



# **Argentina Adventure**

# Worldwide Tour | 14 Days | Moderate

Buenos Aires - Ushuaia - El Calafate - Bariloche - Mendoza

Experience the best of this diverse land on a tour that perfectly mixes the majestic landscapes of Patagonia and the Lake District, with the temptations of Tango and delectable food and wine.

# **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Explore the delights of Buenos Aires
- Take a Tango dancing class
- Dine on a traditional asado
- Discover Tierra del Fuego
- Experience a food & wine masterclass
- Cruise the Beagle channel



# **Argentina Adventure tour inclusions:**

- Return international economy flights, taxes and current fuel surcharges (unless a land only option is selected)
- All accommodation
- Meals as stated
- Touring with English speaking Local Guides and entrance fees
- All transportation and transfers
- Specialist advice from our experienced travel consultants

Personal expenditure e.g. drinks, optional excursions or shows, insurance of any kind, tipping (USD72 per person for the entire trip is customary), early check in or late checkout and other items not specified on the itinerary are at your own expense.

#### **Worldwide Tours**

With our selection of Worldwide tours, you can expect exactly the same Wendy Wu Tours experience. You'll get to see the iconic sites and magnificent treasures of Argentina on an excellent value group tour, whilst enjoying the company of like-minded people. You will be accompanied by our dedicated and professional Local Guides throughout, whose unparalleled knowledge will turn your holiday into an unforgettable experience. Prepare to be immersed in the authentic charm of Argentina.

#### **Moderate Tour**

'Argentina Adventure' is a moderate tour. This means that the itinerary requires a good level of fitness.

- You will be required, on several occasions, to climb on and off boats without assistance and spend an extended amount of time on boats in open water.
- There will be several days of sightseeing on foot for a period of time and in some cases for an extended period of time.

Of course, our Local Guides will always endeavour to provide the highest level of service and assistance; however, they cannot be expected to cater for customers who are unfit to complete the itinerary.

## **Itinerary Changes**

It is our intention to adhere to the day-to-day itinerary as printed; however, the order of events or sightseeing may change as we look to improve our tours or as local conditions dictate; in these circumstances we will make the best possible arrangements whilst maintaining the integrity of your trip.

# **Joining Your Tour**

Argentina Adventure is 14 Days in duration including international flights. Travellers booked on Land Only, the tour price still includes your arrival and departure airport transfers. Please advise your international flight times to reservations. Join the tour on Day One in Buenos Aires and end the tour on Day 12 in Buenos Aires. Please refer to your final itinerary for more detailed information pertaining to the start and conclusion of your tour.

# **Argentina Adventure Itinerary**

#### **DAY 1: FLY TO BUENOS AIRES**

Fly to Argentina's flamboyant capital city Buenos Aires, arriving the same day due to crossing the International Date Line. You will be met at the airport and transferred 45 minutes (dependant on traffic) to your hotel to relax and refresh before a welcome dinner in the evening.

Meals Included: Dinner

#### **Destination Information**

**Buenos Aires** – The Paris of South America, Buenos Aires is a romantic and lively city. The culture of the city is extremely diverse and the asado (barbecue) restaurants are second to none. Most importantly of all, Buenos Aires is the home of Tango and performers can be seen dancing in restaurants, bars, and even in the streets.

#### **DAY 2: BUENOS AIRES**

After breakfast, enjoy the irresistible combination of Latin flair and European elegance in a Buenos Aires city tour, your tour will last approximately five hours. Visit the vibrant districts of La Boca, San Telmo, Puerto Madero, Palermo and Recoleta. This evening sit down for dinner and an exciting tango show.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Dinner

#### **Destination Information**

**La Boca** – A buzzing barrio of Buenos Aires packed with colourful shacks built from Zinc, La Boca is a popular area to see street artists and Tango dancers.

### **DAY 3: BUENOS AIRES TO USHUAIA**

Fly approximately four hours from Buenos Aires to Ushuaia which sits on the edge of the Tierra del Fuego, facing the waters of the Beagle Channel. This afternoon drive half an hour to the Tierra del Fuego National Park. You can wander amongst the lakes, peat bogs and rivers and admire the incredible views over the snow-capped mountains on the horizon. Walking here is relatively flat and easy going however, the ground will be uneven at times.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Dinner

# **Destination Information**

**Ushuaia** – Considered the world's southernmost city and has dubbed itself El Fin du Mundo, the End of the World.

**Tierra del Fuego** – An exposed, barren archipelago, the Tierra del Fuego is a picturesque National Park known for its dramatic landscapes.

