



A gaucho herding wild horses across a river in Patagonia

# Veterinary Study Tour to Argentina

4 – 17 November 2024

'We had a wonderful time and enjoyed every moment of the trip.'

Bushra Adnan, *Medicine in Brazil and Argentina*, March 2023



Level 4  
ACTIVE





Crashing Perito Merino glacier

**Led by popular tour leader and veterinarian, Campbell Costello, this exciting new tour takes you to four incredible and very different parts of Argentina.**

Travel from vast Iguazu Falls to the cosmopolitan elegance of Buenos Aires, onto the mountains and pristine lakes of Bariloche, before ending amongst the blue glaciers of remote Patagonia.

The veterinary visits and cultural experiences span an extraordinary spectrum from the

tropics to the icefields. See veterinary conservation in the tropics before heading to Buenos Aires. Learn about equine therapy for children and visit a veterinary association, an equine rehabilitation centre and a polo horse breeder. Experience the country by horseback in Bariloche, have lunch at a local estancia and hear from local veterinarians in Patagonia.

Enjoy the fine wines and food of Argentina and see authentic tango in the most sophisticated city in South America on this tour of breathtaking variety and contrasts.



## Tour Leader

**Dr Campbell Costello** BVSc was raised on a cattle station in outback Queensland and graduated in 2010 to work in mixed-animal practice. He was the year's youngest rider in the world's longest horse race, the "Mongol Derby", in 2012 and has since returned to Mongolia several times as one of the senior veterinarians and crew for the race. In 2013 he trekked across the Wakhan Corridor of Afghanistan before relocating to the Highveldt of South Africa as a large African game and wildlife veterinarian. He has since worked in Australia as a veterinary contractor in the international livestock sector, taking him all over the world. In 2016 Campbell was stationed in Kazakhstan as the head veterinarian and farm manager of an Angus Beef Cattle farm and helped establish one of the country's first cattle ventures since the demise of the Soviet Union. Campbell was also one of the only English-speaking veterinarians to attend the "World Nomad Games" in Kyrgyzstan. In early 2019 Campbell was the



mounted veterinarian for the "Gaicho Derby" recce mission, which involved riding across the Argentine area of Patagonia for several days, monitoring the local Criollo horses and mapping a basic route for the inaugural "Gaicho Derby" race in 2020. Campbell (usually known as Cozzy) led a successful veterinary study tour to Borneo and Malaysia in 2022 and South Africa in 2023.

**'Campbell is a very good tour leader - caring and with a good sense of humour.'**

Seila Gonzalez Toribio, *Veterinary Study Tour in South Africa, Oct 2023*

Iguazu Falls



3 nights Iguazú – 3 nights Buenos Aires – 3 nights Bariloche – 3 nights Calafate  
– 1 night Buenos Aires



## Day 1: Iguazú (Mon, 4 Nov) D

**Pm:** Arrive and make your way to Hotel Mercure Iguazú.

**Eve:** Local dinner.

## Day 2: Iguazú (Tues, 5 Nov) B D

**Am:** Iguazú Falls straddle the border between Brazil and Argentina. Both sides provide spectacular and very different perspectives. The Falls are simply astounding, with hundreds of thundering cascades spanning nearly 3km in length. Explore the highlights of the Argentinian side in the Iguazú National Park. Walk across walkways amongst the cascades within lush rainforest, with hundreds of butterflies fluttering in the mist.

**Pm:** Visit the Güirá Oga Wildlife Refuge, a rehabilitation centre for injured wildlife. It carries out valuable research on the forest environment and has a breeding program for endangered species. Spot monkeys, toucans, ocelots and other animals along the route.

**Eve:** Welcome dinner.

## Day 3: Iguazú (Wed, 6 Nov) B

**Am:** Visit the Brazilian side of the falls, including the dramatic 'Devil's Throat.' Stand on a lookout platform perched above the majestic torrent of water, watching it plunge into invisible depths. The roar of the water is overwhelming and the 'smoke' from the cascade can be seen several kilometres away. Visit the Bird Sanctuary and Preservation Park.

## Day 4: Iguazú / Buenos Aires (Thur, 7 Nov) B D

**Am:** Fly to Buenos Aires. This elegant, edgy city often looks like Europe, and its denizens would be at home in the most stylish of Europe's cities, but it has its own Latin American twist.

**Pm:** Explore the heart of the city, including chic Recoleta, before checking in to your hotel.

**Eve:** Tango show with dinner.

## Day 5: Buenos Aires (Fri, 8 Nov) B D

**Am:** Visit the famous antiques market at San Telmo and the multi-coloured artist quarter of La Boca.

**Pm:** Continue to Buenos Aires' Puerto Madero District to meet with regional representatives of the OIE World Organisation for Animal Health and staff of SENASA (National Animal Health Services). Return to the neighbourhood of Palermo to learn about equine assisted therapy.

**Eve:** Enjoy dinner at a local restaurant.

### Day 6: Buenos Aires (Sat, 9 Nov) B L

- Am:** Travel out of Buenos Aires to visit an equine hospital and rehabilitation centre.
- Pm:** Continue to visit an estancia and meet with a polo horse breeder. Enjoy an asado in true Argentine style. Return late afternoon.

### Day 7: Buenos Aires / Bariloche (Sun, 10 Nov) B

- Am:** Depart Buenos Aires and arrive in scenic Bariloche. Transfer from airport to hotel with an orientation tour of the Alpine style town famous for its cosy accommodation, chocolate, and craft beer.
- Pm:** Walking tour of Bariloche visiting its cafes and shops.

