



# Magnificent Iguazú Falls

*5 nights exploring cosmopolitan Buenos Aires and Iguazú Falls. Pre-cruise itinerary 9229.*



Iguazu Falls



Colorful architecture in La Boca

Join us on this comprehensive program, the centerpiece of which is the amazing Iguazu Falls. Much larger than Niagara and a designated UNESCO World Heritage Site, the falls draw people from all over the world who relish the chance to marvel at their dramatic, cascading waters.

You will also experience Buenos Aires, discovering its many interesting neighborhoods, watching a Tango performance, dining at local restaurants, exploring an intriguing museum and visiting its beautiful opera house.

On the last day of your adventure, you'll pay a visit to a working ranch, where you will enjoy good food and camaraderie at a festive BBQ lunch.

## **Tuesday, December 15, 2009: Buenos Aires**

Welcome to Buenos Aires! On arrival, transfer from the airport to your hotel for an early check in and a light lunch.

Afterward, become acquainted with Buenos Aires with a panoramic tour. Venture through the Palermo district, a neighborhood filled with impressive mansions, inviting parks and grand embassies. See another distinctive area, called Recoleta. Often referred to as the "Paris of the Americas," the historic neighborhood boasts numerous cafes and galleries, and is home to some of the city's more affluent residents. It is also the final resting place of Eva Perón, whose flower-strewn mausoleums are located in La Recoleta Cemetery.

An additional highlight of your Buenos Aires introduction is a look at La Boca. With its brightly painted houses and boisterous main street, it is one of the most colorful districts in the city, if not in all of South America.

Returning to your hotel, enjoy the evening at leisure and a comfortable overnight stay.

Hotel Accommodations: **Park Hyatt**

Meals: **Lunch**

## **Wednesday, December 16, 2009: Buenos Aires/Iguazu**

Today you will embark on the adventure that is the centerpiece of this exciting program: your visit to the awe-inspiring Iguazu Falls. Following breakfast, transfer to the domestic airport for your flight to Iguazu. (Due to weight limitations, please leave the bulk of your luggage at your hotel in Buenos Aires.) Arriving at the Iguazu Airport, transfer to the Sheraton Internacional Iguazu Hotel for check in. Located in the middle of the national park and the only hotel directly facing the falls on the Argentinean side, the Sheraton is the ideal spot from which to appreciate the astounding beauty of the falls.

Once you have checked in, marvel at the falls from the Brazilian side as you enjoy a guided walk and lunch at Das Cataratas, a restaurant dramatically perched near the water's edge.

Return to the Sheraton for a chance to relax before dinner at the Garganta del Diablo restaurant.

Your first day at the falls drawing to a close, enjoy your overnight stay at the Sheraton.

Hotel Accommodations: **Sheraton Internacional Iguazu**

Meals: **Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner**

#### **Thursday, December 17, 2009: Iguazu**

After breakfast, venture to the Argentine side of the falls. Catwalks and observatories place you in the midst of the falls at Rosetti, Dos Hermanas and San Martin. Your visit culminates with a look at the impressive Garganta del Diablo, or Devil's Throat. Forming perhaps the most dramatic cascade of all, the river plunges almost 240 feet, creating rainbows of mist above the thunderous tumult.

A buffet lunch will be served at your hotel, after which you will have the afternoon to do as you please. Enjoy the many amenities of your hotel, walk the lush grounds, indulge in an afternoon snooze or relax by the pool.

Later, savor a Brazilian dinner and watch an entertaining show before retiring for the evening.

Hotel Accommodations: **Sheraton Internacional Iguazu**

Meals: **Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner**

#### **Friday, December 18, 2009: Iguazu/Buenos Aires**

After breakfast and a morning at leisure, enjoy an early lunch at the hotel. Then it will be time to make your way back to Buenos Aires with a transfer to the airport and flight to the city.

On arrival in Buenos Aires, transfer to your hotel, where your luggage will be awaiting you. Then see more of the city with an afternoon visit to the Latin American Art Museum of Buenos Aires. In Spanish, the museum is called Museo de Arte Latinoamericano de Buenos Aires, or MALBA for short. Founded by a prominent Argentine businessman, the non-profit museum and cultural center showcases Latin American art from the beginning of the 20th century to present day.

