



INFOCARD ELANBiz Business travel to Argentina ¹

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

This Infocard provides recommendations useful for planning a business trip to Argentina

General Information

Geographic location: Located in South America, its length of 3.800 kilometers stretches from the 22^o to 55^o of South Latitude. It borders with Uruguay, Brazil, Paraguay, Bolivia and Chile along a perimeter of 9.376 kilometers. Its coast in the Atlantic Ocean extends for 4.725 kilometers.

Hour: UTC – 3 hours. **Time in Argentina is three hours behind in respect to Greenwich Mean Time**

Language: The official language of Argentina is Spanish. Although many business people speak English and other European languages, almost all business talks are conducted in Spanish, and documents must be in Spanish to be valid legal evidence. The business documents in other languages to be presented to the Argentine authorities for legal purposes must have been translated by a certified public translator.

Religion: Argentina supports the Roman Catholic cult, although there is complete freedom of creed. 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 Content information provided in this document, is of general nature only. For more detailed information, events and commercial trade offers as well as commercial business contacts, please contact the Commercial Offices on the member States, the European trade organizations and bilateral chambers of commerce.



National holidays in 2018:

Date	Weekday	National Holiday
Jan 1	Monday	New Year's Day
Feb 12	Monday	Carnival National
Feb 13	Tuesday	Carnival/Shrove Tuesday
Mar 24	Saturday	Memorial Day
Mar 29	Thursday	Maundy Thursday, Christian
Mar 30	Friday	Good Friday, Christian
Apr 2	Monday	Day of the Veterans
May 1	Tuesday	Labor Day / May Day
May 25	Friday	National Day/May 1810 Revolution
Jun 17	Sunday	Commemoration of General Güemes
Jun 20	Wednesday	Flag Day
Jul 9	Monday	Independence day
Aug 20	Monday	San Martín Day
Oct 8	Monday	Day of respect for cultural diversity
Nov 26	Monday	National Sovereignty Day
Dec 8	Saturday	Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Christian
Dec 25	Tuesday	Christmas Day, Christian

Business Hours: Banks and Bureau de Change: 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 the large cities, from 09.00 to 20.00 hours; in smaller cities they usually close at midday. Saturdays, from 09.00 to 13.00.²

Main means of transport:

The airlines that reach Argentina arrive mainly to the international airport “Ministro Pistarini” located in Ezeiza, 37 km from the city 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 taxis and remises (which are rented cars with a driver).

² Source: Ministry of Tourism of Argentina <http://www.turismo.gov.ar/indexfs.html>



The main airlines connecting Europe and Argentina

- Aerolíneas Argentinas (from Madrid, Rome, Paris and Barcelona) www.aerolineas.com.ar
- Air Europa (from Madrid) www.aireuropa.com
- Air France (from Paris) www.airfrance.com
- Alitalia (from Roma) www.alitalia.com
- British Airways (from London) www.britishairways.com
- Iberia (from Madrid) www.iberia.com
- KLM (from Amsterdam) www.klm.com
- LATAM https://www.latam.com/es_ar/ (from Madrid)
- Lufthansa (from Frankfurt) www.lufthansa.com
- Swiss, (part of Lufthansa group, from Zurich, via Frankfurt and Sao Paulo) www.swiss.com
- Tam (from Paris, via Sao Paulo), www.tam.com.br

Before travelling

Holidays:

The holiday period takes place in the Southern summer, in the months of January and February, especially January. In July there are two weeks of school winter 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.³ No vaccine certificate is required. Updated information about the types of visas and the requirements to obtain them can be found from the closest Argentine embassy or consulate or from the web page of the National Direction of Migrations of the Ministry of Interior and Transport, www.migraciones.gov.ar ⁴.

