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## 1.- Useful information upon arrival

Argentina does not require tourists visas for most of the nationalities. Citizens from Australia, Canada, and the US have to pay an entry fee called "Reciprocity Fee" in advance (<http://cnyor.mrecic.gov.ar/en/node/1759>).

First you'll go through passport control (no forms to fill there), then baggage claim and Customs (there's a single Customs' form for you to fill, which you usually get from flight attendants before landing). Customs process is easy, you'll just need patience. They expect you to wait in line and then put every single piece of luggage/handbag/backpack through the scanner.

Customs restrictions are fairly standard and similar to other countries. Basically, don't bring meat, vegetables, or cheese. If you are a foreign citizen, basically they wouldn't ask much, because aside from food, most restrictions are for Argentinean citizens and residents bringing goods purchased abroad.

Then (only if you arrive at EZE airport), as soon as you leave Customs, you'll go through the first set of doors and you'll be in the middle of an aisle surrounded by booths offering services (taxis, shuttles, currency exchange, etc). Avoid hiring or buying anything at those booths, because many of them are extremely overpriced. Once you exit the second set of doors, you end up in the hall where all the people is waiting to meet or pick up passengers. Once you are there, you can hire a taxi, search for currency exchange, etc.

As regards currency, unless you are bringing Argentine Pesos (ARS), it's best if you bring US Dollars (USD) and then exchange currency once you arrive. Due to local restrictions on foreign currency exchange it's advisable to exchange only a small amount when you arrive, and then exchange again when you need to. Plan ahead not to end your trip with a lot of ARS leftover since it would be almost impossible to exchange back to another currency. Keep in mind, however, that you will need ARS to pay for transportation and to move around. Except for some tourist spots, don't expect them to take anything but Pesos (ARS).



## 2.- Airports and getting to the city

### AEP (Aeroparque Internacional "Jorge Newbery")

3 km to the Venue / 5 km to the Judge Hostel

AEP concentrates most domestic flights but there are also some flights from Brazil, Chile, and Uruguay.

#### Taxi

It's easy, just exit the airport and you'll see the taxis waiting in line, walk to the start of the line and take a taxi.

To the venue: 5-10 minutes. ARS 50.

To the hostel: 15-20 minutes ARS 75.



#### ArBus

<http://arbus.com.ar/en/>

6:30-0:00 every day. ARS 30 per passenger.

Special buses that run from the airport to specific locations in the city. Only people going to/from the airport take these buses, and they have free WiFi.

You can buy your ticket [online](#), at their booth in AEP or paying with a SUBE card.

Useful if you are going to the Judge Hostel, you want to go to Pacifico station, which is only 4 blocks away from the hostel. There are different routes, check that you take the one heading towards your destination.



#### Bus 160

ARS 7 (with coins) or ARS 3.50 (with SUBE card).

To the hostel: the stop is just exiting the airport.

To the venue: the stop is across the avenue.



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## EZE (Aeropuerto Internacional de Ezeiza "Ministro Pistarini")

41 km to the Venue / 35 km to the Judge Hostel

EZE is the major international airport and most international flights land there. There will be people standing at the arrivals hall and outside offering a taxis. Most of them work for the booths and redirect you there (as shown to the right of the second taxi booth photo below), DO NOT hire taxis directly from them, go to a booth instead. Fixed taxi prices at EZE already include highway tolls, otherwise you have to pay for them yourself, there are 2 and they add around ARS 35.

### Taxi Ezeiza

<http://www.taxiezeiza.com.ar/>

There's a booth with a big sign right in the middle of the Arrivals Hall (Terminal A). You'll see it as soon as you get to the hall with all the people waiting for arriving passengers.

The price is fixed and they have signs. It's always better if you pay there instead of paying at destination (that way you are sure exactly how much you end up paying).

Taxi to the hostel or venue around ARS 430.



### TAXIS de la Ciudad de Buenos Aires

There's a booth outside the Arrivals hall. Keep walking and exit the arrivals hall and you'll see the booth to your left.

They should have a fixed price similar to Taxi Ezeiza, it might not be on display, you should ask, and always try to pay there to avoid surcharges later).

Taxi to the hostel or venue around ARS 430.



