Buenos Aires City Guide
Things to see and do plus useful information
**Buenos Aires**

Glamorous and gritty, Buenos Aires is two cities in one. What makes Argentina's capital so fascinating is its dual heritage—part European, part Latin American. **Plaza de Mayo** resembles a grand square in Madrid, and the ornate **Teatro Colón** would not be out of place in Vienna.

But you'll know you're in South America by the leather shoes for sale on cobbled streets and impromptu parades of triumphant soccer fans. Limited-production wines, juicy steaks, and ice cream in countless flavours are among the old-world imports the city has perfected.

**Moving around – Transportation**

City buses, called colectivos, connect the barrios and greater Buenos Aires. Stops are roughly every two to three blocks (approximately 650–1,000 feet apart). Some are at proper shelters with large numbered signposts; others are marked by small, easy-to-miss metal disks or stickers stuck on nearby walls, posts, or even trees. Buses are generally safe and run 24 hours a day, although service is less frequent at night.

A few routes have smaller, faster diferencial buses (indicated by a sign on the front) as well as regular ones; they run less frequently, but you usually get a seat on them.

An incipient rapid transit system called Metrobus is being set up in busy parts of town. On Avenida 9 de Julio between avenidas Santa Fe and Independencia, for example, both regular buses and special bi-articulated ones run in lanes down the centre of the street, stopping only at intersections with avenidas (every four or five blocks). The clean, well-lighted Metrobus shelters have free Wi-Fi and displays announcing incoming services.

The subte (subway) is one of the quickest ways to get around. Packed trains mean it's not always the most comfortable, though it's generally fairly safe. Most stations are reasonably well patrolled by police, and many are decorated with artworks. You'll likely hear musicians and see actors performing on trains and in the stations.

Monday through Saturday, the subte opens at 5 am and shuts down sometime between 10:30 and 11 pm, depending on the line; on Sunday, trains start at 8 am and stop between 10 and 10:30 pm. Single-ride tickets to anywhere in the city cost 5 pesos; you can buy passes in stations for 1, 2, 5, or 10 trips or use a rechargeable SUBE card.

Taxis in Buenos Aires are relatively cheap and plentiful. All are black with yellow tops. An unoccupied one will have a small red "Libre" sign in its windshield. Drivers don't expect tips; rounding up to the next peso is sufficient.

Local wisdom has it that the safest taxis to hail on the street are those with a light on the roof that says "radio taxi"; they belong to licensed fleets and are in constant contact with dispatchers. If you phone for a taxi, you'll have to wait a few minutes, but you can be sure where it's come from and that it is safe.
**Buenos Aires Highlights**

**Zoológico de Buenos Aires**
The grandiose stone pens and mews—many dating from the zoo's opening in 1874—are as much an attraction at the 45-acre city zoo as their inhabitants.

The six rare white **Bengal tigers** (four of which were born at the zoo in 2013) are a sight to see.

South American animals you might not have seen before include the **aguará guazú** (a sort of fox), the **coati** (a local raccoon), **anteaters** and the **black howler monkey**.

Some smaller animals roam freely, and there are play areas for children, a petting farm, and a seal show.

**Plaza de Mayo**
Since its construction in 1580, this has been the setting for Argentina's most politically turbulent moments, including the uprising against Spanish colonial rule on May 25, 1810—hence its name.

The square was once divided in two by a recova (gallery), but the square's central monument, the **Pirámide de Mayo**, was later moved to its place. The pyramid you see is actually a 1911 extension of the original, erected in 1811 on the anniversary of the **Revolution of May**, which is hidden inside.

The bronze equestrian statue of **General Manuel Belgrano**, the designer of Argentina's flag, dates from 1873, and stands at the east end of the plaza.

The plaza remains the site for ceremonies, rallies, and protests. Thousands cheered for **Perón** and **Evita** here; anti-Peronist planes bombed the gathered crowds in 1955; there were bloody clashes in December 2001

**El Zanjón de Granados**
All of Buenos Aires' history is packed into this unusual house. The street it's on was once a small river—the zanjón, or gorge, of the property's name—where the first, unsuccessful attempt to found Buenos Aires took place in 1536.

When the property's current owner decided to develop what was then a run-down conventillo, he began to discover all sorts of things beneath it: pottery and cutlery, the foundations of past constructions, and a 500-foot network of tunnels that has taken over 20 years to excavate.