#### **DAY 4: USHUAIA**

Board a catamaran to spend the morning cruising the waters of the Beagle Channel. Gaze over the wild landscapes and spot sea lions speeding through the water and cormorants, albatrosses, skuas and petrels wheeling on the breeze. Spend the afternoon taking in the city of Ushuaia, passing along its steep streets, through jumbles of colourful buildings, watched throughout by the snowy peaks of the Martial Range.

Meals Included: Breakfast

#### **Destination Information**

**Beagle Channel** – A strait which separates the largest island of Tierra del Fuego from the other smaller islands and is only one of three navigable routes linking the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans at the southern tip of Argentina.

#### **DAY 5: USHUAIA TO EL CALAFATE**

Transfer to the airport and fly about an hour to the charming town of El Calafate, sat on the shores of Lago Argentino. The remainder of your day will be free to explore independently or relax at your hotel.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Dinner

### **Destination Information**

**El Calafate** – Named after a tasty local berry, El Calafate is best known for the impressive Los Glaciares National Park and the Perito Moreno Glacier.

#### **DAY 6: EL CALAFATE**

Travel approximately an hour from El Calafate into Los Glaciares National Park, an area that encompasses a vast chunk of the Patagonian Continental Ice Field. Visit the Perito Moreno Glacier, this juggernaut of ice is constantly in motion, huge chunks of ice regularly collapsing, with great spectacle, into the lake below. You will take a boat cruise on Brazo Rico to see the glacier from another perspective. Today will be a full day of sightseeing with a packed lunch.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch

There will be an option to walk on the glacier (weather dependant) which can be arranged and paid for locally, however, there is an age limit imposed locally of 65 years old. Anyone over the age of 65 will not be permitted to walk on the glacier. The cost of this tour will be approximately 85 USD per person.

#### **Destination Information**

**Perito Moreno Glacier** – The glacier is an impressive 30 kilometres long, 5 kilometres wide and 60 metres high.

#### **DAY 7: EL CALAFATE TO BARILOCHE**

Transfer to the airport and fly approximately two hours from El Calafate to the city of Bariloche. This afternoon discover this beautiful area with a short tour that showcases the magnificent panoramas of the Andes and Lake Nahuel Huapi. Stop for a refreshing beer at a local beer house en route.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch

#### **Destination Information**

**Bariloche** – Set in the spectacular surroundings of Nahuel Huapi National Park, Bariloche is in the heart of Argentina's Lake District. With an alpine atmosphere, this area also produces Argentina's best chocolate!

#### **DAY 8: BARILOCHE**

Cruise for about an hour across Lake Nahuel Huapi to Victoria Island, landing at Puerto Anchorena, where you will take a short trek on trails through beautiful forests. Continue by boat to Peninsula Quetrihue to explore the Bosque de Arrayanes, a forest of rare arrayán trees the only ones in the world to grow into full-sized trees. Return to Bariloche later this afternoon.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Dinner

#### **Destination Information**

**Victoria Island** – The trails that cross Victoria Island lead to giant sequoias as well as cypresses, coihues, ñires, which are home to various species such as the pudú, wild boar, red deer, pheasants and many other species of bird.

#### **DAY 9: BARILOCHE TO MENDOZA**

Fly from Bariloche via Buenos Aires to Mendoza, your travel time today will be approximately five hours including the stop. A lively, laidback and atmospheric city, Mendoza is the hub of Argentina's wine production, on arrival transfer to your hotel to check in and begin your experience here with a wine tasting at the hotel.

Meals Included: Breakfast

#### **Destination Information**

**Mendoza** – Famed for its many red wines such as Malbecs, Mendoza is the gateway to Argentina's best bodegas (wineries).

#### **DAY 10: MENDOZA**

Travel just outside of the city to Maipu, the heart of one of Argentina's most important and oldest wine growing regions. Arrive at a wine estate where you'll be spending the day. Select fresh ingredients for a cooking class with the estate's chef, during which you'll be preparing typical Argentinian food such as Empanadas and Humita. Tour the winery whilst your creations cook before feasting on them for lunch, washed down with the estate's own wines.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch

#### **Destination Information**

**Cooking Class** – Learn about empanadas, criollas and Humita; how to prepare an Argentinian barbecue - an asado - alongside many other local dishes and traditions.

#### **DAY 11: MENDOZA TO BUENOS AIRES**

Transfer to the airport and fly approximately one and a half hours back to Buenos Aires. The rest of the day is at leisure.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Dinner

#### **DAY 12-14: DEPART BUENOS AIRES**

Transfer to the airport according to your international flight time and fly to Australia, arriving home two days later due to crossing the International Date Line.