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## Tienda Leon

<http://www.tiendaleon.com.ar/>

Shuttle to AEP (2km from venue & 4km from hostel) ARS 170 per passenger.

They also have shuttles to downtown (near Retiro train and metro station), in case you are staying around there.

Private taxi to hostel or venue ARS 500



## Aerobus S.R.L

<http://www.aerobusezeiza.com.ar/ing/>

Shuttles from EZE to a specific location in downtown Buenos Aires ([Av Belgrano 254](#)). If their timetable suits you and you are travelling alone, it might be a good option to get into the city, and then take a taxi to your final destination spending less than ARS 250 in total.

Available Monday - Friday, 8:45 to 18:15.

ARS 36 per passenger WITHOUT bags.

ARS 70 per passenger carrying 1 bag.

ARS 90 per passenger carrying 2 bags.



## Bus 8

This is a city bus, not a long distance coach, it departs from EZE (you'll arrive at Terminal A, you should walk 5 minutes towards terminals B/C and you'll find the stop there)

It is the cheapest way of getting to the city, around ARS 15 but we don't recommend it because it could take you forever to get to the city (2-3 hours). If you are still willing to take it, the advantage is that you can get off at Plaza the Mayo, in a very touristic downtown area. And you can take the Metro line D towards the Judge Hostel.





## 3.- Moving around in the city

### **Bus (in Argentina, “Colectivo”)**

Buses work all day long, but from 0:00 to 5:00 they run every 40-60 minutes.

Single journey ticket is ARS 5 / 5,50 / 5,75 / 8 according to the length of the ride. Most rides would be 5,50 or 5,75. Tickets are sold only on the buses and can only be paid using coins. There is a card (SUBE) to pay for public transport that most people living in Buenos Aires use, it avoids the need of coins and each bus ride costs approximately 50% less. There are some specific places where you could get a SUBE card for ARS 20 and then charge it there or in many stores or Metro stations. If you are not staying for several days and you don't need to use buses a lot, it would be better to get around using the Metro and taxis.

### **Taxi**

The fare starts at ARS 16,90 and then ARS 1,69 every 200 meters or 60 seconds. That means that a very short taxi ride would be at least ARS 50, otherwise expect to pay between ARS 70 and 90 ARS for most rides or ARS 120+ for long rides inside the city. This does not include going to EZE airport which would cost at least ARS 400.

The meter is always in Pesos (ARS), never in another currency. There might be a very small surcharge for luggage, but otherwise never pay more than what the meter says.

There are only a few designated stops in the city (mainly in front of big Hotels, Hospitals, etc), people just signal the taxi driver in the street (also you can ask at the hostel to call a taxi for you).

From 22:00 to 6:00 there's an automatic 20% surcharge already included on the meter (meaning, it starts at ARS 20,28 and then ARS 2,03 every 200 meters or 60 seconds).

### **Metro (in Argentina, “Subte”)**

05:00-22:00 Monday-Saturday (B line 6:00-21:00 due to maintenance work).

08:00-22:00 Sunday

Single journey ticket is ARS 5. Multi-trip tickets are also available, but there's no discount. Metro tickets are bought at Metro Stations and they can only be used in the Metro, not in any other means of transportation. You can also use a SUBE card, in that case it deducts ARS 4,50 for each trip. Subte map:

<http://www.metrovias.com.ar/Subterranos/StaticPage/Mapa-de-la-Red/Mapa-de-la-red/3365>



## 4.- Venue & Judge Hostel information

### Venue

Golden Center - Parque Norte

Av. Cantilo y Av Güiraldes, Buenos Aires

It is across the street from a major university (Ciudad Universitaria, UBA), and it is very close to AEP airport, but not to anything else. There's not many things to do there, and it looks like you are away from the city. Closest Metro station is "Juramento" (line D) 3,50 km away.

**Judge Hostel** <http://florida.hostelsuites.com/>

Hostel Suites Palermo (<http://palermo.hostelsuites.com>)

Charcas 4752, Buenos Aires. (6km from the venue)

Phone: +54 11 4393 1397. Email: [info@hostelsuites.com](mailto:info@hostelsuites.com)

Google Map: <http://goo.gl/maps/AAuLK>

Located in Palermo neighborhood, it's close to the Zoo, Botanical Garden and many restaurants. The closest Metro Station is "Palermo" (line D), only 3 blocks away.

