

## CHANGE LIVES AND VOLUNTEER IN ARGENTINA 2012 - 2013



### Argentina

Come to Argentina and volunteer in the city that never sleeps. Whether it is in the centre of the city itself or in the surrounding suburbs, there is plenty to do and get involved with. The main role of the volunteer in Buenos Aires is to help the children with fun after school activities, from informal English to arts and crafts in community centres in the

toughest and most deprived parts of the city. Birthdays are a big event in Argentina and volunteers help to organise birthday parties, for those disadvantaged children who miss out. Fundraising, on the streets of Buenos Aires, is a fun and unique opportunity, which many volunteers get involved with in addition to volunteering. It is a great

way to brush up on your Spanish and increase your self confidence. You can also put your name down for a unique trip to a Guarani Indian village in the tropical north, to distribute resources, and take a visit to the mighty Iguazu Falls.

## Highlights

- Getting involved in the children's lives
- Chance to learn or improve your Spanish
- Visit the Iguazu Falls

# Volunteer in Argentina / General information for volunteers



## Your role as a Volunteer

Lots of different projects, means lots of different tasks and roles for you as a volunteer. From teaching English, basic education to general care of children; there is definitely a wide variety available.

When helping with the birthday's that the centres set up, volunteers assist with arranging music, birthday presents and putting up balloons. If volunteers wish to help children with their basic education they can get involved with teaching the informal English, basic maths and arrange or assist in arts and crafts activities. Volunteers can also assist children with their homework, give them a more in depth English lessons and assist in computer classes.

## Skills and experience

No experience is required when helping in Argentina. Bring along an open mind, enthusiasm and love for the children you are helping and you will soon feel confident in your role, whichever project you become involved in.

## Overview On arrival

Volunteers fly directly into Buenos Aires. Once you arrive at the airport, there will be a local co-ordinator waiting to pick you up and take you to the volunteer accommodation. When you arrive at the placement, the co-ordinator will place you all together in different groups of volunteers; this way you are never alone and will make lots of new friends.

## Local support

Local co-ordinators, along with your local host if staying with a family during home-stay will always be available when you need any assistance or help. All volunteers live together, so fellow volunteers that have been in Argentina awhile, are a great form of informal support to new volunteers.

## Accommodation included

In Argentina, accommodation is provided. Volunteers stay together in apartments, which include internet access, cooking facilities and full bedding. Home-stays are also available for any volunteer wishing to soak up the Argentinean way of life.

## Food

Argentina is a self-catering project.

## Getting around

Transport is organised for volunteers to get to the projects and all volunteers travel together. All local transport, buses and taxis are available and nearby should you need it. Shops, supermarkets, banks etc. are all close by, within easy reach.

## Project resources and advice

Different arts and crafts materials would be appreciated. Also different birthday related resources from balloons, banners, party bags and toys would come in very useful for the monthly birthday parties. If you are not able to bring anything with you, volunteers can buy any items cheaply in the local area where they stay in Argentina.

## Free time

Argentina is famous for its night life. Many volunteers go to the local bars and restaurants in the evening after they have finished volunteering. There are lots of things to see and do in Buenos Aires from the famous Teatro Colon Oper House, Plaza san Martin to historic tunnels under 18th century Jesuit buildings. The most popular relaxation spot for volunteers are the beautiful beach resorts.

## Local facilities

Buenos Aires has all the local facilities that are needed within walking distance, including banks, doctors, cafes and other amenities.

## Health

There is a doctor close by and a hospital should you need the use of one, the co-ordinators will help you with your transfer there.

## What to take

Once you have applied and registered with Original Volunteers, you will receive an Information Pack via email that will have further details on the project in Argentina; in this email there will be a list of items to take.

## Not on your own

Although some volunteers travel with friends, the bigger majority travel alone. It is possible to get in contact with other volunteers before your travel, and a lot of people tend to do this. Some volunteers even plan to travel together and set this up themselves before they depart.



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Volunteers**

Need some advice? Call us today: 01603 627 007 | [www.originalvolunteers.co.uk](http://www.originalvolunteers.co.uk) |

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## How to apply

It is quick and easy to register with Original Volunteers. You can either do it online via our website [www.originalvolunteers.co.uk](http://www.originalvolunteers.co.uk) or you can call us on 01603 627 007 and register over the phone.

It costs £125 to register and this registration lasts a whole year; which means you can go to as many placements as you want within that year without having to pay the £125 again. The registration fee also instantly books and reserves your place in any month you choose. We are very flexible however and you can always change your mind. Just let us know if dates change and spaces permitting we will put you on another list.

## When to pay for this project

This project will need to be paid in full before departure.

## Things that you will need to organise yourself

- Flights to Buenos Aires
- Travel Insurance
- Any resources you wish to bring
- Food

## Fast Facts

### Project Information

- Project Duration: Min 1 week - Max 12 weeks
- Location of project: Buenos Aires and surrounding areas
- Arrival Airport: Buenos Aires
- Activities: General care and affection for children, assisting within organisations, teaching
- Working Hours: Full time. Weekends free
- Getting to the project: Airport pick-up and transfer to the volunteer house is automatically arranged for all volunteers once flights have been received.
- Requirements: Minimum age 18



## What's Included

- Accommodation: Volunteers stay together in shared accommodation or with host families via home-stay
- Airport Pickup: Airport pick up is provided.
- Training: During your stay you will be trained on the job informally via in-country orientation

## What's not included

- Flights
- Insurance
- Local transport to project – organised for you, volunteers contribute into a weekly kitty
- Return Airport transfer
- Local Transport around Argentina
- Meals

## Argentina

Argentina is the second largest country in South America. Argentina's continental areas are between the Andes mountain range in the west and in the east the Atlantic Ocean. Bordering from the north is Paraguay and Bolivia and from the northeast, Brazil and Uruguay. Chile borders to the west and south.

The earliest evidence of humans from Argentina dates 11,000 BC. In 1826, a new Constitution was enacted when Bernardino Rivadavia was elected president.

## Climate

Argentina weather is very varied. In the south there is a sub-arctic climate and the north has a subtropical climate. Buenos Aires temperatures vary from 35 Celsius to 10 Celsius. The winter months in Argentina are June, July and August. In the summer months, the sun can shine for up to 18 hours a day.