

Argentina

Mission Trip Booklet



Argentina

INTRODUCTORY LETTER

Dear Friend,

I am excited to be able to give you information about the trip you are planning to Argentina. In the following pages you will find answers to many questions, however if you have a question that we do not cover you may feel free to contact me at 770-456-5667 or at bush@reachingall.com.

We are excited that you are thinking about coming to Argentina. It will be an unforgettable, life changing experience. You will gain much first hand knowledge of the mission field and partake in the ministry that God has done here in Argentina.

Read the Argentina Trip booklet and begin making your plans now to come. We look forward to your visit.

Yours to evangelize the world in our generation,

Jeff Bush

ABOUT ARGENTINA



- Argentina has a population of 39,537,943 as of July 2005. It is a country made up of 23 provinces (states).
- The capital of Argentina is Buenos Aires. It has a population of 16 million people.
- The capital of Buenos Aires is La Plata and that is where the Bush family is working. It has a population of over 1 million people.
- The main religion is Roman Catholicism, but the Pentecostals, Mormons and Jehovah Witnesses are also well-known.
- You can find more information on Argentina on the following websites: www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/ar.html





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REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ARGENTINA TRIP

To go on the Argentina Mission Trip, you must:

- Be saved and baptized.
- Be 16 years of age or older.
- Have your parent's permission, if under 18 years of age.
- Have your pastor's recommendation.
- Know that it is God's will.
- Have enough money. (See page 4 for trip cost.)
- Be willing to abide by the rules and regulations that apply to this trip.
- Fill out an application and have it approved.
- Sign the covenant that applies to this trip.
- Want to attend and see God do a work in your life.
- Get a passport 6-8 weeks prior to departure.

How to get approved to go on the Argentina Mission Trip.

- Make sure you meet the requirements listed above.
- Fill out the *Application Form* and the *Covenant*.
- Have your pastor complete the *Pastor Recommendation Form*.
- Send all the forms to Macedonia World Baptist Missions, P.O. Box 519, Braselton, GA 30517. Mark them "Attn: BCWE Secretary."

What to do after you are approved:

- Begin the process of raising your money.
- Make sure you have a valid passport. (See page 9 for passport information)
- Read all of the information in this booklet.
- Familiarize yourself with *Differences in Language Sheet*.



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TRAVEL TO ARGENTINA

PASSPORTS AND VISAS

- ☑ Before the trip you should make sure and get your passport. You will need a couple of passport photos, two pieces of identification, and the required fee. It takes about 2 months to get your passport so please start early. Call your local post office to be sure of what you will need to do.
- ☑ You will receive your tourist visa on the plane. You simply fill it out and they will take care of it in immigrations. Do not lose the sheet of paper they returned to you stamped, you have to turn it back in when you leave the country.
- ☑ For more information about the passport application process go to the following website: www.usembassy.si/Consular/uspass.htm.

DATES

- ☑ To be arranged with your group coordinator.
- ☑ The summer months here are from October – February. The winter months are from May – August. During the winter the average temperature is 52° F and during the summer months 76° F. For more accurate information on the weather, check out www.weather.com.
- ☑ It is best to schedule a trip from 7-10 days.
- ☑ For more details or to schedule a trip, please contact Jeff Bush at 770-456-5667 or bush@reachingall.com

COST

\$1500/person [Will vary depending on the trip.]

Plane Tickets	\$1000/person from the Atlanta airport*
Transportation	\$100/person
Food	\$100/person
Spending	\$100/person (depending on the individual)
Lodging	\$100/person
Extra costs	\$100 (for any emergency spending, airport tax - \$18, etc)

* The price of tickets greatly varies with the time of the year and may be higher if flying from another area of the United States.



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LUGGAGE

- ☑ You will be allowed two 70 lb. suitcases, a carry-on and a personal item. If possible please be willing to bring down another suitcase for the missionary or the ministry as there are always needed supplies that could be brought from the States.
- ☑ Your carry-on must be small enough to fit under the seat in front of you or in the overhead bin.
- ☑ Your personal item can be one of the following items: a purse, briefcase, laptop/computer (all laptop/computers must be carried aboard and cannot be checked), camera case, or an item of similar or smaller size.*
- ☑ Your name needs to be on every piece of luggage. All baggage is subject to being searched. You are not allowed to lock any luggage.
- ☑ It would be helpful to tie a brightly colored ribbon on your suitcases to quickly recognize them as they come through the baggage carousel.
- ☑ Do not take anything you do not need. Leave valuables at home. Go through your wallet or purse and purge them of credit cards and items you will not need in Argentina.
- ☑ Pack liquids in a sealable plastic bag before placing them in your suitcase.