### Going from Judge Hostel to the venue:

- **TAXI**

The best way would be to split a taxi (around ARS 85) with another 2/3 judges.

- **BUS 160** (there are 3 different routes, do not take the one that says "Palermo", as that one ends a few blocks away from the hostel.)

Walk towards Santa Fe avenue (two blocks away), cross the avenue and find the bus stop. You can pay for the tickets with ARS 7 in coins or ARS 3.50 with a SUBE card. *During rush hours on Friday those buses are really crowded with students going to the university(the very last stop).*



## 5.- Hotels and hostels

If you are arriving a few days before the event, or you are planning to stay some days after the Grand Prix in order to do some sightseeing, there are a lot of options available for you. Here you can find a list of hostels and hotels for you to have some options. If you want to see some more accommodations, you can check <http://www.gpbue.com/en/guia-de-viaje/>.

### HOSTELS

#### Dreams

Website: <http://www.hosteldreams.com>

Mail: [info@hosteldreams.com](mailto:info@hosteldreams.com)

Phone number: +54 11 4788 9294

Address: Amenabar 1029

Google Map: <http://goo.gl/maps/CKPHZ>

Distance from the venue: 3.4 km.

Shared dorm per night: USD 15 (check their website for private rooms and other options).

#### Belgrano Hostel

Website: <http://www.belgrano-hostel.com>

Mail: [belgrano-hostel@hotmail.com](mailto:belgrano-hostel@hotmail.com)

Phone number: +54 11 4774 4449

Address: Santos Dumont 2570

Google Map: <http://goo.gl/maps/Kd8jG>

Distance from the Venue: 4 km.

Shared dorm per night: USD 20 (check their website for private rooms and other options).

#### Che Lagarto

Website: <http://www.chelagarto.com/en/>

Mail: [info@chelagarto.com](mailto:info@chelagarto.com)

Address: Venezuela 857

Google Map: <http://goo.gl/maps/X9Bdp>

Phone number: +54 11 4343 4845

Distance from the venue: 14.4 km.

Shared dorm per night: USD 12 (check their website for private rooms and other options).

### HOTELS NEAR THE VENUE

#### Pampa Plaza

Website: [http://www.pampaplaza.com/home\\_eng.php](http://www.pampaplaza.com/home_eng.php)

Mail: [info@pampaplaza.com](mailto:info@pampaplaza.com)

Address: La Pampa 777

Google Map: <http://goo.gl/maps/fDZot>

Phone number: +54 11 4789 9561 / 4788 3984

Distance from the venue: 500 mts.

Daily fees: - Standard (1 or 2 people) – USD 145

- Junior (1 to 4 people) – USD 180

- Family Suite (1 to 4 people) – USD 290

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## **Golf Tower Suites & Apartments**

Website: [http://www.golftower.com.ar/index\\_en.html](http://www.golftower.com.ar/index_en.html)

Mail: [info@golftower.com.ar](mailto:info@golftower.com.ar)

Address: La Pampa 1117, Buenos Aires

Google Map: <http://goo.gl/maps/c9LnR>

Phone number: +54 11 47861542 / 47861685

Distance from the venue: 900 mts.

Daily fees:

Studio Apartment (2 people): USD 83

Single room Apartment (2 people): USD 89

Single room Apartment (3 people): USD 100

Single room Apartment (4 adults): USD 110

Double room Apartment (5 adults): USD 153

Double room Apartment (6 adults): USD 160

## **Apart Hotel Cabildo Suites**

Website: <http://www.cabildo-suites.com.ar/home.php>

Mail: [cabildostventas@orho-hoteles.com.ar](mailto:cabildostventas@orho-hoteles.com.ar)

Address: Cabildo 1950, Buenos Aires

Google Map: <http://goo.gl/maps/Qi5PV>

Phone number: +54 11 4780 1900

Distance from the venue: 2.6 km.

Daily Fees:

Studio (2 people): USD 188

Suite Junior (2 people): USD 218

Suite Senior (3 personas): USD 260

## 6.- Tourist spots

Buenos Aires is a very popular tourist destination. As such, it has lots of places you might want to take a look at during your stay. We recommend planning for a couple of extra days stay if you can.

