

Contents

List of Maps

vii

1	The Best of Argentina	1
1	The Most Unforgettable Travel Experiences in Argentina	1
2	The Best Charming Small Towns	3
3	The Best Outdoor Adventures	4
4	The Best Hotels	5
5	The Best Dining Experiences	7
2	Planning Your Trip to Argentina	9
1	The Regions in Brief	9
2	Visitor Information	12
3	Entry Requirements & Customs	13
4	Money	15
5	When to Go	17
6	Health & Insurance	18
7	Specialized Travel Resources	21
8	Planning Your Trip Online	25
	<i>Frommers.com: The Complete Travel Resource</i>	26
9	The 21st-Century Traveler	27
	<i>Online Traveler's Toolbox</i>	29
10	Getting There	30
11	Independent Travel Packages & Escorted General-Interest Tours	33
	<i>Fast Facts: Argentina</i>	35
12	The Active Vacation Planner	37
3	Suggested Argentina Itineraries	42
1	Five Days in Buenos Aires	42
2	Northern Patagonia: Lakes & Villages	43
3	Hiking Southern Argentine Patagonia in 1 Week	47
4	Mendoza: Malbec & Mountains	49
5	Patagonia Wildlife: Peninsula Valdés & Los Glaciares National Park	52
4	Buenos Aires	55

by Michael Luongo

1	Essentials	56
	<i>Fast Facts: Buenos Aires</i>	60
2	Where to Stay	63
3	Where to Dine	89
4	What to See & Do	123
5	Shopping	134
6	Buenos Aires After Dark	144
	<i>Tango Lowdown</i>	149

5 The Pampas, the Coast & Other Side Trips from Buenos Aires 152

by Michael Luongo

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|---|-----|
| 1 Mar del Plata | 152 | 6 Colonia del Sacramento, Uruguay . . . | 173 |
| 2 Miramar | 159 | 7 Montevideo, Uruguay | 175 |
| 3 La Plata | 162 | <i>Fast Facts: Montevideo</i> | 178 |
| 4 Tigre & the Delta | 164 | 8 San Antonio de Areco & | |
| 5 Puente del Este, Uruguay | 167 | Pampas Estancias | 183 |

6 Iguazú Falls & the Northeast 190

by Charlie O'Malley

- | | | | |
|--|-----|------------------------------------|-----|
| 1 Iguazú Falls & Puerto Iguazú | 190 | 2 The Brazilian Side: | |
| <i>Behind the Falls &</i> | | Foz do Iguazu | 199 |
| <i>into the Jungle</i> | 195 | <i>Border Crossing</i> | 200 |
| | | 3 Resistencia & El Chaco | 203 |

7 Salta & the Northwest 205

by Charlie O'Malley

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----|---------------------------|-----|
| 1 Salta | 205 | 4 Driving the Quebrada de | |
| <i>Train to the Clouds: Delayed</i> | | Humahuaca (Humahuaca | |
| <i>until Further Notice</i> | 208 | Gorge) | 224 |
| 2 A Driving Tour of the Calchaquíes | | 5 Tucumán | 225 |
| Valley via Cachi & Cafayate | 215 | 6 La Rioja | 228 |
| 3 San Salvador de Jujuy | 221 | | |

8 Córdoba & the Central Sierras 232

by Charlie O'Malley

- | | | | |
|---|-----|----------------------------------|-----|
| 1 Córdoba | 232 | 3 La Falda | 246 |
| <i>Fast Facts: Córdoba</i> | 234 | 4 La Cumbre | 247 |
| <i>Touring the Jesuit Estancias</i> | 240 | <i>Parque Nacional Sierra</i> | |
| 2 Villa Carlos Paz | 242 | <i>de las Quijadas</i> | 250 |
| <i>Parque Nacional Quebrada</i> | | 5 Alta Gracia | 250 |
| <i>del Condorito</i> | 245 | | |

