1041) CAPITAL FEDERAL
Tel: (011) 4326-7102

PASAMAR S.A.
SAN MARTIN 580/4
(1004) CAPITAL FEDERAL
Tel: (011) 4322-9095

CAMBIO, EXCURSIONES, TURISMO COLUMBUS S.A.
SAN MARTIN 529
(C1041AAK) CAPITAL FEDERAL
Tel: (011) 4325-9742

EVES S.A.
TUCUMAN 702
(1049) CAPITAL FEDERAL
Tel: (011) 4393-6411

ALHEC TOURS S.A. CAMBIO BOLSA Y TURISMO
PARAGUAY 641
(C1057AAG) CAPITAL FEDERAL
Tel: (011) 4315-3637

CAMBIOS TRADE TRAVEL S.A.
SAN MARTIN 967
(C1004AAS) CAPITAL FEDERAL
Tel: (011) 4311-4102

CAMBIOS TRADE TRAVEL S.A.
HIPOLITO YRIGOYEN 1321
(C1086AAW) CAPITAL FEDERAL
Tel: (011) 4383-0093

CAMBIOS TRADE TRAVEL S.A.
PASO 587
(C1031ABK) CAPITAL FEDERAL
Tel: (011) 4936-3031

CAMBIO AMERICA S.A.C. Y T.
SARMIENTO 501/7
(C1041AAK) CAPITAL FEDERAL
Tel: (011) 4393-0081

CAMBIOS NORTE S.A.
JURAMENTO 2061, PB, UF 158
(1428) CAPITAL FEDERAL
Tel: (011) 4784-6805

CAMBIOS NORTE S.A.
SARMIENTO 525
(C1041AAK) CAPITAL FEDERAL
Tel: (011) 4325-8120

ARPENTA CAMBIOS S.A.
SAN MARTIN 344, PISO 28
(C1043AAE) CAPITAL FEDERAL
Tel: (011) 4348-7400

Buenos Aires
GARCIA NAVARRO Y CIA. S.A.
SAN MARTIN 171
(8000) BAHIA BLANCA - BUENOS AIRES
Tel: (0291) 455-4950

CAMBIO GARCIA NAVARRO, RAMAGLIO Y CIA. S.A.
SAN MARTIN 2574
(7600) MAR DEL PLATA - BUENOS AIRES
Tel: (0223) 493-9982

CAMBIO GARCIA NAVARRO, RAMAGLIO Y CIA. S.A.
AV. LURO 3181
(7600) MAR DEL PLATA - BUENOS AIRES
Tel: (0223) 494-4953

CAMBIO GARCIA NAVARRO, RAMAGLIO Y CIA. S.A.
SAN MARTIN 698
(7000) TANDIL - BUENOS AIRES
Tel: (02293) 43-1838

FOREXCAMBIO S.A.
BELGRANO 325
(1642) SAN ISIDRO - BUENOS AIRES
Tel: (011) 4742-7400

Credit cards



The majority of stores, restaurants and bars accept credit cards but due to the current economic situation and high inflation rates it is a possibility that some establishments might add on a 15 - 20% fee for use of credit cards. Therefore, check before paying if there isn't any so called 'recargos'. The most widely accepted cards are Visa, Mastercard, American Express and Diners.

Taxes

Argentina imposes a Value Added Tax (VAT), with a standard rate of 21% and some items subjected to rates of 10.5% or 27%. This tax is included in almost all of the purchases. In principle, there is no minimum threshold of transactions.

Useful Contacts and Telephone Numbers

Security Prevention and Tourist Assistance

Tourist Police: Av. Corrientes 436, (C1043AAR) Buenos Aires. Tel. 4346-5748
4328-210800-999-5000. E-mail: turista@policiafederal.gov.ar. How to reach: Subte linea B, Florida station.

Defensoria del Turista: Av. Pedro de Mendoza 1835 (Museo de Bellas Artes de La Boca "Don Benito Quinquela Martín"), (C1169AAC) Buenos Aires. Tel. 4302-7816,
Fax: 4302-7816, e-mail: turista@defensoria.org.ar



Police

Tel. 911



Fire Department

Tel. 100

Ambulance (medical emergencies)

Tel. 107



Emergencia Ecológica

Tel. 105



Hospitals

Hospital Aleman
Pueyrredon 1640, Buenos Aires
Tel. 54114827-7000

www.hospitalaleman.com.ar

How to reach: Subte línea D, station Pueyrredon

Hospital Británico/Marcelo T de Alvear
Perdriel 74, Buenos Aires
Tel. 5411 4309-6400

www.hbritanico.com.ar/sitio/eng

How to reach: by car or by taxi

Hospital Municipal Agudos Juan Fernandez
Cerviño 3356, Buenos Aires
Tel. 5411 4808-2600

