

3-Day Classic Buenos Aires Itinerary

OVERVIEW



Buenos Aires, the largest city and capital of Argentina, is the country's political, economic, and cultural center, often referred to as the "Paris of South America." It is located on the eastern banks of the Rio de la Plata, opposite Uruguay, and bordered to the west by the vast Pampas, known as the "world's granary." The city enjoys beautiful scenery and a pleasant climate.

Buenos Aires is situated on the western shore of the Rio de la Plata and is part of the Federal District. The city itself covers around 200 square kilometers with a population of nearly 3 million. Including the surrounding suburbs, it extends over 4,326 square kilometers with a population of 13.83 million (as of 2001), making it the second-largest city in the Southern Hemisphere, after São Paulo. The vast majority of its residents (98%) are of European descent.

The city is located on the flat Pampas plain at the confluence of the Rio de la Plata and Riachuelo rivers. Its climate is mild and humid, with an average annual temperature of 16.6°C. The warmest month is January, with an average temperature of 23.6°C, while the coldest month is June, averaging 10.8°C. Annual precipitation is around 970 mm, evenly distributed throughout the year. Buenos Aires is a green city, with about 15% of its area devoted to parks, making it a pleasant place to visit.

ITINERARY

DAY 1

City Tour

Explore Buenos Aires, starting with a visit to the Teatro Colón, one of the world's three great opera houses, followed by a drive along Avenida 9 de Julio, passing the Obelisk and Congress Square. Visit Plaza de Mayo, the Presidential Palace (Casa Rosada), the Buenos Aires Cathedral, and San Telmo's antique streets. Continue to the colorful Boca district, the birthplace of tango, and stroll along Caminito. Explore the upscale Puerto Madero, home to the elegant Puente de la Mujer. Visit the renowned El Ateneo Grand Splendid bookstore, often considered one of the most beautiful in the world

In the afternoon, tour Palermo's parks, the Rose Garden, the upscale Recoleta district, the Recoleta Cemetery where Eva Perón is buried, and see the Floralis Genérica metal flower sculpture.

In the evening, enjoy a world-class tango show and a traditional Argentine barbecue

DAY 2

Half-Day Tour to Tigre

After breakfast, drive to the Tigre Delta, a renowned scenic area in the province of Buenos Aires. Pass through the upscale residential district of San Isidro, enjoying serene views along the Rio de la Plata. Once in Tigre, board a boat and cruise past riverside vacation homes and private docks, admiring the unique landscape of the Paraná River Delta, known as the "Venice of South America." Return to Buenos Aires for lunch.

Alternative Option: Full-Day Tour to Tigre

Enjoy a similar morning itinerary, but after cruising the Paraná River, stop for lunch on the island of Gato Blanco, where former Chinese President Jiang Zemin once dined. Continue exploring the delta in the afternoon before returning to Buenos Aires.

DAY 3

Estancia Day Trip

After breakfast, head to a traditional Argentine estancia (ranch) for a day of horseback riding, carriage rides, and a feast of Argentine barbecue. Experience the culture of the Pampas gauchos with folk music, dance performances, and a display of skilled horsemanship.

KEY ATTRACTIONS

Buenos Aires is a beautiful, clean, and modern city. Viewed from above, the city reveals its wide, orderly streets, covered in greenery. Walking through the downtown area, one is dazzled by the towering high-rise buildings, the bustling traffic, the intricate layers of the transportation network, and the dazzling window displays.

A large proportion of the city's residents are of Spanish, Italian, and other European descent, which has brought a strong European cultural influence to Buenos Aires. The city's well-preserved historic buildings are rich in European classical architecture, featuring Gothic-style churches, Roman theaters, and Spanish courtyards.

The city fans out from the banks of the Río de la Plata in a fan-like shape. Many streets, parks, squares, museums, stations, monuments, and statues are named after significant historical events and prominent historical figures. Buenos Aires is famous for its numerous monuments, squares, and small parks. The city boasts over 100 street parks and squares, along with more than 220 statues and sculptures, all of which contribute to its striking urban landscape.

