

# Uruguay *River* *Cruise*

Ports of call  
and destinations  
2023



**UruguayNatural**  
Ministerio de Turismo



ADMINISTRACIÓN NACIONAL DE PUERTOS  
República Oriental del Uruguay

# Uruguay

Uruguay, a country deeply connected to nature, boasts a diverse range of landscapes and numerous tourist attractions situated within proximity to one another. The ongoing enhancement of infrastructure underscores the commitment to providing visitors with top-notch services and an unforgettable experience.

The introduction of the Tax Free system exemplifies the nation's dedication to providing added advantages to tourists. Furthermore, Uruguay's advantageous geographical position, fertile lands, globally competitive prices, and a meticulously organized and reliable financial and legal system collectively position it as an appealing and secure opportunity for investment.

## Currency

Currency exchange in Uruguay is possible at any bank or exchange house. Major credit and debit cards are widely accepted. The local currency is the Uruguayan Peso.

## Accommodation

In recent years, Uruguay has expanded its accommodation options. From budget lodgings, campsites and guests-houses, to five-star hotels with conference halls, golf courses, polo fields, swimming pools, spa and a full range of amenities. Other types of accommodation offering a wide range of services are tourist farms and natural hot springs resorts. Additionally, it is possible to rent houses all year round in coastal cities as well as in the rest of the country.

## Average temperature

Summer and spring varies between 21°C / 32°C

Winter and autumn varies between 6°C / 17°C

## Communications

Uruguay has an extensive telecommunication system. The country's telecommunications technology is 100% digital with broadband Internet service. The modern well-connected roads and highway system allows visitors to easily reach any part of the country. It is also possible for visitors to find free Wi-Fi spots around different cities.

## Suggested ports and destinations for cruises on the Uruguay River

The suggested routes are based in Montevideo or Colonia del Sacramento. For the embarkation and disembarkation of passengers, Montevideo has a modern port with the advantage of having an airport only 20 km away from it. Colonia del Sacramento has a commercial port specialized in passenger traffic from and to Buenos Aires, Argentina. Additionally, this city has a marina for private boats used for leisure by their owners. Close to Colonia del Sacramento it is possible to find another beautiful city located on the Uruguay River, this city is called Carmelo. It has a fluvial terminal specialized in passengers traffic from and to El Tigre, Buenos Aires, Argentina and apart from it in the same fluvial channel berths for private boats also used for leisure by their owners. To improve passenger connections Carmelo also has a small airport very close to the port.



The National Port Authority, grants the berthing of the ships in the period requested by the owner to allow the boarding and disembarkation of the passengers and crew members. In order to study these suggested routes for cruises, this document offers a detailed description of the port facilities and tourist attractions in the different destinations.

# Montevideo





## Port Facilities

### Passenger Terminal

The Port has a specialized terminal for embarking and disembarking passengers. The terminal has a scanner, customs, and immigration controls.

### Services:

- Remise and taxis services
- Restaurant and coffee shop
- Duty free shop
- Car rental
- Money exchange
- Wi-Fi

### Docking:

Cruise ships have berthing priority for stays longer than 24 hours.

### Ship services:

- Tugboats
- Fresh water
- Ship suppliers: local and internationally recognized companies
- Disposal removal: bilge water removal and solid disposals done by private companies that operate after passengers disembark
- Sewage discharge: direct connection from the ship to the internal Port of Montevideo drainage system

## Tourist Destination

Attractive, accessible, safe and diverse. Montevideo offers history, colonial and modern architecture, fine dining and a wide variety of accommodation. Visitors can enjoy a rich cultural heritage, which includes both tango and candombe, as well as the longest carnival in the world, museums, art galleries, bookstores, shopping malls, markets, antique shops, theaters, bars, discos, milongas, and design and aesthetics studios in addition to attractive locations.

### Tourist Attractions

Old City, Jewish heritage sites, Solis Theater, Legislative Palace, Salvo Palace, Centenario Stadium, variety of museums, vineyards, Plaza Zabala, Plaza Independencia.

