

FROM THE HORCHOW TRAVEL COLLECTION

Argentina's Patagonia & the Omaguacas

15 Days Land from \$9,795

A small-group and all-inclusive *Escorted Journey* with a renowned Travcoa Travel Director throughout

- BUENOS AIRES ■ PUERTO MADRYN ■ VALDÉS PENINSULA ■ EL CALAFATE ■ GLACIER NATIONAL PARK
SALTA ■ SALINAS GRANDES ■ TILCARA ■ CALCHAQUI VALLEY ■ CACHI ■ CAFAYATE



Perito Moreno Glacier, Glacier National Park

Experience the majesty of Argentina's natural wonders on a life-changing journey of discovery. Begin in vibrant Buenos Aires and explore its wide avenues, chic shops and glamorous nightlife. Take a tango lesson and absorb the romantic rhythms. Then fly south to see the rugged lands of Patagonia. Step aboard a boat to watch the magnificent Southern Right Whales. Travel to Glacier National Park and ascend to the continental ice sheet for spectacular views of the glaciers and mountains. Visit a small Omaguaca Indian village where local craftsmen display their colorful works of art. Then explore the Calchaquí Valley and the city of Cafayate, where you will savor rich local wines.

DAYS 1 – 3

Buenos Aires, Argentina

Buenos Aires, often referred to as “the Paris of South America,” is a place of contradictions — a European face and a Latin soul. On Day 3 drive through lovely San Telmo — the best-kept historical neighborhood and the birthplace of the tango. Visit La Boca, a most colorful area. At Avenida de Mayo, we stop at the famous Café Tortoni. Founded in 1858, Café Tortoni is the oldest coffee shop in Argentina, with a rich history and list of past and present patrons including everyone from politicians to artists and entertainers. Jump in and join the tradition by taking a tango class at the café. Then explore the Recoleta area, one of the city's richest and most glamorous spots. At Esquina Carlos Gardel, enjoy the rhythms of the tango as you dine on traditional and international cuisine.

□ *Palacio Dubau – Park Hyatt, Buenos Aires*

DAY 4

Punta Delgada & Puerto Pirámide or Puerto Madryn

Early this morning drive to the airport for your flight north to Trelew. October and November departures are met upon arrival and driven to the small village of Puerto Pirámide. Here, board a boat for an exciting whale-watching excursion to view the magnificent Southern Right Whale. Every year, they arrive in Valdés Peninsula in June and stay until December. (Our February departure will instead visit nearby Puerto Madryn. Explore the area's beautiful beaches and see the local colony of more than 800 seals that live on the sandbank of Punta Loma.)

□ *Faro Punta Delgada, Punta Delgada*

LIFE-CHANGING JOURNEYS FROM THE EXPERIENCED
TRAVCOA TRAVEL TEAM

“The Argentine tango (different from the American and International style tangos) finds its roots in the interpretation given by the Gauchos of Buenos Aires to a Spanish dance called “Danza”. Like the International style, the Argentine tango is danced in a closed ballroom position, whereas the American style is “looser” in that the rhythm of the steps (slow and quick) are correlated to the musical phrasing.”

Amber Medkiff
Travel Director



DAY 5

Puerto Madryn

Depart Punta Delgada this morning and travel along the coast through Punta Cantor to Caleta Valdés, where we stop to visit the elephant seal station. This beach houses a colony of hundreds of the creatures. Next, continue north through Punta Norte, a fauna reserve and natural protected area. Proceed to Estancia San Lorenzo, to see the largest penguin rookery on Peninsula Valdés. The pride of the San Lorenzo Estancia, this colony shelters an average of approximately 200,000 Magellan Penguins. After lunch, drive back south to Puerto Madryn, viewing the steppe which teems with life and is home to a wide variety of animals.