You will also visit the Teatro Colón, or Colon Theater. Opening in 1908 after twenty years of construction, the grand opera house is the heart of the city, both geographically and artistically. Its architecture, displaying classic Greek and Italian Renaissance styles, is splendid. Inside, luxury and refinement carry the day, with Verona marble floors, white Carrera marble staircase, mirrored Golden Hall that resembles Versailles and grand auditorium with three floors of boxes and exquisite acoustics.

Tonight, you have your choice of dining venues: either the hotel restaurant or La Cabaña, an Orient Express restaurant within walking distance of your hotel. Whichever you choose, you will appreciate a chance to enjoy another night's stay at the Park Hyatt.

Hotel Accommodations: **Park Hyatt**

Meals: **Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner**

#### **Saturday, December 19, 2009: Buenos Aires**

After breakfast, more of Buenos Aires is yours to see with a morning drive through San Telmo. One of the city's oldest neighborhoods, the district has streets graced by colonial houses, old churches and original cobblestones.

On the first day of your Buenos Aires explorations, you were introduced to Recoleta. Today, you will enjoy lunch in this historic neighborhood and visit its famed cemetery, home to Eva Perón's grand mausoleums.

Following an afternoon at leisure, enjoy dinner, a Tango show and the accommodations of your hotel.

Hotel Accommodations: **Park Hyatt**

Meals: **Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner**

#### **Sunday, December 20, 2009: Buenos Aires**

This may be the concluding day of your program, but it is by no means the end of the excitement. After breakfast, journey to a working estancia, or ranch, where you will savor the zesty flavors and festive atmosphere of a BBQ lunch. From here, transfer to the pier to begin your Crystal cruise.

Meals: **Breakfast, Lunch**

**\$5299.00 per person double occupancy ♦**

**\$6499.00 per person single occupancy ♦**

#### **\*\*\* Important Air Information for Cruise-Only Guests:**

This pre-cruise program starts in **Buenos Aires, Argentina**. Cruise-only guests should schedule flights arriving **Ezeiza International Airport (EZE) on December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009** at approximately **10:00am**. Please fax your flight information to Crystal Cruises Land Programs Department fax 310 286 2412 at least 30 days prior to departure.

#### **Important Visa/Vaccination Information**

Guests holding United States passports will NOT require a visa for Argentina. **United States and Canadian citizens will require a visa for Brazil**. Citizens of other countries, for whom requirements may vary, should contact their nearest embassy or visa service. Please contact your travel agent or visa service for applications. No vaccination certificate is required to enter Argentina.

## Luggage Restrictions

Luggage for domestic flights is limited to **one piece** per person, not to exceed **33 lbs.** Additional luggage will be secured at your hotel.

Note: The program of sights visited will be flexible as due to many circumstances, it is not possible to schedule an exact itinerary. To fully appreciate these magnificent sites, substantial walking, sometimes over uneven and step surfaces, is unavoidable. Hotels and dining venues may change; however, alternative properties will be of an equal or better standard. Price includes all accommodations, sightseeing, transportation (including coach-class domestic air), meals as indicated, portage, and tips. **Outbound international airfare, optional excursions, excess baggage charges, personal and incidental expenses (telephone, fax, etc.) and visa charges are not included. A minimum number of guests are required for this program to operate. Please refer to the 2009 Crystal Cruises Atlas for a complete listing of terms and conditions.**

## Want to learn more?

### Suggested Reading

Buenos Aires: A Cultural and Literary Companion by Jason Wilson.