### Brief Description of circuits

- Enjoy a steam train ride coupled with city visits.
- Stroll through the Old City or Pocitos neighborhood on a walking tour.
- Explore the city's historic and cultural sites on a bike tour, covering a flat area for easy enjoyment.
- Immerse yourself in Montevideo's Jewish Heritage with a tour that includes visits to synagogues.
- Experience the vibrant rhythms of Tango and Folklore with a show, either on board or as a captivating conclusion to a tour.
- Dive into the excitement of Carnival with specialized tours, including visits to the Carnival Museum, attendance at a troupe rehearsal, or, if timing allows, witnessing one of the carnival parades.
- Embark on a day tour to a typical farm to gain insights into Uruguayan customs and agriculture.
- Participate in a Uruguayan wine workshop for a delightful tasting experience.
- Attend a dinner show featuring traditional national dances.
- Discover the city's highlights on a comprehensive City Tour.



# Colonia





## Colonia Fluvial Passengers Terminal - Port Facilities

### Passenger Terminal

State of the art terminal which receives around two million passengers per year. It has a scanner, customs and Immigration control.

### Services:

- Money exchange
- Coffee shop
- Souvenir's shop
- Car rental
- Wi-Fi
- ATM
- Taxi service
- Tourist information

### Docking:

the Port has three docks. The ocean going dock is protected on the south by a breakwater: The Ocean going dock has a total length of 146 meters, the coastal traffic dock is 115 meters long, and the Union dock is 200 meters long.

### Ship services:

- Fresh water supply
- Ship suppliers
- Disposal removal
- Bilge water removal





## Marina Colonia - Port Facilities

### Marina

Protected by a breakwater called “Santa Rita”, this marina has 2 docks with a length of 220 meters and a capacity of 100 berths. This dock is used as a public promenade, and it is usual to receive boat races organized by Argentinean yachting clubs.

### Services:

- Toilet + showers
- Surveillance
- Single phase electricity (220v/50hz) plus basic elements for connection
- Ramp
- Potable water
- Wi-Fi

## Tourist Destination

Enchanting city- wherever you walk you breath culture. Declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1995. Its houses, cobblestone streets, typical lanterns and sunsets recall the history, and offer a unique landscape.

### Tourist Attractions

Historic Quarter of Colonia del Sacramento, Real de San Carlos, Plaza de Toros, Street of Sighs, variety of museums, Anchorena Park, Vineyards.

### Brief Description of circuits

- Explore the historic center of Colonia by foot or golf cart.
- Visit a cheesemaker for a delectable cheese tasting experience.
- Explore Anchorena Park, a current presidential retreat.
- Embark on a boat tour around the surroundings of Colonia.
- Immerse yourself in a captivating Tango and Folklore Show, either on board or as a finale to a tour.
- Embark on a day tour to a traditional farm to gain insights into Uruguayan customs.
- Discover the bullring, recently restored. The Real de San Carlos Bullring, declared a National Historic Monument, was inaugurated in 1910 for the staging of bullfighting events, which were banned in Uruguay two years later.
- Discover Conchillas, located 50 km from Colonia, through an informative tour.
- Explore La Paz, Colonia Valdense, and Colonia Suiza on a comprehensive tour.





## Carmelo Fluvial Passenger Terminal - Port Facilities

### Passenger Terminal

This 240m<sup>2</sup> terminal connects passengers arriving and departing from El Tigre in Argentina to the city of Carmelo.

### Services:

- Departure lounge area
- Baggage scanner control
- Customs control
- Immigration control
- Parking

### Docking:

the dock has a length of 118 meters plus a ramp that connects it to the terminal.



## Marina Carmelo - Port Facilities

Protected by a breakwater, has an esplanade of 2315.5m<sup>2</sup> and a dock with a length of 676.6 meters with a capacity of 134 berths.

### Services:

- Single phase electricity (220v/50hz) plus basic elements for connection.
- Potable water (to use this service, it is necessary to have a hose)
- Ramp with a width of 7.87 meters
- Toilet and showers
- 24 hour surveillance
- Camping facilities for sailors
- Sinks, grills, tables and benches
- Promenade accessible to the public

## Tourist Destination

Emblematic of the "Uruguay Natural" concept: a place to relax, to try good food and drink.

### Tourist Attractions

The only city founded by José Artigas, Uruguay's national hero. Calera de las Huerfanas, suspension bridge, San Roque Chapel, wineries.

