



BUENOS AIRES, CALAFATE AND MENDOZA
9 NIGHTS / 10 DAYS

DAY 1 - BUENOS AIRES - Arrival Day

Arrival at **Buenos Aires International Airport, Ezeiza**. Meet and Greet at the airport, and transfer to the hotel of your choice (50 minutes).

Check-in at the hotel and balance of the day at leisure.

The sprawling metropolis that glitters in the afternoon rays reflected from the **River Plate** is home to over one-third of the country's population and an even greater portion of its economic output. Founded in 1580, **Buenos Aires** is one of the largest cities in **South America**. Also known as the city that never sleeps, its many and varied around-the clock attractions never fail to



surprise and impress first-time visitors and are a source of recurring pleasure for those returning to the city. It is also a place where contradictions abound, where tradition thrives alongside innovation, testimony to the ease with which the versatile *porteños* (port dwellers) absorb and adapt new trends and other cultures to their time-honoured customs.

Dinner suggested at a restaurant, walking distance from the hotel.

Overnight at your hotel in Buenos Aires. Breakfast included, other meals independently.

DAY 2 - BUENOS AIRES - Get to explore the city! - Half Day

Breakfast at the hotel

Buenos Aires Highlights City Tour - Half Day

Morning pick up at the hotel for a fascinating 3-hour sightseeing tour of the elegant turn-of-the-century districts that earned Buenos Aires the soubriquet of the Paris of South America. From the charming cobbled alleys and colonial architecture of **San Telmo**, to the **Plaza de Mayo**, dominated by the **Casa Rosada** (Government House), National Bank, **the Cathedral** and the **Cabildo**, up the leafy **Avenida de Mayo** towards the imposing grandeur of the **Palace of Congress** and then on to finish at the historically fascinating **Recoleta Cemetery**, you will discover the facts, stories and anecdotes that make up the colourful tapestry of the history of Buenos Aires.



TANGO NIGHT

Enjoy a typically Argentine first-class meal, be it the traditional steak, chicken or Patagonian lamb with a mouth-watering array of salads, or any of a number of excellent pasta dishes, before settling down for a tango show which includes some of the best-loved songs, music and dances performed by skilled musicians and dancers.

Meals included (B & D)

Overnight at your hotel in Buenos Aires

DAY 3 – Buenos Aires – Venture into the outskirts, explore the land of the Gaucho! – Full Day.

Breakfast at the hotel.

A day in the Argentine Pampas, the “ocean of grass” considered one of the richest grazing prairies in the world and the land of the picturesque gaucho, will immerse you in the essence of Argentina’s heritage. We shall visit the frontier town of San Antonio de Areco with its master artisans and silversmiths, and *La Bamba de Areco*, a landmark vacation destination. Built nearly 200 years ago as an outpost on the Royal Road, this traditional Estancia has been declared “site of historic interest” and has served more than once as a shooting location for romantic films. We shall experience and share the lifestyle of the Argentine countryside, savor a typical barbecue of the world’s best beef and fine Malbec wines, and relax in the soothing views of the endless plains, enjoying side activities such as horseback riding and promenades in horse carriages.



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Overnight at your hotel in Buenos Aires.

DAY 4 – Buenos Aires / Calafate

Breakfast at the hotel.

Private transfer to Buenos Aires Domestic Airport (25 minutes) to take flight:

Buenos Aires (AEP) – Calafate (FTE): 3 ½ hour.

Upon arrival, met and greet and the airport and transfer with English Speaking Guide to the hotel (20 minutes).

The beautiful town of **Calafate** provides access to the fascinating world of **Los Glaciares National Park**, in the foothills of the mountains on the southern shore of the **Argentino Lake**. A villa of almost 7000 inhabitants, named after a small berry-bearing bush typically to be found in southern Patagonia and whose fruit is used to make jam, **Calafate** was founded in 1927 and has grown to become a land-mark destination. It boasts places and landscapes that seem to come out of a dream, where nature beckons one to adventure and exploration. Its variety of accommodations, from luxury to new and functional hotels and typical restaurants where Patagonian lamb is the great protagonist, have turned Calafate into a world class destination.

Check-in and Balance of the afternoon at leisure.

Dinner suggested in one of the restaurants famous for delightful Patagonian meals.

Meals included (B)

Overnight at your hotel in El Calafate.

DAY 5: CALAFATE - Experience the Perito Moreno Glacier! - Full Day

Breakfast at the Hotel.

Morning pick up at the hotel for **PERITO MORENO GLACIER Full Day Tour**, including Ice-trekking: a beautiful one and a half hour drive with stops to enjoy the panoramic views takes you to the Perito Moreno glacier. Thirty kilometres long, this imposing wall of ice towers some 70 meters above the walkways that offer you a selection of different views from the promontory of Península de Magallanes that juts out into the Lago Argentino. As you stand below gazing up at the massive rugged face, you become aware that the glacier is very much a living, evolving thing, as creaks and cracks like rifle shots preface the “desprendimientos”, huge chunks the size of houses which break off and fall in slow motion through the air into the black waters.