□ *Territorio Hotel, Puerto Madryn*

DAYS 6 – 8

El Calafate

A small, scenic village located on Lake Argentino, El Calafate sits adjacent to the southern end of the Andes. On Day 7 embark at Punta Bandera for a 3-hour boat ride to Parque Nacional Los Glaciares (Glacier National Park). Travel through Argentino Lake, cruising among icebergs and taking in the stunning mountain scenery overlooking the western front of the Upsala Glacier, one of the largest in the park. Disembark at Estancia Cristina and take a guided tour of the Costumbrista Museum. Next, travel in all-terrain vehicles, ascending six miles over mountain roads to the continental ice sheet for a spectacular view revealing the front of the Upsala Glacier, Lake Guillermo, the Southern Patagonian Ice Field and the Andes Mountains.

On Day 8 enjoy another full-day exploration to Perito Moreno Glacier in the Parque Nacional Los Glaciares. En route pass impressive Patagonian Andean lakes, forests and mountains. After touring the glacier and park by land, board your boat at Bajo Las Sombras for an hour cruise across Lake Rico, the southern arm of Lake Argentino. Pass beside icebergs that have calved off the south wall of the Perito Moreno. Your cruise reaches the Icebergs Channel, where the boat stops at a safe distance from the glacier, allowing you to watch in amazement as walls of ice fall right before your eyes — a spectacular view!

□ *Los Sauces Casa Patagonica Hotel, El Calafate*

DAY 9

Salta

Salta derives its name from the Aymara word *sagta* meaning “very beautiful”. Founded in 1582, Salta is now the provincial capital, and is a handsome city with some of the best-preserved colonial architecture. Today the city is also known for its wonderful handicrafts. Tonight, enjoy a festive reception and dinner featuring local wine, empanadas and special entertainment — a chorus troupe adorned with local costumes.

□ *Legado Mitico Salta, Salta*

DAY 10

Purmamarca

Arrive at the lovely town of Purmamarca in time for lunch. A small and inviting Indian village founded in 1594, little has changed since then. The main attraction of the square is the colorful market, where local craftsmen display their skills.



Whale Bone at Salt Lake below sea level, Peninsula Valdés

THE BEST OF *Accommodations*

Palacio Duhau – Park Hyatt, Buenos Aires

Right in the heart of the French heritage district of Recoleta, Palacio Duhau – Park Hyatt Buenos Aires hotel is located close to The Latin American Art Museum of Buenos Aires and Puerto Madero. Palacio Duhau integrates easily into eclectic Buenos Aires by combining stylish architecture with innovative design, comfort with technology and offering renowned Park Hyatt luxury service.



Salon Crystal

Patios de Cafayate Hotel & Spa, Cafayate

The Patios de Cafayate Hotel & Spa is located on the same grounds as the state-of-the-art El Esteco winery. Rich in culture, wine and tradition, the hotel embraces its spectacular views of the Calchaquí Valley vineyards. Luxury facilities include an outdoor heated pool and a spa, and a restaurant which prepares recipes of interesting indigenous ingredients, passed down for generations.



Situated among the vineyards of the Calchaquí Valley

In the afternoon, continue your climb, up the Lipán Slope road to the Salinas Grandes salt flats. Explore this unusual and vital area and learn about the old techniques of salt exploitation.

□ *Hotel Manantial del Silencio, Purmamarca*

DAY 11

Tilcara & Salta

Today, visit the Indian ruins at the Pucará de Tilcara National Monument, where evidence of human habitation can be traced back more than 10,000 years. See the partially reconstructed Indian fortification showing living quarters, pens for llamas, trails, terraces and burial sites. Wander through the botanical garden and the archeological museum with its display of more than 5,000 historical pieces from various Indian cultures. After lunch in Tilcara, continue the drive back down to Salta. Upon arrival, tour the highlights of the city including the neo-classical cathedral, historic 9-de-Julio Square, Archbishop's Palace, the 18th-century Cabildo and the lively arts and crafts market.

□ *Legado Mitico Salta, Salta*

DAYS 12 – 15

Cachi, Cafayate, Buenos Aires & Depart for Home

Set at the confluence of Rio Calchaquí and Rio Cachi, Cachi has preserved its colonial style and has mixed it with the heritage of its primitive inhabitants. Continue exploring the Calchaquí Valley, reaching your last stop, Cafayate, by late afternoon. Cafayate, "land of sun and good wine," is the most important city in the valley, and is famous for its wine production. Savor the flavors of Cafayate as you visit some of the local wineries and learn about their winemaking methods.