### Brief Description of circuits

- Explore a spectrum of nautical activities.
- Glide through serene waters with a canoe ride.
- Embark on exciting fishing excursions.
- Experience the beauty of the landscape through horseback riding.
- Engage in the art of crafting your own Grappa.
- Indulge in local wine tasting at esteemed wineries with the option for a delightful lunch.
- Immerse yourself in a tour of the Longo Family Olive Oil Producers, featuring a captivating tour and olive oil tasting.
- Discover the craftsmanship of old trades, including carpentry, shoemaking, blacksmithing, and pasta production.
- Uncover the treasures of an auction house and antique shop.



# Fray Bentos





## Port Facilities

### Passenger Terminal

The port has modern facilities for operations with passengers and has a direct connection to the city.

### Services:

- Tugboats
- Fresh water
- Electricity supply

### Docking:

two ocean-going docks more than 200 meters long. The port yards have an area of more than 40,000m<sup>2</sup> to accommodate services for passengers.

## Tourist Destination

Fray Bentos is the capital city of the Department of Rio Negro, which emerged in the nineteenth's century under the influence of the meat industry. Here was installed one of the most important industrial establishment in the country, the internationally renowned Liebig slaughterhouse. Today it is a UNESCO World Heritage Site recognized as part of the Industrial Cultural Landscape.

### Tourist Attractions

Industrial Revolution Museum, Liebig - Anglo slaughterhouse, Luis Solari Museum, Hargain Square, Young Theater, the waterfront promenade, Roosevelt Park Summer Theater, Constitution square, Church of Our Lady of Pilar, Bioparque M'Bopicuá.

### Brief Description of circuits

- Guided tours to the Industrial Revolution Museum and the manufacturing plant.
- Historical cultural city tour visiting the most important sites in the city.
- Visit the local Microbrewery and taste the artisanal beers.
- Bike tour in Anglo's neighborhood.
- Church boat tour along the Uruguayan River
- Bioparque M'Bopicuá: 150 hectare reserve with a wildlife breeding station, an interpretive trail with native flowers and a historic area of great cultural value.
- Las Cañas beach is known for its fine white sands bordered by native forest.
- Facing the river you can taste an exquisite dorado (typical fish) prepared in a variety of ways.







# Closer destinations



## Nuevo Berlín

A small town which is one of the gateways to the Protected Area "Parque Nacional Esteros de Farrapos e Islas del Río Uruguay", system of river wetlands, islands and islets, which are flooded permanently and / or temporarily as a result of the flooding of the Uruguay River. From here can be seen the largest number of islands and islets of the protected area that concentrate a wide variety of vegetation.

Approximate distance from Fray Bentos: 45 km.

### Brief Description of circuits

- Walking tour visiting the most important tourist point of the town.
- Ecotourism trail "La Yeguada" where you can see native flora and fauna and approach to the indigenous past through the archaeological site.
- Boat tours to the islands that make up the Parque Nacional Esteros de Farrapos e Islas del Río Uruguay.
- Honey tasting extracted from the protected area.
- Fishing trips on the Uruguay River.



## Villa Soriano

Founded in 1624, the town is a National Historic Landmark due to its colonial period features and cultural attractions.

Distance from Fray Bentos: 70 km.

### **Tourist Attractions**

Ancient but recently restored dock adapted to receive ships, the first River Station, the emblematic chapel with the only articulated Christ of the country, museums, murals painted by artists.

### **Brief description of Circuits**

- Cultural and historical city tour visiting the most popular attractions in the village.
- Bike tour around the town to appreciate large and various styles murals painted by local and international artist.
- Boat tours to explore the many sights of the Río Negro River and islands.
- Birdwatching and Nature Tours by boat.
- Fishing excursions with local guide.
- Kayaking down the river.
- Timijú Workshop: native pottery classes with local artisans.

# Further destinations





## Piriápolis - Port Facilities

Protected by a breakwater, that also serves as a promenade accessible to the public, has 5 marinas and 2 docks with a capacity of 171 berths.

### Services:

- Wi-Fi
- Electricity supply
- Potable water
- Toilet + showers
- Ramp
- 1 travelift for boats up to 90 tons of weight
- 1 conveyor
- Boat repair and maintenance esplanade
- Surveillance

## Tourist Destination

Piriápolis is located in an area covering over 25 miles of coastline with a variety of beaches. Inspired by the great European resorts of the Belle Epoque, the city was founded by Francisco Piria in 1809, a visionary man and alchemist described the area as “the spa of the future”. Surrounded by hills, forests and beaches, it is also known for its mystical paths, the paths of the Qabbalah and inner Alchemist are chosen by the pilgrims to meditate or to connect to mystical energy sites.

