



Argentina

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**experiences**  
Africa, Latin America & India





Peru, Cusco Province

# Welcome



Travel has been my life for 20 years. St Augustine's famous quote remains as true to me today as it was when I first set up 2by2 Holidays – "the world is a book and those who do not travel, read only one page".

My first love was Africa, the place of my birth. Its remarkable wildlife and cultures continue to captivate me today. A recent visit to the gorillas of Uganda has starkly reminded me just how fragile the survival of so many endangered species remains. And reinforced my belief that travel must always have conservation at its heart.

In recent years I have discovered the joys of travel in the Indian subcontinent and Latin America. The iconic sites and cultures here are no less enthralling. And everywhere wildlife adapts and survives, from harsh barren deserts to cool mountain cloud forests and tropical wetlands.

My enthusiasm burns as brightly as ever and I continue to be as involved in every aspect of the business as I always have been, backed up by our superb travel team. I'm particularly thrilled that so many of our customers return time after time.

I do hope you find our latest brochure inspiring and we all look forward to hearing from you.

Hambe Kahle – Travel Safely

*Claire Farley*

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# Africa Latin America India

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Tango, Buenos Aires

# Argentina

Argentina is a big country in every sense. It is wonderfully diverse, blending sophisticated city life with truly amazing food and breathtaking scenery – from the rainforests of Iguazu and dry landscapes of Salta, to the spectacular glaciers of Patagonia.

The capital Buenos Aires is the true heart of Argentina. Located on the estuary of the enormous Rio de la Plate (River of Silver), it epitomises the history and versatility of this fascinating country and is the main entry point for visitors. A café and market culture holds sway in this sophisticated and well-organised modern city, where everything is on offer from the finest steaks in the world to Eva Peron's famous Pink House, the Casa Rosada.

From the capital take a day trip to a Gaucho cowboy ranch and experience the unique skills, dress and traditions of these famous horsemen. Be sure to taste an empanada, a small traditional pie, and enjoy an asado (barbeque) accompanied by fine Argentinian wine. Serious riders should opt for a longer stay at a ranch further afield, set against a backdrop of the Sierra Chica Mountains, or play a chukka or two on the polo field.

Don't overlook a boat excursion to the Tigre Delta, and any trip to Buenos Aires must include a tango show. You don't have to join in, but the elegance and symbolism of this national dance will leave you spellbound. For sunshine and sand visit the beach-lined coast of Uruguay, which is easily reached from Buenos Aires by hydrofoil across the Rio de la Plate. Head for glamorous Punta del Este or laid-back, arty Jose Ignacio.

In the northwest, around the old colonial town of Salta, you will find stunning geological features and fantastically coloured rock formations. Dominated by the Andes, the ancient culture is strong here. After visiting the High Mountain Museum, take a trip to the astonishing Salinas Grande Salt Flats, staying overnight at the Indian Village of Purmamarca and returning via the dramatic landscapes of Humahuaca Gorge. You can also head south to the wine-producing region of Cafayate, or take the narrow gauge 'Train to the Clouds' up the multi-coloured Toro Gorge (Quebrada del Toro), a fabulous journey through dense forest and brightly coloured canyons.

At the northeast tip of the country are the Iguazu Falls, shared with Brazil, where they are called Guaçu, and one of the most inspiring waterfalls in the world. Meaning 'Great Waters', these magnificent falls are twice the size of Niagara and constitute one of the major must-see sights on the planet. Both sides of the falls can be visited with ease, with the Brazilian side providing postcard views and the Argentinian side affording the best opportunity to explore the rainforests and the many cataracts.

Comprising over 275 separate cascades, the Iguazu Falls form a curtain of foaming water that crashes over a vast granite amphitheatre and into the jungle below. Resembling a reverse 'J', most of the river plunges down through an area known as The Devil's Throat, with the rest spreading out over a wide shelf that



Iguazu Falls

splits into hundreds of different waterfalls. There are a series of walkways that lead above, below and behind the falls with breathtaking views. You can also hope to see monkeys, toucans, parakeets and other wildlife that live in this rainforest.

Upstream from the falls you can discover the lush Iryapu rainforest, staying in a comfortable jungle lodge and exploring on foot with a local guide, or by boat gliding through the waterways. You should see a great diversity of butterflies and many vivid tropical birds such as tirica, Black-fronted piping guan, Harpy eagle and Great dusky swift. Interesting

reptiles and insects abound and if you are fortunate, you may catch a glimpse of one of the larger creatures that live here such as the caiman, coati, jaguar, jaguarundi, tapir, anteater or ocelot.



