



# Steph's Quick Budget Fact Sheet

## Paraguay - Filadelfia

### Quick Facts

- ✓ **Capital:** Asunción
- ✓ **Language:** Spanish, Guaraní, Plaut-Dietsch, German & indigenous
- ✓ **Population:** ± 9,700
- ✓ **Sq km:** ± 13,879
- ✓ **Currency:** Guaraní (PYG, ₲)
- ✓ **Country code:** +595 (091)
- ✓ **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	As Filadelfia isn't a touristy place, there's no specific low or high season.											

Altitude: 138m. Climate: Steppe, Semi-Tropical (Bsh). It's not recommended to travel in summer: intense heat.

### Bucket List For Free

- ☺ **Free museums:** The Menno Simons Hof contains the Koloniehaus, Jakub Unger Naturkunde Museum, Museum de Interkulturellen Begegnung & more... other options: Parque Ruedas Pioneras, Ölraffinerie, Knelsenhaus, Schulmuseum and Krankenhausmuseum.
- ☺ **Free hikes:** Any stroll into the woods will be rewarded with wildlife-sightings. Keep an eye out for a.o. armadillos, pumas, wolfs, tapirs, anteaters & deer.
- ☺ **Sights:** The 2 monuments along Avenida Hindenburg.

### Worth The Extra \$€¥

- 👍 **Paraguayan countryside:** Visit an estancia.
- 👍 **Tours:** [Turismo Iparoma](#) +595981940050 or [email](#). "Tourism office": (595) (0) (491) 417380.
- 👍 **Nature:** [Parque Nacional](#) Tifunqué / Teniente Agripino Enciso / Médanos del Chaco / Defensores del Chaco / Cerro Cabrera / Río Negro. [Reserva Natural](#) Salazar / Toro Mocho / Palmar Quemado / Yaguarete Pora. [Monumento Natural](#) Cerro Chovoreca.

## Budget Bites

- ⌘ Supermarkets: Fernheim, Boqueron, Carni Shop.
- ⌘ Local food: Chipa (cheese-bread), empanada (deep-fried meat pastries), asado (meat BBQ), sopa (salty cake).
- ⌘ Go vegan: Veganism is unheard of in this region. The meat and dairy industries are the pillars of the local economy. You will need to cook for yourself to obtain a decent vegan meal.

## Mama Said

- ☠ Tap water is drinkable, but if you just arrived in the country you are better off with filtered water. In Filadelfia tap water is unfiltered rain water.
- ☠ Before going on long hikes, inform others about your whereabouts and indicated time of return.
- ☠ The 2 ATMs in Filadelfia 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.
- ☠ To explore more of the Gran Chaco and its national parks your own transport (4x4) is required. Roads are of bad quality and tourism underdeveloped.
- ☠ Summer is serious here. The intense heat will complicate any physical exercise. It's recommended to travel in 'winter'.

## Next?

- ➔ In Paraguay: Mariscal, Concepción, Asunción.
- ➔ 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.
- ❖ Wild camping is an easy and free option. There's no control and you can camp anywhere in the bushes. Beware of the many mosquitos and intense heat in summer!
- ❖ Go [Couchsurfing](#) or [house-sitting](#)! Also check [WorkAway](#).

## Festivals

- ☼ Rodeo Neuland: May.
- ☼ Rodeo Trébol: Aug.
- ☼ Trans Chaco Rally: Oct.

## Nights Best Spent

Filadelfia is a Mennonite community. There are no bars or discotheques, after 10PM selling or buying alcohol is illegal and drinking on the street is not allowed.

## Free-Riding?

- Everything within the centre of Filadelfia is easily walkable, but the heat can be devastating.
- Filadelfia is too small to have city buses, but from the bus terminal (Latitude: -22°21'30.32" Longitude: -60°1'54.7") buses leave to several destinations within Paraguay.
- Airport: Filadelfia Airport (FLM).
- Hitch-hiking is possible but not very common here. However, people are friendly and curious to meet foreigners. Head to the Trans-Chaco highway to catch a ride to Ruta 9 (interconnecting Paraguay), and from there continue in the right direction.

Tip: Download the Triposo Paraguay 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.

The Earth Becomes  
My Throne