These were once used to channel water, but like the street itself, they were sealed after San Telmo's yellow-fever outbreaks.
With the help of historians and architects, they’ve now been painstakingly restored, and the entire site has been transformed into a private museum, where the only exhibit is the redbrick building itself.

Excellent hour-long guided tours in English and Spanish take you through low-lighted sections of the tunnels. The history lesson then continues above ground, where you can see the surviving wall of a construction from 1740, the 19th-century mansion built around it, and traces of the conventillo it became. Expect few visitors and plenty of atmosphere on weekdays; cheaper, shorter tours on Sunday draw far more people.

Cementerio de la Recoleta
The ominous gates, Doric-columned portico, and labyrinthine paths of the city's oldest cemetery may leave you with a sense of foreboding. Founded in 1822, it's the final resting place for the nation’s most illustrious figures, and covers 13.5 acres that are rumoured to be the most expensive real estate in town.

The cemetery has more than 6,400 elaborate vaulted tombs and majestic mausoleums, 70 of which have been declared historic monuments.

The mausoleums resemble chapels, Greek temples, pyramids, and miniature mansions.

The embalmed remains of Eva Duarte de Perón, who made it (almost intact) here after 17 years of posthumous wandering, are in the Duarte family vault. Around July 26, the anniversary of her death, flowers pile up here.

If the tomb of brutal caudillo (dictator) Facundo Quiroga looks small, it's because he's buried standing—a sign of valour—at his request.

Rufina Cambaceres is known as the girl who died twice. She was thought dead after suffering a cataleptic attack, and was entombed on her 19th birthday in 1902. Rufina awoke inside her casket and clawed the top open but died of a heart attack before she could be rescued.

When Alfredo Gath heard of Rufina's story he was appalled and commissioned a special mechanical coffin with an opening device and alarm bell. Gath successfully tested the coffin in situ 12 times, but on the 13th the mechanism failed and he died inside.

The city government runs free guided visits to the cemetery in English on Tuesday and Thursday at 11; Groups gather at the entrance.

If you prefer an independent tour, the administrative offices at the entrance can usually provide a free photocopied map, and caretakers throughout the grounds can help you locate the more intriguing tombs. These are also labeled on a large map at the entrance. It's easy to get lost in the cemetery, so start your independent tour well before closing time.

Look out for such intriguing statues such as the life-size likeness of boxer Luis Angel Firpo, who lost the world heavyweight title to Jack Dempsey in 1923. It stands on guard outside his tomb at the back of the cemetery, wearing a robe and boxing boots.

The cemetery had its blessing withdrawn by the Catholic Church in 1863, when President Bartolomé Mitre ordered that a suicide be buried there.
San Telmo
San Telmo, Buenos Aires' first suburb, was originally inhabited by sailors, and takes its name from their wandering patron saint. All the same, the mariners' main preoccupations were clearly less than spiritual, and San Telmo became famous for its brothels.

That didn't stop the area's first experience of gentrification: wealthy local families built ornate homes here in the early 19th century, but ran for Recoleta when a yellow-fever epidemic struck in 1871.

Newly arrived immigrants crammed into their abandoned mansions, known as conventillos (tenement houses). Today these same houses are fought over by foreign buyers dying to ride the wave of urban renewal—the reciclaje (recycling), as porteños call it—that's sweeping the area and transforming San Telmo into Buenos Aires' hippest 'hood.

Although San Telmo does have its share of sites, the barrio itself is the big attraction. Simply watching the world go by as you linger over coffee is one quintessential experience. Soaking up some history by wandering down cobbled streets edged with Italianate townhouses is another.

You can get closer to the past at two small museums, or even take a piece of it home from the shops and stands selling antiques and curios.

Espacio Memoria y Derechos Humanos
An acute reminder of Argentina's most recent dictatorship – General Galtieri's ended in 1983 – the former ESMA, or navy petty-officers school of mechanics, was one of the most active secret detention centres during the Guerra Sucia ("Dirty War") waged by the military junta against suspected leftwing dissidents from 1976-83.

Today it's known as the Remembrance and Human Rights Centre, a tribute to the thousands of victims of state terrorism. The Casino de Oficiales is especially poignant, given that an estimated 5,000 people were held and tortured in this building.

Free walking tours
In the morning she works at her family's security firm, but come the afternoon, Sol Cernadas shows off her beloved city on a free walking tour.

One of a group of guides – who offer tours that show off the capital's eclectic architecture, and include intriguing cultural insights – her goal is for "visitors to understand us: who we are, what we're like and how we think. And, yes, there are contradictions everywhere!"