³ Source: Argentina, Guía del Estado: <http://www.argentina.gob.ar/informacion/viajar-a-la-argentina/183-documentaci%C3%B3n.php>

⁴Source: ICEX Servicio Comercial de España: <http://www.oficinascomerciales.es/icex/es/navegacion-principal/todos-nuestros-servicios/informacion-de-mercados/paises/navegacion-principal/el-pais/informacion-practica/informacion-practica/index.html?idPais=AR#9>



Visitors from non bordering countries are exempt from all customs taxes in regards to their travel items or new goods for a value of up to U\$S 300 and an additional U\$S 300 for goods purchased on entry in "free shops" within the national territory.

Entry of commercial samples:

Samples without a commercial value can be entered into the country by a business traveler without paying custom duties. In case the samples have a commercial value the traveler can be asked to make a deposit, which is reimbursed when the sample is taken out of the country.

The temporary imports regime allows the entry of products such as commercial samples, packaging, pallets or containers and articles for exhibitions. These items must be re-exported within the period authorized by Customs when they enter the country. Organizers of trade fairs can request an exception 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 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 national calls from fixed lines to mobile phones in the metropolitan area of Buenos Aires "15" must be dialed before the 8 figure number. For calls from abroad to a mobile phone in Buenos Aires "+54911" must be dialed before the 8 figure phone number.

Money and Payments:

The official currency of Argentina is the peso. There are banknotes of 5, 10, 20, 50 and 100 pesos, and coins of 1 and 2 pesos and of 10, 25 y 50 cents. US Dollars and Euros are occasionally accepted. The exchange of foreign into national currency takes place in authorized Banks and bureau de change.

The credit cards that are most frequently accepted are VISA, Master Card, American Express and Diners. It may be difficult to exchange Traveler Checks outside of Buenos Aires.



Hotels and lodging:

In Buenos Aires there is a good spectrum of international prestigious hotels, such as Sofitel, Intercontinental, Hilton, NH, Park Hyatt or Four Seasons. There are also many budget and mid-price hotels. It is convenient to book in advance, especially for national holidays and during the months of summer, from November to February⁵. In the section of useful links below in this document you can find a list of websites of some of the hotels.

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. There are some risky zones in the surroundings of Buenos Aires, the area known in general as Gran Buenos Aires.

In other tourist zones of the country (Iguazú Falls, Patagonia, Valdés Peninsula Valdés, Bariloche, Tierra del Fuego, etc.) safety conditions are generally good.⁶

Sanitary:

Tap water is of drinking quality. Health services in the main cities are of very good quality. 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 is to find good health services⁷.

Transportation:

In Buenos Aires there is an abundance of taxis, at a convenient price. For intercity transport, the most popular mean are buses, in general of good quality. Interurban flights are provided mainly by the companies Aerolíneas Argentinas and LATAM. Most of the national flights in Buenos Aires arrive and depart from the Aeroparque Jorge Newbery airport. In the main cities there are rental car companies, some of which are listed in the Section of useful links further below⁸.

⁵ Fuente para más información: <http://www.lonelyplanet.com/argentina/buenos-aires/hotels/best-places-to-stay-in-buenos-aires#ixzz3hJ532VDP>

⁶ Source ICES, Spain's Commercial Service <http://www.icex.es/icex/es/navegacion-principal/todos-nuestros-servicios/informacion-de-mercados/paises/navegacion-principal/el-pais/informacion-practica/informacion-practica/index.html?idPais=AR#11>

⁷ Embassy of Spain in Argentina, <http://www.exteriores.gob.es/Consulados/BUENOSAIREs/es/Consulado/Paginas/Recomendaciones.aspx?IdP=10>

⁸ Source: Based on ICEX's Practical Information on Argentina (Información Práctica de Argentina)



Business lunches: In Buenos Aires a frequent place for business lunches are the restaurants of the best hotels, although there are also many other restaurants of first quality. In general, lunches begin at 1 pm and can last for up to two hours. Salads and tap water can be consumed without health risks⁹.

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

Business Protocol

- In general the 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. Once a friendship developed men hug and greet women with a kiss. Women often exchange kisses.
- In business situations, women dress in a conservative manner. For informal meetings men must wear blazers and a long sleeve shirt unless advised. It is important to have business cards.
- A local lawyer must be hired for contractual matters. Specially 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.¹⁰

⁹ Source: Argentina Business, the Portable Encyclopedia for Doing Business with Argentina, accessed at <https://books.google.com.ar/>.