### **The "barrios"**

There are several districts, or neighborhoods in Buenos Aires (called "barrios"), and the most visited by tourists are:

#### ***Microcentro (Downtown):***

An ideal location for visitors to be near to the main historical spots of the Argentinean capital. Florida Street is located downtown and is a famous pedestrian street of the city, where visitors can do window shopping and buy clothes and other usual city goods. Many tourists come here, so it's well catered for tourists, though it's not an exact representation of the living area for the average citizens.

#### ***San Telmo:***

This district preserves colonial-style houses along narrow cobblestone lanes, illuminated with pretty wrought iron lanterns. In San Telmo, one breathes the history of Buenos Aires. There is also a very exciting, underground nightlife scene.

#### ***La Boca:***

Considered Buenos Aires's most colorful neighborhood with a very outgoing personality. Tourists favor this picturesque district for its rich history and vibrant colors: greens, yellows, reds, and purples highlight the urban scenery.

#### ***Palermo:***

Hip residential neighborhood of tree-lined streets and intersections packed with restaurants, bars, and boutiques. There are several "sub neighborhoods" such as Palermo-Viejo, Palermo-SoHo, Palermo-Hollywood.

#### ***Recoleta:***

One of the finest and most expensive areas of the city. It boasts many French style buildings, large green spaces, and first class restaurants. The famous Recoleta Cemetery is well worth a visit.

#### ***Belgrano:***

A residential and peaceful neighborhood with silent streets that lead to different shops, restaurants, architectural relics, and large green spaces. Belgrano's one of the most distinguished districts, and it's ideal for day walks along the wooded tile sidewalks.

#### ***Congreso:***

A dense downtown area that houses the legislative branch of government, it resides at the opposite end of Avenida de Mayo from the Casa Rosada (Rosy House, or "pink house" as some would call it) seat of the executive branch.

#### ***Puerto Madero:***

Just like the London docklands, the antique port of Buenos Aires has been renewed and now represents

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the latest architectural trends of the city. It has a mixture of restaurants, ranging from high end to U.S.A. chains such as Hooters and TGIF. It also has apartment buildings and a few expensive hotels. The Reserva Ecológica Costanera Sur, an excellent alternative for nature lovers, lies nearby.

## ***Tribunales:***

This part of town has many theater shows, especially on Avenida Corrientes. On Libertad street there is the astounding huge Colon Theatre, one of the most prestigious in the world.

## **Tourist Spots**

### ***Caminito:***



This classic tourist spot and street museum is located in La Boca. There are old houses painted in a variety of colors, as done by Benito Quinquela Martin and other residents of the area during the 50's.

### ***Casa Rosada:***



The government's executive branch is housed in this building, a strange mix of various architectural styles, perhaps best known for the balcony from which Evita rallied the working class crowds.



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## **Plaza de Mayo:**



The historical square of the city is surrounded by many tourist spots, including the Casa Rosada, the Cabildo and the Buenos Aires Cathedral. It's a must-see for tourists. If you can visit just one place make it the Plaza and its surroundings.

## **Recoleta Cemetery:**



The first public cemetery in the city, it contains many vaults and mausoleums belonging to the wealthy families of Buenos Aires. Its decorations are grand and spectacular, and several of them have been designed by renowned architects.



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## *Teatro Colón:*



The Teatro Colón, in the City of Buenos Aires, is considered one of the best theaters in the world. Acknowledged for its acoustics and the artistic value of its construction, it turned 100 years in 2008. It underwent a major renovation that took three years and \$100-million to complete, and it reopened in May of 2010.

## *Calle Florida:*



Architecture buffs will love the opulent, early 20th-century buildings that line this mile-long pedestrian mall, popular for its gem, leather and fur stores.

## **Plaza Dorrego:**



Located in the heart of San Telmo, it's one of the oldest squares in the city and a street market takes place here every Sunday.

## **Museums:**

Buenos Aires has a large number of museums with the most disparate interests. The following is a link to the city government's webpage, where you can find more than 130 different museums, divided into Art, History, Science, and Miscellaneous.

