

Kat's Great Adventures

Argentina – Pure Argentina Culture and Nature Tour 2023

Guided Tour
21 Days / 20 Nights



This comprehensive tour of Argentina is designed for tourists who want to see it all! Visit all traditional spots of Buenos Aires but also mingle with locals in a local ranch to learn about Gaucho life, and dance tango in a “milonga” are just some of the activities you can do to enjoy the city. Continue to Mendoza, the great wine region of Argentina with internationally awarded Malbec wines to try its specialties, visit local producers and enjoy great local gastronomy. Take a trip to history in Cordoba, known as the heart of the country for being located in the middle of Argentina but also because of its historical importance: the legacy of Jesuits is kept alive, the architecture invites to a journey through history and its quiet estancias allow a nice rest close to nature to reload energy for the next adventure: Iguazu Falls! One of the Wonders of the World, Natural Heritage by UNESCO and one of the most amazing places on earth, Iguazu Falls is the favorite of locals and foreigner travelers. Over 250 waterfalls, the jungle ambience and the magnificent Devil’s Throat are some of the reasons to visit this National Park. End this program with a stay at an exclusive jungle lodge with meals and activities included, before flying back to the big city and back home!

Itinerary Day to Day

Day 1: Arrival in Buenos Aires

Upon arrival, you will be welcomed at the international airport and taken to your hotel. *Buenos Aires Bike Tour South Area 4 hours*

Meet your guide and the group at San Martín Square. After the general safety instructions, get on your bike and tour Buenos Aires on this fun and unforgettable experience. Leave San Martín Square, pass by Puerto Madero and Costanera Sur. Make a 30 minute stop in La Boca to walk along El Caminito and appreciate the tango dancers and colourful streets. Continue your ride and pass by the Boca Juniors football Stadium, Lezama, Dorrego, and May Squares before returning to San Martín Square.

Optional: Dinner with Local Hosts 3 hours

Leave your hotel and head to a private home where you will immerse completely in Argentine culture. Upon arrival, you will be welcomed by your host and enjoy some appetizers as you interact with friendly locals. In the relaxed and hospitable environment, learn about the culture and how people live. Then, indulge in the real flavors of Argentina with a three course home-cooked meal accompanied with red or white wine.



Day 2: Buenos Aires

North Area Bike Tour 4 hours

During the Recoleta/Palermo Area bike tour, leave San Martín Square and see landmarks such as: the Law University, National Library, Buenos Aires Zoo, Palermo Woods, several parks, and the San Martín Insitute. Make a 30 minute stop at the Recoleta Basilica and Cemetery and continue along Alvear Avenue to return to San Martín Square.

Optional: Dinner and Tango Show at El Viejo Almacén 4 hours

Visiting a Tango Show is a MUST when you are in Buenos Aires. The Tango tradition started at the end of the last century, developed from a mixture of various rhythms, which were originally danced in the poorer quarters. In the beginning, Tango was only danced by men,

accompanied by flutes, violins and guitars. The flutes were later replaced by the "bandoneón" (a type of accordion), which gave the Tango its distinctive flavor. Reflecting the nostalgia and melancholy of mostly European immigrants, the tango brought up some great musicians, such as Astor Piazzolla and Anibal Troilo. Transfer from the hotel and drive to one of the famous tango houses for dinner including drinks. Then enjoy tango show with its music, singing and dancing. Dinner includes entrée / main course / dessert & drinks. After the tango show, return to the hotel.



Day 3: Buenos Aires Meeting Argentine Pioneers Tour and Lunch 9 hours

Leave Buenos Aires and drive 110 kilometers to San Antonio de Areco, the heart of the “gaucho” traditions in the “pampas” region. Upon arrival, walk around the small village’s cobblestoned streets and appreciate its quaint historical center. See the main square, the church, and meet some of the locals along the way. Make a stop for a mate tea, coffee or a refreshing drink and a snack as you learn more about the area’s history and the life and customs that are still present today. Also known as the ‘Cradle of Tradition’ the colonial town was founded over 280 years ago and is filled with old bars (“pulperías”) and artisan shops with over 30 silversmiths. Known as “platería criolla”, the traditional Argentinean