The famous "Parque Tres de Febrero" is named after the day when the national hero General San Martín led his cavalry to a decisive victory against the Spanish colonial army. Near the park stands a 20-meter-high monument, built by the descendants of Spanish immigrants to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Argentina's independence. The monument features lifelike figures that recount the years following the arrival of Spanish immigrants in Argentina. In the city's eastern areas, wide streets, tall buildings, and scattered lawns and flower beds abound. Sports stadiums, museums, and entertainment venues line both sides of the bustling Avenida del Libertador, reflecting the modern image of this great metropolis. In the southern part of the city, narrow streets and shorter buildings stand out, with many old Spanish and Italian-style structures, preserving a charming and historical atmosphere.

The city is divided into the Old City and the New City. The Old City is centered around Plaza de Mayo, with the streets intersecting at right angles, forming a grid pattern. Since 1826, the four streets surrounding Plaza de Mayo have been widened. To the north of Plaza de Mayo lies the bustling commercial area, while the streets in the surrounding New City no longer follow the grid layout. The northern part of the city features luxurious French-style buildings, while the western and southern parts are densely populated residential areas. The southeastern area serves as the main industrial zone, and along the Río de la Plata

lies a recreational area. Palermo Park spans 1,300 hectares and includes a world-renowned racetrack.

Buenos Aires was built on the expansive Pampas grasslands. The city enjoys a mild climate with distinct seasons, abundant rainfall, and fertile land, which keeps the city green year-round. The streets are lined with sycamore trees, eucalyptus trees, palms, and jacarandas, which are native to the Americas. The towering silk floss trees are scattered throughout the city, their pink flowers contrasting with the orange blossoms of the ceiba trees. One of the most notable trees in Buenos Aires is the ombu, native to the Río de la Plata region, with its thick trunk and lush, umbrella-like canopy that provides welcome shade from the hot sun. The city's lawns and flower beds extend into every corner. In residential areas, balconies are filled with ornamental plants of all shapes and sizes, beautifully arranged. Buenos Aires is proud of its extensive green spaces, with over one-tenth of the city covered in greenery, helping to maintain ecological balance, purify the air, and beautify the environment, making the city truly "fresh and green."

Buenos Aires has five main bustling areas:

1. The first area is centered around *Plaza de Mayo*, which is the political and commercial hub. *Avenida de Mayo* begins at *Plaza de Mayo* and ends at *Congress Plaza* on the west end. The *Casa Rosada*, located at *Plaza de Mayo*, is a pink-colored building known for its stately beauty. Commonly referred to as the "Pink House," it was designed by Argentine architect *Prilidiano Pueyrredón* in 1856. In front of the *Casa Rosada* stands a grand cathedral built in 1723, which houses the tomb of the national hero, *General San Martín*. In the center of *Plaza de Mayo* rises a pyramid-shaped monument crowned by a statue of the *Goddess of Liberty*. This monument was built to commemorate the *May Revolution of 1810*, when the people of Buenos Aires fought for independence and freedom. Opposite the *Casa Rosada* is the former *City Senate*, a white Spanish-style building, now home to the *Museum of the May Revolution*. At the other end of *Avenida de Mayo* is the *National Congress Building*, with stunning relief sculptures adorning its walls. Running parallel to *Avenida de Mayo* is *Avenida Rivadavia*, known as the longest street in the world. This area also features many modern skyscrapers, including the world-renowned *Teatro Colón*. The *Teatro Colón*, considered one of the world's top three opera houses, was built in 1908. The building itself is grand, showcasing the architectural style of the French Renaissance. It is dedicated to performances of opera and ballet. With 3,600 seats, the *Teatro Colón* is also an art academy offering courses in music, ballet, and symphony. It is managed directly by the city government and includes private boxes for the President and the Mayor.
2. The second area is *San Telmo*, the birthplace of Buenos Aires and its oldest port. This district

reflects the city's development across different historical periods and has been designated as a *Historical and Cultural Protection Area*. Monuments, churches, sculptures, plazas, and even some restaurants and homes here are rich in historical significance, drawing countless tourists.

