

Destination Guide for Argentina

Overview

Destination Risk Levels

- Medium Medical Risk for Argentina
- Low Travel Risk for Argentina
- Medium Travel Risk for Rosario and Santa Fe (both Santa Fe province)

Standing Travel Advice

- Travel to Argentina can continue with standard security precautions.
- Take security precautions against petty and street crime. Be aware that criminals may be armed. In the event of being accosted do nothing to resist or antagonise your assailant. Keep a low profile and avoid displaying valuables in public, as victims are often targeted based on appearance, as well as on perceived vulnerability and/or lack of awareness.
- Avoid public transport due to the increased risk of opportunistic petty crime.
- In the Tri-Border region only use a private vehicle with a trusted local driver and avoid overland travel outside of daylight hours.
- Due to elevated levels of criminality in the cities of Rosario and Santa Fe (both Santa Fe province), maintain heightened vigilance and undertake precautions, including avoiding travel on foot in areas of elevated risk.
- Exercise caution sharing personal information to anyone outside of your trusted group; do not volunteer information to strangers. Refrain from posting personal and travel information on social media and networking sites as a precaution.
- Avoid demonstrations, rallies and picket lines due to the credible risk of unrest. Do not attempt to cross picket lines or roadblocks as this may prompt a hostile reaction.

Active Alerts (1)

● Notice | Category

Buenos Aires: Account for disruption on 3 June near Plaza del Congreso during protest by women's rights group

31 May 2026 at 14:27

Location : Argentina

Category : Protest/Rally, Road disruption

Plan journeys in the capital Buenos Aires on **3 June** accounting for disruption during a protest organised by the feminist movement 'Ni Una Menos'. Participants will gather from **17.00** (local time) at [Plaza del Congreso](#). The demonstration is likely to be well attended and may disrupt traffic in the vicinity.

Advice :

- Expect localised disruption during the protest and plan journeys accordingly.
- If travelling in the vicinity, ensure routes are clear prior to setting out and allow extra time to complete journeys.
- Expect a heightened police presence around the protest and follow all official directives.
- Monitor our Argentina alerts for updates.

Destination Guide for Argentina

Before You Travel

Visa Requirements

IMMIGRATION REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES

British

Passport Required: Yes
Visa Required: No
Return Ticket Required: Yes

Australian

Passport Required: Yes
Visa Required: No
Return Ticket Required: Yes

Canadian

Passport Required: Yes
Visa Required: No
Return Ticket Required: Yes

USA

Passport Required: Yes
Visa Required: No
Return Ticket Required: Yes

EU

Passport Required: Yes
Visa Required: No
Return Ticket Required: Yes

Procedures

Immigration and customs formalities can be slow because of limited facilities. Automated immigration control systems are available for eligible travellers at Ezeiza Airport (EZE). Biometric checks including thumbprints and photo routinely occur at entry points. Customs agents have been known to demand bribes. Business travellers should not offer bribes and should abide by all customs rules to avoid any problems. As in many other airports, those arriving from known drug-producing countries (such as Colombia, Bolivia and Peru) may be subject to more stringent checks, while those entering from Paraguay may face baggage checks from officials looking for cheap electronic goods. Customs authorities conduct inspections of high-value electronic equipment and goods. Business travellers should declare high-value professional equipment to ensure smooth departure from the country.

Entry/Exit Requirements

Entry/Exit requirements

Foreign nationals require a valid passport. Passports should be valid for the duration of stay; some airlines may require at least six months' validity. Foreign nationals may be asked to present proof of onward or return travel by the authorities. Travel medical insurance is recommended and may be requested by airlines or immigration authorities. The import or export of local and foreign currency is allowed up to the value of USD 10,000 or its equivalent. Amounts exceeding this figure must be declared at customs.

Foreign nationals with a valid US visa or US permanent residency may qualify for visa-free entry or an Electronic Travel Authorization (AVE), depending on nationality and immigration category.

Cultural Tips

CULTURAL ISSUES AND ETIQUETTE

- There are no legal restrictions for LGBTQ+ individuals. Societal attitudes towards the LGBTQ+ community are sometimes intolerant and violence is occasionally directed towards its members.

Getting There

METHOD OF ARRIVAL

By air

Buenos Aires is served by Ministro Pistarini International Airport ([EZE](#)), more commonly known as Ezeiza, and Jorge Newbery ([AEP](#)), known locally as Aeroparque. Ezeiza is located 20 miles (32km) [south-west](#) of the city centre. Aeroparque lies along the Rio de La Plata and is about five miles (8km) [north-west](#) of the city centre. Allowing additional time for transfer between airports is advisable. A dedicated airport shuttle service (Tienda León) remains the most reliable transfer between EZE and AEP, with a travel time of approximately 60-90 minutes depending on traffic.

Córdoba is served by Ingeniero Aeronáutico Ambrosio L V Taravella International Airport ([COR](#), Cordoba province). Governor Francisco Gabrielli International Airport ([MDZ](#)) is located in Mendoza province. Strikes by unionised aviation workers may affect international and domestic flights. Business travellers should monitor flight status via airline apps 24-48 hours before departure. Heavy rain and volcanic ash occasionally disrupt airport operations.

Airport security standards are generally satisfactory. Airport Security Police (Policia de Seguridad Aeroportuaria, PSA) officers are present at all airports. Luggage theft and petty crime are the main security risks at both Buenos Aires airports, particularly Ezeiza.

Ezeiza has implemented new eGates for automated immigration control to speed up arrivals

Airlines have variable security standards. You may wish to consult the European Commission's [website](#) for a list of airlines banned within the EU and the US Federal Aviation Administration's [website](#) for a database of aviation accidents and statistics.

By land

If intending to undertake overland travel, Argentina has several border crossings with Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay. International bus companies operate regionally and offer a comfortable service. Long-distance buses from other countries arrive at the [Terminal de Omnibus de Retiro](#) in Buenos Aires. The Retiro bus station is located near the city centre and is also where business travellers can transfer to buses travelling to other parts of Argentina. Online booking is now the standard for major long-distance bus companies. Foreign nationals can easily purchase tickets and select seats via established platforms like [Plataforma 10](#), Central de Pasajes, or Omnilíneas using international credit cards.

While ticket offices still exist at terminals, digital tickets (e-passports) are now widely accepted. Moreover, petty and opportunistic crimes are common, and business travellers and foreign nationals should be vigilant over their belongings. Land borders with Bolivia and Chile may be closed, especially during winter, due to severe weather conditions. The status of border crossings can be checked at the government [website](#).

Bolivia

People can enter the country through the border crossings from La Quiaca (Jujuy province) to Villazón, Bermejo to Aguas Blancas and Pocitos (Salta province) to Yacuiba.

Brazil

Border crossings are located at Puerto Iguazú (Misiones province) to Foz do Iguazu. The Tancredo Neves International Bridge is the primary crossing; business travellers can expect long wait time during summer season due to increased regional tourism.

