4/30/24

FAQs



Can anyone join this tour?

Yes! While it is led by the Cantors of the ACC, it is open to all. Please spread the word about this trip to any person who is interested in Jewish and Argentinean culture, music, food, dance, natural wonders such as Iguazu Falls and all the rest!

What if I'm not a singer?

That is OK! While there will be singing and choir related opportunities throughout, non-singers will still enjoy the musical elements and concerts with no obligation to participate. For those that want to sing, you are welcome to join in the concerts/choir by reaching out to Ayelet Tours, and we will connect you with the right person at the ACC.

When should I arrive in Buenos Aires?

Tour participants should arrive in Buenos Aires by Sunday, February 16, 2025, 11 AM. Group flight options are available from NYC (JFK), Miami and Dallas. Contact our office for flight assistance from other origin cities.

How do I get from EZE (Ezeiza International Airport) to my hotel?

Transfers will be provided for all arrivals into Buenos Aires EZE (Ezeiza International Airport) on February 16. Transfer times TBD based on final group flight arrival list. You will receive detailed information about your transfer time approximately one week prior to your departure from to Argentina.

If you are arriving in Buenos Aires prior to February 16 and would like to book ground transportation from the airport to the hotel, please use this link:
https://www.book-online-transfers.com/en/ayelettours-airport-taxi

Will I receive luggage tags from Ayelet Tours?

You will receive tear-proof Ayelet luggage tags approximately one week prior to the tour. Please fill out the necessary information (a thin Sharpie works best) and affix the tags to your luggage. Tagging your bags is especially important because they are color coded for hotel porterage as we change hotels during the tour.

What about luggage weight restrictions?

Please note that the flight between Buenos Aires and Iguassu Falls has a luggage restriction of 30 pounds per person. If you bring more than that, expect to pay a modest overage charge (usually around $20 for overweight bags – subject to change).

What documents do I need to enter Argentina?

You need to have a valid passport. US Government regulations state that you may not be permitted to depart the USA if your passport expires within six (6) months of your travel dates.
As of this writing, Argentina no longer requires an entry visa for American citizens.

When can I check into my hotel?

Hotel check-in begins at 3 PM on Sunday, February 16 (or 3 PM on your day of arrival).

If I want to arrive in Buenos Aires a few days early, can I book a room at my hotel?

We are happy to help with those reservations. Please contact Ayelet Tours for pre-stay rates and availability.

How do I know which bus I'm on? Can I switch buses?

Buses are pre-assigned based on the Cantor with whom you are traveling or according to your hotel selection. If you have a special bus request, please contact Ayelet Tours.

How many people will be on each bus?

There will be approximately 25-35 participants on each bus.

Is there a toilet on the bus?

For urgent use only there is a bathroom on the bus. The tour will stop throughout the day for breaks as needed.

Will the buses travel together throughout the tour?

We have lots of experience managing larger groups. We have founds that rather than travel in lock step, it is more comfortable to stagger visit times and locations. This means that while everyone will experience the same sites and encounters, the order and timing will vary by bus. All tour participants will join together for the major events such as well as for ACC musical programs.

Are meals included? Are they Kosher?

Breakfast is included daily at the hotel. It is NOT under Kosher supervision.
Other included meals are listed in the tour itinerary. These are Kosher-style (no shellfish or pork products will be served, no milk and meat together).

What if I have special dietary needs?

Please contact Ayelet Tours prior to the tour about special dietary needs.

Who do I contact if an issue arises during the tour?

We are here to help! Each bus will have an assigned tour manager to whom you may speak about any issues that arise along the way. Additionally, we have a full staff on ground to assist with any and all issues. Generally if we know there is an issue, we can make it better – let us know!

What time do we begin each day? What time will we return to the hotel?

A standard touring day begins around 8 - 9 am, but this will vary based on the program of the day. Each evening, your tour manager will let you know what time the next day's touring will begin and approximately what time you will return to the hotel after touring.

How do I know which hotel level to choose?

All three hotel levels offer clean and safe accommodation within short distance of each other.

- **Super Deluxe:** Seize the opportunity to stay in Buenos Aires historical landmark hotel. Built in the 1930s to rival the best of French Baroque architecture, the Alvear Palace offers world-class amenities and flawless service, designed to transport guests to a realm of timeless grandeur and opulence.
- **Deluxe:** The Loi Suites Recoleta excels in its dedication to modern elegance, offering meticulously appointed suites and personalized service for guests who appreciate refinement.
- **First Class (moderate)**: Intersur Recoleta provides a contemporary oasis, perfect for those craving sleek design and urban sophistication with budget in mind.

What should I bring with me each day?

Please wear you name tag every day for security and to help your tour leaders and fellow travelers to learn your name!

It is useful to bring a daypack with things you may want or need - e.g. (sun)glasses, medications, layers of clothing (it can be cold inside or on the bus, even when it is hot outside), insect repellant, sunscreen, hat, umbrella, snacks. A reasonable allotment of complementary bottled water will be available on the bus throughout the tour.

Should I bring snacks?

It is always good to travel with snacks. Sometimes on a tour, your lunch break may be later than you are used to at home. Having healthy snacks available is helpful, especially if you have a restricted diet.

Will we have Whispers (wireless headset receivers) while touring to better hear our guides?

Yes, each participant will be provided with a Whisper. You are responsible for the receiver, earphone, and lanyard throughout the tour. If not returned, a $85.00 penalty will be incurred.

What is the monetary currency and should I exchange money?

The currency is the Argentine Peso. Due to the devaluation of the peso, only limited quantities should be exchanged, better to pay with credit or USD. Money can be changed at hotels, banks, or usually while shopping. ATMs are convenient, and credit cards are widely accepted.

