



Steph's Quick Budget Fact Sheet

Paraguay - Encarnación

Quick Facts

- ✓ **Capital:** Asunción
- ✓ **Language:** Spanish, Guaraní & Hoch-Dietsch
- ✓ **Population:** ± 127,600
- ✓ **Sq km:** ± 274
- ✓ **Currency:** Guaraní (PYG, ₲)
- ✓ **Country code:** +595 (71)
- ✓ **Visa:** Fore some countries, [check here!](#)
- ✓ **Alarm codes:** 911
- ✓ **Vaccinations:** Hep-A / Hep-B / Typhoid / Yellow fever / DTP / Rabies / malaria & zika prevention (mosquito protection).



History Recap Over 1 Drink

1525: Portuguese explorer Gracia visits – '26: Italian Cabort – '37: Spanish begin colonizing the interior Paraguay. 1609: Spanish Jesuits begin Roman Catholic conversion. 1776: transferred from Vice-royalty of Peru to La Plata (Arg) → '08: La Plata... Par. revolt against Buenos Aires. 1811: Paraguay independent. '65-80: War Triple Alliance with Arg/Braz/Ur over sea access → Paraguay loses 90% male population & large tracts of land. 1932-35: Chaco War with Bolivia: wins territory. '45: Joins UN. '54: General Stroessner seizes power (coup): start 30+ years of dictatorship → '89: deposed by coup General Rodriguez → pres. '92: Democratic constitution. '93: Wasmosy pres. '98: Cubas pres (fraud) → resigns when vice-pres Arhana gets assassinated → Macchi caretaker pres. '02: State of emergency declared after violent street protests (demand: resignation of Macchi & end of free-market policies). '03: Frutos pres, Macchi put on trial for corruption (6 years jail). '04: Peasant land invasions demanding redistribution of agricultural land. 420+ killed in a fire at a shopping center in Asuncion. '05: Duarte pres. '07: State of emergency: outbreak dengue fever & later that year fire destroys 100,000+ hectares of forest and agricultural land. '08: Lugo pres. '09: deal with Brazil about energy cost of Itaipú hydro-electric plant. '12: vice-pres Franco takes over. '13: pres. Cartes.

Travel Seasons

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Spring												
Summer	very	hot										
Autumn												
Winter												
Budget		Carnival \$\$\$										

Altitude: 117m. Climate: Humid subtropical (Cfa). It's not recommended to travel in summer: intense heat.

Bucket List For Free

- ☺ Relax at the **beach** along the Costanera: Playa San Jose, Playa Mboi Kae, Playa San Isidro.
- ☺ **Free museums:** Museo Casa de la Victoria (mon-fri 8-11:30), Museo Alberto del Valle (tue-sun -17:00).
- ☺ **Sights:** Plaza de Armas, Mirador San Jose, Escalinata de San Pedro & a bunch of churches.
- ☺ **Surrounding villages:** Posadas (Argentina), San Cosme y San Damian.

Worth The Extra \$€¥

- 👍 **Jesuit ruins:** Trinidad, Jesús de Tavarangue, San Cosme y San Damian (1 ticket for all).
- 👍 **Nature:** Parque Nacional San Rafael, Reserva Natural Tapytá, Reserva Natural Chopi Sayjú, Reserva Natural Guasu Puku, Refugio Faunístico Atinguy, Reserva Natural isla Yacretá.
- 👍 **Waterpark:** Parque Acuatico y Ecologico El Dorado.

Budget Bites

⌘ Supermarkets: Super 6 (*also has cheap per-weight-buffet*), Los Hermanitos, La Familia, El Canguro.

⌘ Markets: Feria Municipal La Placita.

⌘ Local food: Chipa (cheese-bread), empanada (deep-fried meat pastries), asado (meat BBQ), sopa (salty cake).

⌘ Go vegan: Veganism is uncommon in Paraguay, but in the 'dieteticas' and bigger supermarkets many vegan products are sold, incl. cheap soy meat, soy burgers and soy milk. Encarnacion has vegan restaurants like Qi and Hogar Vegano and Famola. Check [Happy Cow](#).

Mama Said

☠ Tap water is drinkable, but if you just arrived in the country you are better off with filtered water. I

☠ Before going on long hikes, inform others about your whereabouts and indicated time of return.

☠ ATM's in Paraguay charge a rather high fee, so you're better off to cash-out high amounts.

☠ Zika exists in Paraguay and mosquito prevention requires a high amount of DEET. It's a risk to travel here when pregnant.

☠ Summer is serious in Paraguay. The heat will prevent you from doing any hikes or physical active activities. I strongly recommend travelling in winter.

Next?

➔ In Paraguay: Encarnación, San Cosme y Damian, Concepción.

➔ International destinations close by: Bolivia, Argentina, Brazil.

Sleep Cheap

❖ There's a variety of relatively cheap hotels and *hospedajes*. You're better off not pre-booking, better rates can be negotiated once there.

❖ Camping is a common and cheap option in Encarnación, but not recommended in the summer heat.

❖ Go [Couchsurfing](#) or [house-sitting](#)! Also check [WorkAway](#).

Festivals

☼ Carnaval: Feb.

☼ Rally Trans Itapúa / Rally [Codasur](#): Mar / various months.

☼ Expo Itapúa: Mar.

Nights Best Spent

◆ The Costanera has a vibrant nightlife.

◆ Bambuddha, Mñors Wiessen-

◆ Bleu Bar Club, Avenida Irrazabál & General Cabañas.

Free-Riding?

■ Everything within the centre of Encarnacion is kind of walkable, but the heat can be devastating. For this reason biking isn't recommendable.

■ Encarnacion has city buses in which you can pay cash. Destinations are displayed on the front and at the bus stops. There is also a direct bus to Posadas (Argentina) in which you can pay in guaraní and pesos (*You have to get out at the Paraguayan border, save your ticket, get into another bus of the same company to cross the bridge, get out again at the Argentinean border and get in a new bus again to Posadas*). It stops at the bus terminal and at bus stops around town. The bus terminal is located at General Cabañas (corner Mariscal Estigarribia & Carlos López) and serves many destinations inside and outside Paraguay.

■ Airport: Teniente Amin Ayub Gonzalez Airport (ENO).

■ Hitch-hiking is possible but not very common here. However, people are friendly and curious to meet foreigners. In order to get to Argentina it's however more convenient to cross the border with a (cheap) bus first.

Tip: Download the Triposo Paraguay app or load Google Maps when you have Wi-Fi and leave it open.

The Earth Becomes
My Throne