Chile

Argentina shares an extensive border with Chile, with numerous crossings. In the northern part of the country, the largest border crossing is Paso de Jama (Jujuy province). Many central and southern crossings are located high in the Andes and are therefore liable to close during winter storms. Of the central crossings, the busiest is Paso Los Libertadores, which runs between Mendoza and the Chilean capital Santiago. Paso Pino Hachado and Paso Cardenal Antonio Samoré (both Neuquén province) are among only a small number of the many southern border crossings that have asphalted roads.

Paraguay

Clorinda (Formosa province) to the Paraguay capital Asunción and Posadas (Misiones) to Encarnación are the two direct border crossings between Argentina and Paraguay.

By sea

Buenos Aires is a major port and has ferry connections with Colonia and Montevideo (both Uruguay). The main ferry operators, Buquebus and Colonia Express, offer frequent daily departures. Book in advance during weekends.

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Getting Around

BY AIR

Aerolíneas Argentinas, the flag carrier, and its subsidiary Austral airlines connect Buenos Aires to several major cities, such as Bariloche, Cordoba, El Calafate, Mendoza, Puerto Iguazu and Salta.

Flights can be heavily booked, particularly during school holidays in December, January, July and around Easter. Bookings should be reconfirmed up to two days in advance. Internal flights are more prone to delays than international ones. Protests by aviation workers occasionally disrupt airport operations.

BY ROAD

Driving is on the right. Main roads are generally in good condition, but self-driving should be avoided by those unaccustomed to local driving standards. Drivers tend to ignore traffic lights and drive recklessly, especially in the capital Buenos Aires. If involved in an accident in which casualties are incurred, remain at the scene until the police arrive. Windows should be kept closed and doors locked at all times due to the risk of smash-and-grab crimes.

Major car rental companies operate in Argentina, though their prices are high. Most rental cars available are manual, also known as standard transmission. Automatic transmission vehicles are scarcely available. It is advisable to book prior to arrival because there can be a shortage of cars during holiday periods. Otherwise, cars may be booked through hotels. Make sure that your name is written on the receipt to prove that you are renting the car. Foreign nationals require an international driving permit to drive in Argentina. To rent a vehicle, the minimum age is typically 21, but can vary by rental agency.

Demonstrations in Argentina frequently involve roadblocks and large groups of demonstrators often cause significant travel disruption in major urban centres. Factor in additional time for car travel on days when rallies are planned or known to be taking place to minimise any potential inconvenience arising from road closures.

BY TAXI

Taxis are usually black and yellow in the capital Buenos Aires and white with blue letters in provinces. Foreign nationals should take a radio taxi rather than one from a taxi rank or one that has been waiting for some time. Good hotels offer remis car services, which can be hired by the hour or day. This is the most convenient option for business travellers who have several appointments in different parts of the city. Do not take black and yellow taxis with '*Mandataria*' written on the door. Such taxis, which are hired on a daily or hourly basis, have been known to be involved in illicit acts. Most drivers are unlikely to speak English, which makes it important for foreign nationals to have their destination written in Spanish.

Car-share services such as [Uber](#) are also a suitable means of transport for business travellers in most parts of the country, including Buenos Aires. The cashless transaction with the driver and the ability to see driver and car details prior to departure add layers of security to the ride. Nevertheless, taxi drivers have held demonstrations against app-based services such as Uber. As such, those using ride-share services should ensure that there is not an established taxi rank near their pick-up location. When using a ride-share service vehicle, sit in the front passenger seat as a precaution to avoid drawing attention from taxi drivers.

BY TRAIN

Rail travel is not recommended for business travellers due to the increased risk of crime. Petty criminals operate at stations and on trains, particularly in the great metropolitan area of Buenos Aires. The railway network is extensive, though in many provinces funding shortages have severely impacted services. There are four main train terminals in Buenos Aires serving the city's suburbs of Constitución, Lacroze, Once and Retiro. In addition, regular trains connect the city of Rosario and its suburbs.

BY OTHER MEANS

Buses are available and many services operate 24 hours a day. However, they are privately owned and the quality of service varies.

Business Women

BUSINESSWOMEN

Women hold posts at all levels of business and are treated with respect and with greater courtesy than men. In situations of petty and opportunistic crime, women face the same level of risk from crime as men, though they could be considered as more vulnerable.

Sexual harassment and assault are a threat in urban and rural areas. Most incidences of sexual assault occur after dark or in the early morning hours. It is recommended that business travellers be firm but polite to strangers giving unwanted attention, avoid travelling alone and seek alternative transport rather than crowded buses or subways, especially after dusk.

Women should book into reputable hotels (rooms above ground floor are recommended) and check that room service deliveries are genuine before releasing the door chain. Avoid walking alone at night, particularly in poorly-lit and isolated areas. People should only use official taxis and never board taxis with strangers.

Women foreign nationals and businesswomen may be subject to personal or suggestive remarks by men in the street, but, in such an event, a firm 'no thank you' is unlikely to cause offence. Criminals have also, at times, been known to target women, who appear to be alone, near areas frequented by tourists. Women should use official guides and travel in groups whenever possible. Do not disclose accommodation information with anyone but your trusted local contacts.

Working Week

WORKING WEEK

- Working week: Monday to Friday
 - Government offices: 07.30-13.00
 - Private businesses typically from 09.00-17.00
 - Banking hours: 10.00-15.00
-

Language & Money

LANGUAGE

Spanish is the official language. English is widely spoken in business circles in the capital Buenos Aires, though efforts to speak some Spanish are appreciated. Outside the capital, English is generally spoken only in centres catering to tourists. Many businesspeople speak Italian (Italians are the single largest immigrant group).

MONEY

The Argentine peso is the legal tender. Businesses catering to tourists will often accept payment in US dollars or euros, but they are not widely accepted elsewhere. ATMs are readily available, though difficulties using cards with the Cirrus logo have been reported.

Counterfeit currency has increasingly come into circulation. Some ATMs provide fake currency; business travellers should withdraw money from ATMs located inside banks and exchange currency through reliable official bureaux de change outlets.

Individuals offering informal currency exchanges are found near major shopping areas of urban centres. They should be avoided due to the risk of receiving counterfeit currency.

Foreign nationals and business travellers may face fluctuations in exchange rates and foreign currency regulations. We recommend retaining exchange receipts when converting pesos back into foreign currency.

Most restaurants, shops and hotels will take credit cards, but cash should always be carried as a precaution. Foreign nationals may be asked to produce photo identification, such as a copy of their driver's licence, while using credit cards.

Tipping

TIPPING

Restaurant and cafeteria staff expect a tip of around 10% of the bill. Porters and doormen may also be tipped.

Geography & Weather

CLIMATE

Climate overview

- Northern Argentina is subtropical and experiences rain throughout the year.
- The main central area, including the capital Buenos Aires, can be hot and humid during the summer season.
- The winter season (June-August) is cool and dry.
- Monitor the website of the [National Meteorological Service](#) for weather updates.

