



INFOCARD ELANBiz Business travel to Argentina¹

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For additional information, we invite you to use our [Ask the Expert](#) service.

ELANBiz is a Project funded by the EU and provides information free of charge.

General Information

Geographic location

Located in South America, Argentina has a length of 3,800 kilometers, stretching from 22° to 55° South latitude. The country has borders with Uruguay, Brazil, Paraguay, Bolivia and Chile, along a perimeter of 9,376 kilometers. Its Atlantic coast extends over 4,725 kilometers.

Hour

UTC – 3 hours. Time in Argentina is three hours behind Greenwich Mean Time.

Language

The official language of Argentina is Spanish. Although many businessmen and women speak English and other European languages, almost all business meetings are conducted in Spanish, and documents must be in Spanish to be considered valid legal evidence. Business documents in other languages that are to be presented to the Argentine authorities for legal purposes should be translated by a certified public translator.

Religion

Argentina supports the Roman Catholic Church, although there is complete freedom of religion. Protestantism, Judaism, Muslim, the Orthodox Greek and Orthodox Russian religions are also practiced, among others.

Climate

Argentina has a wide climate range: humid temperate in the Pampa plains, cold and humid in the western fringes of Patagonia, subtropical in the northern part of Mesopotamia, and warm in the Northwest. Average temperatures are 23°C from November to March, and 12°C from June to September.

¹ The information provided in this document is of a general nature only. For more detailed information, events and commercial trade offers as well as commercial business contacts, please contact the Commercial Offices of the member states Embassies, the European trade organizations and the bilateral chambers of commerce.



National Holidays in 2020

Date	Weekday	National Holiday
Jan 1	Wednesday	New Year's Day
Feb 24	Monday	Carnival
Feb 25	Tuesday	Carnival
Mar 23	Monday	Touristic Holiday
Mar 24	Tuesday	Memorial Day
Apr 2	Thursday	Day of the Veterans
Apr 9	Thursday	Maundy Thursday, Christian
Apr 10	Friday	Good Friday, Christian
May 1	Friday	Labor Day / May Day
May 25	Monday	National Day/May 1810 Revolution
Jun 17	Wednesday	Commemoration of General Güemes
Jun 20	Saturday	Flag Day
Jul 9	Thursday	Independence Day
Jul 10	Friday	Touristic holiday
Aug 17	Monday	San Martin Day
Oct 12	Monday	Day of Respect for Cultural Diversity
Nov 18	Monday	National Sovereignty Day
Dec 7	Monday	Touristic Holiday
Dec 8	Tuesday	Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Christian
Dec 25	Friday	Christmas Day, Christian

Business Hours

Banks and Exchange agencies: Monday to Friday, from 10.00 to 15.00. Business Offices: generally, from 09.00 to 12.00 and 14.00 to 19.00 hours. Shops: in large cities, from 09.00 to 20.00 hours; in smaller cities they usually close at midday. Saturdays, from 09.00 to 13.00.

Main Means of Transport

Airlines heading to Argentina mainly arrive at "[Ministro Pistarini](#)" International Airport, located in Ezeiza, 32 km from the city center of Buenos Aires (Information Tel.: +54-11-5480-6111). It is linked to the city through the Teniente General Ricchieri highway.

The autobus company "[Manuel Tienda León](#)" (Av. Madero corner with San Martín, Tel. +54-11- 4315-5115) offers services each half hour from 05:00 to 22:30 to and from the international airport. The trip can also be made by taxi.

The main airlines connecting Europe and Argentina are:



- ✓ [Aerolíneas Argentinas](#) (from Madrid and Rome)
- ✓ [Air Europa](#) (from Madrid)
- ✓ [Air France](#) (from Paris)
- ✓ [Alitalia](#) (from Rome)
- ✓ [British Airways](#) (from London)
- ✓ [Iberia](#) (from Madrid and Barcelona)
- ✓ [KLM](#) (from Amsterdam)
- ✓ [LATAM](#) (from Madrid)
- ✓ [Lufthansa](#) (from Frankfurt)
- ✓ [Norwegian](#) (from London)
- ✓ [Swiss](#) (part of Lufthansa group, from Zurich, via Frankfurt and Sao Paulo)
- ✓ [Latam](#) (from Paris, via Sao Paulo)

Before Travelling

Holidays

The holiday period takes place in the Southern summer, i.e. in the months of January and February, especially January. In July there are two weeks of winter school holidays.

