

RIVER PLATE OUTFITTERS

La Zona Dorado Fishing & Dove Shooting

PRE-TRIP INFORMATION

PRICE

Shooting: \$495 per person, per day, plus shells, Argentine gun permits and tips. (Two night/four shoot minimum)

Fishing: \$995 per person, per day, plus lures and tips (Either two days or four days)

All La Zona fishing trips begin with a Sunday night arrival.

TRAVEL/OPTIONAL HUNTING

Guests will need to fly from either Miami, New York, Atlanta, Houston, Dallas or Los Angeles to Buenos Aires, Argentina. All flights depart the U.S. late evening and arrive in Buenos Aires early to mid-morning. A passport is required to enter Argentina. Visas are not required.

Accommodations for the first part of the trip are at beautiful Estancia Santa Rosa, near the Entre Rios Province town of Gualeguay—three hours northeast by van from Buenos Aires. The dorado fishing area is three hours north of Santa Rosa. On the arrival day you hunt doves in the afternoon, then a full day or two more, then again the next morning, have lunch and travel up to La Zona/Salto Grande later that afternoon, arriving in time for settling in, cocktails and dinner. Accommodations there are at the lovely Horacio Quiroga Resort Hotel.

If you are fishing-only, you are driven 5 1/2 hours directly to the Horacio Quiroga. Air charters are available.

✎ IMPORTANT ✎

Upon your return to the U.S., the Customs authorities frequently require you to have proof-of-ownership of your firearms. WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND that you take a copy of the purchase receipt, or register your guns with U.S. Customs (personal effects form 4457) prior to your departure from the U.S. This can be accomplished at your international departure city airport. PLEASE DO THIS TO AVOID ANY HASSLES.

SEASONS/CLIMATE/CLOTHING

Prime season for both fishing and shooting is September—April. Those months are Argentina's spring, summer and fall (the opposite of our seasons). Lows will be 50° to 60°. Highs run 60° to 90°, depending on the season.

The fishing clothing/equipment list is on the following page.

For the shooting, use dark green/brown or camo clothes with a corresponding hat. Ankle-height shoes or boots are perfectly adequate. Always take a raincoat to the field. Evening wear will be very informal—whatever is most comfortable, including hunting clothes if you wish.

ROD & REELS

The outfitter includes the use of first-class spinning and baitcasting equipment in the price. Anglers are welcome to bring their own rods and reels—suggestions are on the following page. Good lures will be available for purchase at the fishing area. **Fly fishermen will need to bring all of their own equipment and flies.**

GUNS/CHOKES

Most shooters rent guns on this trip. However, you may opt to bring your own guns. 12, 20 or 28-gauge are all suitable. For chokes, we suggest improved/modified for double guns and modified for single barrels. Make sure your guns are in good working order before you leave—this is high-volume shooting in a rural area, away from gunsmiths. Take extra parts for repair if you have them. Gun cleaning equipment is available at the lodge.

You should transport your guns in lockable hard cases, or packed well in a duffel bag. Even in a hard case, the gun must be disassembled. We also suggest a lightweight, storable soft case to carry guns into the field. ***Of course, none of this applies if you rent guns.***

SHELLS/GUN RENTAL

All shells should be purchased in Argentina. Cost of shells will be \$12-\$13/box for 28, 20 and 12 ga. (These prices are subject to change.) Payment for shells can be made with cash or a personal check, and will be handled as you depart. Traveler's checks or credit cards are not accepted.

PRE-TRIP INFORMATION

Good-condition Benelli and Beretta autoloaders and Browning over/unders are available to rent in 20 or 12 gauge at \$50/gun per day. If you rent, you avoid the \$100/gun permit fee and the hassle of gun clearance at the airport.

SHOOTING LIMITS

Bag limits in most provinces of Argentina are very liberal, and on some species that are considered “plagues” there are no limits. The dove shooting in Entre Rios is in this category, and consequently, there are no limits. Hunters generally shoot from 1,000 to 1,500 rounds a day, sometimes more, depending on conditions and personal inclination.

ITEMS TO INCLUDE FOR SHOOTING

- Shooting safety glasses—yellow for dark days, dark for sun
- Thin, soft leather shooting gloves or adhesive tape to protect hands and fingers while loading and firing
- Shell bag or vest
- Ear plugs for protection while shooting
- Shoulder pad recoil reduction device (optional)
- Camera with extra battery
- Small container of bug repellent
- Light raincoat (brown, green, camo, etc.)
- Small backpack or field bag
- Copy of passport—packed separately
- Multi-tool or pocketknife
- Reading glasses and reading material
- Toiletry items
- Prescription drugs
- Zip-lock bag or case to protect camera
- Lip balm
- Travel alarm clock and small flashlight
- Garbage bags for dirty laundry

ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR DORADO FISHING

- Cotton or microfiber shirts for fishing and lodge wear
- T-shirts
- Several pairs of cotton or microfiber shorts (depending on the season.)
- Several pairs of casual pants for fishing and lodge wear
- Boat shoes
- Fishing hat
- Line clippers or scissors
- Small wire cutters
- Knife
- Hook sharpener
- Small lure boxes/fly boxes
- Fishing pack or vest

- Amber polarized fishing glasses
- Fishing pliers
- Fishing gloves

For fly fishermen only:

- 40-50 lb. range of tippet material
- Plastic-coated 40-50 lb. wire tippet material

FLIES

- Large muddler/deceiver flies #3 to #5/0 in combinations of yellow, orange, black, red, and blue with lots of flash and some with white underbellies. 5 to 7” in length

NOTE: The above flies can be ordered from Custom Rod & Fly Co. (830) 522-4032 (e-mail address: jwdawn@ktc.net). Please order well in advance of your departure.