Flooding

- The northern provinces, such as Jujuy, Salta and Tucuman, are prone to flooding during the rainy season (December-March). Heavy rains may lead to flash floods, including in Buenos Aires.
- The frequency of floods has increased in recent years.
- The Parana, La Plata, Lujan and Salado river basins are prone to flooding during intense rain and storm surges.
- Flooding can significantly disrupt travel and essential services, such as power and water supplies.

Heavy snowfall

- Heavy snowfall in the Andes Mountains along the border with Chile can cause frequent closures of highways and border crossings.

Earthquakes

- The Andes Mountains, particularly near the provinces of Mendoza and San Juan, lie in a seismic zone and are prone to earthquakes.
- Monitor the website of the [National Institute of Seismic Prevention](#) for earthquake alerts.

Volcanic activity

- Active volcanoes are present in the northern parts of the country.
- Copahue is located along the border with Chile and is one of the active volcanoes in the country, with the most recent significant eruption occurring in 2012.
- Monitor the website of the [Argentine Volcanic Surveillance Observatory](#) for alerts on volcanic activity.

Heatwaves

- Heatwaves occur during the summer months in central and northern regions.
- However, shifts in climatic conditions and the effect of El Nino caused a winter heatwave in the northern parts of the country in February 2024.

Wildfires

- Wildfires pose a risk between August to January.
- Northwestern provinces, as well as the provinces of Cordoba, La Pampa, Rio Negro and Buenos Aires, are especially prone to wildfires.

GEOGRAPHY

Argentina is the second-largest country in South America and the eighth largest in the world. It is bordered by Bolivia, Brazil and Paraguay to the north and north-east, with Uruguay and the Atlantic Ocean to the east, and Chile to the west.

The three key geographical regions are: the fertile plains of the Pampas in the centre, the flat rolling plateau of Patagonia in the south, and the Andes Mountain range along the entire western border with Chile. The largest river is the Parana. Other major rivers include the Bermejo, Colorado, Paraguay, Rio Corrientes, Rio de Plata and Uruguay.

Argentina is administratively divided into 23 provinces and one autonomous city, commonly known as the Federal Capital. Buenos Aires is the hub and capital of the country while other major cities include Cordoba, Mar del Plata, Mendoza, Rosario and Santa Fe.

International Dialing & Power

DIALLING CODES

Country Code : 54

IDD Prefix (International Direct Dialling) : 00

NDD Prefix (National Direct Dialling) : 0

COMMUNICATIONS

Telecommunications are extensive and modern. Major networks in the country are AMX Argentina, Telecom Personal and Telefonica Moviles Argentina. Internet access is widely available in major cities. The postal service is reasonably reliable, but not rapid. Airmail delivery times average 7-15 days to the US and 10-15 days to Europe. Many businesses prefer to use domestic couriers such as Andreani and OCA, or international couriers such as DHL and Federal Express. Otherwise, send essential overseas mail certificado (registered) or puerta a puerta (express; literally 'door to door'). Mail containing money or valuables is vulnerable to theft.

Information Security

Cybersecurity is a concern for foreign nationals and businesses in Argentina. Internet penetration and usage in Argentina is among the highest in the Americas.

Cyberattacks threaten both individuals and businesses. The most common threats come from malware, ransomware, Trojans, bots, spam, cryptojacking, phishing and spearfishing attacks used to gain access to credit card information. Card-skimming at ATMs and other hardware-based threats remain a problem.

Argentina has passed multiple laws to address cybersecurity and related criminal activity, though obstacles to full implementation of the legislation remain. National cybersecurity operations are led by the National Program for Critical Information Infrastructure and Cybersecurity ([ICIC](#)). The risk of cybersecurity coming from government, security or other official sources is insignificant.

Advice

Before travel

- Minimise the number of devices you bring in-country and avoid carrying sensitive data with you.
- Ensure anti-virus software is up-to-date prior to travel.
- Ensure all devices you bring in-country are well secured, with strong passwords. Ensure all storage devices have full disk encryption.
- Consult your organisation's IT and security departments for any company-specific requirements and procedures.
- Monitor all cybersecurity-related developments and follow the below for risk mitigation.

During travel

- In the event of a confirmed or suspected cybersecurity attack, report the event to the police.
- Avoid using public Wi-Fi networks at airports or transport hubs. These networks are always insecure and, in some instances, created and controlled by cybercriminal groups. Consider using a virtual private network (VPN) service to increase mobile security. Familiarise yourself with the legal status of any VPN or application in your destination country prior to travel.
- Log out of any social media accounts or potentially sensitive apps prior to your arrival in country. Avoid posting on social media when in-country or sharing details of your location with those who do not need to know.
- Remain vigilant and observe for any obvious signs of tampering when using point-of-sale systems that are external or unmonitored such as at a fuel station or street-facing ATM.
- Maintain physical control of your electronics and keep devices on your person as much as possible. If unattended, ensure devices are powered down and in a secure location. If using hotel safes, secure them with a secondary personally lockable device.

Upon return

- Consider changing your account, device and administrator passwords upon returning home if you have reason to believe that your device was tampered with or exposed during travel.
- Use the 'forget network' setting upon your return if your devices automatically connected to any public W-Fi networks.

ELECTRICITY

Calendar

Holidays & Security Dates

2026

17 Jun Martin Miguel de Guemes Day

20 Jun Flag Day

09 Jul Independence Day

17 Aug Death of San Martin

If this holiday falls on a Saturday or Sunday, a public holiday is declared for the following Monday.

08 Dec Immaculate Conception Day

31 Dec New Years Eve

2027

01 Jan New Year's Day

In many countries, if this holiday falls on a Saturday or Sunday, a public holiday is declared for the following Monday.

24 Mar Day of Remembrance for Truth and Justice

Día de la Memoria commemorates the 1976 coup by the armed forces

25 May Anniversary of the May Revolution

Destination Guide for Argentina

Medical Overview

Medical Care

Good

Standard of Health Care

Let International SOS assist you.

International SOS will assist you to find appropriate emergency, inpatient or outpatient care, will provide language assistance, may be able to pay your medical expenses and will assist with evacuation when required.

Inpatient care

Selected private hospitals in Buenos Aires provide the highest level of medical care in Argentina.

High quality care for minor and moderate conditions can be obtained at private facilities in the Buenos Aires-Rosario corridor. Many doctors have been trained outside Argentina and speak English.

Emergency Response

Emergency Response

It is best to take a patient to a clinic or hospital in a private vehicle. Public ambulance services are not recommended. Private ambulances may be able to provide emergency transport, but only for subscribers. If there is any delay, take the patient directly to the nearest selected private hospital.