Meals Included: Breakfast (on Day 12)

#### ARGENTINA ADVENTURE TRAVEL INFORMATION

#### **Visas**

Australian passport holders currently do not require a visa to enter Argentina. Your passport needs to be valid for at least six months beyond your intended return date to Australia. Wendy Wu Tours does not provide a visa service for Worldwide tours. To stay up to date with the latest visa requirements, visit <a href="www.smartraveller.gov.au">www.smartraveller.gov.au</a>

#### **Insurance**

It is a condition of booking with us that you take out suitable travel insurance. You must provide us with the name of your insurer, policy number and their 24-hour emergency contact number when you book with us or as soon as possible thereafter. These details will be available to your Local Guide should they be required. Wendy Wu Tours will not be liable for any costs incurred by you due to your failure to take out suitable travel insurance.

# **Eating in Argentina**

Argentinian food incorporates many European influences predominantly from Italy and Spain. The Argentinian barbecue (asado) with steak and ribs is widely recognised as the country's national dish, however in Patagonia lamb, goat and seafood are popular. Empanadas, stuffed pastry parcels, are a traditional snack and Dulce de leche (similar to caramel) features heavily in desserts throughout the country. Lunch usually seen as the main meal of the day in Argentina with dinner being a lighter dish. Whilst we strongly recommend trying as many local dishes as possible, Argentina also has a wide range of international foods available.

# Accommodation

Your accommodation is selected for convenience of location, comfort or character, and can range from business hotels to rainforest lodges. Hotels are generally rated as local three to four-star standard, but please note that there is no international classification system for hotels and differences in facilities and quality may exist between Australia and South America. All group tour hotels have private bathroom facilities and air conditioning where needed. If you experience any difficulty, please speak to your Local Guide. Rest assured that all hotels used by Wendy Wu Tours are regularly inspected by our staff and our partners to ensure that standards meet your needs.

#### **Transport**

Coaches: Coaches with air conditioning are used on our group tours for short excursions to the countryside and longer transfers between destinations. Roads in Argentina have generally been improved over recent years, but please be aware traffic and/or weather conditions may extend driving times. There may be sections of road where the surface may be comparatively bumpy but our drivers will do their utmost to lessen the impact.

Planes: Internal flights are based on economy class, with reputable airlines.

#### Souvenirs

There are plenty of interesting items to buy as souvenirs in Argentina, such as indigenous textiles, handicrafts and artworks. There will be some opportunities during your tour to pick up souvenirs.

# **Group Size**

Most of our groups consist of 10 travellers or more, there will usually be no more than 29 travellers in each group. However, at our discretion we may operate departures with a smaller group size as we try to operate advertised departures wherever it is viable to do so.

# **Tipping Policy**

Local tipping is customary in South & Central America. However, this can often lead to awkwardness in knowing when it is appropriate to tip and how much. For your convenience, with years of experience in providing the best customer service, Wendy Wu Tours operates a kitty system on your Group Tour so your Local Guide will look after this aspect of the trip for you. This ensures the amounts paid are reasonable for you and still fair to the local people. The suggested total amount is specified for each Group Tour and will be advised again on your final documentation. Tipping is paid in USD or other local currencies if specified. Any additional tipping you feel is appropriate is welcomed at your discretion.

# Clothing

On this tour, you will be travelling through various regions of Argentina with quite diverse climates especially in Ushuaia and El Calafate where all four seasons can be experienced in one day. It is recommended to bring lots of layers including the following: T Shirts made of breathable materials, hiking pants, with the option to turn into a short pant (rain pants optional), a fleece jacket for colder parts and the evenings and a waterproof Jacket as shell layer or a light rain jacket, a scarf and hat, warm socks and small backpack that fits into your main hand luggage to carry your daily essentials.

## After booking

Once you have booked with Wendy Wu Tours, you will receive a confirmation invoice followed by deposit documentation, which includes a visa application form (if applicable), and a help sheet. Your final documentation pack will be sent to you approximately two weeks prior to departure.

#### **Before You Leave**

We recommend that you contact either your GP or Travelvax (1300 360 164) for advice on vaccinations and travel health. Travelvax has a comprehensive website that you may also find useful www.travelvax.com.au

We strongly recommend registering your travel plans with <a href="www.smartraveller.gov.au">www.smartraveller.gov.au</a> as in the event of an emergency, Australian Consular assistance will be more readily available. You can also access the Australian Government's travel advisory service for up to date information about your destination on the same website.

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