# Travax Traveler Report

## **Itinerary**

## **Round Trip:**

United States → Argentina → United States

## **Health Concerns Summary**

The following may pose a risk or require preventive measures based on this itinerary. See the report sections below for details.

- Vaccine-Preventable Diseases: hepatitis A, hepatitis B, influenza, measles, mumps, rubella, meningococcal meningitis, rabies, typhoid fever, yellow fever
- Other Diseases: brucellosis, Chagas' disease (American trypanosomiasis), chikungunya, dengue, hantavirus, leishmaniasis, rickettsial infections, travelers' diarrhea, tuberculosis, West Nile virus, Zika

## Yellow Fever

## Requirement Information (for entry, per WHO)

#### Is yellow fever vaccine an official requirement for this itinerary?

**NO**. An official certificate showing vaccination is not required for entry by any country on the entered itinerary sequence, but view full details and see "YF Requirement Table" if there are additional transited countries.

**Visa application**: Proof of YF vaccination may be required for certain visa applicants. Travelers should contact the appropriate embassy or consulate with questions and, if it is required for their visa, carry the YF certificate with their passport on the day of travel.

#### Yellow Fever Requirement Table for this Itinerary

The following values result in the "NO" requirement result shown above (based on a round trip with United States as the home country):

Yellow Fever Requirement Table				
Country	Transm. Risk	Required if Coming From	Applies to Ages	See Note
UNITED STATES	No	None	None	
ARGENTINA	Yes	None	None	

## Recommendation Information (for health protection)

#### Is yellow fever vaccine a recommended protective measure for this itinerary?

YES. Vaccination is recommended for travel to areas of one or more countries on this itinerary.

#### **Individual Country Recommendations**

#### **Argentina**

Recommended for travelers 9 months of age and older: throughout the provinces of Misiones [4] and Corrientes [5] (see map). Vaccination is also recommended for travelers visiting Iguazú Falls. Daytime insect precautions are essential for unvaccinated travelers.

Not recommended except for highly risk-averse travelers and long-stay travelers: itineraries limited to Formosa Province [3]

and designated areas in the following provinces (see map): Jujuy [1], Salta [2], or Chaco [6]. Data analysis by WHO indicates extremely low potential for YF virus exposure.

Not recommended: itineraries limited to any areas not listed above.

## Travel Immunization Recommendations

## Hepatitis A

#### **Argentina**

Recommended for: all travelers.

## Typhoid fever

#### **Argentina**

Recommended for: most travelers, especially those with adventurous dietary habits; those without consistent access to safe food and water; prolonged stays; travel (especially in rural areas) outside of common tourist packages and other prearranged fixed itineraries.

Consider for: all risk-averse travelers desiring maximum pre-travel preparation.

#### Influenza

#### **Argentina**

Risk exists from May through October, although off-season transmission can occur.

Recommended for: all travelers during transmission season due to demonstrated influenza risk in this group.

#### **Vaccination Considerations**

#### **Argentina**

Travelers not already immunized with the currently available vaccine formulation should be vaccinated. Travelers immunized with the current formulation > 6 months earlier should consider revaccination because immunity may have declined. Consider oseltamivir as standby therapy, especially for those who are at high risk for complications from influenza or inadequately vaccinated.

## Hepatitis B

#### **Argentina**

Recommended for: prolonged stays; frequent short stays in this or other high risk countries; adventure travelers; the possibility of acupuncture, dental work, or tattooing; all health care workers; the possibility of a new sexual partner during the stay; injection drug users; and travelers with high potential to seek medical care in local facilities.

Increased awareness is recommended regarding safe sex and body fluid/blood precautions.

## Measles, mumps, rubella

#### **Argentina**

Indicated for those born in 1957 or later (1970 or later in Canada and U.K.; 1966 or later in Australia) without evidence of immunity or of 2 countable doses of live vaccine at any time during their lives. Also indicated for those born before 1970 (in Canada) without evidence of immunity or previous vaccination with 1 countable dose of measles-containing vaccine.

#### Polio

#### **Argentina**

Adult polio boosters are not recommended for travel to this country.

#### Rabies

#### **Argentina**

Risk from dogs is limited to Chaco, Formosa, Salta, and Jujuy provinces.

Recommended for prolonged stays: all travelers and expatriates to rural areas where risk exists, with a priority for young children.