silverworks include knives, jewellery, and other traditional items. Visit a social project where several people with different disabilities make the handmade "Alpargatas" (typical gaucho shoes). Afterwards, meet with a painter and visit his 140 year old studio that also exhibits traditional painting. Visit a “pulpería”, the meeting place for “gauchos” and have a lunch in the old restaurant atmosphere. End your tour with a visit to the Gaucho Museum and the handmade chocolate factory before returning to Buenos Aires. **Remark: A light breakfast with coffee, mate or a beverage, croissant or a sweet pastry is included. Receive a souvenir drawing from the painter at his workshop. Lunch is included but beverages are not (to be paid directly at the restaurant). An amount from the tour will be a donation to support the traditional community and to preserve ancient traditions. The social center and the painter’s workshop are only open between February and December; these activities could be replaced by other social projects. The chocolate factory is closed on Tuesday; this day, visit a painting or pottery workshop.



Day 4: Buenos Aires Tigre and Parana Delta Boat Tour 4 hours

Leave your hotel and drive 33 kilometers north to the capital’s outskirts. Tigre is a popular weekend getaway for many "porteños" and boasts many summer homes as well as yacht and rowing clubs. Take a one hour boat excursion along the Paraná Delta and its channels, rivers, streams, and numerous islands, appreciating the lush vegetation.

Optional: Milonga Experience 4 hours

Leave your hotel and get ready to immerse completely in the tango culture in the ‘City that Never Sleeps’. Get a glimpse of the night culture as you go to a “milonga”, the traditional bars where locals dance tango. These low-key spots are nothing flashy but truly

tango) with the locals, or simply watch locals performing this sensual dance. At the Milongas, your experience will include an introduction to the codes, traditions of Tango before you have the opportunity to learn the dance and enjoy the real Tango together with the locals. **Remark: The tour is available Wednesday and Sunday and departure time is between 7:00-8:30 p.m. depending on the day with a duration of 3.5 to 4 hours. Roundtrip transfers, the milonga entrance fee, and one soft drink per person are included. Tips and any additional food or beverages are not included.

Day 5: Buenos Aires – Mendoza Colon Theater & Palaces of Buenos Aires Tour 3 hours

Get skip-the-line access to one of the world's most popular opera houses, the Colon Theater, with this two hour guided tour. The theater is considered to be amongst the five best concert venues in the world acoustically. Learn about the history of the theater as well as the artists who've performed there. Plus, get an outside view of other Buenos Aires palaces. Entrance tickets for the Colon Theater tour are included.

**Remark: Daily departures in the morning at 10:30 am. Meeting point: Tucumán 1171 (entrance of Teatro Colón) Afterwards, at the given time, you will be picked up and taken to the bus station to take your night bus to Mendoza.

Day 6: Mendoza - Mendoza Bike Tour and Picnic in the Park 3 hours

Upon arrival, you will be welcomed at the bus station and taken to your hotel. Take an afternoon bike tour around Mendoza and appreciate its beautiful tree-lined streets, colonial squares and buildings, and other iconic spots. In the historical center, "Plaza Independencia" is the center of five squares that make up the city's urban layout. Then, bike to the San Martín General Park; for over a century, it was one of the most important urban green spaces in Argentina because of its size and its proximity to the city. Enjoy a break and a picnic in this beautiful verdant park.



Then, head up the Hill of Glory and see the monument that was placed here during Argentina's 100-year independence to honor the country's hero's constant presence of the waterfalls. Mendoza is an atmospheric, laid back city surrounded by rivers, valleys, canyons, and the imposing Andes mountain range. From here, marvel at South America's highest mountain, the Aconcagua, that reaches an altitude of 6,959 meters. With sunshine all year, visit the spectacular wineries that blend old expertise and modern innovation. Enjoy a wine tasting like no other in a valley famous for its signature Malbec grapes.



