

Uruguay

Continent: South America

Languages Spoken: Spanish

Population: 3,500,000

Currency: Uruguayan Peso (UYU)

Area: 176,215

Main Landmarks:

- {'name': 'Plaza Independencia', 'writeup': 'The main square in Montevideo, featuring the statue of national hero José Artigas and surrounded by historic buildings.'}
- {'name': 'Casapueblo', 'writeup': 'A building near Punta del Este designed by artist Carlos Páez Vilaró, serving as a museum, art gallery, and hotel.'}
- {'name': 'Colonia del Sacramento', 'writeup': 'A UNESCO World Heritage site known for its well-preserved colonial architecture and cobblestone streets.'}
- {'name': 'Palacio Salvo', 'writeup': 'An iconic skyscraper in Montevideo that was once the tallest building in South America.'}
- {'name': 'Punta del Este Lighthouse', 'writeup': 'A historic lighthouse offering panoramic views of the Atlantic coast and the city.'}

Head of State / Government:

President Luis Lacalle Pou

Main Cultural Events:

- {'name': 'Carnival', 'writeup': 'A vibrant celebration featuring parades, music, and traditional candombe drumming lasting over 40 days.'}
- {'name': 'Semana Criolla', 'writeup': 'A festival celebrating rural traditions, including rodeos, folk music, and traditional food.'}
- {'name': 'Festival Internacional de Jazz de Punta del Este', 'writeup': 'An annual jazz festival attracting international and local musicians.'}

Food & Cuisine:

Uruguayan cuisine is known for its beef, especially asado (barbecue), chivito (a steak sandwich), and mate, a traditional herbal tea widely consumed.

Brief History:

Uruguay gained independence in 1828 after conflicts involving Spain, Portugal, Brazil, and Argentina. It developed as a democratic nation with a strong welfare state and progressive social policies.

Important People:

- José Artigas - National hero and leader of the independence movement
- Juana de Ibarbourou - Renowned poet
- Luis Suárez - Internationally famous footballer

- Mario Benedetti - Influential writer and poet

Current Conflicts:

Uruguay is currently peaceful with no significant internal or external conflicts.

Youtube Links:

- Discover Uruguay: A South American Gem
- Top 10 Things to Do in Uruguay
- Uruguay Travel Guide - Montevideo & Beyond
- The Culture and Traditions of Uruguay
- Uruguay's History and Modern Society Explained