On Day 14 arrive at the Salta airport in time for your flight to Buenos Aires. Arriving at Aeroparque, the domestic airport, you will be transferred to Ezeiza International Airport for your flight home (arriving the following day) or on to your next destination.

□ *Patios de Cafayate Hotel & Spa, Cafayate*

NOTE: High altitude. This journey spends one night in Purmamarca at 7,200 feet and a full day in the Salinas Grandes (salt flats) that reach up to 12,000 feet. The high altitude will affect your blood pressure and breathing. Caution must be observed.

Your Journey Includes 15-day journey with luxury or best available accommodations including hotel taxes and service charges, services of a renowned Travcoa Travel Director, all transfers, all transportation with the exception of air, all meals including Dine-Around Program, all sightseeing and excursions per itinerary including all entrance fees.

Journey
LINK

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**Machu Picchu, Chile's Atacama Desert or
Peruvian Amazon Independent Journeys**

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Adventures in Dining

Travcoa's
Dine-Around
PROGRAM

Travcoa's Dine-Around Program gives you unmatched freedom in dining choices during your journey. Dine wherever you like and, with the exception of alcohol and caviar, it's already included in your journey price.

TOP BUENOS AIRES OPTIONS

The hottest table in Buenos Aires these days is at the parrilla, **La Cabrera**. Make reservations or go early; otherwise count on a long wait for a table. (The staff serves complimentary sparkling wine and hors d'oeuvres as you wait.) Inside, you'll find high quality, tender cuts of locally raised Argentine beef, perfectly prepared, from tenderloins to steaks to giant rib-eyes (ojo de bife). In addition to steakhouse cuts there are sweetbreads, sausage, rabbit, pork and salads (we liked the hearts of palm with tomato and avocado — large and flavorful). Sides are original, such as poached pear and mashed pumpkin with raisins. Bring a social attitude for the crowded tables that will have you chatting with your neighbors. In addition to a satisfied appetite, you'll leave the restaurant with a quintessential "BA" story to tell.

Not in the mood for a crowd? Then book a quiet table at **La Bourgogne**, the best French restaurant in town (jacket and tie required).

— Reviews by *Passport Newsletter*, our travel partners who have provided restaurant reviews for more than 45 years. Reservations can be made by calling Travel Guard at 1-866-807-7260.

Young Magellanic penguins at the seasonal nesting grounds in Punta Tombo



Exclusively Yours

- ◆ Small groups averaging 12 like-minded guests
- ◆ Attentive service from the very best Travel Directors
- ◆ Dine wherever and with whomever you choose
- ◆ The finest hotels and accommodations
- ◆ Extraordinary experiences, all included

- Learn sensuous Tango steps at Buenos Aires' historic Café Tortoni
- Observe the wildlife colonies of hundreds of sea lions, penguins and sea elephants
- Tour incredible Glacier National Park by foot, boat and 4-wheel-drive vehicle
- Watch a glacier "calve" right before your eyes
- Sip a drink at the first Ice-Bar in Argentina
- View the incredible breadth of the Patagonian Continental Ice Field
- Take a nautical safari to the Icebergs Channel
- Explore the expansive Salinas Grandes salt flats
- Take in the stunning landscape of colors at the Calchaquí Valley
- Taste wine through the Cafayate wine country



15 DAYS, all-inclusive adventure limited to just 18 guests

JOURNEY PACE: Active

START: Buenos Aires, Argentina **END:** Buenos Aires, Argentina

2012 Dates	Travcoa Select	Intra-Tour Air	Single Suppl.
Feb 17 – Mar 02	\$9,795	1,990	2,150
Oct 05 – Oct 19	\$9,795	1,990	2,150
Nov 02 – Nov 16	\$9,795	1,990	2,150

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Hotels in gold: Condé Nast Traveler Best in the World

Package price is per person, based on double occupancy. Single supplement applies. Intra-tour air pricing is subject to change. International airfare is additional. Other restrictions may apply.