NOTE: unfortunately, the webpage is only available in spanish, if you are not familiar with the language, you might need to use an online translator.

[http://museos.buenosaires.gob.ar/red\\_integrantes.htm](http://museos.buenosaires.gob.ar/red_integrantes.htm)



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## Day Trips

If you have a day or two to spare, there are a few places nearby that you might wish to visit:

### *Tigre:*



Day-trip distance from Buenos Aires, the Tigre River Delta offers porteños (Buenos Aires residents) and tourists alike a playground for everything from horseback riding and hiking to fishing and swimming. Comprised of hundreds of tiny islands, the Tigre is about 20 miles northeast of Buenos Aires and is reachable from the city by trains, then by boat from the train station. While the main attraction here is the delta itself (formed where five rivers come together), you'll also find a Naval Museum, restaurants and playgrounds for kids. Several tour companies offer day-trip excursions to the Tigre River Delta—but visitors also can book stays in area bed & breakfasts and adventure lodges.

### *San Antonio de Areco:*



A compact small town nearly 70 miles northwest of Buenos Aires, San Antonio de Areco is in the heart of the Argentine Pampas region. It's a great 1½-hour day trip by car or bus from Buenos Aires—or the perfect jumping-off point for those who choose to visit at a nearby estancia, or a traditional large rural ranch and estate. Major attractions here include the colonial sights of San Antonio de Areco itself, the



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Museum of the Gaucho (which celebrates Argentine cowboys), and a variety of estancias themselves, which are located within two hours of San Antonio de Areco. If you don't feel like planning your own itinerary, several tour and travel companies will coordinate your visit and arrange your estancia stay.

## ***Colonia del Sacramento (Uruguay):***



The historic quarter of Colonia del Sacramento, founded in 1680, evokes old Lisbon with its Portuguese-influenced architecture and winding streets. The area, located in southwestern Uruguay on the Rio de la Plata, was named a UNESCO World Heritage site in 1995. It's an easy day trip by ferry from Buenos Aires, making the beaches a popular Argentinean escape. Major sights include Iglesia Matriz, the country's oldest church, the Municipal Museum and a 17th-century port jutting into the river.

## 7.- Recommendations to visit

### **Parque 3 de Febrero:**



Known by its more informal name, “Los Bosques de Palermo” (Palermo Woods), Parque 3 de Febrero is the most popular green zone in Buenos Aires. Located in Palermo, it is known for its groves, lakes, and rose gardens. This is one of the best places to visit, since it is really close to many interesting places to visit, such as the Japanese Garden, the Botanical Garden, the city’s Zoological Garden, and the Galileo Galilei Planetarium. It is close to “Plaza Italia” station of Metro Line D.

### **Japanese Gardens:**



Administered by the Japanese-Argentine Cultural Foundation, this gardens are like a living part of Japan inside Argentina. Opened every day from 10:00 to 18:00, you can enjoy delicious meals at the restaurant, learn about Japanese culture at the Cultural Center, or have a walk by the central lake while you admire some beautiful things like a Japanese Peace Bell, stone lanterns, and a Buddhist temple, among others. It is located on Figueroa Alcorta Avenue, 8 blocks from “Scalabrini Ortiz” station from Metro Line D.



## Botanical Gardens:



A triangular-shaped garden, bounded by Santa Fe Avenue, Las Heras Avenue, and Republica Arabe Siria street. It contains thousands of species of trees and plants, as well as sculptures and greenhouses. Inside the garden there is an English style mansion, which was the residence of Carlos Thays, architect and landscape designer responsible for designing the Botanical Gardens as well as Parque 3 de Febrero. Roman, French and Oriental gardening styles coexist together in this beautiful National Monument.

## Buenos Aires Zoological Gardens:



Located in Palermo, two blocks from “Plaza Italia” station from Metro Line D, the Zoological Gardens contains more than 2,000 different animals, some of them roaming freely around the zoo. Open from tuesday to sunday, from 10:00 to 19:00. the zoo has many different exhibits, which includes:

- \*A farm where you can feed the animals

- \*An aquarium where you can see penguins and piranhas, just to name some of the species shown, and a seal show, though it is not covered on the entrance fee and you need to pay extra.