Recommended for short stays: adventure travelers, hikers, cyclists, and cavers to rural areas where risk exists, especially to remote locations more than 24 hours' travel from a reliable source of human rabies immune globulin and rabies vaccine for postexposure treatment; animal workers (such as veterinarians and wildlife professionals); and all travelers likely to have contact with bats.

Dog, other terrestrial mammal, and bat bites or scratches should be taken seriously, and postexposure prophylaxis should be sought even in those already immunized.

## Meningococcal meningitis

#### **Argentina**

Meningococcal vaccination is routine in children in this country.

Meningococcal conjugate ACWY vaccine is recommended prior to departure if not previously given for: all long-stay children aged 3 months and older according to local dosing regimens.

## Routine Immunization Recommendations (adults only)

## Tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis

Due to increasingly frequent pertussis outbreaks worldwide, all travelers should receive Tdap vaccine every 10 years, assuming they previously received an adequate primary series. Those who received Td or TT for their most recent booster should receive an immediate dose of Tdap, regardless of the interval since the last tetanus dose.

#### Pneumococcal

Recommended for adults aged ≥ 65 years and all adults with chronic disease or immunocompromising conditions.

#### Varicella

Indicated for all persons born outside the U.S. or born in the U.S. after 1979, except not indicated for persons with an adequate vaccination history (2 lifetime doses), reliable evidence of previous infection, or laboratory confirmation of immunity.

### Malaria

No malaria present.

## Travelers' Diarrhea

#### **Argentina**

Moderate risk exists throughout the country, with minimal risk in deluxe accommodations. Food and beverage precautions may reduce the likelihood of illness.

Travelers should carry loperamide for self-treatment of diarrhea and a quinolone antibiotic to add if diarrhea is severe.

## Other Concerns

## Dengue

#### **Argentina**

Risk exists in urban and rural areas of northern and northeastern Argentina at elevations below 2,300 m (7,500 ft). Negligible risk exists in the city of Buenos Aires. Transmission occurs from December through April and is negligible the rest of the year. Daytime insect precautions are recommended.

## Chikungunya

#### **Argentina**

Low risk, without sustained transmission, is limited to elevations below 2,300 m (7,500 ft) in the northwestern provinces of Salta and Jujuy. Transmission occurs from January through May. Daytime insect precautions are recommended.

#### Zika

#### **Argentina**

Risk exists and is limited to elevations below 2,300 m (7,500 ft) in the northern provinces of Formosa, Salta, and Tucumán. Daytime insect precautions are recommended. Pregnant women (in any trimester) from nonaffected areas should not travel to affected areas in this country with an ongoing outbreak after new introduction since 2015.

#### **Tuberculosis**

#### **Argentina**

Tuberculosis (TB) is common in all developing countries and presents risk in certain developed countries. TB incidence in this country is 25-100 cases per 100,000 population, not the highest risk category.

A documented pre-departure interferon gamma release assay (IGRA), or alternatively a tuberculin skin test (TST), is recommended for stays longer than 1 month for health care workers and those with anticipated exposure in prisons, homeless shelters, refugee camps, or shanty towns.

Travelers should avoid public transportation and people who are coughing in crowded public places whenever possible. Domestic help should be screened for TB.

#### Rickettsial infections

#### **Argentina**

Low risk of infection caused by *Rickettsia rickettsii* exists and is limited to Jujuy Province. Tick precautions are recommended.

#### Leishmaniasis

### **Argentina**

Low risk of cutaneous and mucosal disease exists in northern provinces, mainly in Salta and Chaco provinces. No risk exists in Buenos Aires. Negligible risk of visceral disease exists in northern provinces. Evening and nighttime sandfly precautions are recommended.

## Air pollution

#### **Argentina**

Air quality is frequently unhealthy for sensitive groups.

Buenos Aires: People with lung disease and those at extremes of age should reduce prolonged or heavy outdoor exertion.

#### Brucellosis

#### **Argentina**

Risk exists throughout the country. Travelers are advised to avoid consumption of unpasteurized dairy products.

#### **Snakebites**

## **Argentina**

Risk of envenomation exists in areas with dense vegetation or rock formations, mainly in northern areas (especially in warm weather when snakes tend to be more active). Most snakebites result from startling snakes; do not disturb or handle snakes. Boots and long pants are recommended in high-threat situations. Medical care is indicated after any snakebite.

