



## Buenos Aires, Argentina

### 2012 Course Dates:

- Jan 2 - Jan 27, 2012
- Jan 30 - Feb 24, 2012
- Feb 27 - Mar 23, 2012
- Mar 26 - Apr 24, 2012
- May 2 - May 30, 2012
- Jun 1 - Jun 29, 2012
- Jul 2 - Jul 27, 2012
- Jul 30 - Aug 24, 2012
- Aug 27 - Sep 21, 2012
- Sep 24 - Oct 19, 2012
- Oct 22 - Nov 16, 2012
- Nov 19 - Dec 14, 2012

**Buenos Aires Course Fee:** US\$ 1,995

**Accommodation:** Approximately US\$ 580-740

The capital of the largest Spanish-speaking country on the continent, Buenos Aires is a bustling city of over 9 million people. Its French-style architecture, Italian heritage, and general cultural sophistication give it a distinctly elegant feel, earning it the nickname “The Paris of South America.” Add to that a vibrant populace, a nightlife that never stops, and shopping and dining galore, and it’s hard to imagine a more enjoyable city than Buenos Aires.

This complex, energetic, and seductive port city, which stretches south-to-north along the Rio de la Plata, has been the gateway to Argentina for centuries. Portenos, as the multinational people of Buenos Aires are known, possess an elaborate and rich cultural identity. They value their European heritage highly--Italian and German names outnumber Spanish, and the lifestyle and architecture are markedly more European than any other in South America. One of the world's finest opera houses, the Teatro Colon, flourishes here on the plains alongside the river. Portenos are intensely involved in the life and culture of their city, and they will gladly share the secrets of Buenos Aires if you lend an ear and relate your own stories in return

## TEFL Training Center



Completely renovated in 2008, our spacious TEFL training center in Buenos Aires offers first-class facilities in a historic part of town. There are two fully equipped classrooms for the use of our TEFL classes, a comfortable work area for planning lessons, a small computer lab, as well as free WiFi. There is also a patio for coffee breaks and a terrace for the occasional asado (BBQ).

The training center is located in San Telmo, one of the most traditional and picturesque neighborhoods in Buenos Aires. Within walking distance are the many restaurants, bars, and cafés that make San Telmo popular with tourists and locals alike. Also within walking distance is the famous Plaza Dorrego where you will always find something interesting going on. For trips further afield, there is excellent public transportation in the city including trains, subways, buses, and even ferries to neighboring Uruguay.

Buenos Aires continues to be one of our most popular TEFL course locations—and there's no lack of reasons why. The city is renowned internationally for world-class soccer teams, thriving tango culture, scrumptious cuisine (especially beef), and, more recently, for amazingly affordable prices. It would take you a lifetime to experience the sights and sounds the city has to offer. But after getting certified to teach English in Argentina, you may just want to stick around and give it a try!

## Teaching English in Argentina



Argentina benefits from a highly literate populace which places a premium on education—including English language instruction. Once among the wealthiest countries in South America, Argentina has had its fair share of economic woes in recent years. The good news is that since 2002 the economy has grown, poverty has declined, and there has been a strong rebound of the middle class. As the nation forges ahead, more and more people are realizing the importance of—and are able to afford—English language classes.

Almost half of Argentina's population lives in the province of Buenos Aires, and many of the nation's English teaching jobs can be found there. As a TEFL teacher in Buenos Aires, you will likely find the most work teaching English to professionals and business executives. However, you may also have the opportunity to tutor students studying for exams, families preparing for a trip abroad, or others looking to improve their English skills.

## The Importance of English in Argentina:

If you think Argentina's recent economic woes make it difficult to find a job teaching English in Buenos Aires, think again. The worldwide truth is that English is becoming more of a necessity and less of a luxury to be chopped when budgets get tight. Thus, despite an economy that is struggling to right itself, EFL jobs are out there in Buenos Aires. And you needn't look far to find them.

Native English speakers are a prized commodity in this stretch of the world and, with just a little legwork, can find placement in classrooms around the city in a matter of weeks or even days. Assignments cover an astounding, and entertaining, array of classroom environments, curricular programs and student demographics. Recent placements for new TEFL teachers in Buenos Aires have included a class of employees of a local brewery, at-home conversation practice for teenage brothers moving to the U.S., and private lessons on fishing terminology for a man preparing for an upcoming vacation.

Work in Buenos Aires can be found in a number of ways. A highly effective one is simply to contact the dozens of English institutes located throughout the city.

## Food and Clothing:

Argentines are famous for their high protein diet, particularly beef. Grilled meat from the asado is a staple, with steak and beef ribs especially common. Chorizo (pork sausage), morcilla (blood sausage), chinchulines (chitterlings), mollejas (sweetbread), and other parts of the animal are enjoyed. In Patagonia, lamb and chivito (goat) are eaten more than beef. Whole lambs and goats can be seen on the asado. Chimichurri, a sauce of herbs, garlic and vinegar, is often used as an accompaniment (most Argentines have a relatively delicate palate and do not include chili in their version of chimichurri).



Breaded and fried meat (schnitzel)— milanesas — are used as snacks, in sandwiches or eaten warm with mashed potatoes— purée. Empanadas — small pastries of meat, cheese, sweet corn and a hundred other varieties — are a common sight for parties, starters and picnics across Argentina. Another variation is the "empanada gallega" (Galician empanada), which has a round shape and is more like a big, round meat pie made mostly of tuna. Vegetables and salads are important too for Argentines, even beyond the fried or mashed potato. Tomatoes, onions, lettuce, eggplants, squashes and zucchini are common sides.