The Aristocratic tour includes a "safari", featuring statues of lions sporting fixed smiles – her cheeky nod to the natives' penchant for plastic surgery.
Stadium Visits - River Plate and Boca Juniors
Football is an integral part of Argentine identity, and the people here are crazy about it.

The first tour explained will be La Bombonera, the home of Boca Juniors, where you’ll see the Museo de la Pasión Boquense, the kit and stalls.

Inside the stadium you’ll have a look around the best seats, the most popular bits of the stadium and the changing rooms. You’ll be able to take photos on the pitch and you’ll finish up on a stand where you can see Diego Maradona’s private box!

The tour will move on to the Museo de la Pasión Boquense, where you can learn about the club’s history, its players and the evolution of the famous shirt. On top of this, you’ll get to see a film which shows first hand how it feels to be part of the team and run out onto the pitch in the kit.

You’ll then have some free time to visit the museum shop, head into the official football shops

Then, towards the northern side of the city and Nuñez, the home of El Monumental, the home of River Plate.

The visit will begin by doing a tour round the outside of the stadium to see some of the Barrio River, the Tiro Federal club and main gates, then from there we’ll head into the Museo River Plate.

Once inside the tour kick’s off the visit by exploring just some of River Plate’s achievements over the years, since their founding in 1901. You’ll learn about the club’s history, its big players and its most important wins.

After this, you’ll venture inside the stadium where you’ll have the chance to visit the presidential box, the best seats, the smaller volleyball and basketball stadiums, the institute of education and last but certainly not least, the pitch where you can take any photos you’d like!

Again, you’ll then have some free time to visit the museum shop, head into the official football shops.

Shopping in Buenos Aires
Shopping malls have come to stay and they have certainly displaced regular stores. However, some streets in town continue to set the trend when it comes to going shopping in the City of Buenos Aires. Let’s see which ones are still in fashion.

Classic Santa Fe Avenue
Everything from small stores, through well-known chains, galleries and even Alto Palermo Shopping Mall are concentrated on this avenue. Santa Fe has everything for every taste and budget.

Florida, The Eternal Pedestrian Road
What is better than a commercial pedestrian street? Leather stores, great chains, Fallabella, Galerías Pacifico and more. Florida Street, in the microcentro porteño is the founder of outdoor shopping centres in Buenos Aires.
Aguirre, Outlet Stores Spot
One of the newest shopping areas in the City of Buenos Aires lies on this street and its surroundings. Why is it unlike others? It is the seat of outlet stores of the first brands of the porteño market. Those in search of good prices will find the neighbourhood of Villa Crespo has much to offer. The best spot: Aguirre Street between Scalabrini Ortiz Avenue and Thames Street.

Outdoor markets or ferias
The Buenos Aires outdoor markets are a big draw to both tourists and locals alike. The city hosts a number of wonderful outdoor markets or ferias. Flea markets and artisan stands draw everything from silver lined boleadoras, traditional gaucho wear and yerba mate dispensers, to unique art and leather goods. Here are a couple that are worth a visit.

Recoleta market A.K.A. Feria de Artesanos de Plaza Francia
Location: Plaza Francia, near the Recoleta cemetery
When: Saturday and Sunday, 11 am to sunset and Holidays. Total number of stands and set ups: 150-200

Generally offered: High quality artisan goods ranging from silver, yerba mate gourds, leather, pottery and jewellery. Recoleta’s outdoor market covers both traditional and modern products.

Music, food vendors, hippies, acrobats and street performers can all be found wandering around or setting up shop within close proximity. The main sloping hill often features musicians on sunny afternoons where you can relax and figure out who else you need to buy a gift for.

Worth a visit?: This is the best outdoor market to find genuine, high quality hand-made goods in Buenos Aires. The fair prices you find will be reinforced when you see many of the same goods are found in Recoleta’s high-end stores marked up 150%.

Feria de Plaza Serrano aka Feria Cortázar.
Location: Plaza Serrano, corner of Serrano or Borges and Honduras in Palermo Soho. Total number of stands and set ups: 35-50
When: Saturday, Sunday and Holidays 11 am to sunset

Generally offered: The popular Palermo round-about is lined with bars and restaurants that temporarily convert into designer clothing shops and boutiques for the afternoon.

Ideal for picking up some unique, one-of-a-kind clothing and accessories from local designers, you’ll have the bonus stands set up in the centre of the plaza snaking up Honduras street. Sticking with its roots, Plaza Serrano offers a lot of alternative jewellery, “tobacco” pipes along with hand-made goods.