### West Nile virus

#### **Argentina**

Risk is limited to the northern half of the country, especially in Córdoba Province. Evening and nighttime insect precautions

are recommended for those with significant outdoor exposure in affected areas.

## Chagas' disease (American trypanosomiasis)

#### **Argentina**

Risk to travelers is unknown but is presumed to be low in rural areas limited to the northern provinces of the country, except Buenos Aires Province. Travelers should avoid overnight stays in houses constructed of mud, adobe brick, or palm thatch.

#### Hantavirus

### **Argentina**

Hantavirus, causing hantavirus pulmonary syndrome, occurs throughout most of the country, primarily in northwest (Jujuy and Salta) and central (Buenos Aires and Santa Fe) provinces. Risk is minimal for most travelers. Contact with mice and rats (including their excreta) in rural areas should be avoided.

Additional Information by Country

## **Argentina**

## **Medical Summary**

#### **General Information**

Argentina is an industrialized nation in the top 25% of the world's economies. Argentina is located between Chile and the Atlantic Ocean in South America. Its climate varies significantly but is mostly temperate.

#### **Medical Care**

Adequate private medical care that meets most international standards is available in Buenos Aires. Medical care throughout the rest of the country is inadequate and usually does not meet international standards. One or more JCI accredited hospitals are present in this country.

For a private ambulance in Buenos Aires, call Hospital Britanico de Buenos Aires at [+54] 11-4309-6451. For a public ambulance, call 911 or 107.

Hyperbaric chambers for diving injuries are located in Buenos Aires, Mar del Plata, Puerto Madryn, Quilmes, and Ushuaia.

Upfront payment by cash or credit card, up to the total of all anticipated charges, is generally required by hospitals catering to foreigners prior to services or treatment. Upfront payment of other than a modest deposit may be waived by hospitals that have existing cashless agreements with at least some major international insurance providers.

#### Consular Advice

The material below includes information from the U.S. Department of State (DOS), U.K. Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO), Global Affairs Canada (GAC), and Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), as well as from additional open-source material. Standard safety precautions that apply to all international travel can be found in the Library article Safety and Security.

#### Terrorism Risk

Low risk of attack by domestic terrorist groups exists in Buenos Aires. Targets may include domestic and international organizations and businesses.

### Crime

High risk of violent crime (armed robbery) and petty crime exists in Buenos Aires (Congreso, La Boca, Recoleta, Retiro, and San Telmo neighborhoods and Florida Street), Mendoza (General San Martín Park), and other cities throughout the country. Theft of valuables from unattended rental cars is common.

Express kidnappings to force cash withdrawals at ATMs may occur throughout the country.

Scams involving the use of distraction techniques to commit robbery (including squirting substances on victims) and charging exorbitant fees for services have been reported.

#### Civil Unrest

Protests and demonstrations frequently occur in major cities throughout the country, especially in Buenos Aires, and have the potential to turn violent without warning. Bystanders are at risk of harm from violence or from the response by authorities. Disruption to transportation, free movement, or ability to carry out daily activities may occur. Monitor local media and foreign embassy communications in anticipation of demonstrations.

#### Water Safety

Rent water sports equipment from reputable operators. Only scuba dive with personnel certified by PADI or NAUI and only use equipment from PADI- or NAUI-certified dive operators.

#### **Outdoor Safety**

Basic safety standards for adventure activities (including paragliding and recreational off-roading) may not be in place. Adventure sports equipment should only be rented from reputable operators.

### **Transportation Safety**

High risk of traffic-related injury or death exists. The road-traffic death rate is 12 to 24 per 100,000 population. The rate is < 10 in most high-income countries. Driving at night is not advised. Seek local advice before traveling on roads outside urban areas after dark.

Avoid public transportation due to safety and security concerns, including significant risk of pick-pocketing.

Many taxis are unsafe. Use taxis from official ranks or dispatched via smart phone app or radio from a reputable company. Ascertain the license or identification number of the dispatched vehicle.

### Airline Safety

U.S. Federal Aviation Administration has determined that the civil aviation authority of this country oversees its air carriers in accordance with minimum international safety standards.

#### **Natural Disasters**

Seasonal flooding frequently occurs in northern provinces, especially Buenos Aires Province.

Seismic and volcanic activity frequently occur, especially in the provinces of San Juan and Mendoza and other areas bordering Chile.

