



Pre trip information |

MONTARAZ LODGE

Pigeon Shooting [Cordoba, Argentina]

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South America Hunting Questionnaire

Gun information and serial numbers MUST BE legible and accurate. This document will be sent to Argentina Customs for gun permits and hunting licenses.

Photocopy of the I.D. page in your Passport

This must clearly show your name, passport number, date issued and expiration date. Because of the time required for processing firearms permits, please return your questionnaire promptly. Your cooperation is appreciated.

NOTE TO GROUP LEADERS: It is important that as a group leader you share this pre-trip information with all members of your party so that everyone is adequately prepared, understands the cancellation/refund policy pertaining to their trip, and has the opportunity to purchase travel insurance (especially anyone with a pre-existing health condition). DDW cannot assume any financial responsibility for consequences incurred if this information is not provided by you to all members of your group.

Arrival

A VALID PASSPORT is necessary with at least 6 months remaining until expiration. No visa is needed for U.S. citizens or Community subjects; citizens from other countries should check entry requirements with the Argentine consulate.

Entry Request Fee

When entering Argentine Territory, the nationals of the following countries must pay a “reciprocity fee” in accordance to the following:

- American: USD 131.-
- Canadian: USD 70.-
- Australian: USD 100.-

The payment of this “reciprocity fee” is not a Visa since Argentina does not require Visa to the nationals of the mentioned countries when traveling for tourism or business purposes. The Argentine Government set this entry fee on equal amounts to those Argentine citizens must pay when requesting a Visa to travel to those countries.

Note: rates subject to modifications based upon reciprocity

Forms of accepted payment: Argentine pesos, United States Dollar, credit cards, Traveler checks

Customs and Firearms Registration

U.S. Customs has adopted more stringent regulations for checking firearms registration forms upon re-entry. We recommend that you pre-register each gun taken out of the country. You should request U. S. Customs Form 4457-Certificate Of Registration For Personal Effects Taken Abroad. This form can be attained at any U.S. Customs office before your trip by presenting your firearms for this procedure. This form, listing all guns, cameras, binoculars, etc., should be stapled in the back of your passport for ready reference. A copy should be carried in your gun case and a copy left at home. By following this procedure, you should experience no delay at U.S. Customs on return from an international shooting trip. This regulation applies only for re-entry into the U.S.

Europe - You should inform the airline prior to your travel date that you will be carrying shotguns and declare them when checking in for your flight. An airline official will escort you to a Customs post for gun registration and then hand-carry your guns to the plane. On return, you must retrieve your guns at the airline service desk in the baggage hall. An airline official will accompany you to the red channel, where your guns are registered with Customs as re-entering the country.

• Entry Requirement

ARGENTINA GUN PERMIT: Guns must be declared and gun permits purchased on arrival in Argentina. This is usually done at the international airport and a fee paid directly to the National Police Authority. You are requested to pay in cash U\$S 100 per gun. Please be aware that for guns with interchangeable barrels, each barrel will be charged separately. Fees are subject to change without notice. The information on your Shooting Questionnaire will be used for your gun entry permit and very carefully checked by the authorities on arrival, so please be sure it is absolutely legible and accurate.

It will also be important to remember that your gun permit departure form must be stamped by police authority at the airport before check in at the ticket counter for your flight home.

• Air Travel Arrangements

We work very closely with our representatives in Buenos Aires and Cordoba who do an outstanding job of diligently handling all incoming and outgoing transfers, and our constant communication with them allows us to act quickly when unscheduled circumstances occur.

• Baggage/Gun Case Restrictions

Airline regulations permit two (2) checked bags which do not exceed 70 lbs. each and two carry-on pieces per passenger. Please check with your airline to confirm baggage regulations as they may vary.

From time to time outfitters need things in the hunting areas, and they will ship them to us and ask that they be carried down by clients, as customs and shipping expenses are prohibitive for them. Usually items are things like jackets, hats, camouflage netting, or boots. If you have some extra room in your bags, and would not mind carrying things down, outfitters will reimburse you for any expense you incur, and will often throw in some free shotgun shells for your trouble. Let us know if you have an interest in lending a hand.

• Shells

We strongly recommend that all shot shells be purchased in Argentina. Buying them there eliminates baggage hassle and overweight charges, and cartridges available are very good. Shells are U\$S 15 per box; we normally shoot shells on pigeons in shot size #5 or #7.5. Payment will be handled prior to your departure. You may settle your cartridge account either in cash or personal checks. Prices are subjected to changes.

• Shotguns/Chokes

In selecting which gun you take, it boils down to personal preference. Since 2001 we have seen almost every shotgun imaginable in Cordoba, from single-shot Iver Johnson's in the hands of youngsters-to the finest European double guns-and everything in between.

Gas-operated or inertia driven semi-automatics offer less felt recoil but are more likely to malfunction, as they contain more moving parts. If you opt for a double, choose a heavier rather than a lighter gun and one with automatic ejectors.