Medical Contact

Emergency Numbers, hospital and clinic contact information

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Ambulance : 107

Fire service : 100

Police : 101/911

Hospitals & Clinics

Hospital Aleman

Avenida Pueyrredon 1640

54 1148277000, 54 1148277013, 54 1148277293

hainternacional@hospitalaleman.com, gberuti@hospitalaleman.com

Sanatorio de los Arcos

Avenida Juan Bautista Justo 909 Palermo Hollywood

54 1147784500

VeronicaA@swissmedical.com.ar

Vaccinations

Yellow fever vaccination recommended but not required

Hepatitis A

Recommended for all travellers and international assignees, especially groups at higher risk including:

- long-term and frequent visitors.
- adventurous travellers who travel to more remote locations or stay in areas with poor sanitation.
- gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men (see [US CDC](#)).
- people who use illicit drugs.
- those with liver disease.

Hepatitis B

Recommended for most travellers and international assignees, especially:

- For long-term or frequent visitors, and health-care workers.
- For adventurous travellers who travel to more remote locations.
- If possibility of new sexual partner, needle sharing, acupuncture, dental work, body piercing or tattooing during visit.

Many travel health professionals recommend hepatitis B vaccination for all travellers, regardless of destination.

Measles

- Recommended for all travellers and international assignees.
- All travellers should be up to date with their measles vaccination (schedule differs by country). Vaccination for adults is available as MMR (measles, mumps and rubella), two doses given at least four weeks apart are required.

Some individuals [cannot be vaccinated](#) due to certain health conditions.

Rabies

Consider for certain travellers, especially:

- For international assignees and long-term visitors.
- For children who tend to play with animals and may not admit to being bitten or scratched.
- If you are travelling to a location where quality medical care may not be available immediately after being bitten/scratched by an animal.
(Unvaccinated people need immunoglobulin within 24 hours of an animal injury, and this medication is scarce in some countries. If you are pre-vaccinated, you do not need this immunoglobulin after an injury.)
- If contact with dogs, monkeys or other potentially rabies-carrying animals is likely.
Jogging increases your risk of dog bite.

Typhoid fever

Recommended for adventurous and long-term travellers, especially those who will:

- Visit friends and relatives.
- Eat from local vendors or restaurants.
- Be exposed to conditions of poor sanitation.
- Visit smaller cities or rural areas.

Yellow fever

Argentina is a [country with a risk of yellow fever transmission](#).

Proof of vaccination is **not required** for entering or exiting Argentina.

Vaccination is *recommended* for anyone ≥ 9 months of age who will visit the provinces of Corrientes and Misiones.

Vaccination is *generally NOT recommended* for travellers whose itineraries are limited to Formosa Province, or certain areas of Chaco, Jujuy and Salta provinces.

Vaccination is *NOT recommended* for travellers visiting only areas not listed above.

See the [map of vaccination recommendations](#).

For onward travel: your next destination, including your home country, may require a vaccination certificate for entry.

(Discuss vaccination with your travel health professional well in advance of your trip. The certificate becomes valid 10 days after vaccination and is valid for the life of the traveller. Note that vaccination requirements may change at any time; check with the relevant embassy or consulate for your destination. Occasionally border authorities request a valid vaccination certificate although it may not be required under the official policy.)

Routine Vaccinations

COVID-19

All travellers should ensure they are up to date with COVID-19 vaccinations. Recommendations vary between countries.

Influenza

Annual vaccination is recommended. Vaccination is especially important for people at higher risk of severe disease, including:

- Young children
- Pregnant individuals
- People 65 years and older
- People with underlying health conditions

Measles-Mumps-Rubella

Vaccinations against measles, mumps, and rubella are routine in childhood, and are usually available as a combined vaccine "MMR".

Everyone should be immune to these diseases before travel.

There are outbreaks of measles in many locations.

If you are unsure of your immunity, consult your doctor well in advance of travel.

See routine childhood vaccination schedules: [Australia](#), [Canada](#), [Europe](#), [USA](#), [UK](#)

Polio

Vaccination against polio is routine in childhood in many countries. See routine childhood vaccination schedules for [Australia](#), [Canada](#), [Europe](#), the [USA](#), and the [UK](#).

All adults should ensure they are immune to the disease before they travel abroad. If unsure of your immunity, consult your health professional. You may need a *primary vaccination* or a *booster*. Booster recommendations vary by country.

Tetanus-Diphtheria-Pertussis

Vaccinations against tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis are routine in childhood.

See routine childhood vaccination schedules: [Australia](#), [Canada](#), [Europe](#), [USA](#), [UK](#)

All adults should ensure they are immune to these diseases before they travel abroad. If unsure of your immunity, consult your health professional. You may need a *primary vaccination* or *booster*. Booster recommendations vary by country.

Varicella

Varicella (chickenpox) vaccinations are included in the routine childhood immunization schedule of some countries. See routine childhood vaccination schedules: [Australia](#), [Canada](#), [Europe](#), [USA](#), [UK](#)

All adults should ensure they are immune to varicella before they travel abroad. If unsure of your immunity, consult your health professional.

Health Threats

Known health threats for this country

Argentine haemorrhagic fever

Argentine haemorrhagic fever is a viral, potentially fatal disease. It occurs exclusively in rural areas of the provinces of Buenos Aires, Cordoba, Santa Fe and La Pampa in Argentina. Rodents carry the virus. People can be infected via contact with rodents, or with their faeces (which can sometimes contaminate food and water).

The first symptoms include fever, headache, weakness, eye and joint pain and loss of appetite. More severe symptoms can present including, loss of blood, poor muscle control, irritability and tremors. The disease is fatal in up to 30% of cases.

A highly effective vaccine is available in Argentina and is given in areas where the disease is endemic to individuals aged 15 and older. To ensure protection, vaccination must be completed at least a month before risky activities. Treatment includes

the transfusion of immune plasma (from donors who have recovered from the disease) which has been shown to reduce mortality down to 1% if started early.

Provinces that report the most cases include Buenos Aires, Santa Fe, Cordoba and La Pampa. The majority of cases are reported between March and October.

Hantaviruses

Hantaviruses are a group of viruses that belong to the *bunyaviridae* family. They can cause two different types of illness in humans: Haemorrhagic Fever with Renal Syndrome (HFRS) involves the kidneys while Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome (HPS) involves the respiratory system. Regardless of which illness they cause, hantaviruses are carried by infected rodents. Virus is present in the animal's saliva, urine and faeces. Droplets of these excretions can contaminate the air in a process called aerosolisation. Humans become sick when they inhale the virus.

The incubation period of HPS is not positively known. Limited data suggests that people become sick within one to eight weeks after being exposed to the virus. The incubation period for HFRS is usually 1 to 2 weeks after exposure but could be as long as 8 weeks.