Minitrekking: one of the most interesting and adventurous ways of getting to live the glacier. The two hour ice trekking over the glacier provides a unique experience to feel and see natural variations such as crevasses, seracs and small pools. This trekking is a walk of moderate difficulty and with the obligatory use of special trekking shoes with spikes, provided by tour guides. At the end of the walk, trekkers return to the shelter through the exuberant Magellan woods. This is a daily service that provides specialized bilingual guides.

Note: A lunch box must be included. Age restriction 10 to 65 years old.

Meals included: Breakfast and Boxed Lunch.

Return to the hotel late in the afternoon.

Dinner at leisure.



Overnight at your hotel in El Calafate.

Day 6 - CALAFATE - Navigation on Lake Argentino and visit to a remote estancia Full Day

The legendary Estancia Cristina is found within Los Glaciares National Park, at the foot of the majestic Cerro Norte (North Mountain), in the valley of the Caterina river, one of Patagonia’s most fascinating yet lesser known valleys, but a preferred access to the Patagonian Ice-Field. Its strategic location was of vital importance to numerous explorers and adventurers who travelled these lands and stopped

here for provisions and assistance. The journey to La Cristina takes us across the Lago Argentino (Lake

Argentino) among icebergs and mountains and past the imposing Upsala Glacier, one of the largest glaciers in Los Glaciares National Park.

Enjoy the incredible scenery and the feeling of being in a secluded getaway as you come close to the culture and history of the pioneers of this remote land. This full day program offers different alternatives to suit those who prefer a quiet day of touring and history as well as the more adventurous who like trekking and riding in a four wheel drive vehicle. All options begin at the port known as "Puerto de la Cruz", 47km. from downtown Calafate. The ship leaves from Punta Bandera and sails across Lago Argentino to the Avellaneda Peninsula passing through the Devil's mouth all the way to the Upsala glacier. Here we stop to admire the colossal ice front and surrounding icebergs. The navigation then continues until we enter the Cristina canal to disembark at the beach of the old Estancia Cristina.

Programmes include:

- Bilingual (Spanish- English) guides

Round-trip transfers to the pier in a private vehicle with a bilingual guide

- Lunch

Overnight at your hotel in Calafate.

DAY 7 - CALAFATE / MENDOZA (via Buenos Aires)

Transfer from Mendoza airport (MDZ)

Meet and greet at the airport. Thirty minutes to almost 2 hour drive (depending on your hotel location) in a private vehicle with bilingual guide. Assistance with hotel check-in.

Accommodation: 3 nights

DAY 8 - MENDOZA - Follow the Malbec Route

Breakfast at the hotel

FULL DAY LUJAN or MAIPU REGION with WINETASTING

We leave the Hotel in the morning for a full day in the wine growing area of Lújan de Cuyo, the home of Malbec, where some of the most prestigious Argentine wineries are located. According to international wine connoisseurs, each country must have a wine that defines its personality. For Argentina, Malbec is that wine. Originally from Bordeaux, France, this variety found the ideal place to prosper in Mendoza given the agro-climatic conditions of the area. This tour is an invitation for guests to let their senses flow in wine tastings at some of Mendoza's most important wineries in the region of Lujan or Maipu areas. We will visit Mendoza's most recognized wineries in the Central Valley: Nieto Senetiner, Vistalba, Finca Decero, Belasco Baqueano, Norton, El Enemigo, Casarena, Dominio del Plata, Terrazas de los Andes or Ruca Marlen among others.

Overnight in Mendoza



DAY 9 - Uco Valley

Breakfast at the hotel

FULL DAY UCO VALLEY with WINETASTING

Located a one hour drive south from downtown Mendoza, the Uco Valley spreads between the towns of Tupungato, Tunuyán and San Carlos. It is formed by the drainage network of the Tunuyán River and is protected by the striking Cordón del Plata mountain range. This is one of Mendoza's most imposing landscapes and also one of the most fertile ones. The region is covered by more than 10,000 hectares of vineyards as well as fruit tree plantations. The area has become well known for the modern design wineries that have set foot here, with state-of-the-art technology and focused on producing premium wines. The altitude of the Uco Valley is the highest altitude at which wines are produced in the province of Mendoza (up to 1,400 meters above sea level).



A scenic drive along Los Cerrillos Route takes us from downtown Mendoza to Tupungato. On clear days the silhouette of the Tupungato volcano (6,635 mt.) stands out between the mountains. We will visit Mendoza's most recognized wineries in the Uco Valley: Salentein, Andeluna, Atamisque, Domain Bousquet, La Azul, Gimenez Riili, Clos de los 7 or Corazon del Sol among others.

Overnight in Mendoza

DAY 10 - Mendoza / Buenos Aires / Next destination

Breakfast at the hotel

Transfer from the hotel to Mendoza airport. Thirty minutes to almost 2 hour drive (depending on your hotel location) in a private vehicle with bilingual guide.

An overnight in Buenos Aires is highly recommended before taking your onward connection flight.

End of services