Regardless of the gun you choose, we would strongly suggest taking some type of recoil-reduction device such as the Kick Killer shoulder pads available from many shooting supply houses.

Ammunition availability dictates that 12- or 20- gauge guns are the best choice. Each day, you'll encounter every imaginable type of shot, from high passing birds to close-in shooting. Chokes are probably more open than you'd imagine-decoying pigeons are generally at close range, and improved cylinder is about right.

If you prefer not to bring a gun, we have Berettas autoloaders that you are welcome to use during your stay. If you are taking a magazine-type shotgun (pump or automatic) make sure it is immaculately clean - and while there is cleaning equipment available at the lodge, you may wish to take some light cleaning equipment and lubricant.

• Bag Limits

In our part of Argentina, the bag limit, or transportation limit is quite generous, but we hope that you will let your conscience be your guide as well, and compare this shooting opportunity to virtually any other decoying experience worldwide. Our outfitters impose a limit of 14 boxes of shells a day, that through our years of experience we find this system to strike the best balance between action and conservation.

• Climate

Pigeon shooting is available at fall and winter in Cordoba, so clothing can vary from light short-sleeved shirts to light fleece jackets in the winter season. The chart below lists averages for the past few years. Cordoba does get some seasonal rain, so please plan to take at least a light rain jacket or windbreaker.

You may also wish to visit www.myweather2.com to check our Cordoba forecast.

AVERAGE DAILY TEMPERATURE RANGE

Jan 93°-59°F / 34-15C May 66°-38°F / 19- 4C Sept 68°-40°F / 20- 5C
Feb 90°-58°F / 32-15C June 59°-32°F / 15- 0C Oct 75°-46°F / 24- 8C
Mar 83°-54°F / 28-12C July 59°-37°F / 15- 3C Nov 83°-51°F / 28-11C
Apr 75°-46°F / 24- 8C Aug 64°-34°F / 18- 1C Dec 89°-57°F / 32-14C

• Clothing & Equipment

For the Field: Shooting clothes should be light green, green or brown; camouflage is optional. Pack a sweater or jacket in case it's cool in the early morning and also a flannel or chamois shirt. Don't forget to bring a rain coat (See table above for average temperatures.)

Shoes: Lightweight, ankle-height is all you need. Many shooters even wear sneakers. A Gore-Tex breathing shoe, like the Rocky Boot, is excellent.

• Important Accessories for the Field

SHOOTING SAFETY GLASSES - also serve as sunglasses and should be the shatterproof variety. The green or yellow protective glasses that can be worn over regular glasses are good. They have a small side panel, which protects against glare. Available from many shooting sports suppliers.

LIGHTWEIGHT HAT - one with a wide brim is best.

SHOOTING GLOVES - important item to protect hands from hot shotgun barrels and nicks and blisters from reloading, breaking guns or activating safeties. Golf or batting gloves are a good substitute if you can't find quality, sensitive leather shooting gloves.

SOFT PROTECTIVE GUN CASE FOR DAILY USE

SHELL POUCH - one that will hold a box or two of shells - or belt-type pouch or vest.

LIGHTWEIGHT HAT - one with a wide brim is best.

SMALL FIELD BAG - to carry camera gear and other personal items into the field.

INSECT REPELLENT - Mosquitoes or other bothersome insects are very unusual in the field - you might take a small bottle of Cutter's Cream.

CAMERA - The area is scenic and photographic possibilities abound.

EVENING DRESS - Clothing is casual, with slacks and sport shirt all you need.

MEDICATION - Most people have no stomach problems in this part of Argentina. Nevertheless, it's a good idea, as when traveling anywhere, to take along medication for symptomatic relief. Also, take aspirin, in case you get a shooting headache, in addition to other medications you normally use.

BAND-AIDS - for sore fingers from shooting.

• Health

We suggest that you consult with your physician for medical advice on travel to Argentina. If your physician is not familiar with travel-related medicine, the CDC offers excellent, up-to-date information on health precautions for travelers by fax; call toll-free 888-232-3299 and follow the recorded instructions. You may also visit the CDC's Web site at www.cdc.gov.

• Medical Insurance and Evacuation

As outlined above, we strongly recommend you purchase both health and trip cancellation insurance. Once we have received the trip payment we are unable to make a refund in the instance of a cancellation.

On the other hand, David Denies values your safety. Although we do everything possible to ensure our guests have a safe experience, unavoidable accidents do happen. An illness or injury in the remote areas we frequent could require a medical evacuation costing over \$100,000 that is not covered by medical or trip insurance.

For this reason, we strongly recommend that you purchase a Global Rescue membership. Global Rescue is a worldwide crisis response company that provides advisory services from in-house medical experts, field rescue from the point of illness or injury and evacuation to your home hospital of choice.

For standard travel insurance, we can recommend Travelex

www.travelexinsurance.com: +1-800-228-9792

For emergency medical evacuation, we can recommend Global Rescue

www.globalrescue.com/NervousWaters: +1-800- 381-9754 or +1-617-459-4200.