What about tipping?

We have pre-collected the tips for the tour to cover your guide, driver and other key service personnel. You'll only need to tip if you're going out on your own. 10% is customary at restaurants in Argentina. You can also tip your hotel room cleaning staff ($2/day is appropriate).

Will there be time for shopping?

Certainly! Buenos Aires is famous for its fashionable shops and boutiques. Among Argentinian specialties are leather goods, textiles, silver, cashmere, antiques, art, mate sets, and gaucho souvenirs.

What will the weather be like?

February is the 2nd warmest month in Buenos Aires. Average temperatures range between 66°F and 84°F. Ayelet Tours will do our best to program so that during high heat we will be in air-conditioning.

I've heard that Dengue fever is an issue in Argentina. What is it and what can I do to protect myself?

Dengue viruses are spread to people through the bite of an infected mosquito (not person to person). Note most people that are infected experience little to no impact and the primary risk is to children.

There are preventative actions we can all take to minimize risk of infection:

- Dress in light clothing that covers the arms and legs.
- Bring with you and use Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-registered insect repellents .
- Reapply insect repellent regularly.
- Take steps to control mosquitoes indoors and outdoors.

Symptoms and Treatment:

- Symptoms of dengue usually begin within 2 weeks after being bitten by an infected mosquito.
- See a healthcare provider if you develop a fever or have symptoms of dengue (three quarters of people infected have no reaction at all and no action is needed).
- Be aware of and seek immediate medical attention for signs and symptoms of severe dengue (highly rare).

For additional information specific to Argentina, visit: https://ar.usembassy.gov/
For additional information about dengue, visit: https://www.cdc.gov/dengue/about/index.html

Is participation in all activities mandatory? What if I need a day off or want to skip an activity?

Participation is not mandatory. We simply ask you to notify your tour manager if you decide to opt out of an activity or a full day's touring so we aren't looking for you!
If we are changing hotels, it's best to come along. If not, you will be logistically and financially responsible for meeting up with the group.

Is there a dress code?

The people of Buenos Aires, called Porteños, are among the world's most fashionable. Appropriate dress is required when dining in the better restaurants and clubs of Buenos Aires. Gentleman may consider bringing a jacket and tie if planning on fine dining. Many places won't let you in wearing tennis shoes, so pack one pair of nicer shoes. Outside of Buenos Aires, dress is casual; wear comfortable layers.

Avoid short skirts and revealing tops, and stick to more neutral colors.
Our exploration is likely to involve a good deal of walking, so bring comfortable, lightweight shoes. Iguassu Falls will be warmer and more humid than Buenos Aires, so wear very light, comfortable clothing, and make sure to wear excellent sun protection. We still suggest sticking to neutral colors, but this time to keep the bugs away! You will get WET at the falls, so pack items (and footwear) that dry quickly or that can be changed quickly and easily. There are lockers at the welcome center. Hearing aids, canes, walkers, etc. are NOT allowed on the falls boat tour. If you are bringing these items, leave them on the bus or rent a locker at the welcome center.

Do you have suggestions for our free time: activities, restaurants, etc.?

Absolutely. Your local guide, tour manager, and hotel concierge are wonderful resources for suggested activities and restaurants.

How do I get to EZE (Ezeiza International Airport) on Sunday, February 23, 2025?

Transfers will be provided for all departures on this day. You will receive information about your specific transfer time a few days prior to Sunday, February 23, 2025.
Participants continuing on an extension also will receive information about departure times a few days prior.



I'm traveling on a post-tour. Is someone accompanying the group?

Post-tours will be accompanied by one of our tour managers who will fly and tour with you.

I'd like to learn more about Argentina. How do you suggest I prepare for the tour?

Here's a suggested bibliography to prepare for the tour:

TO READ:

- *The Ministry of Special Cases by Nathan Englander (2008)*
  - » Argentina's Dirty War/Disappeared Children
- *The Third Daughter by Talia Carner (2109)*
  - » 19th century sex trafficking between Russia and South America
- *The Murders of Moisés Ville by Javier Sinay (2022)*
  - » The Rise and Fall of the Jerusalem of South America
- *Populism and Ethnicity by Raanan Rein (2015)*
  - » Peronism and the Jews of Argentina
- *Prisoner without a Name, Cell without a Number by Jacobo Timmerman (2022)*
  - » The true story of Timmerman's brutal imprisonment in 1997 Argentina
- *Eichmann in My Hands by Peter Malkin (1990)*
  - » First person account by the Israeli agent who captured Eichmann

TO WATCH:

- *The German Doctor, 2013* (Mengele)
- *Lost Embrace, 2004* (A Jewish story in Argentina)
- *El Rey Del Once, 2016* (The King of Once)
- *Evita, 1996*
- *The Official Story, 1985* (Oscar winner about the dictatorship)
- *Operation Finale, 2018* (Capture of Eichmann)
- *Argentina 1985, 2022* (Dictatorship legal drama)
- *Wild Tales, 2014* (Director is Jewish - Damian Szifron)
- *The Aura, 2005* by Fabian Bielinksy
- *Nine Queens, 2000* by Fabian Bielinsky

In addition, we at Ayelet Tours have run several Argentina-related virtual programs. These are available upon request via Private YouTube link. These were paid presentations, and are available exclusively to ACC tour participants as an added value to your tour participation:

- The history of Moisés Ville
- Extracting the Nazi Eichman, as told by a former Mossad agent
- The Perons (Juan and Evita), presented by Prof. Stephen Berk
- Tango music's Jewish connection

THE MEMORIES LAST FOREVER!

****Itinerary subject to change***