### Day 8: Bariloche (Mon, 11 Nov) B D

- Am:** Enjoy a half day tour with the most spectacular panoramic views of Bariloche's lake district (circuito chico).
- Pm:** Afternoon at leisure
- Eve:** Dinner at local restaurant with wine tasting.

### Day 9: Bariloche (Tues, 12 Nov) B L

- Am:** Explore the Patagonian steppe and fauna with a horseback ride and walk through stunning scenery.
- Pm:** Enjoy an asado for lunch at the estancia before hearing a talk from local veterinarians on working in remote Patagonia.

### Day 10: Bariloche / El Calafate (Wed, 13 Nov) B

- Am:** Depart Bariloche and arrive in majestic El Calafate in southern Patagonia.
- Pm:** Transfer from airport to hotel with an orientation tour.

### Day 11: El Calafate (Thur, 14 Nov) B L

- Am:** Explore the national park, including the Perito Moreno Glacier. This natural phenomenon is a thunderous 200-foot-high and three-mile-wide river of constantly moving and exploding ice. There are a number of wooden walkways to view the glacier.
- Pm:** Late afternoon talk with Eduardo Clapera, Senasa's Food Safety Regional Coordinator for South Patagonia.

### Day 12: El Calafate (Fri, 15 Nov) B

- Am:** At leisure or return to the wonderful, otherworldly land of the glaciers with a full optional day tour to the Upsala Glacier, a huge chunk of ice measuring thirty-seven miles long and nearly three miles wide.

### Day 13: Calafate / Buenos Aires (Sat, 16 Nov) B D

- Am:** Fly to Buenos Aires.
- Pm:** Arrive mid-afternoon and check in to the hotel. At leisure.
- Eve:** Farewell dinner.

### Day 14: Buenos Aires (Sun, 17 Nov) B

- Am:** Depart for the airport.







Spectacular Bariloche

## Tour Activity Level

### Level 1 Relaxed



A gentle pace, involving minimal walking and exertion. Shorter travel distances and a full but relatively relaxed itinerary.

### Level 2 Gentle



Easy walking at a mostly leisurely pace. Slightly more daily activity and travel.

### Level 3 Moderate



Regular walking at destinations, extended standing and / or increased travel distances. Good fitness is required.

### THIS TOUR IS CLASSIFIED AS:

### Level 4 Active



Longer and fuller days. Significant levels of walking, covering longer distances, requiring very good fitness and mobility.

### Level 5 Challenging



May involve extended drives, hikes and multiple visits across busy days. Excellent fitness is required.

## Hotels

### Mercure Hotel Iru, Iguazú Falls

The hotel is designed to combine comfort and nature harmoniously with a lovely pool. The hotel is located in the heart of the Iryapu Jungle, offering a very special experience with each room having a balcony.

### Emperador Hotel, Buenos Aires

Situated in the elegant neighbourhood of Recoleta, close to the art galleries and museums district, restaurants and shopping area. The Emperador provides spacious, comfortable rooms and very good facilities, including a pool and fitness centre.

### Hotel Cacique Inacayal Lake and Spa Hotel, Bariloche

Perched on the edge of Lake Nahuel Huapi, this hotel offers spectacular lake and mountain views. As well as comfortable and stylish rooms, it offers a wine bar, pool table and games rooms, a large indoor pool and hot tub.

### Kau Yatún Hotel and Estancia, El Calafate

A very charming hotel in a quiet ranch-like setting just outside Calafate, this hotel has a cosy ambience, large, comfortable rooms, beautiful grounds and an excellent restaurant.



A toucan in Iguazú (top); La Boca, Buenos Aires; Enjoy a gaucho lunch (above)

**The cost of the tour sharing a twin or double room is £4,968 pp**

**The cost of the tour with a room to yourself is £6,433**

(Excluding international flights and departure transfers)

**The cost includes:**

- 13 nights' accommodation in twin-bedded rooms in medium grade hotels
- Tour leader (Campbell Costello)
- Breakfast daily
- Lunch or dinner as mentioned per itinerary
- All professional visits and talks
- All internal flights
- All transport within tour
- A full programme of cultural visits, shows and talks
- Admission fees throughout
- Tips

**The cost excludes:**

- International flights and transfers
- All personal extras such as portage, laundry and drinks and meals not mentioned
- All optional excursions, tours and visits
- Travel insurance

**The additional cost of the Upsala Glacier cruise is £196 pp**

The cost includes return transfers, a full day cruise, English speaking guide. Captain's Club Upgrade available.

**'The visit to... Iguazú Falls was spectacular. Buenos Aires is a beautiful, elegant city. Patagonia was an amazing experience... Trips to icebergs and glaciers absolutely breath-taking. A wonderful holiday'**

Lindy Rule, *Surgical Orthodontics & Facial Aesthetics*, Brazil & Argentina, 2017



# About Us

To travel with us is to dig below the surface, revealing the deeper destination. Of course, you will visit the great historical sites; marvel at the wonders of architecture and engineering; be moved by the riches of culture and art; and experience the most spectacular landscapes in the world. What we also do is make sure that you see the country as it is today, giving you privileged access that independent travel and other tour companies rarely get close to. We give you a variety of experiences, from the sublime to the humble, in the company of intelligent, curious, like-minded people. And while we can be worthy, we also make sure that you have a lot of fun.

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Tango in Buenos Aires (top); Horse riding in Bariloche;  
Upsala Glacier (above)



Jon Baines  
tours

