

ARGENTINA: Spectacular Land of Contrasts

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS!!

1) What are the dates of the trip?

The dates are Friday, March 26 (likely an evening departure / night flight to Buenos Aires), to Sunday, April 4, 2010. ****NOTE**** Monday, April 5, 2010, there is NO SCHOOL for students as it is a professional day for teachers. The benefit here is that no school days are sacrificed.

2) Who may go on the trip?

The trip is designed with the middle school student in mind. Any student with a strong interest in Spanish, Science, experiencing firsthand a Spanish speaking culture and seeing some of nature's unique areas is bound to enjoy this trip. Additionally, student's family members, friends, relatives and even friends of relatives (and relatives of friends), are welcome to join us. This trip has a little bit of something for everyone, regardless of age.

3) Where does the trip take us?

The three main areas on our itinerary are *Buenos Aires* and its surrounding plains (the pampas), *Iguazú Falls* in the north (bordering Brazil and Paraguay), and deep in *Patagonia* (town of Calafate) along the Chilean border. These are three VERY DIFFERENT regions which makes this almost two (if not three) trips in one. Imagine going to Paris, Niagara Falls, and Alaska in one trip, and you will have an idea of the Argentinean spectrum that we will see.

4) May I bring friends and/or family members?

You may bring friends, relatives, close buddies, students from other schools, etc. Our trips have served as great family trips and wonderful adventures for students to travel with close friends.

5) Why are we going to Argentina?

Primarily, we chose Argentina because of the diversity of the locations we plan to visit. When we initiated our spring break trips, we started in Central America (Costa Rica 2007 & Guatemala 2008) and headed south last year (Ecuador & The Galápagos). It seemed natural to continue south, and Argentina's vast and diverse geography and cultures were particularly appealing.

6) Why does the price seem a little high?

We are aware of this perception and on the surface the price may seem a bit high. However, when you factor in what you are seeing, experiencing, the distances we are covering, all the included services and meals as well as the fact that the price includes **THREE ROUNDTrip FLIGHTS**, it seems more reasonable. We consulted with several native Argentinians during our planning stages; our consultants found the base price to be quite reasonable.

7) Can I sign on after the "deadline"?

Yes, as long as there are spaces available. The "deadlines" are rolling deadlines. This means that after each deadline, airline costs will be verified. If there are any increases in the airline costs, then you will be responsible for the increase. If there are no increases in airfare, no additional charge will be applied. Given the time of the trip (Easter Week) and the general volume of travel to Argentina, it is economical to commit early and lock in the price of the tour.

8) How does “first come, first served” work?

The first thirty (30) people to sign up, send in their paperwork and pay the deposit will be guaranteed a slot on the trip.

9) Is the thirty places a set limit?

It is what we call a “flexible limit”. There is some flexibility in the amount of people we are able to bring along. In other words, say we are at 28 one day and the next day a party of three wish to join. We would NOT SAY, “Thirty is the limit so decide which two go and which one stays behind.” We would welcome the 31st traveler. However, after we reach our goal of 30, we will take each additional request on a case by case basis.

10) What if I need to pull out after signing on?

Refunds will apply according to the terms and conditions of the trip. (See separate document.) Once airline tickets are purchased, a refund for the airfare portion of the trip will not be possible. The remaining money is subject to refund terms and conditions outlined on the separate document.

11) What will I need to pack?

Essentially, clothes and items for TWO separate climates. Spring / Fall weather clothes and early winter weather clothes. The variance in temperatures between *Iguazú* and *Calafate* are at opposite extremes. However, while the temperatures in Calafate will be low, they will not be overly frigid requiring below zero type clothing. A detailed packing list will be provided at a later date.

12) How can I sign up?

Email Mr. Marra-López and Mrs. Marsteller with your interest. Fill out the registration form, send in your deposit, and VERIFY YOU HAVE A VALID PASSPORT. International standards require all passengers to travel with passport that have AT LEAST SIX MONTHS VALIDITY FROM THE DATE OF

DEPARTURE on their passports. So, your passport cannot expire prior to September 26, 2010. This is EXTREMELY IMPORTANT. Please check passport dates as soon as possible. We are asking people to send in a scanned (or mailed photocopy) copy of each person's passport as an added measure.

13) Why are we going to BOTH the Brazilian and Argentinian sides of *Iguazú Falls*?

There has been an ongoing debate about which side of the falls provides the best views or the most unique experience. Most agree that each side offers some aspects the other does not. In order to give our passengers a complete and comprehensive experience, and as long as we are in the area, we thought it would be great to spend some time on the Brazilian side. For this reason we need to obtain a Brazilian visa.