9 **Mendoza, the Wine Country & the Central Andes** 252

by Christie Pashby

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 Mendoza254
 <i>Fast Facts: Mendoza</i>256
 <i>The Real Scoop</i>262</p> <p>2 Touring the Wineries266
 <i>Taking Wine Home</i>268
 <i>When to Visit</i>279
 <i>The Story of Mendoza's Wine</i>281</p> | <p>3 San Rafael282</p> <p>4 The Alta Montaña
 Driving Circuit284
 <i>Roadside Shrines: Folk
 Saints of Argentina</i>285
 <i>Hitting the Slopes in Las Leñas</i> ...288
 <i>A Shared Backbone: Crossing
 into Chile</i>290</p> |
|--|---|

10 **The Argentine Lake District** 292

by Christie Pashby

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 San Carlos de Bariloche294
 <i>Fast Facts: Bariloche</i>297
 <i>What's with All the Chocolate?</i> ..298
 <i>Nah-Well What?</i>299</p> <p>2 South of Bariloche313
 <i>Ruta 40: The Road South</i>314</p> <p>3 Villa La Angostura315</p> | <p><i>Driving to Chile</i>319</p> <p>4 Driving Bariloche to San Martín ..320</p> <p>5 San Martín de los Andes322
 <i>Fast Facts: San Martín
 de los Andes</i>324</p> <p>6 Junín de los Andes333</p> |
|--|---|

11 **Península Valdés & Southern Patagonia** 335

by Christie Pashby

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 Puerto Madryn338
 <i>Fast Facts: Puerto Madryn</i>340</p> <p>2 Península Valdés347
 <i>Kayak Expedition: Up Close &
 Personal with Wildlife</i>349</p> <p>3 Puerto Pirámides350</p> <p>4 Trelew352</p> <p>5 Gaiman353
 <i>High Tea in Gaiman</i>354</p> | <p>6 El Calafate355
 <i>Fast Facts: El Calafate</i>355</p> <p>7 Parque Nacional los Glaciares &
 Perito Moreno Glacier366
 <i>How to See the Glacier</i>369</p> <p>8 El Chaltén & the FitzRoy Area370
 <i>Patagonia's Famous Peaks</i>374</p> <p>9 Torres del Paine National
 Park, Chile377</p> |
|--|---|

12 Tierra del Fuego & Antarctica 386

by Charlie O'Malley

1 Ushuaia	386	<i>Monster Trout on the</i>	
<i>Cruising from Punta Arenas</i>		<i>Río Grande</i>	400
<i>to Ushuaia</i>	389	2 Puerto Williams, Chile	401
<i>Fast Facts: Ushuaia</i>	390	3 Antarctica	403

Appendix A: Argentina in Depth 410

by Michael Luongo

1 Settlement & Colonization	410	4 The Cultural Growth of the	
2 Independence & Warfare	411	1920s & 1930s	414
3 Buenos Aires, the Capital	413	5 The Perón Years	415
		6 The Dirty War & Its Aftermath	417

Appendix B: Survival Spanish 421

Index 425

List of Maps

Argentina	11	The Iguazú Falls Region	191
Buenos Aires in 5 Days	44	Northwestern Argentina	207
Northern Patagonia Lakes & Villages	47	Salta	209
Hiking Southern Patagonia in 1 Week	49	Córdoba	233
Mendoza: Malbec & Mountains	51	Córdoba Province	243
Península Valdés & Los Glaciares	53	Mendoza	253
Where to Stay in Buenos Aires	64	Mendoza Province	267
Where to Stay & Dine in Palermo	86	Argentina's Lake District	293
Where to Dine in Buenos Aires	90	Seven Lakes Route	321
Buenos Aires Sightseeing	124	Patagonia	337
Buenos Aires Shopping & Nightlife	136	Península Valdés/Puerto Madryn	339
Palermo Shopping & Nightlife	140	Southern Patagonia	357
Mar del Plata	154	Los Glaciares National Park	367
Montevideo	177	Ushuaia	387
		Antarctica	405