3. The third area is located near the *Río de la Plata*. This district is home to many museums, including the *Catedral Metropolitana*, a prime example of colonial Buenos Aires architecture.
4. The fourth area is in the southern part of the city, along the coast, and is known as an enclave for Italian immigrants. Many traditional customs are preserved here.
5. The fifth area, known as *Palermo*, is a scenic district filled with lush greenery and mirror-like lakes. The streets are wide and tree-lined. Especially notable is *Rose Garden Park*, where, in spring, various roses bloom in vibrant colors. The district is also home to many famous sculptures, monuments dedicated to national heroes, and the *Monument of the Republic's Liberation*. Within *Palermo*, you'll find the city's zoo and botanical garden. The botanical garden covers 78,000 square meters and hosts many of the world's most important plant species.

City Status

The city enjoys excellent conditions for economic development. It is located near the most prosperous agricultural and livestock region in the country, *Pampa*, and has direct access to the *Río de la Plata* and the *Atlantic Ocean*. Buenos Aires has a well-developed transportation network. With a concentrated population and a complete range of economic sectors, it is the largest economic center in the country, contributing approximately half of the nation's *Gross National Product* (GNP). The primary industries include meat processing, flour production, as well as textiles, leather, machinery, automotive, chemical, shipbuilding, and printing. Of these, the food and leather industries are traditional and hold significant importance nationwide.

Buenos Aires is also home to the largest trade port in the country. It is an artificial port, handling around 26 million tons of cargo annually, making it one of the largest ports in South America. Major exports include beef, grains, wool, leather, and flax, while imports mainly consist of machinery, steel, fuel, and industrial products.

It is the largest land and air transportation hub in the country. Railroads and highways radiate from the city, connecting it with all parts of the country. Buenos Aires has two international airports, with *Ezeiza International Airport* operating 20 international flight routes. Within the city, there are five highways that

fan out from the city center and connect with *General Paz Avenue*, which forms the city's boundary. The city also has five subway lines, covering 36 kilometers, with an annual passenger volume of 200 million.

As the largest cultural and educational center in the country, Buenos Aires is home to more than 40 universities, the most famous of which is the *University of Buenos Aires* (founded in 1821). The city also hosts numerous libraries, museums, research institutions, sports stadiums, theaters, cinemas, parks, and other cultural and entertainment facilities. Additionally, it serves as the national publishing center and one of South America's major hubs for Spanish-language books and periodicals.

Connections with China



On July 13, 1993, Buenos Aires and Beijing became sister cities.

Buenos Aires' antipode is Shanghai. Antipodes are points on the Earth located at opposite ends of a diameter, looking across the globe with an **11-hour time difference between them**. The two locations experience opposite seasons, and the distance between them is 20,000 kilometers, equivalent to half the Earth's circumference.

The Beijing 2008 Olympic Torch Relay passed through Buenos Aires on April 11, 2008 (Friday). This was the first time Buenos Aires, and Argentina, hosted the Olympic Flame.

Recommended Attractions

- **Teatro Colón**

A renowned theater, ranked third in the world after the Metropolitan Opera House in New York and La Scala in Milan. Its exquisite acoustics are considered unparalleled. Located on Plaza de la Avenida 9 de Julio in Buenos Aires, the theater is a massive structure in typical Renaissance style. The marble corridors are lined with countless columns that resemble statues, and the dazzling gold leaf decor adds to its grandeur. The Dorado Hall stands out like a crane among chickens. The entire hall is adorned with gold plating, and the rows of sparkling, faceted chandeliers light up the space magnificently. The grand auditorium, with its golden walls and red velvet carpets, exudes luxury. In addition to 2,500 seats, the theater can accommodate 1,000 standing spectators. Just the front row of the main hall has 632 spacious and comfortable seats.