Visas

A valid passport is required to enter the country. European Union citizens do not need a visa for stays shorter than 90 days. No vaccine certificate is required. Updated information about the types of visas and the requirements to obtain them can be found at the closest Argentine embassy or consulate or on the [web page](#) of the National Direction of Migrations of the Ministry of Interior and Transport.

Visitors from non-bordering countries are exempt from all customs taxes on their travel items or new goods for a value of up to US\$ 500, and additional US\$ 500 for goods purchased on entry from "free shops" within the national territory.

Entry of commercial samples

Samples without a commercial value can be introduced to the country without paying custom duties. If the samples have a commercial value over USD 100, the import may be performed under the temporary import regime that allows the entry of products such as commercial samples, packaging, pallets or containers, and articles for exhibitions without paying customs duties, provided that these items are re-exported within the period established by Customs when they enter the country. Importers of products destined to trade fairs can request an exemption on a case-by-case basis.

Communications

For calls from abroad, the national prefix of Argentina is +54, followed by the area code of the location called. For calls to Argentine mobiles from abroad it is necessary to dial 9 after the national prefix and



then the area code and the phone number (eight digits, if 10 digits were provided it is not necessary to dial the initial “15”). For Buenos Aires, the area code is 11. For long distance calls within Argentina, the number 0 must be placed before the area code. To call abroad from Argentina, it is necessary to dial 00, followed by the country prefix and area code.

For instance:

- Call to a fix phone from Europe to Argentina (Buenos Aires): + 54 11 XXXX XXXX
- Call to a mobile phone from Europe to Argentina (Buenos Aires): + 54 9 11 XXXX XXXX
- Long distance call to a fix or mobile phone within Argentina (Salta to Buenos Aires): 011 XXXX XXXX.

Money and Payments

The official currency of Argentina is the Peso (AR\$). There are banknotes of 10, 20, 50, 100, 500 and 1000 pesos, and coins of 1, 2, 5 and 10 pesos. US Dollars and Euros are occasionally accepted. The exchange of foreign into national currency takes place in authorized banks and exchange agencies (also local currency can be withdrawn from an ATM if preferred). The current exchange rate between AR\$ and foreign currencies can be checked on the Central Bank's [webpage](#).

The credit cards that are most frequently accepted are VISA, Master Card, American Express and Diners. Debit cards are generally also accepted and are useful to get AR\$ at the official rate from ATMs. It may be difficult to exchange Traveler Checks outside of Buenos Aires.

Finally, please be aware that the purchase of foreign currency for non residents (i.e. tourists) is currently limited and subject to regulatory clearance. Accordingly, as long as the non residents during a prior 90-days term have settle into AR\$ an amount equal or largent than USD 100, the non residents are allowed to acquire a maximum monthly amount of USD 100, without the prior Argentine's Central Bank clearance.

Hotels and Lodging

In Buenos Aires, there is a good spectrum of internationally prestigious hotels, such as Sofitel, Intercontinental, Hilton, NH, Park Hyatt and Four Seasons. There are also many budget and mid-price hotels. It is convenient for the traveller to book in advance, especially during national holidays and during the months of summer, from November to February. Some hotel websites are shown in the “useful links” section below.

In the Country

Safety

The higher income neighborhoods of Buenos Aires (Recoleta, Barrio Norte, Palermo, Belgrano, etc.) are safe zones, although it is always advisable to use precaution as in most big touristic cities. It is advisable to be aware of pickpocketers and take good care of personal belongings such as mobile phones, cameras, wallets, luxury watches, etc. There are some risky zones in the surroundings of Buenos Aires, the area known in general as Gran Buenos Aires. In other touristic zones of the country



(Iguazú Falls, Patagonia, Peninsula Valdés, Bariloche, Tierra del Fuego, etc.) safety conditions are generally good.

Sanitary

Tap water is of drinking quality. Health services in the main cities have a high level. All the medical specialties are well developed, with specialists of international level. However, this situation does not prevail all over the country. In general, the more remote the location, the more difficult it is to find good health services.

Transportation

In Buenos Aires there is an abundance of taxis at a convenient price. For intercity transport, the most popular means is the bus service, which generally has a good quality, and the subway, which has been renovated in the last couple of years.

Until 2018, interurban flights were mainly provided by the companies Aerolíneas Argentinas and LATAM. However, low-cost airlines have begun to operate, and currently several airlines (such as Flybondy, Andes and JetSmart) connect the different cities of the country.