Just as much as beef, Italian staples, such as pizza and al dente pasta, are eaten. Fideos, Tallarines, ñoquis, ravioles and canelones can be bought freshly-made in many establishments in the larger cities. Italian-style ice cream is served in large parlours and even drive-through businesses

An important element of the local culture revolves around dress. The dress code in Argentina is fairly formal and Argentineans take pride in their appearance and efforts are made to look presentable at all times. Fashion is considered important and the latest European styles are usually worn. In restaurants, it is common for men to wear a suit and tie for the occasion.

## Climate:

Summer (December to February) is hot and humid, while winter (June to August) is temperate. Rainfall is frequent during spring and autumn.

## Accommodation:

For our TEFL courses in Buenos Aires a wide variety of accommodation options are available locally. Accommodation prices in Buenos Aires start from about 400 dollars for the duration of the course. Accommodation is plentiful in Buenos Aires, and finding something to suit you shouldn't be

a problem. Most TEFL course trainees rent a room in a shared house or apartment if they intend to remain in Buenos Aires for a while. Hostels and homestays are better suited to short stay or as a temporary base for locating something more permanent. Please contact Via Lingua for details of the various accommodation options.

## Communication, Telephone and Internet:

Be careful about using roaming with your non-Argentinean mobile - it can get very expensive quickly! Our guide is packed with information on telecom providers, tariffs and tips on saving money on international calls. Using prepaid calling cards is straightforward once you understand how they work. All you need is the right access number to dial and a PIN number.

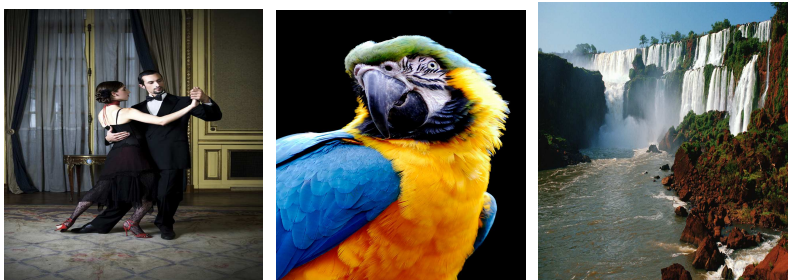
The high investments in telecommunications in Argentina are easy to notice by the high amount of internet cafés in the main Argentinean cities. Even smaller cities and villages have internet connections. Be aware however that internet speed varies widely, as do opening hours. Internet cafés open 24 hours can be found in major cities.

The high number of internet cafés also means that many places offer additional services: scanning, faxing, copiers, online gaming, food, sales of telephone and computer products

Most internet cafes offer the possibility to pay for a set period of time or for an unlimited stay. Internet time is purchased in advance and will generally not be refunded. Rates at internet cafes are approximately AR\$ 1 for 15 minutes.

One important thing to keep in mind that internet cafés and calling centres are places frequented by tourists. Pickpockets know this very well. At all times keep an eye on your belongings! Another point of importance is false money. In places frequented by foreigners, the chance of running into fake banknotes is higher. This issue is also discussed in the Money chapter. In short, Argentina has a relatively high circulation of falsified money and as a foreigner you are a good target for receiving it as you are less likely to notice.

## Excursions and Cultural Highlights:



The spirit of tango oozes from every corner of Buenos Aires. Milongas (tango nights) blend the familiarity of a social club with the elegance of a 1930s ballroom dance. Etiquette is king at venues such as La Calesita: men and women are seated on either sides and procuring a partner involves an intricate code of subtle nods and eyebrow twitches. The traditional milongas attract the older crowd, but several welcome novices: visit Tango Cool, La Viruta and La Marshall.

It's hard not to think of Evita when visiting the presidential palace, Casa Rosada. Check out the balcony on which the Peróns spoke to the people and the spot where Madonna belted out her famous

Argentina ballad in the film Evita. Then head to the Museo Evita, housed in an aristocratic residence that Peron expropriated to convert into a women's shelter for his wife's welfare agency. Gaze at paintings and posters, as well as fabulous outfits (and jewellery) that she wore on tours of Europe.

With over 200 species of birds, scuttling iguanas as well as joggers and cyclists, the Reserva Ecológica Constanera Sur is a multi-purpose green space. In this nature reserve, four lakes, giant pampas grass, willows and shrubs create a lush habitat for local wildlife, as well as keen exercisers. Here, you can join around 15,000 visitors who descend here to picnic and enjoy a spot of bird watching in peace. Moonlight tours are organised once in a while, but make sure that you book ahead of time.

## Special Offers:

Via Lingua has announced the first annual "**Ernestine Moore**" **Scholarship Award** to be offered to a deserving candidate in 2009 to any of the Via Lingua locations for a one-month intensive TEFL Course, including Free Job Placement! Ernestine Moore was a lifelong advocate of education and worked tirelessly to promote educational opportunities for children and young adults. Through her personal and professional advocacy in the field of Social Work and Children's Rights she had a lasting contribution to her field and all those around her. She lived and practiced Service Learning. The author of the widely adopted college textbook "Child Welfare and Family Services: Policies and Practice", Ernestine was a staunch supporter of Via Lingua and its dedication to global learning and multicultural understanding for all ages.

## Double-up discount:

Book together with a friend for the same course and you can both claim a 100 EUR discount on the advertised price. Offer applies to all course dates and locations. We can also arrange for you to share the same accommodation if required.