Day 7: Mendoza Organic and Sustainable Wineries Tour 7 hours

Leave Mendoza and drive to Luján de Cuyo to explore the beautiful wineries along the wine route. Learn about the organic viticulture that helps preserve Mendoza's ancient vineyards' characteristics with different processes that form an organic and sustainable winery like natural fertilizers, procedures that are in line with the sun and planets, and using gravity for wine production. During your tour, visit three wineries: Familia Arizu (Luigi Busca), Matervini Winery, and Susana Balbo Winery. Learn the wine elaboration processes and each establishment's secrets. Taste exquisite wines and enjoy a gourmet lunch at one of the wineries.



Day 8: Mendoza – Cordoba Altos Limpios Walk and Huarpe Community Tour 9 hours

Leave your hotel and drive towards a Huarpe community to learn about the region's native culture. In Mendoza, there are eleven Huarpe communities that have preserved their traditions and social structures. Along the way, stop at "Altos Limpios" for a short walk through the Lavalle desert dunes. During your time in the Natural Reserve, observe the typical landscapes of Mendoza backed with the Andes Mountains. Continue your drive and arrive at "La Asunción" Huarpe village. Visit a family in their home and share a typical lunch with them. Try empanadas, homemade bread, and roasted goat baked in an outdoor

oven. Immerse completely in their culture in a small handicraft workshop and learn the different techniques to make leather crafts. Bring home your craft as a souvenir and return to the city. Afterwards, at the given time, you will be picked up and taken to the bus station to take your bus to Cordoba.

Day 9: Cordoba City Tour Córdoba 3 hours and Cordoba Bike tour 3 hours

Gather at the meeting point for a safety introduction and the tour's technical information. Then, start your bike tour around the city. Stop at "La Cañada", a strategic point where you can see the old city limits: la Cañada stream and the Suquia River. Continue to ride and arrive at "Paseo Sobremonte", near the courthouse. Afterwards, bike towards the new neighborhood called "Nueva Córdoba". Along the paths on Yrigoyen Avenue, see the city's landmarks such as "Paseo del Buen Pastor", Capuchinos Church and the Ferreyra Palace. Nearby, enter the Sarmiento Park, the city's largest green area. Appreciate the panoramic views while your guide tells you great stories about the park. Return to the downtown area and bike by the Jesuit Block, a UNESCO World Heritage Site where you can see pedestrian streets, the Cathedral, City Hall, and "San Martín"



square. Explore Córdoba and its many facets: colonial architecture, modern buildings, and traditional culture. Start at the "San Martín" Square and walk around the center to explore the cultural and historical buildings. Pass by the Cathedral, the Cabildo, the Santa Catalina Monastery, the Juan de Tejada Religion Museum, the Montserrat College, the National University of Córdoba, and the famous Compañía de Jesús Church. Afterwards, drive to the neo-gothic church "Padres Capuchinos". Step inside and appreciate the collection of paintings and sculptures and its impressive ornately decorated ceiling. Then, drive around and explore Córdoba's surroundings: the Sarmiento Park, the Caraffa Museum, the University, and the "Cerro de las Rosas". At the end of the tour, pass by the Château Carreras World Cup football stadium.



Day 10: Cordoba Jesuits Estancias Tour 10 hours

Leave your hotel and drive about 18 kilometers outside the city to La Calera. The small town and its Jesuit church were founded in the 17th century. Pass by the large “Mal Paso” dam, which was completed in 1886 and continue your drive through the area’s picturesque villages. Arrive at Estancia Santa Catalina, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Built in 1622, visit the largest Jesuits ranch in the area and learn about its history. Afterwards, drive to the Jesus María village and enjoy some time for lunch. End your day at the Jesuit Museum in Colonia Caroya before returning to Córdoba.