Most national flights in Buenos Aires arrive and depart from the [Aeroparque Jorge Newbery](#) airport, although most low cost airlines operate from [El Palomar Airport](#) (located approximately 20 km from the city centre) Rental car companies can be found in the main cities (some companies are listed in the “useful links” section below).

Some recommendations to keep in mind are:

- ✓ In Buenos Aires and in other main cities, if several travels are planned on the same day, “remise” services are an alternative to taxis. They provide a vehicle with a driver that can be hired with a phone call. Their charges can be arranged either per distance travelled or per time of use, and they can issue commercial invoices.
- ✓ Verify your airport of arrival in Buenos Aires. Although most international flights arrive at Pistarini International Airport in Ezeiza, some flights arriving from or leaving to the neighbouring countries of Uruguay, Brazil or Paraguay use the Aeroparque Jorge Newbery airport.

Business Lunches

In Buenos Aires, hotel restaurants are a frequent place for business lunches, but many other high-quality restaurants can be found in the neighborhoods of Puerto Madero and Palermo. In general, lunches begin at 1 pm and can last for up to two hours. Salads and tap water can be consumed without health risks.

Tips

It is customary to leave a 10% tip in restaurants, and to give a tip to theater ushers and baggage porters in bus terminals and airports.



Business Protocol

- ✓ In general, European business practices are followed. Although punctuality standards vary, punctuality is recommended. If you think you will be late for a meeting it is best to call in advance.
- ✓ Greetings can be effusive. They begin with a handshake in the first meeting, and once a friendship is developed men hug and greet women with a kiss. Women often exchange kisses.
- ✓ In business situations, men and women dress in a conservative manner. For informal meetings, men should wear blazers and long sleeved shirts, unless advised otherwise.
- ✓ A local lawyer should be hired for contractual matters. Especially in the cases of joint ventures, investments or long-term contracts, it is advisable to agree on a non-judicial mechanism to solve eventual disputes, as the legal system in Argentina tends to be slow and expensive.

Tourist Information

- ✓ Tourist information for the whole country can be obtained from the [Secretaría de Turismo de la Nación](#) (National Ministry of Tourism), and its Centers of Tourist Information located in Avenue Santa Fe 883, Tel. 4312-2232 ó 0800-555-0016, in the International Airport Pistarini in Ezeiza, or in the Aeroparque Jorge Newbery airport.
E-mail of the National Secretary of Tourism: info@turismo.gov.ar.
- ✓ In Buenos Aires, tourist information can be found in the Tourist Information Centers of the City (Centros de Información Turística de la Ciudad), located in the following addresses: Av. Presidente. Quintana 596 (in Recoleta); Bus Terminal in Retiro (Shop 83); Florida 100; Av. Alicia Moreau de Justo 200 (in Puerto Madero); and Defensa 1250 (San Telmo neighbourhood); e-mail: infobue@buenosaires.gov.ar.

Useful Links and Telephone Numbers

- ✓ [Delegation of the European Union in Argentina](#): Tel. +54 11 4805-3759.
In the Inforcard “Useful Links” there is a list of addresses and useful websites to do business in the country.
- ✓ Police: Police for tourists needs: Tel. 4309-9700 ext 6422 or email: serv.turista@gmail.com
- ✓ Hotels in Buenos Aires:
[Amerian Buenos Aires](#), Tel. +54 11 5171-6500
[Intercontinental Buenos Aires](#), Tel. + 54-11-43407100



[NH](#), Tel. (within Argentina) 0810 222 6464
[Meliá Buenos Aires](#), Tel. +5411 4891-3800
[Hilton Buenos Aires](#), Tel. +54 11 4891 0000,
[Park Hyatt Buenos Aires](#), Tel. +54 11 5171 1234,
[Four Seasons Buenos Aires](#), Tel. +54 11 4321 1200
[Ibis](#), Tel. +541143709300
[Novotel](#), Tel. +541143709500

- ✓ Radiotaxis in Buenos Aires:
 - [PREMIUM](#): Tel. 5238-0000
 - [PIDALO](#): Tel. 4956-1200
 - [DEL PLATA](#): Tel. 4505-1111
- ✓ Remises in Buenos Aires:
 - [CORMAR](#): Tel. 4866-1032
 - [MANUEL TIENDA LEÓN](#): Tel. 4315-5115
- ✓ Rental car companies
 - [AVIS](#)
 - [HERTZ](#)
 - [BUDGET](#)
 - [ALAMO](#)
- ✓ Main airlines for domestic travels
 - [Aerolíneas Argentinas](#)
 - [LATAM](#)
 - [FlyBondi](#)
 - [Andes](#)

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