

Ten Things to Do in Buenos Aires, Argentina

Buenos Aires has unlimited attractions, places to visit and activities. We will only mention ten that you cannot miss when you visit Buenos Aires, Queen of the River Plate.

1- Traditional Introduction to the City

The traditional city tour includes a visit to the **Plaza de Mayo**, the “Plaza of the Argentine People” where the most important events in Argentine history have taken place.

The **Cabildo**: To the west of the Plaza de Mayo you will find the historical Cabildo building. In 1810, after Napoleon imprisoned the King of Spain, the citizens of Buenos Aires decided to form their own government.



The **Metropolitan Cathedral**, with its neo-Renaissance architecture, is the most important Catholic Church in Argentina. The body of the hero of Argentina's independence, José de San Martín, rests here. General San Martín also liberated Chile and Perú.

The **Government House**, of great architectural beauty, is also called the Pink House (**Casa Rosada**). The President works here but lives in the Presidential Residence, located in the suburb of Olivos. A museum in the Casa Rosada contains objects owned by different Argentine presidents.



San Telmo is a colonial neighborhood of cobblestone streets and old mansions that in the 19th century were turned into “conventillos”, housing immigrant families. The heart of San Telmo is the Plaza Dorrego, where you can find nineteenth century bars and coffee shops. San Telmo is famous for its antique shops and open air markets where you can buy everything from books, magazines and clothes to coins, decorative objects, and paintings.



La Boca is a picturesque neighborhood whose zinc houses painted in many different colors are much appreciated by the tourists. One of its most important attractions is Caminito (“little street”) where you can breathe and dance the tango and buy handcrafted objects and original paintings.



La Recoleta is one of Buenos Aires' most beautiful neighborhoods. You won't want to miss the Recoleta Cemetery with its elaborate mausoleums. There you will find the tombs of Eva Perón, Facundo Quiroga, Juan Manuel Rosas and Adolfo Bioy Casares. Plaza Francia is home to a large market selling handcrafted items and to the Buenos Aires Design Center, dedicated exclusively to design.

Palermo is an extremely beautiful neighborhood with parks, wooded areas, the Rosedal (Rose Garden) and the Planetario (astronomy center).



2-Modern Buenos Aires

For those who prefer to see how the city is changing, a good place to start is **Puerto Madero**. The newest neighborhood in Buenos Aires, is constantly growing and noteworthy for its attractive buildings, luxury hotels, restaurants and universities. One attraction not to be missed is the Women's Bridge, designed by the prestigious Spanish architect, Santiago Calatrava.



Palermo Soho y Palermo Hollywood make up part of the Palermo neighborhood, a favorite gathering place for young people attracted by its open air bars, delicious food, street fairs, tree lined streets and shops containing decorative objects and clothes made by independent designers. Its taverns and underground theaters make for a lively nightlife.

Las Cañitas has a varied selection of food to try and at night welcomes Buenos Aires' most famous celebrities.

3- Attending a Boca Juniors football (soccer) match

In Argentina, soccer is called football. Attending a game can be an incredible experience, even if you are not a soccer fan. Watching a soccer game at the famous stadium (known as "La Bombonera" the Bonbon Box) where Boca Juniors plays is a once in a lifetime experience. Boca Juniors, the most famous Latin American team, is known all over the world for its international success. Besides the quality of the players, there is the excitement of participating in the game

while enjoying the fervor and the passion of the fans and their songs, confetti and fireworks. It is an indescribable experience.



4-The Porteño Nightlife

Buenos Aires never sleeps. Its shows, theaters, discos, bars, coffee shops and restaurants are open all night and the options offered will satisfy the most demanding of visitors.

5- The Tango Shows

This is the top musical entertainment of the city, bar none. Everyone should take in a dance and song event, which has a beauty all its own. The most daring can take a dance class. It takes two to tango, so the class will offer an opportunity to make new friends.

6-A Gaucho Festival

Outside the city, at a typical estancia, the visitor can enjoy a day in the country, learn about the gauchos, the cowboys of the pampas, admire the skill of the riders and their horses, enjoy a typical Argentine barbeque with delicious meat, meat pies and wine, and buy handmade leather goods.



7-A Visit to the Delta

In the Tigre neighborhood, the visitor can board a boat (like the "bateau mouche" in Paris or the vaporetto in Venice) and enjoy the panoramic views of the Río Paraná Delta. You will see a labyrinth of islands crisscrossed by rivers and streams and learn about the flora and fauna, and recreational and water sports.

8-Chinatown

Chinatown is part of the Belgrano neighborhood. You will find a variety of Asian products and typical Asian restaurants.

9-Museums for all Tastes

The Museums of Buenos Aires are many and varied. Among the most notable are the MALBA, with its paintings, sculptures, engravings, photographs and objects made by twentieth century Latin American artists, the Museo Evita, showcasing the life and times of Eva Perón, the Museo Carlos Gardel, paying homage to Argentina's famous tango singer, the Museo de Bellas Artes, the Museo del Automóvil Club Argentino, the Museo de la Pasión Boquense, etc.

10-Shopping Tour

You will find a great diversity of shops in Buenos Aires for every budget and taste, ranging from exclusive boutiques with the most prestigious brands (found in Avenida Alvear in Recoleta), commercial centers (Dot Baires, Alto Palermo, Abasto Shopping Center, Unicenter, Paseo Alcorta, etc.) to outlets on Córdoba Avenue offering discontinued articles at a lower price. In places like Palermo Soho you will find products made by independent designers. Visitors find the prices very attractive and often buy leather goods that offer high quality for low cost.

•**Source: Buenos Aires Hostels + www.ba-h.com.ar** the principal reference for Hostels in Buenos Aires. The website was created in 1999 and offers an ample selection of hostels, apartments, bed and breakfasts, and university residences in the principal Buenos Aires neighborhoods: Palermo, Recoleta, Barrio Norte, Belgrano, San Telmo, La Boca, etc.