Culture and Customs of Argentina by David William Foster, Melissa Fitch Lockhard, & Darrell B. Lockhart

Amalia by Jose Marmol, Dorris Sommer (Editor), Helen Lane (Translator)

### Video/DVD

Evita (1996) Buena Vista Studio

Discoveries Argentina, Nature's Spectacle (2002) Bennett-Watt Media

Son of the Bride (2001) Columbia Tristar Hom

Nine Queens (2001) Columbia Tristar Hom

### Internet Resource

Secretary of Tourism – Argentina at <http://www.sectur.gov.ar/eng/menu.htm>

## Program Details



Park Hyatt Hotel

Av. Alvear 1661  
C1014AAD Buenos Aires, Argentina  
Phone: [54.11] 5171 1234  
Fax: [54.11] 5171 1235



Park Hyatt Hotel



Sheraton International Iguazú Resort

Parque Nacional Iguazú  
3370 Iguazú, Argentina  
Phone: 54-(3757)-491800  
Fax: 54-(3757)-491848

### Hotel Accommodations

Every effort is made to obtain accommodations at the best available hotel properties existing at a destination. Room category upgrades are not available for purchase with this program.

Room Category:

Park Hyatt

Park Deluxe

Sheraton

Falls View King or Twin

### Accessibility

Wheelchair-accessible rooms may be available at the hotel properties and must be requested in advance to ensure availability. To fully appreciate the magnificent sights on this program, substantial walking, sometimes over uneven and steep surfaces, is unavoidable. This program is not recommended for guests with walking difficulties. Many of the program sights are not wheelchair accessible.

## Flight Information

Class of Service:	Tourist/Coach	
Date	From/To	
16-DEC-2009	AEP/IGR	AEP – Jorge Newberry Domestic Airport
18-DEC-2009	IGR/EZE	IGR – Cataratas del Iguazu Airport

## Packing Information

It is recommended that comfortable, light clothes are packed as it tends to be hot and humid.

Clothing	Lightweight, waterproof windbreaker Lightweight, loose-fitting trousers and t-shirts Light, informal clothing for evening Swimming suit
Footwear	Lightweight sneakers/tennis shoes Sturdy walking shoes or hiking boots Sandals or flip-flops
Other Items	Sun hat, sunglasses and sunscreen Insect repellent Binoculars, camera

## Weather

Seasons in South America are exactly opposite of those in North America. Rain can fall at any time of the year.

<b>Buenos Aires, Argentina</b>				
Climate:		Subtropical		
Average Temperatures				
MONTH	CELSIUS		FAHRENHEIT	
	Low	High	Low	High
December	15.0	28.0	59.0	83.0

  

<b>Iguaçu Falls, Argentina</b>				
Climate:		Subtropical Rainforest		
Average Temperatures				
MONTH	CELSIUS		FAHRENHEIT	
	Low	High	Low	High
December	19.0	31.0	67.0	89.0

## Money Matters

Currency	Argentine Peso (ARS) Bills of 2, 5, 10, 20, 50, and 100 pesos, and coins of 1 peso and 1, 5, 10, 25, and 50 cents. U.S. dollars are also widely accepted.
Exchange	Foreign currency exchange is available at hotels, airport and <i>Casa de Cambio</i> offices.
Credit Cards	American Express, Visa, and MasterCard are widely accepted in most retail establishments. Storeowners may charge a premium for purchases made with a credit card.
V.A.T.	VAT reimbursement may be obtained at the airport for any purchases over \$70 (per invoice) in made in shops operating with the "Global Refund" system.
Tipping	Tips for hotels, restaurant, and airport porters are included. Gratuities for tour guide and driver are discretionary.

## Communication

Telephone	International direct-dial phones are available in each hotel room. Pay phones work with cards purchased from kiosks, or with legal tender coins. Calling from Argentina, dial 0 before the area code for domestic calls and dial 00, the country code and city code for international call.
Mobile Network	GSM phones will work in Argentina or rental phones are readily available. Cellular service can be limited in remote areas.
Postal Service	<i>Correo Argentino</i> is the postal service of Argentina with offices throughout the country. Branches keep normal business hours during the week and limited hours on the Saturdays. Mailing is reliable but can be quite slow – allow 3 weeks or more for post to arrive in the U.S.

## Electricity

Current	The electrical current in Argentina is 220 volts.
Adapters	Outlets usually take Continental-type plugs, with two round prongs or three flat, angled prongs.
Transformers	Required to convert 220 volts to 110 volts, unless your appliances are dual voltage.