Worth a visit?: The outdoor market at Plaza Serrano is conveniently a few blocks away from the Palermo Viejo fair so make a day of your Palermo exploration.

There are tons of cafes and restaurants nearby. Recommended is “Chori” (just a few blocks away at Thames 1653) who serve up Argentina’s 2017 championship chorizo sandwiches. Or swing by the hipster cafe “Lattente” (Thames 1891) for a proper flat white.
Buenos Aires Nightlife

Buenos Aires is a 24/7 oasis of cool – but at night, the party doesn’t really get started until well after 2am.

Bars

Start your night at some of the city’s more laid-back bars, located in Buenos Aires’ oldest neighbourhood, San Telmo.

Doppelganger (locally called Doppel) specialises in classic cocktails like negronis and pisco sours. Then check out Napoles Bar, once a massive storage unit for an antique collector. He decided to put his wares on display – from vintage cars and motorbikes to old barbershop chairs – and added a well-stocked bar for good measure.

Speakeasies

Buenos Aires has a thriving underground bar scene. Speakeasies with hidden doors are everywhere, such as Florería Atlántico in Recoleta, a chic cocktail bar masquerading as a flower shop.

In Palermo, you’ll find the Harrison Speakeasy. It used to be a secretive, upscale affair that’s now widely known to be concealed beneath Nicky NY Sushi. Getting past the doorman can be a challenge at this members-only joint, but it’s well worth the incredible cocktails and glamorous atmosphere if you manage to get in.

Try the Verne Club for its author-inspired menu and absinthe tasting, before vying for your place in line at the city’s newest hot spot, Uptown. The wait can be frustrating, but once inside you’ll enjoy a full-on homage to the New York subway, complete with trains, turnstiles and urban graffiti.

Located on a quiet, tree-lined street in Villa Crespo, 878 may seem out of the way, but it’s easily the most welcoming and laid-back underground bar in the city.

Clubs

Rosebar, a warehouse-style place in Palermo, is the go-to, pre-club spot, conveniently around the corner from Niceto Vega, Buenos Aires’ street of nightclubs.

Head to legacy favourite Club 69 at the Niceto Club to see and be seen, or if the music matters, hit up the Under Club, a hangout for clubbers who take their house and techno seriously.

Try Makena Cantina Club for your live music fix, then head bayside to Terazas del Este, a waterfront bar that becomes Bayside Nightclub on Saturday.

Milongas

An Argentina night without tango would be a sin, so be sure to check out a milonga (tango house), designed for dancing the night away.

Maldita is a classic and its live orchestra El Atronfe draws a crowd – Tuesdays are “Tango Queer.” For newbies, your best bet is La Cathedral, well known for its relaxed and informal vibe.

If you’re not a night owl, hit up El Beso’s matinée milonga near the Callao metro stop, where dancing starts at 3pm, Monday to Saturday. Go on Tuesday nights for an all-night event.
Getting There
The main International airport is **Ministro Pistorini International Airport** and although there are only two airlines that fly directly there from the UK, **British Airways** from London-Heathrow and **Norwegian** from London-Gatwick, there are many others that fly via another airport either in Europe or the USA. Here are a few examples from Cities in the UK and Ireland;

Cardiff: Air France via Roissy-Charles de Gaulle
Dublin: Air France via Roissy-Charles de Gaulle
Glasgow: KLM via Amsterdam Schipol
Manchester: Air France via Roissy-Charles de Gaulle

We don’t book flights ourselves instead we pass your details on to a company called **AVIATE GROUPS** who are specialists in obtaining the best group flight prices out there. They use their experience of the market and relationships with major airlines to guarantee you the very best fares, however if you want to book your own flights you are more than welcome to do so.

Know before you go
In Argentina the power plugs and sockets are of type C and I. The standard voltage is **220 V** and the standard frequency is 50 Hz..