Initial symptoms of HPS include fatigue, fever, and muscle aches. About 50 percent of HPS patients also experience headache, dizziness, and abdominal symptoms (nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, pain). The "late stage" symptoms of HPS are cough/shortness of breath and a feeling of overall tightness in the chest. Heartbeat and breathing may both become rapid at this stage of illness. Symptoms of HFRS appear suddenly and include intense headaches, back and abdominal pain, fever, chills, nausea and blurred vision. As the disease progresses, patients may develop flushing of the face, inflammation, redness of the eyes or a rash. Later symptoms include bleeding from the skin, conjunctiva of the eye, and mouth. In the most severe cases renal failure develops.

There is no specific treatment or cure. Patients are treated supportively, meaning their symptoms are addressed even though the disease itself cannot be cured. Patients usually require hospitalisation in an intensive care unit. An antiviral medication, ribavirin, may be used to treat the HFRS although its effectiveness has not been proven in HPS.

There is no vaccine for HPS. Vaccines against HFRS are being used in many Asian countries. The best way to avoid infection is to eliminate rodents from your living space and worksite, and/or avoid contact with them. Keep food in tightly sealed containers, clean dishes immediately after use, do not leave pet food out all day, and seal holes to the outside – generally, make your environment inhospitable to rodents.

Cases of HPS occur annually, including some fatalities. There is a risk throughout the country, although most cases are reported from the Northwest and Central regions.

Leptospirosis

Leptospirosis is a bacterial disease commonly present in animals. While these animals often show no sign of disease, they can excrete the bacteria in their urine and other bodily fluids (except saliva), which contaminates water and soil in the environment. Humans become infected primarily through contact with that contaminated water and soil.

Infection can be treated with antibiotic medications. Severe disease can cause liver, kidney, heart and respiratory problems as well as meningitis (inflammation of the membrane around the brain and spinal cord). If left untreated, leptospirosis can be fatal.

The best way to prevent leptospirosis is to consider water safety when swimming, bathing, boating or wading. Avoid water that might be contaminated with animal urine. If unsure whether the water is contaminated and contact is unavoidable, wear protective clothing such as thigh-high waterproof boots and cover all wounds with waterproof dressings. Wash thoroughly after potential exposure.

Cases of leptospirosis are reported annually in Argentina. Outbreaks are more likely in urban areas and low-lying islands, especially where rodent infestation is prevalent. Risk is generally higher following heavy rainfall or flooding, which is most common in the rainy season (December to March). Infections are also common amongst those participating in recreational freshwater activities.

Rabies

Rabies is a viral disease that is almost always fatal but is preventable with correct post-exposure treatment. People are infected through the bite, scratch, or lick to broken skin by an infected animal. Any mammal, including dogs, cats, bats, monkeys, foxes, coyotes, raccoons, skunks, jackals, seals and other marine mammals can carry the virus. Globally, most human infections occur through dog bites.

It is imperative to seek treatment promptly after a potential exposure (bite, scratch, lick to broken skin). Treatment is highly effective in preventing rabies, but is not readily available in some locations.

Following an animal / bat bite or scratch or lick (on broken skin) :

- The wound should be immediately cleaned, with soap and water for at least 15 minutes. Apply an antiseptic such as povidone-iodine if available.
- Medical advice should be obtained promptly to **assess the need for preventive treatment, even if previously vaccinated. This is life-saving.**

- Treatment is with post-exposure vaccination (a series of injections required). Rabies immunoglobulin (RIG) is also required if not previously vaccinated, and is injected into and around the wounds. Note that bat bites are very small, and sometimes are not obvious. Some health authorities advise that rabies post-exposure treatment should be given if a bat was in the room while a person was asleep even if there is no obvious bat bite or scratch.

Prevention is through avoiding contact with animals, and vaccination.

Pre-exposure vaccination is often recommended for visitors to destinations where rabies is common, especially if rabies treatment and quality medical care are not readily available. Pre-exposure vaccination is also important for children, since they may not tell adults they have been bitten/scratched.

Post-exposure vaccination must be given soon after a bite or scratch, or lick to broken skin, **even if pre-exposure vaccination has been completed.** Fewer doses are required if pre-exposure vaccination has been completed. Rabies immunoglobulin (RIG) is also required if not previously vaccinated.

Rabies is found in bats, wild animals and domestic animals, including cats, in Argentina. While the rabies vaccine is typically available, quality rabies immunoglobulin (HRIG) may not be readily available (HRIG is required for treatment after exposure to rabies in those without pre-exposure vaccination). The risk to travellers is high, and pre-exposure vaccination is recommended for specific travellers and assignees.

American Trypanosomiasis (Chagas disease)

Also known as Chagas disease, American Trypanosomiasis is transmitted by a blood-sucking bug, the triatomine (also known as the "kissing bug"). An infected bug deposits faeces on the victim's skin, often at night. Infection occurs when the faeces or urine are rubbed into a bite, an open cut, the eyes or mouth. Chagas disease can also be transmitted in other ways, including through blood or organ donation from infected donors, and contaminated food and drinks.

The initial stages of the infection may go unnoticed or only be mild. Local swelling may appear at the site of infection, and some people get a characteristic purplish swelling around the lids of one eye. Other symptoms include fever, body aches and headaches, diarrhoea, vomiting, breathing difficulty and swollen lymph nodes. Chronic infections may involve the heart, gastrointestinal system or brain, and can be fatal. No vaccine is available. Treatment with anti-parasitic medicines is most effective soon after infection. Prevent infection by avoiding insect bites and choosing safe food and water. Choose well-constructed facilities to sleep indoors and use a bed net.

Risk is highest in the northern half of the country. Sporadic cases are reported nearly every year.

Chikungunya

Chikungunya is a viral disease transmitted through mosquito bites, not from person to person. Common symptoms include fever, joint pains and swelling, rash, muscle pain, nausea, headache, conjunctivitis ("pink eye"), and fatigue. Symptoms usually resolve within ten days, however, in some cases joint pain and fatigue may persist for months or years. Rarely the brain, eyes, heart, and kidneys can be affected and fatalities have been reported. People at higher risk for severe illness include newborns infected at the time of birth, the elderly and people with underlying health conditions. There is no specific medication to treat the disease. Symptoms are managed with rest and pain relief medications. Aspirin and non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medication (such as ibuprofen) should be avoided until dengue fever has been ruled out, and only used under medical supervision. Prevention is through preventing mosquito bites. Vaccines against chikungunya are available in several countries. There is an ongoing risk of chikungunya in Argentina. Transmission typically peaks during the rainy season, from January to May.

Dengue fever

Dengue, or "break-bone" fever, is a viral disease of the tropics and sub-tropics. It is transmitted by the *Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus* mosquitoes that bite during the daytime and are found in and around human habitation. Transmission from mother to child is possible during pregnancy or birth. Symptoms include high fever, severe headaches, joint and muscle pain, nausea and vomiting. A rash often follows. The acute illness can last up to ten days, but complete recovery can take two to four weeks. Occasionally, a potentially fatal form of dengue called severe dengue (previously known as dengue haemorrhagic fever or DHF) occurs. Severe dengue is more likely in infants and those who are pregnant, as well as people who have been infected in the past and are infected again with a different strain of dengue. When a pregnant person is infected, there is a risk of pre-term birth, low birth weight and foetal distress. Approximately 3% of severe dengue cases are likely to be fatal. Prevention is through avoiding mosquito bites. Dengue vaccine is available in some countries. Authorities have different eligibility and recommendation for use.