FLY FISHING TACKLE

- 9’ to 10’ fly rod for 9 to 10-weight line
- Reel for 9 to 10 weight rod
- Floating fly line for 9 to 10 weight rods
- Fast sink tip line for 9 to 10 weight rods

BAITCASTING/SPINNING TACKLE

- Medium heavy/heavy 7 foot rods
- Medium baitcasting/spinning reel
- We suggest braided lines such as Spectra, Spiderwire and Superbraid in 40-65 pound test.
- 40-50 lb. wire leaders with strong swivels in “coast-lock” style.
- Extra spools of braided fishing line in 40-65 pound test.

CATCH AND RELEASE:

In the spirit of sportsmanship and preserving our world-class fishing, catch and release is required for all species.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS/OPTIONAL SIGHTSEEING

All guests will be provided with a sheet of phone contacts prior to their departure, and we are in constant contact with our outfitters and our transfer agency—both organizations do an outstanding job of communication. We are happy to arrange for Buenos Aires sightseeing and hotels, or additional tourism elsewhere in Argentina.

CURRENCY

The official currency of Argentina is the peso. The exchange rate is roughly three pesos to the dollar. You will need cash in dollars or pesos for the gun permits (if applicable) and also for the airport departure tax (around \$18). Visa, MasterCard and American Express are widely accepted in larger cities.

PRE-TRIP INFORMATION

TRIP CANCELLATION & BAGGAGE INSURANCE

We offer applications through *Travel Insured International*. You may want to check your homeowners insurance for coverage of your shotguns and baggage contents while traveling.

ELECTRIC CURRENT

220 volts; a standard converter and European adapter for two-pronged plugs should work fine.

GRATUITIES

Gratuities for hotel and field staff are not included in the hunt cost, and we suggest \$50 per day per shooter in cash as a general guideline. This will be distributed by the outfitters to luggage handlers, pick-up boys, and lodge staff. A pair of anglers should tip \$50 total per day to their fishing guide. All tips can be paid at the end of the trip.

If you spend some time in Buenos Aires, the standard restaurant tip is 10 to 15%.

TIME

When we are on Daylight Savings Time here in the U.S., Argentina is Eastern Time plus one hour (it's later in Argentina). The remainder of the year they are Eastern Time plus two hours.

IN BUENOS AIRES

Shopping: Most shops are generally open all day to 7 p.m. on weekdays and until 1 p.m. on Saturdays. Florida Street is for pedestrians only and is lined with many attractive shops. One example is Mundo del Cuero (World of Leather) which houses two dozen leather goods merchants.

Restaurants: In the stylish Puerto Madero area near the downtown Yacht Club, we suggest Cabana Las Lilas for steaks and mixed-grill.

In the Recoleta (an upscale area near downtown with good shopping and sidewalk cafes), we suggest Lola for Mediterranean or Las Nazarenas for mixed-grill.

Keep in mind that Buenos Aires is a dynamic dining environment—even with these recommendations, it is still wise to ask your transfer agent or hotel concierge for suggestions, and to assist with reservations for any restaurant. You should plan on eating a little later than you may be used to in the U. S.—many Argentines don't eat dinner until 10 p.m., and most restaurants do not begin serving dinner until 8:30 p.m.

HELPFUL HINTS

Get to the airport early on your day of departure. You will have spent a lot of money on the trip, so start off on the right foot. Carry some bills in small denominations for tips, airport meters, snacks, etc.

Check the expiration date on your passport. Some countries require that the passport is valid for as much as one year from your date of entry. And, as mentioned earlier, take a photocopy of the photo page of the passport, in case you lose the original. The copy will greatly facilitate the process of securing a new one.

Plan for rain. Always take a raincoat (in hunting colors if shooting) and **always take it with you** on each outing. It's amazing how many wet hunters/fishermen have a nice dry raincoat in their guestroom at the lodge. If it doesn't rain, they make an excellent outer shell for cool mornings.

Pack sensibly. Try to use soft-sided luggage and take only as much clothing as you will need. **Always take your passport, airline tickets, medications, camera equipment, valuables and a change of clothes in a carry-on such as a backpack or small valise.**

Bandannas are a good idea for protecting your neck against the sun, and they work well as an emergency headcover if you misplace your hat and need to protect your slightly balding head.

Bring two pairs of sunglasses.