Emergency telephone numbers.

| General emergencies Buenos Aires City and Province | Tel: 911 |
| Police | Tel: 101 |
| Fire | Tel: 100 |
| Medical Emergencies | Tel: 107 |
| Tourist Police | Tel: 0800-999-5000 / 0800-999-2838 (English is spoken) |
| Civil Defense | Tel: 103 |
| Environmental Emergency | Tel: 105 |
| Emergency at sea | Tel: 106 |

**How can I make a phone call to, or from, Argentina?**
Making phone calls would probably fall under this category when one comes to Buenos Aires. It’s by no means difficult, but you might just need a few pointers to make this into an easy breezy task. First and foremost, línea fija (landline) and celular (mobile phone) are considered to be 2 different systems. Because of that, how to make a phone call depends on where you are calling from and where you are calling to. Here is the breakdown:

1) **Making Local calls**
Landline to Landline:
Only need to dial the 8-digit phone number. Look below for Examples

Landline to Mobile phone:
Phone companies charge extra for this type of phone call, which means a typical landline plan doesn’t include such services. So most of the landline phones that you will come across, like at people’s home, hostels and rental apartment, probably won’t let you make calls to mobile phones. In the case that you have access to a landline* that allows you to make mobile phone calls, then you’ll have to dial 15 + the 8 digits, to signify you’re dialing a mobile phone number.

The only landlines that you will most likely be able to use to call mobiles are at locutorios (internet cafes that also have payphone booths) or public phones. Fee: what the locutorios charge could be by call or by time.
OR you can use a **Prepaid Calling Card** and use any local landline to call mobiles. But in this case, you’ll be calling the mobile as if you were calling from outside the country.

**Mobile to Mobile**

Only need to dial the 8-digit phone number, same with texting. Fee: Deduct credits by minute, different carriers have different rates.

**Mobile phone to Landline:**

Only need to dial the 8-digit phone number. Fee: Deduct credits by minute, different carriers have different rates.

**Calling FROM Argentina:** Skype is always a great option, but if you don’t have access to it and need to resort to the good old telephone, you will need to buy yourself a **Tarjeta Prepaga** (prepaid calling card). You can find it at any kioskos (kiosks) and they come in different denominations. You can use any local landline phone to make international phone calls using the prepaid card.

**Is smoking prohibited?**

Smoking is prohibited in indoor workplaces, indoor public places, and public transport, except for: 1) enclosed private office space that is not shared with other workers and is not used for public services; 2) clubs for smokers of tobacco products; and 3) tobacco shops.

Smoking also is prohibited on outdoor patios, terraces, and balconies of healthcare facilities and primary and secondary educational facilities, and under areas covered with a roof that are intended for public gathering. Sub-national jurisdictions may enact smoke free laws that are more stringent than the national law.

**Health Care**

**Before You Go**

Recommended Vaccinations - Before visiting Argentina, you should be up to date on routine vaccinations. Hepatitis A and typhoid vaccinations are recommended for most travellers.

Health Insurance - If you develop a life-threatening medical problem, you may want to be evacuated to your home country. Since this may cost thousands of pounds, be sure you have the appropriate insurance before you depart. Your embassy can also recommend medical services.

**In Buenos Aires**

Availability & Cost of Health Care - Public health care in Buenos Aires is reasonably good and free, even if you’re a foreigner. Waits can be long, however, and quality spotty. Those who can afford it usually opt for the superior private-care system, and there most doctors and hospitals will expect payment in cash. Many medical personnel speak English.

Infectious Diseases - Dengue fever is a viral infection found throughout South America. It is transmitted by Aedes mosquitoes, which prefer to bite during the daytime and breed primarily in artificial water containers. It causes flu-like symptoms, including fever, muscle aches, joint pains, headaches, nausea and vomiting, often followed by a rash. The body aches may be uncomfortable, but most cases resolve uneventfully in a few days.

Tap Water - Tap water in Buenos Aires is generally safe to drink.

Hospitals - Highly regarded hospitals include Hospital Italiano, Hospital Alemán and Hospital Británico. Another popular medical facility is Swiss Medical, with various branches around town.

Dentists - Dental Argentina provides modern facilities and good dental services with English-speaking professionals.

Pharmacies - Pharmacies are common in Buenos Aires. The biggest chain is Farmacity, with dozens of branches throughout the city; they’re modern, bright and well-stocked with sundries. They have a prescription counter and some are open 24 hours. It’s hard to miss their blue-and-orange colour theme.
**Other than cash how else can I pay?**

**The local currency** - Argentina’s national currency is the Argentine peso. Note that it has the same symbol ($) as the dollar (don’t be confused - prices expressed using the $ symbol are in Argentine pesos unless stated otherwise. US dollars are usually referred to using the symbol: U$$S. Paying in US dollars: some restaurants, hotels and shops may accept cash payments in US dollars with a favourable exchange rate. It is always worth asking

Larger shops and restaurants usually accept payment by credit or debit card.

