



Pre trip information |

SAN JUAN LODGE [Paysandú, Uruguay]

Table of contents

2	South America Hunting Questionnaire
	Photocopy of I.D Passport
	Arrival
	Entry Request Fee
	Customs and Firearms Registration
3	Entry Requirement
	Air Travel Arrangements
	Baggage/Gun Case Restrictions
	Shells
	Customs Allowance
	Security
4	Seasons
	Shotguns/Chokes
	Gun Rental
	Climate
	Clothing & Equipment
5	Important Accessories for the Field
	Communication
	Health
	Medical Insurance and Evacuation
6	Gratuities
	Currency
	Electric Current
	Alcoholic Beverage/Tobacco Importation
	Terms & Conditions
7	An Important Last Word - Safety
	Lodge contact information

South America Hunting Questionnaire

Gun information and serial numbers MUST BE legible and accurate. This document will be sent to Argentina 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 with at least 6 months remaining. No visa is needed for U.S. citizens or Community subjects; others 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 payment: Argentine pesos, unites States Dollar, credit cards, Traveler checks.

Customs and Firearms Registration

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

URUGUAY GUN PERMIT: Guns must be declared and gun permits purchased on arrival in Uruguay. Please note your outfitter will present your Uruguayan Gun Permits to the officials in your behalf upon arrival in Uruguay (which you must pre-pay before your trip and costs U\$D 275 per person).

• Air Travel Arrangements

We work very closely with our representatives in Montevideo and Buenos Aires 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 not to exceed 70 lbs. each and two carry-on pieces per passenger. Carry on bags must fit under the seat in front of you or in the overhead bin. ***Please check with your airline before travelling.***

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 Uruguay. Buying them there eliminates baggage hassle and overweight charges, and cartridges available are very good. Bringing them can create problems and delays with Uruguayan customs. Cost of shells will be \$15 per box of 25; and payment will be handled prior to your departure. Price is subject to change. You may settle your cartridge account either in cash or credit card.

• Customs Allowance

Two bottles of liquor and two cartons of cigarettes can be taken into Uruguay duty-free. Even though all local spirits are included in the shooting area, should you have a favourite or special brand, we suggest you purchase it at the airport before departure.

• Security

While there are no known threats directed specifically against travellers, you are advised to take common sense precautions and exercise care while in Montevideo, especially in the downtown area near hotels, commercial zones, and when walking on the street or in markets. Persons openly displaying valuables or leaving them in plain site are more at risk of being robbed. In transit, travellers should lock all airline-checked baggage and transport any valuables in carry-on luggage.

• Seasons

- Perdiz hunting runs May 1st to July 31st
- Ducks & Pigeon generally run from May 1st to September 15th
- Dove shooting is all year round

• Shotguns/Chokes

In selecting which gun you take, it boils down to personal preference. We have seen almost every shotgun imaginable in Uruguay, either 12 or 20 gauge is suitable; 12 gauge, with more shot, is more effective on high doves. We recommend you bring two guns: doubles, semi-autos or pumps are fine but the emphasis, especially for perdiz hunting, is on double guns.

Ranges vary, but they are generally closer than they might seem. Some experienced shooters prefer improved cylinder and/or modified for all comers; screw-in chokes can provide flexibility. More and more with modern shells, shooters are leaning toward more open chokes. In any case, take the gun that fits you well and that you shoot best with. Make sure your guns are in good working order before you leave; this can be high-volume shooting in a country away from gunsmiths. Your gun(s) will be cleaned for you after each day's shoot.

• Gun Rental

San Juan Lodge also has a variety of guns available to rent; please inquiry for current inventory if interested. Price is U\$D 65 per gun per day.

• Climate

The chart below lists averages for the past few years. You may also wish to visit www.myweather2.com to check our Uruguay forecast. (Paysandu, Uruguay)

High/Low Temp. (F); Avg. number of days with rain in []

Jan. 83/62 [6] May 64/48 [6] Sept. 63/46 [6]

Feb. 82/61 [5] June 59/43 [5] Oct. 68/49 [6]

Mar. 78/59 [5] July 58/43 [6] Nov. 74/54 [6]

Apr. 71/53 [6] Aug. 59/43 [7] Dec. 79/59 [7]

• 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. (See table above for average temperatures). We recommend you dress by the layer system and be prepared for possible rain (rain gear is always a must). For wet days and morning dew, rubber-bottomed leather boots or other waterproof boots are excellent. Others prefer Wellington boots; either are worn with field clothing consistent with monthly temperatures and probable windy days. For the upland hunt (May 1st- July 31st) be sure to include a down or fleece jacket, adequate head protection, gloves, etc. Evenings at San Juan are casual, and dress is a matter of choice and comfort. You stay with your hosts where dress is informal but neat.

• Important Accessories for the Field

- **SOFT PROTECTIVE GUN CASE FOR DAILY USE**
- **TRAP OR SHEET SHOOTER'S SHELL BAG** - attaches to your belt - especially handy for dove and pigeon shooting
- **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.
- **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.
- **EAR PLUGS** - Ear protection is essential. Many feel the expandable silicone plugs are best. These protect your hearing and help prevent headaches.
- **FACE MASK** – to camouflage the face during ducks and pigeons hunts.
- **RECOIL REDUCTION DEVICE** - recoil pad to wear under a shirt or shooting vest, or over it.
- **SMALL FIELD BAG** - to carry camera gear and other personal items into the field
- **CAMERA** - The area is scenic and photographic possibilities abound.
- **FLASHLIGHT**
- **MEDICATION** - Most people have no stomach problems in this part of Uruguay. Nevertheless, it's a good idea, as when travelling 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

Note: Laundry service is available at the lodge if desired.

• Communication

San Juan has a land line phone available, and if you wish to place outgoing calls you may do so with a calling card, or by paying the lodge rate.

• Health

We suggest that you consult with your physician for medical advice on travel to Uruguay. 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\$D 75 to 100 per day per shooter to cover all staff, including field assistants, guides, scouts and all house staff. We suggest that any gratuities are included when settling up shotgun shell accounts. We will take care of distributing this amongst the guides, house staff, field assistants, etc.

Currency

The official currency is the Uruguayan peso. The dollar is widely accepted, and you can change dollars for pesos at your hotel or any bank. When pay in dollars, most merchants give change in Uruguayan pesos, a good way to get small bills for cabs, tips to porters, etc., although dollars may be used as well. American Express, Visa, and Master- Card are widely accepted. The lodge accepts payment in cash and credit cards (Visa, Master Card, Amex). 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.

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 with wines and beer; best available lodging (double occupancy); 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; taxes and service charges.

Exclusions: Transfer from MVD RT USD 150 per person ; scheduled air fares required by itinerary from point of origin through return; shot shells; gun rental (U\$S 65 per person per day); hunting license/permits (USD 275 per person); temporary gun import permit; all gratuities; telephone calls, laundry/dry cleaning, room service, or items of a strictly personal nature; baggage overweight charges; personal/ baggage insurance; passport expense; cost of itinerary modification requested by passenger; transfers in Buenos Aires if your airline schedule requires you to change airports.

An Important Last Word - Safety

For some reason, more shooters, dogs and field assistants take stray pellets when dove 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. Some of these are protected and should not be shot under any circumstance.

Lodge contact information

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Emergency contact:
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