PACKING CHECKLIST

Remember to pack the following items:

- King James Bible and notebook for messages
- Journal or diary and spare pens
- Clothes and shoes for church
- Battery-powered alarm clock
- Camera, film, and batteries
- Prescription medicines
- Personal first aid kit containing: cold tablets, tums, Tylenol, Band-Aids, Kaopectate, Hydrocortisone cream, etc.
- Only necessary credit cards
- Toiletries and cosmetics
- Spare eyeglasses and sunglasses
- Flip flops or house shoes
- Snacks that are durable to pack (i.e. Granola bars, candy bars, etc.)
- Pictures of family, church, etc.
- Light-weight jacket or sweater
- Good walking shoes
- Mini-Sewing Kit with safety pins
- One towel and washcloth per person
- **Ladies Only:** Conair curling iron (Because it is dual voltage.)

Do not pack the following items in your checked luggage:

- Your passport
- Money or anything valuable
- Needed medications



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Remember to place the following items in your carry-on:

- Passport
- Photo ID & any student ID that you have (Will give discounts at certain places.)
- Bible
- Journal/Notebook and Ink pen
- Tickets
- Camera
- Itinerary
- Needed medications
- Change of clothing in case your luggage is lost in transit or arrives later than you do!

Note: The electrical current here is 220v and 50hz. Unless it is dual voltage it will not work. Laptops, digital video cameras, and razors are usually dual voltage. Check to make sure before bringing it down. If it is something absolutely necessary you may use one of our transformers.

DRESS

During the winter months (May-August), La Plata, Argentina can get very cold. You will need to bring winter clothes for these months. The churches do not have heating so please bring warm clothing. During the summer (November-February) it gets very hot (sometimes close to 100 degrees with high humidity). You will want some relatively comfortable shoes for all the walking we will be doing.

You will be visiting the mission field. Please understand that this is much more than a tourist trip although you will have the opportunity to do much of the tourist activities. Since it is a mission's trip and we know that you want to set a very good example for our brethren on the field we will ask that all women wear very modest dresses, skirts or culottes. Men should wear slacks, shirt, and tie to the services. For any sports activity we ask that you wear jeans or sweat pants.

ARRIVAL

A few instructions for the airport when you land in Buenos Aires, Argentina:

Deplane and follow the crowd around to Immigrations. From there you will go to the luggage belt and pick up your suitcases. Then proceed to the Custom's agent. He will look at your passport and declaration and then ask you to push a button which will determine if you proceed or get your bags open. Red light means that they will look in your bags and obviously Green will mean that you may proceed. Sometimes if there are a lot of people they will just wave you through without pushing the button. Follow the crowd on out of the customs area into the main airport and one of us will be waiting on you.



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HOUSING

Each guest will be staying either in our home or a close hotel. The place you will be staying in will have electricity, hot and cold water, comfortable beds, good security, and a pleasant atmosphere. There may be several unexpected inconveniences but then this is the mission field.

SAFETY

- ☑ Do not drink the water from the tap. You will need to drink only the filtered water provided in each home.
 - ☑ Always be careful to watch your things while on the trip or in town. Airports always have lots of thieves, pickpockets etc. Do not wear excessive amounts of jewelry or something that might call attention to thieves. Do not flash your money around.
 - ☑ It is not required to have vaccinations before coming to Argentina although you may want to check with your health department.
 - ☑ Everyone will be allowed to call home when they arrive to let parents know they made it fine. We have a Vonage phone which will let us call anywhere in the U.S. for no extra charge.
 - ☑ For current safety travel information: http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/tw/tw_1764.html
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CULTURE DO'S AND DON'TS

1. Do not treat their church any differently than you would a church in the United States. Their church is just as good, and many times much more spiritual than a church in the US.
2. Don't treat national pastors any differently than you would a pastor in the United States
3. Do not eat or drink in front of them without offering them something.
4. Do not constantly criticize their country or talk about your country and all that you miss there or how it is better, etc.
6. Develop a taste for their foods. Eat with them. Do not turn your nose up at their food.
7. Do not skip church or stay outside the building during church services, etc. Get involved with the people in the service.
8. Look at things like they do. They aren't strange or new--you are.
9. They will ask you if you like their country. Think about the many positive things and say "yes", even if there are some things you don't like. It would be very offensive to tell them you didn't like their country.
10. Always ask the missionary before giving someone money and never take out your wallet in front of other people because you are very likely to get it stolen. It would be good to place something in the offering plate each time it is passed because people are watching your example and in their eyes you have much more than they do.



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PREACHING AND TEACHING

We want every God called preacher to have a chance to preach. You must understand that preference will be given to those who are pastors and preachers in the full time ministry. If possible we will have everyone who desires give at least a word of testimony. The missionaries will tell you how much time you have to teach or preach.