**Tax-free shopping:** foreign tourists are eligible to reclaim tax (VAT) on purchases of domestically-manufactured goods with a value over ARS $70 when made at participating outlets. The Global Blue website has useful information on the tax reclaim process here: [http://www.globalblue.com/customer-services/tax-free-shopping-in-argentina/](http://www.globalblue.com/customer-services/tax-free-shopping-in-argentina/).

Keep some small change handy: many shops often run low on small change - both coins and small denomination bank notes. They will be very happy with you if you can pay with the exact change.

Using leftover pesos - If you have a large amount of peso left at the end of your visit, you can chance them to US dollars at an official casa de cambio or in a bank (it may also be possible to exchange them for euros, or Brazilian reales, but other currencies are not regularly stocked). You may be asked to provide receipt from your original sale of dollars in order to buy back dollars. If you have less than ARS $1,000 left, it’s probably best to use it for transport to the airport or for buying souvenirs.

**Where can you change foreign currency?**

- It is easy to exchange money in Buenos Aires at casas de cambio (bureaux de change/currency exchanges) and at most banks - note that you'll need to provide identification.
- Illegal money changers operating in the street, particularly in areas such as Calle Florida, may claim to offer a slightly better rate for dollars and euros than banks and casas de cambio, but for safety it is advised to change money at regulated institutions. For the same reason, we do not advise changing large amounts of money at one time.
- Local currency can also be withdrawn 24 hours a day from ATMs

**Is tipping mandatory?**

Tipping in Argentina is considered “something extra” in most cases. It is never mandatory, but is up to the discretion of the giver. However wether you leave a gratuity or not will vary according to the situation, which is we’ve outlined tipping etiquette in this guide.

**Hotels** - Tipping the staff at hotels is generally common. Leave the doorman or porter at least one peso per bag, but two to three would probably be better. Leave the maid a few pesos every day, especially if you want to receive a fantastic service. Some people don't tip the maid until the day they are checking out. This is fine, but you may receive better service if you leave money throughout your stay.

**Tour Guide** - If you go on a paid tour it's good etiquette to tip your guide around 10-20% especially if he or she was thorough and helpful. If this was not the case leave a smaller gratuity. If you go on a “free” tour, you should leave your guide around 100 pesos for a typical 3-hour tour. If the “free tour” lasted longer than this, tip a little more. If you were unhappy with your tour you should still leave a gratuity, just leave a little less and explain your concerns.

**Restaurants** - Tipping in restaurants in Argentinian is never mandatory, but certainly desired. If you receive good service and want to leave something, 10% is usually more than enough. However, if your service was awful, don’t feel as though you must leave a gratuity. On the other hand, if your service was fabulous and you want to leave more than 10%, your extra generosity will be appreciated. It is also important to note that you probably won’t see a “tip” section on your bill, so it is a good idea to bring some spare cash. To make sure your waiter or waitress receives your tip you should it directly to them and not leave it on the table.

**Taxi’s** - Tipping taxi drivers is not required, but many people leave the change for their driver in order to round up to the nearest peso. However, if the taxi driver goes out of his way to help carry bags or is especially helpful in giving directions, you should leave a more substantial tip. A few pesos are sufficient.
Public Holidays 2020

1 Jan Wed New Year's Day
24/25 Feb Mon/Tue Carnival
24 Mar Tue Truth and Justice Day
2 Apr Thu Malvinas Day
10 Apr Fri Good Friday
1 May Fri Labour Day
25 May Mon Revolution Day

17 Jun Wed Martin Miguel de Güemes' Day
20 Jun Sat Flag Day
9 Jul Thu Independence Day
17 Aug Mon Death of St Martin
12 Oct Mon Day of Respect for Cultural Diversity
23 Nov Mon National Sovereignty Day
8 Dec Tue Immaculate Conception
25 Dec Fri Christmas Day

How can you go online and check your emails?
Wi-fi is available at nearly all hotels, hostels, restaurants, cafes and bars, and is generally fast and free.

Locutorios (telephone offices) with internet access are common; you can often find one by just walking a few blocks in any direction. Rates are cheap and connections are quick.

How can I send a letter or a postcard?
The more-or-less reliable Correo Argentino is the government postal service, with numerous branches scattered throughout BA.

Essential overseas mail should be sent certificado (registered). For international parcels weighing over 2kg, take a copy of your passport and go to the Correo Internacional near the Retiro bus station.

Privately run international and national services are available including Fedex and DHL. OCA and Andreani are good for domestic packages; both have many locations around town.