- **Delicious Cuisine**

- **Grilled Beef (Asado)**

Argentina has the highest per capita beef consumption in the world (double that of the United States!). This is thanks to the country's natural advantages, with its vast grasslands providing cattle with flavorful, tender meat. The locals cherish every part of the cow, using it all in their cooking. However, the most traditional and authentic way of preparing beef is simply to roast the entire carcass on an iron rack over a large charcoal grill. Even chicken, lamb, and sometimes rabbit are slow-cooked over the coals, allowing the fat to drip down slowly, preserving the meat's rich, juicy flavor.

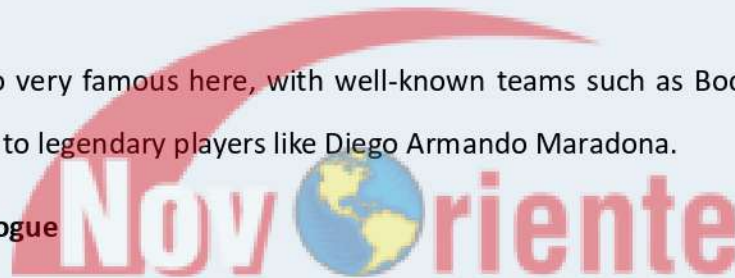
- **Coffee and Wine**

As the "Paris of South America," Buenos Aires is not all about beef in its culinary culture. Much like Parisians, locals love to linger in coffee shops. Whether old or new, coffee houses are everywhere. The older generation frequents century-old establishments for nostalgic conversations, while the younger generation prefers trendy cafes to spend their time. While French wines are renowned worldwide, Argentina, the fifth-largest wine producer globally, tends to keep its best wines for itself, with limited export.

- **Sports**

Football (soccer) is also very famous here, with well-known teams such as Boca Juniors and River Plate, which have been home to legendary players like Diego Armando Maradona.

- **City Travelogue**



If you go to Antarctica, it will be the middle of winter there, but in the southern hemisphere, it will be midsummer. Although the highest temperature in Antarctica is only 0°C, it's not too uncomfortable compared to the harsh winter. Moreover, in Buenos Aires, known as the "Paris of South America," you can wear summer clothes, enjoy ice cream, and watch the tango performances of South American hotties on the streets.

You can also visit the former home of the famous writer Jorge Luis Borges. In his early poetry collection *"The Passion of Buenos Aires,"* he wrote:

"This soul-stirring city / is like a garden reflected in a mirror / both illusory and crowded / converging and overlapping / unreachable... / as the dawn / seeps into every east-facing window / and the calls to morning prayer / fly from high towers / to the newly brightening sky / declaring to this city of gods / the solitude of God."

In Buenos Aires, there are two things you must experience: one is football, with the Boca Juniors team

producing many great stars; the other is tango, which is said to be seen on every street corner. When the sailors built this colorful city with tin buildings, the elegantly dressed women would tentatively reach out to the handsome sailors... This was the first step of the tango. Of course, you must not miss the barbecue. Buenos Aires is the most prosperous metropolis in South America, with numerous European-style old buildings, wide tree-lined avenues, and a vibrant nightlife. Many years ago, I was amazed by this city, never expecting that a city in the southern hemisphere could be as vibrant as Paris, New York, or Madrid. Even though the Argentine currency has devalued by two-thirds, Buenos Aires still stands out. You should really spend a few days here, but unfortunately, after just one night, I had to board the "Norwegian Crown" cruise ship docked near the city center the next afternoon.

The Norwegian Crown has a displacement of 34,000 tons, making it ideal for this route. Larger ships cannot navigate some of the narrower waterways. For instance, the QMII's first round-the-world voyage in 2007 had to miss many picturesque routes because it couldn't pass through the Panama Canal, which is the only way to travel from the Atlantic to the Pacific.