Dengue transmission varies by region, with transmission typically between October and May. The risk of contracting dengue is considered very low above 2,000m (6,560 feet). Infections have previously been reported in the northern provinces of the country. Though numbers can vary significantly from year to year, thousands of cases may be reported.

Leishmaniasis

Leishmaniasis is a disease caused by a parasite that can infect humans, dogs, rodents and other small animals. It is transmitted by sandflies that bite mainly between dusk and dawn and can occur in both rural and urban environments. Sandflies breed quickly in unsanitary conditions, and the spread of the disease is exacerbated by war, chronic food shortages and urbanisation activities like deforestation and building of dams and irrigation systems, changes in temperature, heavy rainfall and population movement. The disease can manifest in one of the three forms, cutaneous (is the most common form and causes skin ulcers), mucocutaneous (is a rare form which affects the inner parts of the nose and mouth) or visceral (which is the more severe form and can lead to death). There is no vaccine or drug to prevent leishmaniasis.

Prevention

The only way to avoid leishmaniasis is to prevent sandfly bites.

- Minimise outdoor activities from dusk to dawn- this is when sand flies are most active.
- Use protective clothing and insect repellent.
- Consider using an insecticide-treated bed net with *fine mesh* if there are sandflies in your living quarters. The standard bed nets used to prevent malaria are not effective, as sandflies are about one-third the size of mosquitoes and can fly through the malaria nets.
- Note that sandflies are small and do not make noise while flying. This makes it difficult to determine whether they are in your environment. Their bites cause mild symptoms and might not be noticed.

All three forms of leishmaniasis are endemic in Argentina. Risk is highest in jungles, forests, or areas with lots of vegetation.

West Nile Virus

Primarily a disease of birds, West Nile virus (WNV) can infect humans. The most common route for a human infection is via mosquitoes. The mosquito feeds on an infected bird or other animal, then bites a human and introduces the virus into their body.

Most people who get WNV develop no symptoms. Of the 20 percent who do get ill, most develop mild symptoms 3-14 days after being bitten: fever, head and body ache, nausea and vomiting. Sometimes the lymph nodes swell or a rash appears on the trunk.

In fewer than one percent of all human cases, the person develops a serious, possibly fatal, infection. Symptoms may include high fever, headache, stiff neck, disorientation, muscle weakness, tremors and paralysis. The brain and membranes surrounding the brain and spinal cord may get inflamed, which can cause coma and death. Patients who recover from a serious WNV infection may suffer permanent brain damage.

There is no specific treatment for the disease, or vaccine to protect against it. To avoid infection, prevent mosquito bites in areas where the virus circulates. Wear long sleeves and long pants, and use insect repellents.

The first human cases of WNV in Argentina were identified in 2006. Sporadic cases have been detected since.

Yellow fever

Yellow fever is caused by a virus spread through mosquito bites. The symptoms range from a mild flu-like illness to a severe haemorrhagic fever with organ failure. It is prevented through vaccination and preventing mosquito bites.

Vaccination provides life-long protection. It is only available through designated yellow fever vaccination clinics. They will issue a signed and stamped International Certificate of Vaccination or Prophylaxis (ICVP) which becomes valid 10 days after the vaccination, and is valid for the lifetime of the person vaccinated.

Many countries require proof of vaccination for entry. If proof is not available, authorities may deny entry, mandate vaccination or may monitor your health. Some countries require proof of vaccination when departing. Always check the relevant location guide, or ask the consulate or embassy for the requirements, several weeks prior to your trip.

There is a risk of yellow fever in some areas of Argentina:

- The provinces of Corrientes and Misiones, which include Igaucu Falls.

In addition, there is a low potential for exposure in:

- all departments of Formosa province,
- Chaco province - department of Bermejo,
- Jujuy province - departments of Ledesma, Santa Bárbara, San Pedro and Valle Grande,
- Salta province - departments of Anta, General San Martin, Oran, and Rivadavia.

There is no risk at elevations above 2,300m (7,545 ft).

After 40 years with no reported cases, human infections occurred in 2008 and 2009, with two fatalities.



Zika virus

Zika is a viral disease, mostly transmitted to people by mosquito bites, but also from one person to another through sexual contact. Symptoms can be mild and include fever, rash, muscle and joint pains, red eyes (conjunctivitis). However, infection during pregnancy can cause severe complications, including miscarriage and permanent birth defects (congenital Zika syndrome). No specific treatment or vaccine is available. Prevent infection through mosquito bite avoidance. Prevent sexual transmission through condom use or abstinence.

Zika may be present. The first locally transmitted case of Zika was reported in 2016. Some Zika associated defects have been reported.

Tuberculosis (TB)

Tuberculosis (TB) is a serious bacterial disease. The bacteria can be coughed or sneezed into the air by an infected person. Most people who contract TB have had prolonged, close, exposure to an infected person. Family members, close friends and healthcare workers are most at risk. People with compromised immune systems, babies and children, those travelling to or living in countries with high TB rates, smokers and those who consume alcohol or other substances and those residing in group accommodation (such as prisons or nursing homes) are also at higher risk.

Active TB causes a variety of symptoms that are sometimes vague, but often include prolonged cough, chest pain, weakness, lack of appetite, weight loss, fever, chills, night sweats, tiredness, and lack of energy. Latent (inactive) TB causes no symptoms. Tuberculosis is diagnosed by evaluating a patient's risk factors for exposure to TB, clinical symptoms, chest X-rays, CT scan, tuberculin skin testing and examination of sputum or secretions which may contain the bacteria.

Most strains of TB can be treated with antimicrobial drugs. Up to four different types of medicines may be used together to treat a patient. If left untreated, active TB can be life-threatening. Some forms of TB have become resistant to drugs (MDR TB), and some forms are extensively resistant to drugs (XDR TB). These forms are hard to treat.

A vaccine, Bacillus Calmette-Guerin (BCG) is available. It protects children against severe TB. Some authorities recommend vaccinating children up to 16 years old or for travellers who may live or travel for three months or more to places with higher rates of TB infection or with the risk of multi-drug resistant TB. It must be discussed on an individual basis with your own health care provider.

Avoid enclosed or crowded environments where there are known TB patients, such as hospitals and prisons, whenever possible. People who must enter such places, such as health care workers, should wear specially fitted personal respiratory protective masks (such as the N-95 mask). Other ways to prevent the spread of TB include early identification, isolation and treatment of active cases, spreading awareness of symptoms to ensure people seek medical care early and ensuring that people on treatment take their medication and complete the entire course.