## Argentina Highlights

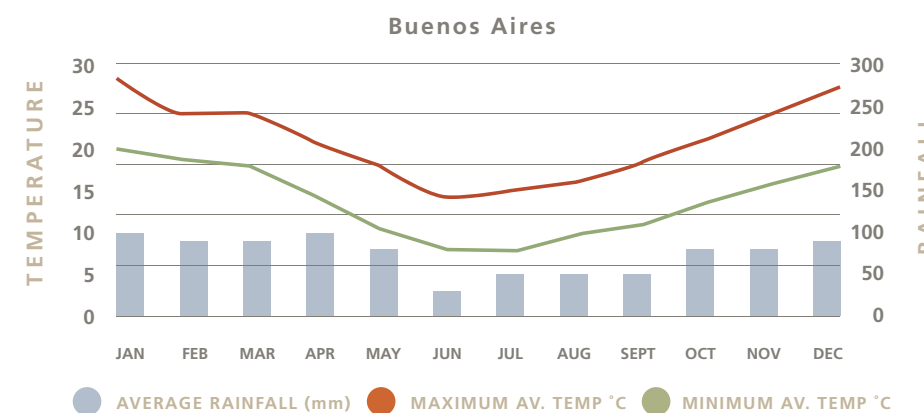
- DAY 1** Arrive in Buenos Aires
  - DAY 2** City tour & tango show
  - DAYS 3/4** Fly to Puerto Madryn & Valdez Peninsula, with its rich marine life including penguins, seals, sea lions & whales in season
  - DAYS 5/6** Fly to Ushuaia to visit Tierra del Fuego National Park, with boat ride on Beagle Channel
  - DAYS 7/9** Fly to El Calafate, with visit to Los Glaciares National Park & the Perito Moreno Glacier
  - DAYS 10/12** Fly to Iguazu, with tours of both sides of the falls
  - DAYS 13/14** Fly to Buenos Aires/Depart
- From £3,295 per person sharing including flights, mid season



This is an example itinerary – see page 5 for key. For more ideas, information and prices please call us on **01582 766 122** or visit [www.2by2holidays.co.uk](http://www.2by2holidays.co.uk)

## When to go

Argentina can be visited all year round, as it is a very large country with many different regional weather patterns. Buenos Aires is best visited from October to March (the warm summer months) but the Winelands and Lake Districts are also lovely in the spring and autumn. The Iguazu Falls have their highest flow in March and April, following the summer rains. Patagonia is at its best from November to February, but being so far south the weather is changeable and most facilities are closed from June to August. The whale watching season is from May to December.







Perito Moreno Glacier

For wine aficionados, Mendoza in the west is the country's wine capital. Argentina is world-famous for making superb wines from the Malbec grape and here you can tour the vineyards, see how the wine is made and sample the results. The tranquil town of Cafayate in the north, set amongst spectacular Andean mountains, is Argentina's second wine centre and specialises in dry white wine made from the Torrontés grape.

In the southwest of the country the Lake District beckons, with fresh air and adventure. The scenic alpine city of Bariloche, with its strong German community, is an ideal base from which to explore the stunningly beautiful Nahuel Huapi National Park. Take in the pristine glacial lakes and verdant green landscapes, all with an Andean backdrop. An excursion into Chile's Lake District can also easily be arranged, with a scenic boat crossing to Puerto Varas.



Los Glaciares National Park

The best way to experience Patagonia is on a thrilling expedition cruise, disembarking by panga boat daily to explore its glaciers, fjords and islands.

Patagonia in the far south is Argentina's essential must-see. This spectacular region of mountains and ice is usually accessed from El Calafate, the gateway town to Los Glaciares National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site where you can see the famous Perito Moreno Glacier. With luck you may see it 'calving', when huge chunks of ice break off the glacier and crash into the lake below. The Southern Patagonia Ice Field dominates this region of towering mountains and glacial lakes and a discovery boat trip up the northern arm of Lake Argentino to Upsala Glacier is an unforgettable experience.

The regional capital of Ushuaia is situated on Tierra del Fuego, the island at the tip of the continent, and is the southern-most city in the world. It is the setting off point for Patagonia expedition cruises and Antarctica.

