

# Steph's Quick Budget Fact Sheet

# Argentina - El Chaltén

#### Quick Facts

✓ Capital: Buenos Aires

✓ Language: Spanish (Castellano)

✓ **Population:** ± 1700+ (growing fast)

 $\checkmark$  Sq km:  $\pm 1$  (yes, really)

✓ Currency: Pesos (\$ARS)

✓ Country code: +54 (2962)

√ Visa: Fore some countries, check here!

✓ Alarm codes: 911

✓ **Vaccinations:** Hep-A / Hep-B / Typhoid / Yellow fever / DTP / Rabies.



## History Recap Over 1 Drink

16<sup>th</sup> century: Start Spanish colonization. 1776: Spanish Viceroyalty of River Plate. 1810: Viceroy overthrown → War of Independence: '16. '61: Forming of united country (after Battle of Pavon). '80: Start of liberal ec. & immigration policies: income & population growth. 1916: Yrigoyen pres. → min.wage. '39: Ec. downturn caused by Great Depression, armed forces in power. '43: Nationalist army seizes power. '45: Arg declares war on Japan & Germany. '46: Peron pres., wife Evita: labor relations. '49: New constitution: Jail for government opponents, independent media suppressed. '55: Military coup, Peron into exile. '66: Gen. Ongania power. '73: Peron again pres. > '74: dies, new wife Isabel succeeds him. '76: Armed forces seize power → Guerra Sucia (Dirty War) 1000s of left-wing sympathizers killed, babies abducted from mothers. '82: Start Falklands (Malvinas) War, Arg occupies British island, 2 months later UK re-takes it. '83: Alfonsin pres., Dirty War criminals charged. Inflation over 900%. '89: Menempres. '90: Diplomatic relations with UK restored, but remains claim Falklands (Falklanders want to remain UK). '92: Peso \$. Bomb Israeli embassy kills 29. '94: Bomb in Jewish center: 86 killed. '99: Rua pres. 2000-01: Strikes & protests. Banks shut down. '02: ending parity US\$. \$800m debt. '03: Kirchner pres. '03: debt-deal. '07: Kirchner's wife pres. '15: Macri pres.

#### Travel Seasons

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Spring												
Summer	warmest	driest										
Autumn					wettest							
Winter							coolest					
Budget												

Altitude: 399m. Climate: Subpolar Oceanic Climate (Cfc), strong winds. Abrupt temperature changes.

#### **Bucket List For Free**

- © <u>Parque Nacional Los Glaciares</u> has no entrance fee via the El Chaltén entrance. Camping is free.
- Indicated, self-guided hikes: Sendero Laguna Torre, Sendero Fitzroy to Laguna de los Tres & Cerro Fitzroy (passing Laguna Capri), Loma del Pliegue Tumbado y Laguna Toro, Salto El Chorillo, Piedra del Fraile, Cerro Torres.
- **Off-road hikes**: Laguna Tofro & Paso del Vientos, Paso Huemul.

### Worth The Extra \$€¥

- Nature: Glaciar Viedma, Glaciar Piedras Blancas, Paso del Viento (by tour), <u>Los Huemules</u> (private), Bosque Petrificado La Leona.
- Sport: Mountainbike rental, climbing, river rafting, tubing, yoga.
- Miradores: Los Cóndores, Las Águilas, PiedrasBlancas, Del Torre, Maestri, Rio de las Vueltas.
- © By car: Lago del Desierto (37km), Glaciar Huemul.

## Festivals

- ☼ Festival of Trekking: 4-Feb.
- ☼ Independence Day: 9-Jul.
- El Chaltén Foundation Day: 12-Oct.

### "Budget" Bites

- 器 Everything in the supermarkets is super expensive too: Super El Chaltén, Distrosur, Súper.
- 策 Local food: Asado, parilla, chimichurri, empanadas, choripan.
- 策 Go vegan: Prana Bar Natural (San Martín 275), Cúrcuma Cocina Vegetariana (Calle Antonio Rojo 211), Almazen Tienda Natural (Arrúa 445).

# Nights Best Spent

- ♦ La Vineria (wine bar), Avenida Lago del Desierto 265.
- ♦ La Cerveceria (beer bar), San Martín 564.
- ♦ Fresco Bar, Cabo Garcia 38.

#### Next?

- → In Argentina: El Calafate, Los Antiguos, Perito Moreno.
- → International destinations close by: Chile, (Bolivia, Paraguay, Uruguay, Brazil).

## Sleep Cheap

- Los Glaciares National Park has free designated campgrounds (no showers, toilets only): Capri, Poincenot, d'Agostini & Laguna Toro.
- ❖ Go Couchsurfing or house-sitting! Also check WorkAway. If you can't find anything: El Chaltén has an endless hostel supply.

#### Free-Riding?

- Everything within the tiny centre of El Chaltén is easily walkable.
- Biking is possible. Warning: Mainly dirt road.
- The terminal can be found at the town's entrance. Buses are unreasonably expensive.
- There are no taxis, but a *remis* can be arranged by stepping into an office. Expect elevated prices.
- Airport: <u>El Calafate International Airport</u>.
- Hitch-hiking is possible and very common here. Almost all traffic heads to El Calafate.

Tip: Download the Triposo Argentina app for offline maps, landmark descriptions & more, or load Google Maps when you have Wi-Fi and leave it open, you will still be able to use it offline.

#### Mama Said

- Tap water is drinkable, but if you just arrived in the country you are better off with filtered water. The river water is also drinkable.
- Before going on long hikes, inform someone about your hiking route and expected return. Bring clothes for all kind of weather conditions, from 30-degrees heat to hail and snow; it can happen all in 1 day.
- Don't destroy nature, always walk on the indicated paths. Take your trash home. Don't pollute the river, as it's drinkable water. Don't make a fire in the woods or throw cigarettes on the ground (it's really dry here).
- Is it really necessary to kill, hurt or use animals (fish/horses)? If you love nature, and you do because you're here, act upon it.
- There are some ATMs, but they're not always reliable. It's better to arrive with sufficient cash on you, because it's not cheap here.

The Earth Becomes My Throne