Day 11: Cordoba Visit Quebrada del Condorito National Park (trekking) + La Matilde

Leave Córdoba and drive to the “Quebrada del Condorito” National Park, located in the “Pampa de Achala” (Sierras Grandes). Enjoy a 12 kilometer hike in the area’s first national park and observe local fauna and flora. When you arrive at the North Balcony, appreciate the stunning panoramic views and keep your eyes open for the majestic condors flying in the sky. After your hike, continue the drive towards the Traslasierra Valley, about 190 km from the city. Arrive and check in at the Posada Rural La Matilde, a beautiful estate that promotes agriculture and healthy eating. During your stay, your program includes a guided visit to the posada’s vineyards, fruit plantations, and a tour of the organic and biodynamic vegetable gardens. Enjoy your free time at the swimming pool or at the solarium. At an additional cost, choose among the different activities to learn and enjoy nature or to simply relax in the beautiful setting. Optional activities: Conscious diet, biodynamic agriculture, collect fruits and vegetables directly from the garden, organic wine tasting, guided horseback-riding, homemade bread workshop, local plants workshop, yoga lessons, archery, massages, and healthy culinary tour.

Day 12 and 13: Hotel Estancia La Matilde

Day at leisure

Day 14: Cordoba - Puerto Iguazu

At due time, transfer to Cordoba airport for your flight to Iguazu. Puerto Iguazú is a small, quiet town located at the confluence of the Iguazú and Paraná Rivers. With many hotels, restaurants, travel agencies, and transport facilities, everyone here is either traveling or working in the tourism industry: it is your gateway to the famous Iguazú Falls. Upon arrival, you will be welcomed at Puerto Iguazu airport and taken to your hotel in the Argentinean side.





Day 15: Puerto Iguazu Guarani Culture Tour 1.5 hours and Argentine Side of the Falls 6 hours

Visit the Tekoa Yriapú indigenous community, part of the Mbyá Guarani ethnical group and the Guarani culture. Dive into their world and learn about their history, living and survival methods, handicrafts, religious traditions, and more. Walk along a 500 meter trail and look for miniature hunting traps that show ancient hunting methods. In the village's courtyard, see local handicrafts that are an important source of their income. Leave your hotel and drive to the Iguazú National Park in Argentina. From the visitor's center, take the train and go to the Upper Circuit as you appreciate the panoramic views of the falls. Arrive at the Devil's Throat, the park's

most impressive and immense waterfalls. Measuring 150 meters long and 80 meters high; its horseshoe shape creates a stunning waterfall you will remember forever. From here, walk along the Iguazú River canyon for about 3 km to the lower circuit as you admire the regional fauna and flora and feel the constant presence of the waterfalls.

Optional: Great Adventure Tour 1.5 hours

The Great Adventure combines the whole essence of the Iguassu National Park in one ride: the jungle and the waterfalls. All terrain trucks go through the jungle for about 6 kilometers in the humid subtropical forest as far as the banks of the Iguazú River. From here you will board special boats that will take you, at high speed, to enjoy one of the most unforgettable experiences: the direct and wet contact with the mighty Iguassu Falls! You will get off the boat at the base of the Falls, on catwalk that connects to the lower circuit of the Falls. This tour can be started in the reverse direction, from this catwalk downwards ending with the jungle truck ride.

Day 16: Puerto Iguazu Optional: Brazilian Side of the Falls 4.5 hours and Optional: The Argentine Experience Iguazú 3 hours

Optional: Brazilian Side of the Falls 4.5 hours: Drive through the National Park until you reach the Brazilian side of the falls. From here, walk along the paths and appreciate the lush vegetation, butterflies, and cascades. Take the 1.5 kilometer path that leads you to an amazing panoramic view of the Devil's Throat. From here, appreciate the incredible scene that includes other iconic sites in Argentina like the Two Sisters and Bozzeti waterfalls, the Superior Circuit, and San Martin Island, where the movie "The Mission" was filmed.

Optional: The Argentine Experience Iguazú 3 hours

Immerse completely in Argentine culture in the first speakeasy restaurant in Puerto Iguazú. You will be welcomed at the exclusive wine cellar and start a night full of surprises. Local hosts will teach you favorite hand



gestures, how to prepare your own wine-based cocktail, or how to stuff your own empanada and close it using the traditional "repulgue" technique. Then, enjoy a typical Argentine "picada" that includes grilled provolone cheese, sliced chorizo sausage, and pork flank steak. Learn how to order your steak in Spanish and try a 250 gram tenderloin that has been cured for 24 hours accompanied with exquisite wines. Afterwards, learn how to make your own "alfajor", a national sweet, and how to prepare "mate" from scratch. Enjoy a fun and dynamic night in Puerto Iguazú!