Modern expedition ships sail from Ushuaia to Punta Arenas in Chile, travelling through the Beagle Channel to Wulaia Bay and Cape Horn. Cruise through the fjords and glaciers of Tierra

del Fuego and Glacier Alley, spotting marine life such as elephant seal and sea lion. Some cruises visit the Magellan penguins on Tuckers Islets and Ainsworth Bay, while others visit Magdalena Island. Each day shore excursions are arranged to view glaciers and the breathtaking scenery, so remember to wrap up warmly. Transfers to shore are by small panga, a zodiac-like rubber-sided boat, and are a thrilling experience.

To view marine life, head to Puerto Madryn on the eastern Atlantic coast. The Valdés Peninsula is a site of global significance for the conservation of threatened marine species and you can expect to see elephant seal, penguin, orca and numerous seabirds. Southern right whales also breed here. The whale-watching season extends from May to December, but the best chances of sightings are in September and October. On land look for the rhea, an ostrich like bird, and the Patagonia fox. Interestingly there is a large Welsh Community that lives here.



Cafayate Gorge, Salta



Elephant seal



### Argentina Landscapes

- DAYS 1/3** Arrive in Buenos Aires, with city tour & tango show
- DAYS 4/5** Fly to Salta & visit High Mountain Museum
- DAYS 6/7** Overnight trip to the Salinas Grande salt flats, Indian village of Purmamarca & magnificent Humahuaca Gorge
- DAYS 8/9** Overnight trip to Cachi & Cafayate winelands
- DAYS 10/12** Fly to Bariloche in beautiful Lake District
- DAYS 13/15** Fly to Iguazu Falls, with tours of both sides of the falls
- DAYS 16/17** Fly to Buenos Aires/Depart

From £3,495 per person sharing including flights, mid season



This is an example itinerary – see page 5 for key. For more ideas, information and prices please call us on **01582 766 122** or visit [www.2by2holidays.co.uk](http://www.2by2holidays.co.uk)





# Book with confidence

We have ATOL certification and membership of the Association of Tour Operators (AITO).

## Booking your holiday

When you are ready to book, we will guide you through the process. In all our dealings we aim to be transparent and encourage you to read our terms and conditions thoroughly. These are on our website at [www.2by2holidays.co.uk](http://www.2by2holidays.co.uk). Please do contact us if anything is unclear.

## Financial Protection

Through our membership of ATOL (9025) and our Tour Operator Insurance, your holiday is fully financially protected wherever in the world you live, regardless of whether you book land-only arrangements or a complete holiday package with flights.

## AITO Quality Charter

AITO is the Association for independent and specialist holiday companies. Our member companies, usually owner-managed, strive to create overseas holidays with high levels of professionalism and a shared concern for quality and personal service. The Association encourages the highest standards in all aspects of tour operating.

## Exclusive Membership

AITO sets criteria regarding ownership, finance and quality which must be satisfied before new companies are admitted to membership. All members are required to adhere to a Code of Business Practice which encourages high operational standards and conduct.

## Financial Security

An AITO member is required to arrange financial protection for all holidays and other arrangements (including accommodation only) booked by customers with the member under the AITO logo. This financial protection applies to customers who are resident in the UK at the time of booking and to most overseas customers who have booked directly with the member. In doing so, the member must comply with UK Government regulations. Members are required to submit details of their financial protection arrangements to AITO on a regular basis.

## Accurate brochures and websites

All members do their utmost to ensure that all their brochures and other publications, print or electronic, clearly and accurately describe the holidays and services offered.

## Professional service and continual improvements

All members are committed to high standards of service and believe in regular and thorough training of employees. Members continually seek to review and improve their holidays. They listen to their customers and always welcome suggestions for improving standards.

## Monitoring standards

AITO endeavours to monitor quality standards regularly. All customers should receive a post-holiday questionnaire from their tour operator, the results of which are scrutinised by the Association.

## Sustainable tourism

Our members acknowledge the importance of AITOs Sustainable Tourism ethos, which recognises the social, economic and environmental responsibilities of tour operating.

## Customer relations

All members endeavour to deal swiftly and fairly with any issues their customers may raise. In the unlikely event that a dispute between an AITO member and a customer cannot be settled amicably, either party can call on an arbitration service to bring the matter to a speedy and acceptable conclusion.

To contact AITO call 020 8744 9280 or visit their website [www.aito.com](http://www.aito.com)

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