HOW TO GIVE YOUR TESTIMONY IN THE SERVICES:

1. Write out your testimony. It will surprise you how easy it is to get sidetracked by all the translating.
2. Keep it brief, maybe about 3 minutes! With translation 3 minutes will turn into 5!
3. Open with a greeting in Spanish. The folks like it when you try to speak their language and show an interest.
4. Tell who you are and a little bit about you, married, work, something about your family, etc.
5. Add a couple of positive statements about the country, the church, and the people!
6. Do not talk about the poverty of the area, the currency as funny money, how sorry you feel for them, etc.
7. Tell what Christ has done for you, how did you get saved, how did you realize your need of a Savior, how has your life changed, how has Christ helped you lately.
8. Give a verse and make sure and give the application.
9. Do not give graphic details about your sin or your past life.
10. Avoid slang and idioms in your testimony. They can be very difficult to translate and may have no meaning in the other language.
11. Do not use very long sentences or very short either. Give a good thought that can be easily remembered by the translator!
12. Avoid stressing your material success or blessings and especially making any comparisons to what the people have in the country you are visiting!
13. Avoid speaking of the sacrifice that you made to get to the field. Remember what it cost you to get to the country may be several months of a working man's income. You may share with them the blessing of being able to come and how good God was to answer your prayers and make it possible to be there!
14. Don't tell jokes, etc. without prior approval to make sure that they translate, etc.
15. Thank the folks again and ask them to pray for you. Be excited about the country and the opportunity to be there.



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KEEP A JOURNAL OF YOUR TRIP!

- A Diary of your daily thoughts and events
- A record of your prayer requests
- A record of how you felt on the trip
- Preserve your joy for future memories
- Keep a list of what you are learning and how God is working in your life
- Right now quotes and sayings that you hear that are a blessing for you
- Review your day with God
- Be able to share with your family, friends and church all that God did in your life on the trip

TIPS ON HOW TO KEEP A JOURNAL

- Start before you leave home
- Set aside a quiet time each day for writing
- Talk to your journal as though it were your best friend
- Keep your journal confidential
- Answer some questions in your journal entries like the following:
 1. What did you learn today that will benefit your spiritual life?
 2. What areas of your life does God seem to be talking to you about right now?
 3. What did you learn about serving Him?
 4. What did you do today?
 5. Who did you meet today?
 6. What decision did you make today for your spiritual life and growth?

POSSIBLE SCHEDULE DURING THE ARGENTINA TRIP

- Ⓞ Orientation and World Evangelism Classes
- Ⓞ Devotional time each day
- Ⓞ Tour Downtown Buenos Aires, including Caminito, Florida Street, the Obelisk, the Jewish and Chinese neighborhoods
- Ⓞ Shopping
- Ⓞ Church services in different national churches where you can participate in testimony and special music
- Ⓞ Tour one of the biggest Gothic-style Catholic churches in the world
- Ⓞ Soul winning visitation and passing out gospel tracts
- Ⓞ Visit the cemetery
- Ⓞ See certain sights and pray over the city
- Ⓞ Trip to nearby cities such as Quilmes, Avellaneda, etc
- Ⓞ Possible airplane ride over the city of La Plata, if desired (cost - \$7/person)
- Ⓞ Possible trip to see the Atlantic Ocean and maybe the country of Uruguay (for this approximately \$100 more will need to be raised)
- Ⓞ Possible Spanish classes, if desired (preferably if staying for more than 2 weeks)



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APPLICATION FOR ARGENTINA MISSION TRIP

Complete and mail all four pages to Macedonia World Baptist Missions, P.O. Box 519, Braselton, GA 30517.
 Mark "Attn: BCWE Secretary."

General Information

1. Name: _____
2. Date of Birth: _____
3. Address: _____
4. Email Address: _____
5. Daytime Telephone: _____
6. Evening Telephone: _____
7. Church Membership: _____
8. Pastor: _____
9. Occupation: _____
10. Marital Status: _____

Medical Information

1. Please describe any medical condition that a doctor might need to know about on this trip!

2. What prescription medications do you take (generic name, strength, and frequency of dosage)?

3. Please describe your general health condition: _____
4. Please list any known allergies: _____
5. Doctor's name _____
6. Doctor's phone _____
7. In the event of an emergency, whom should we notify? _____
8. Relationship _____
9. Telephone _____

Ministry Information

1. Do you sing? (If so, please list what songs.) _____
2. Do you play an instrument? (If so, please list what instruments.) _____
3. Will you trust God to provide your funds to be able to pay for this trip? YES/NO
4. What other countries have you visited? _____