How to reach: Subte línea D, station Bulnes



Post office and courier service

Correo Central
Sarmiento 151, Buenos Aires
Tel. 5411 4894-9191

Mon-Fri from 8am to 8pm

www.correoargentino.com.ar

How to reach: Subte línea B, Station L N Alem

DHL

Avenida Cordoba 783, Buenos Aires

Tel. 0810 222 2345



Mon-Fri from 10am to 5pm

www.dhl.com.ar

How to reach: Subte linea C, station Lavalle

Library's

Biblioteca Lincoln

Maipu 672, Buenos Aires

Tel. 5411 5382-1536

Mon-Fri from 1pm to 6pm

www.bcl.edu.ar

How to reach: Subte linea C, station Lavalle



Biblioteca Nacional

Aguero 2520, Buenos Aires

Tel. 5411 4808-6000

How to reach: Subte linea D, station Agüero

Useful Websites



<http://travel.nytimes.com/travel/guides/central-and-south-america/argentina/buenos-aires/attractions.html> and

<http://travel.nytimes.com/travel/guides/central-and-south-america/argentina/buenos-aires/overview.html>

These websites of the NY times provide you with a lot of must-do's, where-to-stay's and tips from other travelers about Buenos Aires!

<http://traveler.nationalgeographic.com/2010/03/feature/buenos-aires-text> This is a very useful article/travel report from National Geographic with a lot of information and places to go in Buenos Aires.

www.comoviajo.com This is a really useful website which you can use for planning your way through Buenos Aires

<http://mapa2.buenosaires.gob.ar/> This website provides a lot of useful maps from Buenos Aires.

www.whatsupbuenosaires.com and www.adondevamos.com are up-to-date websites on which you can find a lot of information about for example current events in nightlife, restaurants, bars, etc.

<http://www.tebasa.com.ar/> On this website you can pretty much find everything about buses leaving from and to Retiro, the bus station of Buenos Aires.

<http://www.argentina.ar/agenda.php> On this website you can find a lot of information about events, festivities and holidays happening in Argentina.

<http://www.buquebus.com/cache/HomeARG.html> this website is very useful for finding ferry tickets, for example to Colonia, Uruguay.

<http://www.tbanet.com.ar/inicio.asp> on this website you can check the departure times of pretty much every train leaving Buenos Aires.

<http://supernovargentina.com/> is one of the best travel agencies in Buenos Aires. You will get a lot of information there about trips in Argentina and surrounding countries! They give good discounts to friends of BAIS as well!

www.apn.gov.ar This is the website from the Argentine National Park service. You will find all kinds of information about parks and wilderness areas here.

www.meteofa.mil.ar is the website from the Argentine Meteorological service. It's a good website to get information about the weather forecast.

<http://www.proyectomapear.com.ar/> is a very useful website with maps for GPS.

www.guiaoleo.com.ar is the best restaurant guide in Buenos Aires.

Traveler tips

BAIS wants to share some useful tips with you!

Pre departure

- Make sure you go to Buenos Aires well prepared. Check your local embassy for visa issues and make sure your passport is valid long enough.
- Think about insurances, and what kind of insurance applies to you. For example, if you are going to work in Buenos Aires you might need a different insurance than just travel insurance.
- Make sure you give important contact details like address, telephone number and flight numbers to your relatives/ friends who are staying home.
- Bring your international student card as you will find that this will give you good discounts at some places.
- Make copies of important documents in case you lose them.

Money issues

- Avoid carrying around large amounts of cash. If you have to carry a large amount of money, do not store it all in one place. Distribute your money among your belongings. If you have to make a large payment, try to avoid using cash. If possible, use credit cards or travelers checks.
- Keep cash out of public view.
- Never pay with 100 pesos in the taxi, the taxi drivers will often give you back a fake note of 50 pesos.
- Always count your change received and do not accept bills that are worn, torn or look different. Carry small bills.

General tips

- Do not accept rides from strangers.
- Do not accept food or drinks from strangers.
- If you want to buy food from a stand, an easy way to check if the food is good is by looking at how many people are buying there. If many people go, the place is generally good. This also goes for restaurants.
- Have emergency contact information in both English and Spanish and have it on you at all times.
- When travelling, anywhere, make sure that your valuables (money, camera, etc.) are on you at all times. They should not be in your checked or carry-on luggage.
- When renting a car, please check if you are utilizing a reputable company. Check what kind of insurances are included, if the renting price includes gas, etc. You are allowed to drive legally in Argentina on an US/international driver's license.
- Use a pouch for important documents, money, and tickets. Make sure to watch it at all times!
- Generally, if the place doesn't look or feel right, get out!
- Thieves often work in teams. They somehow will get your attention, while their accomplices steal your things. A trick that often occurs in Buenos Aires is the following: someone approaches you and says there is something dirty on your clothes. They offer to clean it for you and that's when you will get robbed. Another trick is that someone will approach you and will offer you to make a picture and as soon as they have your camera they will run off!

Universities

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YOUR FAMILY IN BUENOS AIRES!