Argentina falls in the "lower-moderate" incidence category for tuberculosis with an estimated 44 cases per 100,000 population in 2024. BCG vaccination is given at birth and is included in the country's immunisation schedule.

Altitude

Altitude illness is a potentially fatal condition that can affect people who normally live at a low altitude and travel to higher altitudes. It can occur from elevations of 1,500 meters onwards but is more common at elevations above 2,500 meters (8,000 feet).

People most at risk are those who have experienced altitude illness before, people who have heart or lung problems and people under the age of 50. There are three different types of altitude illness: Acute Mountain Sickness (AMS), High Altitude Cerebral Edema (HACE) and High Altitude Pulmonary Edema (HAPE). AMS is the most common and mild form of altitude illness. HACE and HAPE are more severe. HACE is a medical emergency and if not treated and managed quickly, can result in coma and death. Management of altitude illnesses involves immediate descent and oxygen treatment. Most people who are affected, even those who develop HACE or HAPE, recover completely if moved to a lower elevation. There are medicines that can be administered by trained medical professionals.

Anyone travelling to high altitudes, especially higher than 2,500 meters, should be aware of and recognise the symptoms of altitude illness. See your travel health professional before departure, for individual advice on preventive measures, especially if you have ever suffered altitude sickness in the past, or if you have an underlying medical condition.

Most of Argentina is not mountainous but areas of high elevation >1,500m (4,921ft) are found in the Argentine Andes, the mountain range which forms a natural boundary with neighbouring Chile to the west. There are many extreme altitude peaks >5,500m (18,044ft). The country's highest is Aconcagua at over 6,900m (22,637ft).

Hepatitis A

Hepatitis A is a viral disease that causes liver inflammation. The virus is present in the faeces of an infected person. It spreads through contaminated food and water and is common in areas with poor sanitation. Person-to-person spread also occurs, when the virus is inadvertently transferred into the mouth, including during sexual activity. People at higher risk of infection include men who have sex with men, illicit drug users and people with liver disease.

Not everyone gets symptoms. If symptoms do occur, they begin two to four weeks or more after infection and can last for weeks or months. Symptoms include fever, fatigue, loss of appetite, diarrhoea, nausea/vomiting, abdominal pain/discomfort, jaundice (yellow colour of the skin and eyes), dark urine, clay-coloured stool, joint pain and itching. Many infected people suffer only a mild illness. Most cases recover fully after four or more weeks. However, for some, the disease can be severe, and occasionally is fatal. There is no specific treatment and cases are managed through supportive therapy.

Prevention is through vaccination, attention to hygiene, and access to safe food and water.

Travellers diarrhoea

Travellers' diarrhoea is the most common travel-related illness. It usually occurs within the first week away from home. It is spread through contaminated food and water.

Prevention is through choosing safe food and water, and paying attention to hygiene. Select food that is thoroughly cooked while fresh and served hot. Avoid undercooked or raw meat, fish or shellfish. Avoid salad and raw vegetables unless you can wash them with clean (treated) water and you peel them yourself.

Unless you are certain that the tap water is drinkable - choose bottled water and beverages, avoid ice.

Travellers have a moderate risk of acquiring travellers' diarrhoea when staying outside of first class hotels and tourist resorts.

Typhoid fever

Typhoid fever is a serious infection caused by *Salmonella typhi* bacteria. People are infected through ingesting contaminated food or water. Choosing safe food and water and vaccination reduces the risk of developing the disease.

Symptoms usually begin one to three weeks after exposure. Although typhoid fever is often called a diarrhoeal disease, some patients do not have diarrhoea. Persistent, high fever is typical. Other early symptoms are flu-like: body aches and pains, weakness, loss of appetite and a continuous dull headache. A rash with pink spots may appear on the chest and abdomen of some patients. In severe cases, perforation of the bowel can cause severe bleeding or infection in the abdomen, which can be fatal.

Typhoid is treated with antibiotics. However there is a growing problem of antibiotic resistance. "Extensively drug-resistant" (XDR) typhoid is present in some locations and does not respond to many of the antibiotics which are usually used against typhoid, making preventive measures even more important. Vaccination is recommended for people travelling to locations where typhoid is consistently present.

The risk is highest in areas with poor sanitation.

HIV, Hepatitis B and C, and STIs

HIV/AIDS, hepatitis B, and hepatitis C are spread by contact with bodily fluids (especially blood and semen).

- unprotected sex,
- needle sharing during IV drug use, or
- unsafe blood or medical/dental instruments.

Genital herpes (HSV), genital warts (HPV), gonorrhoea, chlamydia, syphilis and most other sexually transmitted diseases are spread by genital contact.

Prevention:

- In many countries, hepatitis B is now a routine childhood immunisation and need not be repeated. All non-immune travellers should consider vaccination.
 - Always use new condoms (preferably brought from your home country).
 - IV drug users should not share needles.
 - Avoid having tattoos or piercings done.
 - In healthcare settings, make sure that needles and syringes are sterile and not shared between patients.
 - Call International SOS or your corporate medical department if you are hospitalised.
 - Be aware of your risk when assisting anyone with an injury. Protect yourself from contact with bodily fluids.
 - Seek medical attention within 24 hours if you accidentally come into contact with someone else's bodily fluids.
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Food & Water

Drink bottled water. Care with food.

Food Risk

Food served in larger hotels and well-known restaurants should be safe. To reduce the risk of foodborne illness:

- Always choose food that has been freshly cooked and is served hot.
- Avoid unpasteurised dairy products, raw or undercooked meat, shellfish, pre-peeled fruit and salad.
- Choose fruit that you can wash and peel yourself.
- Avoid street vendors and market food because the standard of hygiene may be low and food may not be fresh.

Water and Beverages

Tap water is safe in Buenos Aires and other major cities; its quality is monitored by the authorities.

Elsewhere tap water is unsafe.

- Drink only bottled or boiled water or carbonated drinks.
 - Avoid ice, as it may have been made from unsafe water.
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Destination Guide for Argentina

Security Overview

Personal Security

STANDING TRAVEL ADVICE

- Travel to Argentina can continue with standard security precautions.
- Take security precautions against petty and street crime. Be aware that criminals may be armed. In the event of being accosted do nothing to resist or antagonise your assailant. Keep a low profile and avoid displaying valuables in public, as victims are often targeted based on appearance, as well as on perceived vulnerability and/or lack of awareness.
- Avoid public transport due to the increased risk of opportunistic petty crime.
- In the Tri-Border region only use a private vehicle with a trusted local driver and avoid overland travel outside of daylight hours.
- Due to elevated levels of criminality in the cities of Rosario and Santa Fe (both Santa Fe province), maintain heightened vigilance and undertake precautions, including avoiding travel on foot in areas of elevated risk.
- Exercise caution sharing personal information to anyone outside of your trusted group; do not volunteer information to strangers. Refrain from posting personal and travel information on social media and networking sites as a precaution.
- Avoid demonstrations, rallies and picket lines due to the credible risk of unrest. Do not attempt to cross picket lines or roadblocks as this may prompt a hostile reaction.