- \*A reptile house, where you can see lots of snake species, as well as giant turtles and alligators.

- \*An aviary, where you can find birds like macaws, woodpeckers, condors, and many others.

- \*A Tropical Rainforest, which is more an attraction itself rather than housing many animals. It is a two-story building which contains an indoor waterfall, as well as tropical flora and plant life.

The most special activity that the zoo features is a Night walk, available on wednesday, thursday and friday, with limited availability and by reservation. If your are interested on this, send an email to [zoodenoch@zoobuenosaires.com.ar](mailto:zoodenoch@zoobuenosaires.com.ar) for more information.

## Café Tortoni:



First opened in 1858, the legendary Café Tortoni is one of the most representative places from Buenos Aires. Famous personalities like Carlos Gardel, Jorge Luis Borges, Julio Cortazar and many others used to sit down at their marble tables, and it is considered an attraction in itself, an emblem of Buenos Aires culture. Even nowadays, delicious meals and tango mix together to make a perfect combination for anyone who wants to feel part of Buenos Aires' history. It is located on Avenida de Mayo 825, near "Piedras" station from metro Line A.

Website: <http://www.cafetortoni.com.ar/>

## Fountain of the Nereids:



Located in Costanera Sur, on the intersection of Tristan Achaval Rodriguez Avenue and Padre Migone street, the Fountain of the Nereids is one of the most emblematic sculptures from the Argentine artist Dolores "Lola" Mora (Hence the term "Lola Mora Fountain" to make reference of the monument). Crafted with white marble, the fountain represents the nereids (sea nymphs that helped sailors) assisting the birth of the Goddess Venus (according to Roman mythology, Aphrodite in Greek mythology).



## Floralis Genérica:



Located in Plaza de las Naciones Unidas, a giant flower made of steel and aluminium is erected. It was a gift from the deceased Argentine architect Eduardo Catalano, who said that the flower "is a synthesis of all the flowers and is both a hope that is reborn every day to open." The flower moved by itself, closing its petals in the evening and opening them again in the morning. Unfortunately, the mechanism that opens and closes the flower is no longer working, due to the fact that one of the petals was installed incorrectly, and in order to prevent damaging the sculpture, the mechanism was disabled.

## Saint Ignatius Church:



St. Ignatius church is the oldest church in Buenos Aires. Built by The Society of Jesus in 1675 using clay, its actual facade was finished in 1734, and it was declared a National Monument. It is part of a historical landmark known as "Manzana de las Luces" (The Illuminated Block), located in the neighborhood Monserrat, near "Perú" station from Metro Line A.

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## 8.- Food and beverages

**Antares (Brewery/Pub)** Open 19:00-02:00.



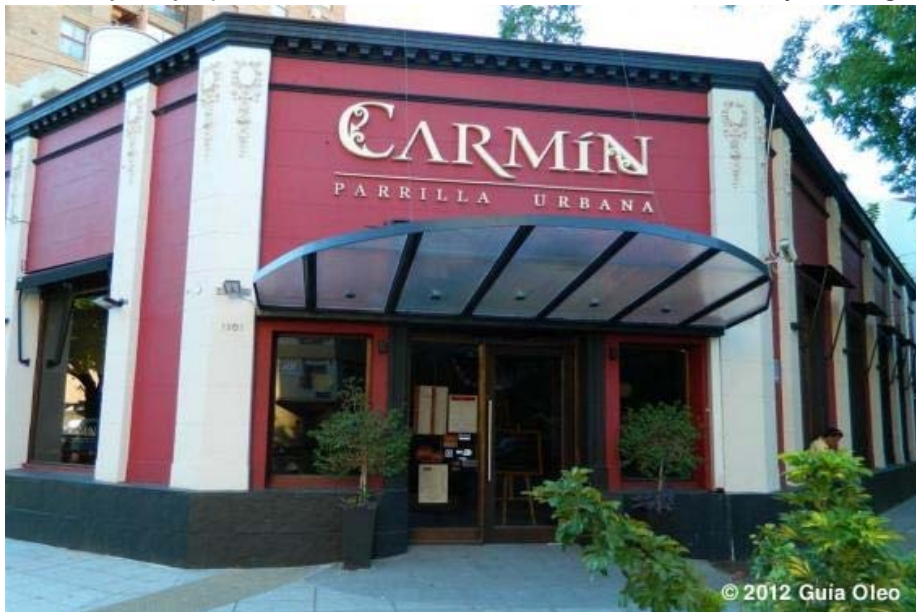
These are near the Florida Hostel Suites:

Palermo - Armenia 1447. <http://www.cervezaantares.com/shops.php?ild=56>

Las Cañitas - Arévalo 2876. <http://www.cervezaantares.com/shops.php?ild=51>

It's a great place to taste beer (they serve several different types). They also serve food.