Day 17: Puerto Iguazu

At the given time, you will be picked up and taken to Raices Argentinas meeting point for your transfer to Yacuting Lodge.

Nature and Guaraní Culture Program (3 nights)

On this tour you will discover the colorful nature of the rainforest as well as the culture of the local Guaraní community by gaining an impression of how to live in the rainforest. Program includes: Transfer from Puerto Iguazú to the Yacutinga Lodge and back; 3 nights at Yacutinga Lodge with full board (starting with dinner on day 1, until breakfast on day 4); Presentation of the rainforest; Guided rainforest tours (accompanied by

an English speaking environmental guide as well as a local Guaraní); Around lunchtime walk through the rainforest; Kayaking along the Río Iguazú or San Francisco stream; Night walk; Participation in additionally offered activities and tours

Day 18 and 19: Puerto Iguazu

Day at leisure

Day 20: Puerto Iguazu - Buenos Aires

At the given time, you will be picked up at Raices Argentinas meeting point and taken to the airport for your flight to Buenos Aires. Upon arrival, you will be welcomed at the airport and taken to your hotel.

Day 21: Buenos Aires

At the given time, you will be picked up and taken to the international airport to board your international flight.



Route



Technical Characteristics:

Route Profile: Medium. Sightseeing and cultural activities designed for people who are generally fit and are comfortable walking up to 6 hours per day.

Travel Season: Any date on request from January 2 to December 31, 2023
Blackout dates Carnival (February 18-21); Easter (April 6-9); Winter holidays (July); Christmas (December 24 and 25) and New Year (December 31 and January 1, 2024)



Price per Person

Double Occupancy January to April	\$ 7175.00 USD
Double Occupancy May to December	\$ 6800.00 USD
Single Occupancy January to April	\$ 9950.00 USD
Single Occupancy May to December	\$ 9615.00 USD
Optional Excursion Day 1 Home Hosted Dinner January to April	\$ 110.00 USD
Optional Excursion Day 1 Home Hosted Dinner May to December	\$ 115.00 USD
Optional Excursion Day 2 Dinner & Tango show at El Viejo Almacen January to April	\$ 110.00 USD
Optional Excursion Day 2 Dinner & Tango show at El Viejo Almacen May to December	\$ 115.00 USD
Optional Excursion Day 4 Milonga - Authentic Tango Experience January to April	\$ 110.00 USD
Optional Excursion Day 4 Milonga - Authentic Tango Experience May to December	\$ 115.00 USD
Optional Excursion Day 15 Great Adventure Tour January to April	\$ 120.00 USD
Optional Excursion Day 15 Great Adventure Tour May to December	\$ 125.00 USD
Optional Excursion Day 16 Tour to Brazilian Falls January to April	\$ 55.00 USD
Optional Excursion Day 16 Tour to Brazilian Falls May to December	\$ 55.00 USD
Optional Excursion Day 16 The Argentinean Iguazu Dinner Experience January to April	\$ 110.00 USD
Optional Excursion Day 16 The Argentinean Iguazu Dinner Experience May to December	\$ 115.00 USD

*Group rates available for this tour. As this is a guided tour, the pricing improves with more people participating. Please ask us for details

Accommodation:

3* and 4* hotels and lodges

Included:

- 20 nights' accommodation
- Meals according to program (18 x breakfast, 6 x lunch and 6 x dinner)
- All services
- Taxes
- Entrance fees
- Tax and service charge at the hotels as well as the mandatory luggage handling fees

Not Included:

- Visitors tax
- Optional tours
- Airport taxes
- Personal expenses
- Extras at the hotels
- Drinks during meals if not otherwise mentioned
- Non-mandatory tips

Kat's Great Adventures 1233 Tintern Drive, Greely, Ontario K4P 1R6 – Direct: 613-241-0111 Extension 6

katsgreatadventures@gmail.com Website: **www.katsgreatadventures.com**

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