

# WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW WHEN TRAVELLING TO ARGENTINA

## SEASONAL HIGHLIGHTS

- December to February – Summer
- March to May – Autumn
- June to August – Winter
- September to November – Spring

## WHAT TO PACK

As you plan what to wear, keep in mind that the trick is to pack and wear layers. We suggest layering like this: tank top or t-shirt, long sleeve shirt, jersey and then jacket. Always pack something to protect yourself against rain showers.

## RETAIL HOURS

Most retail stores are open from 9.00/10.00 a.m. to between 6.00 and 9.00 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Banks are open to the public from Monday through Friday from 10.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.

## MONEY MATTERS

The official currency of Argentina is Peso (ARS)

**Currency:** Peso (ARS). ARS1 = 100 Cents.

**Credit Cards** are widely accepted and ATM's are very prevalent.

## DRINKING WATER

- Tap water is generally safe to drink throughout the country.

## TIPPING / PORTERAGE

- **Hotels** Two or Three pesos per suitcase for porters and for valet parking in top-end hotels. Leaving loose change for cleaners is appreciated.
- **Restaurants** Tip about 10% (unless service is abominable). 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 give it directly to them and not leave it on the table.
- **Bars** About 5% at the bar and 10% at a table.
- **Taxis** 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.

## TRAVEL RESPONSIBILITY

- Learn a few words of the local language so you know what's considered polite in terms of eating, greeting and local values.
- Appropriate behaviours by travellers helps ensure local communities continue to be hospital and friendly.
- Respect other people's cultures and avoid imposing your beliefs.
- Adhere to the hotel's water or energy conservation policies.
- Buy locally made crafts and support local skills.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

- **Spanish** is the official language. English isn't spoken widely.
- South African citizens do not require a visa to enter Argentina, Visa required only during emergency or if holding a temporary passport
- Argentina is situated on the continent of South America. They are 5 hours behind S.A
- For Argentina there are two associated plug types, types C and I. Plug type C is the plug which has two round pins and plug type I is the plug which has three flat pins in a triangular pattern.
- Argentina operates on a 220V supply voltage and 50Hz.

## WHAT THINGS COST

- Inexpensive restaurant meal : +- 210.00 ARS
- Meal for 2 people Mid-range Restaurant, 3 Course : +- 800.00 ARS
- McMeal at McDonalds (or Equivalent Combo Meal): +- 160.00 ARS
- Domestic Beer (0.5 Lt Draught) : +- 67.50 ARS
- Imported Beer (0.33 Lit Bottle) : +- 60.00 ARS
- Cappuccino (Regular) : +- 53.17 ARS
- Coke/Pepsi (0.33 Lt Bottle) : +- 36.74 ARS
- Water (0.33 Lt Bottle) : +- 27.94 ARS

## OUR RECOMMENDATIONS

- A lot of public restrooms will charge you a small fee to use them, so just keep some change on hand to pay the fee.
- Lock valuables away while travelling and always be vigilant of your belongings. Never leave them unattended.
- Always be aware of pick pockets irrespective of where you are in the world.