#### Consular Information

Selected Embassies or Consulates in Argentina

- United States: [+54] 11-5777-4533; argentina.usembassy.gov
- Canada: [+54] 11-4808-1000; www.argentina.gc.ca
- United Kingdom: [+54] 11-4808-2200; ukinargentina.fco.gov.uk/en
- Australia: [+54] 11-4779-3500; www.argentina.embassy.gov.au

Argentina's Embassies or Consulates in Selected Countries

- In the U.S.: www.embassyofargentina.us
- In Canada: www.ecana.mrecic.gob.ar/en
- In the U.K.: www.argentine-embassy-uk.org
- In Australia: www.argentina.org.au

#### Visa/HIV Testing

HIV testing is not required to obtain a tourist, work, or residence visa.

## **Basic Protective Measures**

Many travel-related health and safety problems can be significantly reduced through appropriate behavior by the traveler. Risk can be minimized by adherence to the following measures.

#### Health

#### Insect Precautions

- Wear clothing that exposes as little skin as possible.
- Apply a repellent containing N,N-diethyl-3-methylbenzamide (DEET; concentration, 30-35%); many brands are available.
- Alternatively apply a repellent containing picaridin (concentration, 20% or greater for tropical destinations).
  - Picaridin (also known as icaridin in some countries) products in the U.S. with 20% concentration include Natrapel (Tendercorp) and Picaridin Insect Repellent (Sawyer).
  - Picaridin, unlike DEET, has a pleasant smell and does not dissolve plastic materials.
- Treat clothing with permethrin (or another pyrethroid) when traveling in an area of very high risk for malaria or other mosquito-borne or tickborne diseases.
- Apply repellent to all exposed nonsensitive areas of the body. Frequent application ensures continuous protection.
  - Mosquitoes that transmit malaria (Anopheles mosquitoes) are generally night biters.
  - Mosquitoes that transmit organisms causing dengue, chikungunya, Zika, and yellow fever (Aedes mosquitoes) are generally day biters with peak biting times during the early morning and late afternoon hours.
  - Mosquitoes that transmit West Nile virus and Japanese encephalitis (*Culex* mosquitoes) are most active at dusk and again at dawn.
  - Sandflies that transmit leishmaniasis are active from dusk to dawn.
- Treat outer clothing, tents, and sleeping bag liners with permethrin (or other pyrethroid) when traveling in an area of very high risk for malaria or other mosquito-borne or tick-borne diseases.
- Sleep under a permethrin-impregnated bed net if you are not sleeping in a sealed air-conditioned room or if in an area where there is a high risk of malaria or Japanese encephalitis. Regularly check the net for rips and tears, and keep it tucked in around the bed at all times. Ensure that all open windows have insect screens.
- Use an aerosol insecticide before going to bed and a vaporizer device throughout the night.
- Use a smoldering pyrethroid coil outdoors to reduce flying insects.
- Perform a full body check at least once a day in areas where tickborne disease is a risk.
- Wear light-colored (not blue), heavyweight clothing in areas where African trypanosomiasis is a risk; DEET is generally ineffective.

#### Safe Food and Beverages

- Eat well-cooked, hot foods.
- Always wash hands before eating and after using the toilet.
- Avoid eating food from market stalls and street vendors.
- Avoid tap water and drinks or ice made from tap water, unless advised of their safety by a reliable source.
- Avoid buffets where food covers or fly controls are not used and where food has been sitting out for many hours.
- Avoid high-risk food such as shellfish, raw or undercooked foods, unpasteurized dairy products, mayonnaise, cold sauces/salsas, fruits you haven't peeled yourself, and salads. Use sealed bottled water or treated water for drinking and brushing teeth (See *Treating Water*).

#### Blood-Borne and Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs)

- Use condoms in all sexual encounters; unprotected casual sex, whether with local residents or with fellow travelers, always poses a high risk.
- Understand that inhibitions are diminished when traveling away from the social constraints of home; excessive use of alcohol and recreational drugs can influence behavior and encourage unintentional risk exposure.
- Avoid sexual relations with commercial sex workers.
- Avoid skin-perforating procedures (acupuncture, piercing, or tattooing).

- Unless in a life-threatening situation, avoid invasive medical or dental procedures in unaccredited medical facilities;
   request proof of accreditation by Joint Commission International or other international bodies.
- Consider carrying disposable needles, syringes, and sutures for remote travel.