• Gratuities

Gratuities for lodge and field staff are not included in the shoot cost since we feel that tipping, in general, is discretionary.

However, clients have asked that we provide general guidelines; therefore, we suggest:

U\$S 40/45 per shooter per day for you field assistant

U\$S 40/45 per guest per day for all the house staff

U\$S 40/45 per shooter per day to be shared between your group's field guide, scout and additional field staff.

So the total suggested adds up to U\$S 120/135 per person per day

You are welcome to tip your field assistant directly; all other tips should be settled with the house Manager when paying your final bill.

• Currency

The dollar is widely accepted and you can change dollars for pesos at your hotel or any bank. When you pay in dollars, most merchants give change in pesos, which is a good way to get small bills for cabs, tips to porters, etc., although dollars may be used as well. It is difficult to exchange traveler's checks of any kind outside Buenos Aires. American Express, Visa, and Master- Card are widely accepted. The lodge accepts payment in cash and credit cards (Visa, Master Card, Amex Discover). You may also wish to check the current exchange rate at www.x-rates.com.

• Electric Current

220 volts; a standard converter and European adapter for two-pronged plug should work fine. However, we have installed standard US electric outlets in bathrooms and bedrooms. Most phones, notebooks, and accessories work from 110 to 240 volts. There is also satellite telephone & Internet access.

• Alcoholic Beverage/Tobacco Importation

Two bottles of liquor and two cartons of cigarettes can be taken into Argentina duty-free. Our suggestion is that you purchase these at the airport before departure. If there is any special brand of liquor that you like we recommend that you purchase it at the duty free.

• Terms & Conditions

Inclusions: All meals in the hunt area served with wines and beer; best available lodging based on double occupancy (U\$S 80 surcharge for single room when available); services of a professional hunter-guide; all vehicles and ground transportation as required by the itinerary; field assistants as required; all payments to landowners for hunting rights; meeting and customs assistance; round ground transfer (Cordoba/La Dormida) only for parties arriving and departing together; taxes and service charges.

Exclusions: Scheduled air fares required by itinerary from point of origin through return; shot shells; gun rental (U\$S 70 per person per day); all gratuities; shooting license (U\$S 65 per person per day); telephone calls, laundry/dry cleaning, room service, or items of a strictly personal nature; baggage overweight charges; personal/baggage insurance; passport expense; transfer to and from the lodge for clients not arriving or departing with the whole party (please refer to our transfer policy below); cost of itinerary modification requested by passenger; transfers in Buenos Aires if your airline schedule requires you to change airports.

Transfer Policy

1. Only two transfers are included: one for arrivals and one for departures (they apply to parties arriving together).
2. For transfers on different schedules there will be a U\$S 150 surcharge (one way) per single passenger and U\$S 75 per person (one way) for groups (2 or more passengers)

Check In / Check Out Policy

All clients may shoot half a day on arrival date provided they arrive at the airport no later than 14.00 hrs; and they may shoot half a day on departure date provided their flight is scheduled for departure after 14.30 hrs.

An Important Last Word - Safety

For some reason, more shooters, dogs and field assistants take stray pellets when pigeon shooting than in any other shot gunning activity. There should be no reason for this. There's plenty of room, so guns are placed well apart with an eye to safety.

Nevertheless, in fields being harvested, there often are workers or farm animals in proximity - people on horseback or workers will edge into a shooting area, assuming that guns are prudent and will never shoot low.

The point is, you have to be aware of this activity and aware at all times as to the position of fellow shooters and field assistants. The bottom line is: there is never any excuse for taking a low-angle shot (below 45 degrees). Get that rule in your head; it requires virtually no concentration and will certainly in no way inhibit your shoot.

Don't take chances on shot angles - ever! Check guns to make sure they're unloaded before leaving the ranch - recheck in the field and again on departure. Don't be offended if outfitters check them again. Everyone wants to be as safe as possible.

Magazine shotguns should be carried with the receiver open; uncased doubles always broken when walking in the field, in a vehicle, or any time when not in shooting position. It is your decision to allow field assistants to shoot. They have vast experience in shooting and safety.

If your assigned location is a little off the flight line, or not productive, make sure you let your outfitter know; they will move you to a better place. Someone will always be close by. If you are taking a break from shooting, be aware of others around you. If you are in the open, you may be flaring birds away from others who are shooting.

It is a good idea to always wear safety shooting glasses to protect your eyes. And protect your ears with plugs or a quality headset type of ear protector. Many times during the shoot there will be birds in the air, including songbirds. . All songbirds, hawks, eagles, fly catchers are protected and should not be shot under any circumstance. The basic rule is "stick with pigeons". Check with the outfitter for any other game birds.

Lodge contact information

Tomas Frontera	+ 54 9 351 5319040	(from Argentina 0351 155319040)
Horacio Dartiguelongue	+ 54 9 351 5387489	(from Argentina 0351 155387489)
Pablo Aguilo	+54 9 351 5387483	(from Argentina 0351 155387483)

Emergency contact:

+ 54 (11) 4914-8214