**Carmín (BBQ)** Open 12:00-16:00 & 20:00-0:00. Closed on Sunday evenings.



Juramento 1301. <http://www.guiaoleo.com.ar/restaurantes/Carmin-parrilla-urbana-11860>

This is a good mid-range BBQ restaurant not very far from the venue.



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**Siga la Vaca (All-you-can-eat BBQ)** Open 12:00-16:00 & 20:00-01:00



<http://www.sigalavaca.com/locales.html>

Avda. Costanera Rafael Obligado 6340. Very close to the venue.

A. Moreau de Justo 1714. In Puerto Madero, near downtown Buenos Aires.

## Argentine Pizza:



Argentina might be known for its meat, but when it comes to food, Argentine people might also choose pizza as their favorite dish. Two of the most emblematic pizzerias are Güerrín (located on Corrientes Avenue 1368, near “Uruguay” station from metro Line B), and El Palacio de la Pizza (located on Corrientes Avenue 751, near “Florida” station from metro Line B).

If you want to learn a little more about Argentine Pizza, be sure to check this:

<http://www.thelatinkitchen.com/slideshow/portenos-and-their-pizza>

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There is not much food and beverages sold on streets but, if you happen to find street vendors, it is always advisable to avoid buying food from them, for it is not guaranteed that the food is handled with the appropriate hygiene.

There were, though, some vendors in front of Jorge Newbery Airport, in Costanera Norte, popularly known as “Carritos” (food carts); due to local regulations, they needed to offer proper conditions for selling food in order to preserve their commercial activities. Nowadays this “Carritos” turned into food stands, equipped with refrigerator and freezer in order to preserve food from getting rotten, and provided tables and chairs for people to sit down by the river and have a good meal. If you happen to land at Jorge Newbery Airport, you might want to cross the street and try them out.





## 9.- Useful tips

Buenos Aires is mostly a safe city, but it can get tricky early in the morning or late in the afternoon in the neighbourhoods around the venue. You shouldn't be around carefree by any reason, especially at night, when the chances of having a bad time raise in an unfortunate way.

Because of that, here are some useful tips:

- Try to always plan your route beforehand. Do not go around on your own after sunset, try to do it in groups.
- Do not count money on the street. In case you need to take out your cell phone or mobile device (smartphones with huge screens in particular) in a metro station or any similar crowded place, do it discreetly.
- If possible, try to avoid the central train stations, Retiro and Constitucion at night. Security is poor at best and there are pickpockets and bag snatchers.
- Metro stations close around 22:00, so it is advisable to make all your tours before that time. If you are still on the street after that hour, try to find a taxi.
- Print this guide, it might be useful if you forget any detail once you have arrived to Argentina.
- If you arrive after 19:00 at the airport, if you haven't made any transportation arrangement, the safest bet is to get a shuttle to AEP, and then a taxi from there. It will cost you approximately half than taking a taxi straight from EZE.

### **Tourist scams:**

- There some places infamous for scamming tourists. Tourists are offered to enter something sort of a pub/strip bar, once they are inside they offer you drinks and then they try to charge you ridiculous amounts for those drinks. These places are easily recognizable, you can't see inside from the street, and there's always someone at the door, either a woman trying to get men in or a bouncer. The same goes for anyone who offers you a free massage or anything of the sort, just refuse and keep going.
- Taxi drivers are known for trying to scam tourists with the fare, they try to drive around to get a higher fare or some even might have the meter hacked to charge you high amounts. It's better if you get an estimate before leaving. Also, some taxi drivers pass counterfeit money to tourists, either when giving you back your change or just getting your ARS 100 bill, exchanging it for a fake one, then ask you for another bill and you end up with 10 fake bills (this is not so common, but better safe than sorry).