#### Rabies

- Never assume that an animal or bat is free of rabies.
- Avoid entering caves due to the possibility of exposure to bats and their droppings.
- Do not handle or feed pets, unknown animals (especially dogs and monkeys), or bats. Children need to be closely supervised.
- If bitten, scratched, or licked on broken skin, cleanse the wound immediately with soapy water and seek postexposure prophylaxis for rabies (even if rabies vaccine was completed before exposure) or herpes B virus (transmitted by monkey bites).
- Consider minimizing going running or bicycling in high-risk rabies areas.

#### Skin/Wound Care

Extra vigilance, as outlined below, is recommended in this country.

- Clean any bite, cut, or broken skin with safe water. Broken skin may become infected and lead to serious problems Apply an antiseptic as a solution or spray.
- Increasing pain, redness, or discharge from a cut suggests a spreading infection and may require antibiotic treatment. Seek medical help if this occurs.
- In Africa, iron all clothes dried outdoors to avoid cutaneous myiasis due to the tumbu fly.
- Hats and sunscreen are mandatory in the tropics. Sunscreen should always be applied to skin before an application of DEET.

#### **Tuberculosis**

- · Practice hand hygiene diligently.
- As much as possible, avoid crowded public transportation or crowded public places that are poorly ventilated.
- Move away from anyone with a persistent or intense cough.
- Screen domestic workers for tuberculosis.
- If planning a long stay, have a tuberculosis skin test or tuberculosis blood test before departure, once per year thereafter, and on returning home.

#### Pre-Travel Checklist

- Pre-departure medical and dental exams are advised.
- Express any concerns about jet lag, altitude illness, or motion sickness to a travel health provider who may suggest suitable medications.
- Before departure, ensure adequate supplies of any medications for the full journey and that they are securely packaged
  in their original containers and carried in multiple places. Travelers should have a letter from a physician, stating the
  medical condition and the medications and/or medical supplies being carried. Carry all medicines in labeled prescription
  bottles.
- Prepare a compact medical kit that includes the following: Simple first-aid supplies, such as bandages, gauze, hemostatic gauze, antiseptic, antibiotic ointment, butterfly bandages, skin glue, and splinter forceps, a thermometer, antipyretic agents, antifungal creams, cough and cold remedies, antacids, hydrocortisone cream, and blister pads.
- Pack a spare pair of eyeglasses or contact lenses and adequate cleansing solution, if applicable.
- Pack sunglasses, wide-brimmed hats, sunscreen lotions, and lip protection to avoid sun exposure problems during travel.
- Always arrange adequate medical and evacuation insurance when traveling even for short trips. Ensure all preexisting
  medical issues are declared to the insurer so that non-covered conditions are ascertained in advance. Have the contact
  details recorded and accessible at all times during travel.
- Carry a list of contact information for hometown medical providers, health insurance carriers, and a medical assistance company, keeping it accessible at all times.
- Carry a list of medical conditions, allergies, and medications with dosages.

 Carry a copy of a recent electrocardiogram on a portable USB drive or make sure the electrocardiogram can be accessed on the Internet if you have cardiac disease.

## Safety

#### Safety and Crime Avoidance

- Use caution in tourist sites and crowded areas, on or near public transportation, and avoid marginal areas of cities.
- Be wary of any stranger who initiates conversation or physical contact in any way, no matter how accidental it may seem.
- Avoid using ATMs at night.
- Minimize visible signs of wealth in dress or jewelry.
- Give up valuables if confronted. Money and passports can be replaced; life cannot.
- Register foreign trip and residence information with the Department of State at travelregistration.state.gov (U.S. citizens only), which facilitates communication and assistance in case of an emergency.

#### Safety in the Hotel

- · Keep hotel doors locked at all times.
- Seek out and read fire safety instructions in the hotel room. Become familiar with escape routes upon arrival.
- Keep valuables in the room safe or the hotel safe.

Travax content represents decision-relevant, expert synthesis of real-time data reconciled with new and existing available advice from authoritative national and international bodies. Recommendations may differ from those of individual countries' public health authorities. Travax country-specific recommendations pertain to healthy adult travelers. Guidance regarding pediatric and special needs travelers can be found under the relevant topic in the Travax Library.

© 2017 Shoreland, Inc. All rights reserved.