

BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA



ARGENTINA

Buenos Aires is the capital city of Argentina. It is located in the eastern portion.



PEOPLE/POPULATION

2.965 million people live in Buenos Aires.

The current president of Buenos Aires is President Cristina Fernández de Kirchner, the widow of former president, Néstor Kirchner.



CURRENCY

Pesos are the currency in Buenos Aires.



NATIONAL FOOD AND DRINK

Beef is the national food of Argentina.



Yerba maté is the national drink of Argentina.

Maté is an herbal tea made up of dried maté (plant) steeped with hot water.



HOLIDAYS: CARNIVAL

Carnival is an annual festival that marks Ash Wednesday in Argentina. It celebrates and marks the start of Lent.

The Monday and Tuesday before Ash Wednesday are the national days of Carnival. Carnival parades and events are based on African traditions, meaning that the events contain lots of performances and floats (as you can see in the picture).



HOLIDAYS: INDEPENDENCE DAY (DÍA DE LA INDEPENDENCIA)

Independence Day in Argentina takes place on the ninth of July. Independence Day in Argentina is celebrated in a way similar to how we in the U.S. celebrate- with parades, speeches and many other events such as military demonstrations and is a popular time for family reunions.



PATO

Argentina's national sport is called pato. The game is played horseback and is a cross between polo and basketball. The goal of the game is to have possession of a ball with six handles by getting it through a hoop. The name 'pato' translates (in Spanish) to 'duck' because pato players used to play with a duck instead of a ball.

Pato is a very popular sport in Argentina (in Buenos Aires too).



BUENOS AIRES WAS FOUNDED TWICE

In 1536, an explorer named Pedro de Mendoza founded Buenos Aires under the name “Nuestra Señora Santa María del Buen Aire”, which translates to “Our Lady Saint Mary of the Good Air”. A little while after settling, de Mendoza was attacked and had trouble surviving. Fifty years later, Spaniard Juan de Garay found the area and named it “Ciudad de Trinidad”, and settled there. It was not hard for de Garay’s group to survive in the area so they established a colony.

ECONOMY WAS LITERALLY FALLING

For a short period of time, Buenos Aires was having some economic issues referring to their buildings. In the late 1990s, the top news stories were all about decaying buildings that were falling apart-literally. There was also heavy pollution and many other issues with the economy.

PORTEÑOS

Buenos Aires is Argentina's chief port. The port is one of the world's most busiest and famous. The historical importance of the port has led people in Buenos Aires to call themselves *porteños*-the people of the port. Meat and dairy products, hides, wool, flax, and linseed oil are the chief exports.



LA CASA ROSADA

La Casa Rosada (the Pink House) is the executive mansion and the office of Cristina Fernández de Kirchner (president). La Casa Rosada is also a museum containing items relating to former presidents.

La Casa Rosada is a popular tourist attraction and is a famous historical site as well.



CARLOS THAYS BOTANICAL GARDENS

Carlos Thays was a French Landscape artist. He came Buenos Aires when he was forty years old and changed the city. One of his many projects was the Carlos Thays Botanical Gardens, a beautiful garden and the home to more than 5,000 different plants. This park is a popular place due to its peacefulness and is a nice way to escape the busy city.



TEATRO COLÓN

Before the Sydney Opera House was built in 1973, Teatro Colón was the world's largest opera house. Now, it is one of Buenos Aires' top tourist attractions, with seating for 2,500 people and room for 1,000 people to stand while watching the show.



POPE FRANCIS



Pope Francis, the current Pope of the Roman Catholic Church, was born in Buenos Aires. Before becoming the Pope, Jorge Bergoglio served as archbishop of Buenos Aires in 1998. He was also the cardinal of the Roman Catholic Church of Argentina from 2001 to 2013, and president of the Bishops' Church of Argentina from 2005 to 2011. A few months ago, he made his first visit to the United States as he made history.

WHY I WOULD LIKE TO VISIT BUENOS AIRES

I would like to visit Buenos Aires because the city has many cool attractions. I specifically think that Carlos Thays Botanical Gardens seems like a peaceful and cool place to go, and La Casa Rosada also seems like a special place to go.



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