Locals are not used to see counterfeit money often, but some scammers target tourists. If you need to tell whether a bill (bills are 2, 5, 10, 20, 50, and 100) is a counterfeit, look at the top left corner (bottom left in the newest 50 and 100 bills) and see the ink that changes color from emerald green to dark blue by looking at it from different angles. If it doesn't change colors, it's a fake. <http://www.bcra.gov.ar/bilmon/bm000000.asp> (Examples of the bills, only those in right column are current, the ones in left column are no longer in circulation).



## 10.- Local Game Stores

The following are some of the local game stores that are located in Buenos Aires. Make sure to contact the store in order to see whether they are organizing any event on that day. Friday Night Magic events are held at 19:00

### **La Batikueva**

Camacué 371, Flores

Facebook contact: <https://www.facebook.com/la.batikueva?fref=ts>

### **Dima Games**

Avellaneda 907, Caballito

Facebook contact: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/498282106872627/?fref=ts>

### **2de6**

Vera 692, Villa Crespo

Facebook contact: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/2de6/45873081219>

### **Urza Comics**

Bermudez 1899, Devoto.

Facebook contact: <https://www.facebook.com/urza.comics>

### **Muy Lejano**

Elcano 2998, Belgrano

Facebook contact: <https://www.facebook.com/muylejano.comics?fref=ts>

### **Dominaria Comics** (Tournament Organizer of Grand Prix Buenos Aires)

Avenida Maipú 2265, Olivos

Facebook contact: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Dominaria-Comics/257634360947994?fref=ts>

### **Sekai Games**

Tucuman 980, San Nicolás

Facebook contact: <https://www.facebook.com/SekaiGames?fref=ts>

## 11.- Currency exchange

The official exchange rate is around 1 USD = 8.85 ARS (Pesos argentinos). Be sure to exchange only the amount you plan to spend, since it will be impossible to exchange back to another currency. At the airport, try to make a small exchange (at EZE airport “Banco Nación” is recommended), at least enough to get to the city..

Downtown on Florida street, you might encounter some people offering to exchange dollars to pesos at a higher price. They are informally known as “Arbolitos” (“little trees”, due to the fact that dollars are green like tree leaves, and that they are standing in the middle of the street). Though they might at times offer you a better price (either by exchanging directly with them or more likely redirecting you towards a store) than currency exchange houses, avoid making transactions with these people, since this is exchanging in the black market (there’s a risk of getting scammed).

## 12.- Useful mobile apps

**BA WiFi** (<http://www.buenosaires.gob.ar/aplicacionesmoviles/ba-wifi>)

There are many public WiFi networks set up around the city. This app helps you finding the closest hotspot.

**BA Cómo Llego** (<http://www.buenosaires.gob.ar/aplicacionesmoviles/ba-como-llego>)

This app helps you to navigate the public transport system.

**BA Subte** (<http://www.buenosaires.gob.ar/aplicacionesmoviles/ba-subte>)

This one provides information about the metro lines and it’s useful if you move around taking the metro.

**Sygyic GPS Navigation** (<https://www.sygyic.com/gps-navigation/features>)

This is one of the best free offline GPS navigation app there is on the market. Make sure you install it and download Argentina’s map before leaving home. It’s incredibly useful for walking around and finding nearby places. The free version is all you need, there’s no real need to pay for the extras they offer.

**Navmii** (<http://navmii.com/>)

Second best option for a free offline GPS navigation app. Install and download Argentina’s map before leaving home. This one is based on OpenStreetMap project.



## Appendix: Reference Map and Useful Links

- **Reference Map of locations mentioned in this guide**  
Including zones to avoid at specific times, Metro Line system, and some restaurant options.  
<http://goo.gl/Ob2pHk>
- **Official Map of the city of Buenos Aires**  
It's useful when you need to find how to get from one place to another using public transport:  
<http://mapa.buenosaires.gov.ar/>
- **Additional information about Buenos Aires**  
[http://wikitravel.org/en/Buenos\\_aires](http://wikitravel.org/en/Buenos_aires)