### Tourist Attractions

Rambla de los Argentinos, Cerro Del Toro, Pabellón de Las Rosas, Piriápolis Art Museum, Paseo de La Pasiva, Castillo de Piria, San Antonio Hill.

### Brief Description of circuits

- Historical and cultural city tour
- Experience the commercial, pedestrian, and bike promenade to revel in the panoramic surroundings of Piriápolis
- Piria tour: Explore the most iconic locations personally selected by Francisco Piria
- Visit to Castillo de Piria: Inaugurated in 1897 as the residence of the city's founder, it is currently open to the public as a museum.
- Visit to Argentino Hotel: Opened in 1930. In its time it was the largest hotel in South America.
- Delight in Punta Fría, a charming location renowned for both its fishing and gastronomic experiences.
- Visit to Cerro San Antonio: It is the most characteristic hill of the resort, 130 meters high; place where Piria placed the cornerstone of the city. It is ascended on foot, in vehicles or in chairlifts.
- Fishing excursions with local guide.
- Stroll through La Cascada Park





## Punta del Este - Port Facilities

Protected by a breakwater, it has a main dock, 5 Borneo marinas, a boatyard for on-land boat storage, and 5 berthing docks for passenger cruise tender operations. Capacity of 541 berths.

### **Services:**

- Wi-fi
- Electricity supply
- Potable water
- Toilet and shower facilities
- Ramp
- Travelift
- Fuel supply stations
- Boat repair and maintenance
- Surveillance

## Tourist Destination

Punta del Este stands as one of the premier resorts in the Americas, positioned in the southeastern part of the country, where the waters of the Rio de la Plata and the Atlantic Ocean converge. This modern city boasts impeccable services and stunning landscapes, featuring over 50 kilometers of expansive beaches renowned for their exotic natural beauty and environmental excellence.

Beyond its picturesque shores, Punta del Este offers a spectrum of entertainment options, including world-class cuisine, art exhibitions, festivals, parades, a vibrant casino, and pulsating nightclubs. The city seamlessly blends luxury and leisure, making it a sought-after destination for those seeking a multifaceted and unforgettable experience.

### Tourist Attractions

Avenida Gorlero, Plaza Artigas, Calle 20 – Fashion Road, variety of museums, vineyards, Casa Pueblo, Parque Jagüel, undulating bridge, Isla Gorriti.

### Brief Description of circuits

- Embark on a captivating city tour.
- Explore the city on two wheels with a scenic bike tour
- Stroll along Calle 20 – Fashion Road, an open-air shopping haven featuring prominent international brands.
- Experience the charm of the Rambla de Circunvalación, a pedestrian promenade encircling many tourist and historical landmarks on the Peninsula. Delight in numerous gastronomic options along this pleasant route.
- Transport yourself to the past at Pueblo Gaucho, a recreation of Uruguayan rural life from the 18th century to the early 20th century, providing insight into historical buildings, customs, and traditions.
- Visit the local craft Fair that brings together artisans and plastic artists.
- Embark on a captivating boat tour to Isla Gorriti for sun-kissed beaches, enchanting forests, and rich history. Alternatively, set sail to Isla de Lobos, a natural reserve brimming with majestic sea lions, providing an immersive encounter with Uruguay's vibrant marine life.
- Visit to La Barra y Manantiales
- Visit to José Ignacio





An aerial night photograph of a large industrial port. In the foreground, there are several large industrial buildings, some with bright lights. A road with streetlights runs across the middle ground. In the background, a large body of water is filled with numerous ships, including cargo vessels and container ships, all illuminated with lights. The city lights of a port city are visible in the far distance, creating a dense pattern of lights against the dark sky. A solid blue vertical bar is on the left side of the image.

# Destinations in Argentina



## **Rosario Port**

Located in the east Central Region of the Republic of Argentina has a River terminal that moves around 100.000 passenger per season. It offers services to the tourist like art shows and cuisine.

## **Buenos Aires Port**

It has a modern passenger terminal with Customs Control Services as well as Immigration Services. It has a coffee shop, taxis, banks and money exchanges, among other services.

# Uruguay *River* *Cruise*

Ports of call  
and destinations  
2023



**UruguayNatural**  
Ministerio de Turismo



ADMINISTRACIÓN NACIONAL DE PUERTOS  
República Oriental del Uruguay