¹⁰ This section draws information from : UK Trade Service, <http://opentoexport.com/article/uktis-guide-to-doing-business-in-argentina-business-culture/>



Practical advise

- In Buenos Aires and other main cities, if several movements will be made in 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 per distance traveled or per time of use and issue commercial invoices.
- Verify your airport of arrival in Buenos Aires. Although most international flights arrive to international airport Pistarini in Ezeiza, some flights arriving or leaving for the neighbouring countries of Uruguay, Brazil or Paraguay use the Aeroparque Jorge Newbery airport.
- Tourist information for the whole country can be obtained from the Secretaría de Turismo de la Nación (National Secretary 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. The web site of the Secretaría de Turismo is: www.turismo.gov.ar , e-mail: info@turismo.gov.ar.

Tourist information on the city of Buenos Aires 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 neighborhood); e-mail: infobue@buenosaires.gov.ar

- Money: In Argentina thousands are indicated with a dot, and decimals with a comma. The “\$” is often used to indicate Argentine pesos (AR\$), and “U\$S” to indicate dollars. Therefore “\$1.000,10” means one thousand Argentine pesos with 10 cents.

Useful links and Telephone numbers

- Delegation of the European Union: Tel +54 11 4805-3759
https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/argentina_en

A Directory of addresses and website links useful to do business in the country:



http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/argentina/documents/press_corner/20141212_doi ng_business_in_argentina_es.pdf

- Police: Police for Tourists needs: Tel. 4309-9700 ext 6422 or email: serv.turista@gmail.com

- **Hotels**

Amerian Buenos Aires Tel +54 11 5171-6500

<https://www.amerian.com/hotel/amerian-Buenos-Aires-Park-Hotel/>

Intercontinental Buenos Aires, Tel + 54-11-43407100

<http://www.ihg.com/intercontinental/hotels/us/es/reservation>

NH, Tel. (within Argentina) 0810 222 6464

<https://www.nh-hotels.com/hotels/buenos-aires>

Meliá Buenos Aires, Tel +5411 4891-3800

<http://www.melia.com/es/hoteles/argentina/buenos-aires/melia-buenos-aires/index.html>

Hilton Buenos Aires, Tel. +54 11 4891 0000,

<http://www3.hilton.com/en/hotels/argentina/hilton-buenos-aires-BUEH1HH/index.html>

Park Hyatt Buenos Aires Tel. +54 11 5171 1234,

<http://buenosaires.park.hyatt.com/en/hotel/home.html>

IBIS <http://www.ibis.com/es/booking/hotels-list.shtml>

Four Seasons Buenos Aires, Tel. +54 11 4321 1200

<http://www.fourseasons.com/es/buenosaires/>

Howard Johnson, Tel. (in Argentina, 0810 1224656)

<http://www2.hojoar.com/>



- **Radiotaxis:**

PREMIUM: Tel. 5238-0000 - www.taxipremium.com.ar

PIDALO: Tel. 4956-1200 - www.radiotaxipidalo.com.ar

DEL PLATA: Tel. 4505-1111 - www.delplataradiotaxi.com

- **Remises:**

CORMAR: Tel. 4866-1032 - www.cormar.com.ar

MANUEL TIENDA LEON : Tel. 4315-5115 - www.tiendaleon.com.ar

- **Rental Car companies**

AVIS <http://www.avis.com/car-rental/location/LAT/AR>

HERZ https://www.hertz.com.ar/?switch_lang=1

BUDGET <http://www.budget.com.ar/>

ALAMO <http://www.alamo-rent.com.ar/>

- **Main airlines for domestic travel**

- Aerolíneas Argentinas www.aerolineas.com.ar

- LATAM https://www.latam.com/en_uk/

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within a maximum of 5 working days!

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