Crime

Limited to hot spots

CRIME

Petty crime such as pickpocketing, bag-snatching and bag-slitting is the main security concern, particularly in major urban centres such as the capital Buenos Aires, Cordoba, Mendoza, Santa Fe and Rosario. In Buenos Aires, criminals frequent the city centre and tourist areas such as La Boca and San Telmo. Upscale areas of Palermo and Recoleta are also targeted, albeit less frequently.

Avoid areas of higher criminality in urban centres due to the heightened risk of violent incidents. Do not display cash or expensive items in public. Always keep doors and windows of vehicles locked and park in secure car parks only to mitigate the risk of carjacking and car thefts.

Criminals usually operate in groups to distract potential victims and steal valuables or money. Thieves operating on motorcycles (motochorros) who target bags and luggage have become a threat in urban areas, especially in Buenos Aires. Business travellers should always maintain awareness of their surroundings. If accosted by a criminal, people should assume that the assailants are armed and should not resist or antagonise them. Robbers may also target residences in urban centres, though security mechanisms such as security cameras can mitigate the risk of break-ins. Rural areas have also experienced an increase in crime, due in part to economic difficulties, drug abuse and the widespread availability of illegal firearms.

Theft of passports and baggage, especially at major airports in Buenos Aires and Mendoza, pose serious concerns. Foreign nationals have also been targeted in scams involving counterfeit currency as they may not be much familiar with the differences between real and fake bills. Business travellers should avoid exchanging money at unofficial money changers, which are often in major shopping areas of urban centres. Taxi drivers and small shop owners are known to trade real bills received in payment with fake ones, and return the latter to foreign nationals. To check if the bill is authentic, hold it against a light source and check for a watermark; people can consult the Argentine Central Bank website to identify the characteristics of genuine currency.

Foreign nationals and business travellers should avoid poorly lit areas at night. Women travelling alone should not venture to remote areas due to the risk of physical and sexual assault. Women should use official guides and travel in groups. Business travellers should not accept food or drink from strangers or leave them unattended. Drink spiking followed by robbery and assault has been reported.

The cities of Santa Fe and Rosario (both Santa Fe province) in recent years have experienced a rise in violent crime due to the increased presence of organised criminal groups involved in drug smuggling. While these organisations are unlikely to target foreign nationals and business travellers, their increased presence has led to a general deterioration in the overall travel security environment, which may result in higher levels of opportunistic crime.

People should exercise prudence while visiting the popular Iguazú Falls in Misiones province, near the border with Brazil, as well as the tri-border area between Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay due to the threat posed by criminals. Foreign nationals

should not undertake cross-border travel after dark and travel only in a private vehicle with a trusted local driver.

Terrorism

Minimal risk to foreigners

TERRORISM

The risk of terrorism is low; there has been no major terrorist attacks since a 1994 bombing in Buenos Aires. The tri-border area between Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay has experienced some activity by international Islamist networks such as the Lebanon-based Shia Muslim movement Hezbollah. However, such activity is limited to fundraising and the distribution of anti-US and anti-Israel propaganda. The region's lax border controls, weak security and Arab minority presence has fuelled Hezbollah operations in the area.

The risk of terrorist attacks from extreme right or extreme left and anarchist groups is also low. Domestic political extremist groups are small and largely ineffective, though radical groups have previously carried out small bombings targeting government facilities, banks and foreign-owned businesses. They are generally aimed at causing property damage and attracting media attention, rather than inflicting serious casualties. The security forces have occasionally arrested individuals with alleged links to Islamist terrorist groups.

Activists from indigenous groups have opposed government measures over land rights and environmental concerns. In February 2025, the government designated the Mapuche Ancestral Resistance (RAM), an indigenous armed group, as a terrorist organisation. The group is accused of deliberately starting several wildfires in the Patagonia region, as well as other criminal acts.

Kidnapping

KIDNAPPING

Occasional kidnaps target members of the local business community; there is a low risk that local criminals would kidnap a visiting foreign national. Instances of 'express kidnapping', wherein victims are abducted – often when using unlicensed taxis – and forced to withdraw cash using their ATM cards, have significantly decreased. Nonetheless, business travellers are advised to pre-book taxis or arrange transport through their hotel.

There have been occasional allegations of police complicity in organised crime, including kidnappings, though confirmed cases are limited. Sensible precautions include:

- Maintaining a low profile and avoiding overt displays of wealth.
- Taking different routes between home and work or regular leisure activities.
- Maintaining vigilance at all times and observing surroundings closely for possible signs of surveillance.
- Carefully controlling family members' disclosure of family and financial information; kidnappers frequently rely on inside information from witting and unwitting sources, including children.

Social Unrest

SOCIAL UNREST

Street protests are common in Argentina, primarily due to trade union activism and the polarised political environment. Union-related unrest may occur with little or no warning, including during meetings or public gatherings. Picket groups, labour unions, political groups and associated movements often organise protests in the run-up to elections, in response to controversial legislation and contract negotiations. Anti-government grievances include resistance to economic reforms and increasing perceptions of insecurity.

Rallies in the capital Buenos Aires are often well attended and frequently disrupt travel; the city centre (known as microcentro), major public squares and major government buildings are popular venues for demonstrations. Protests can occasionally descend into clashes between participants and the police. The police may use tear gas, rubber bullets and water cannon to disperse crowds. Participants may also block nearby roads, which can severely disrupt traffic.

Demonstrations occasionally occur in support of Argentina's claim of sovereignty over the Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas). In Buenos Aires, protests may focus around British diplomatic premises and symbolic public locations. Aviation-related strikes, as well as industrial action at key oilfields, have occasionally triggered protests and disrupted air and overland travel, respectively. There have also been incidents of football-related violence in Argentina, during which disgruntled fans have damaged property and vehicles near stadiums. Business travellers should avoid the vicinity of stadiums on match days.

Indigenous activist groups, including some Mapuche organisations, occasionally protest over land rights and environmental issues in the Patagonia provinces, particularly Chubut and Rio Negro. Some protests and security operations linked to arson

and land disputes have turned violent.

Conflict

CONFLICT

Argentina and the UK fought a short war in 1982 over sovereignty of the Falklands Islands, South Georgia, and the South Sandwich Islands, resulting in continued British control of the disputed territories. Argentina has continued to claim ownership of the islands. In 2013, Falkland Islanders held a referendum that strongly confirmed their wish to remain part of the UK. Since the war, successive Argentine governments have declared their intention to reclaim the Falkland Islands, though further conflict or arbitration over sovereignty is unlikely. Diplomatic relations between Argentina and the UK were only restored in 1990 and have been strained over the issue.