

THE ARGENTINIAN TIMES

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER
OF PROJECTS ABROAD
ARGENTINA

ProjectsAbroad



02. EDITORIAL

04. ARGENTINA INSIDE OUT

- Guleguaychú Carnival
- Cosquín National Folklore Festival
- House of Ernesto Guevara

07. NEWS AND UPDATES

- Novedades, News!!

- Testimonials!

- Birthdays!

9. PROJECT ARTICLES

- *Argentina* by Boguslawa Syrotiak
- *Première semaine à Santa Catalina* by Marie Fouré

13. SOCIALS & DIRTY WEEKENDS

16. ARGENTINE CUISINE

17. USEFUL INFORMATION

18. UPCOMING

VOLUNTEERS

19. WhatsOnWhen?

20. VOLUNTEER CONTACT LIST

Editorial

I hope that this simple story fills you up with energy to make you believe that in life nothing is impossible!



What follows are extracts from the advice given by Abraham Lincoln to the teacher of his son; it is more true nowadays than ever before. He knew life at high esteem and knew the value of doing something right. What a great man he was!

“Teach him, if you can, that a dollar earned is of far more value than five found.... that it is far more honourable to fail than to cheat...Teach him to have faith in his own ideas, even if everyone tells him they are wrong...

Teach him to sell his brawn and brain to the highest bidders; but never to put a price tag on his heart and soul... Teach him always to have sublime faith in mankind.”

Another national hero that wrote advice on how to educate his child was General San Martin, Liberator of Argentina, Chili, Peru and Ecuador. I remember that when I was a young boy and went to school, we had to learn his letters by heart and recite them every time our teacher would ask us to.

General San Martin attended to his daughter’s education, stressing simplicity, honesty and respect. He wrote a number of maxims, based on his own philosophy of life, for her instruction:

*Inspire in her a love of truth and hatred of lies
Inspire in her confidence and friendship joined with respect
Encourage in Mercedes charity for the poor
Self respect and decorum
Train her to keep a secret
Inspire in her tolerance for all religions
Gentleness with servants, the poor and the elderly
To speak seldom and precisely
Train her to use good table manners
Love cleanliness and despise luxury;
Inspire in her love of country and liberty*

Without doubt, these pieces of advice are precious and just as true today as back in 1800.

Guillermo Cogorno
Country Director

Argentina Inside & Out

Guauguaychú Carnival!



Sparkling sequins and Amazonian feathers jig about to the infectious beat of Brazilian music at Argentina's most spectacular festival, the annual Guauguaychú Carnival. Huge floats with fantastically costumed dancers parade night and day every Saturday during summer in Guauguaychú.

Thousands of visitors and dancers crowd around 12 slow-moving carnival floats that are led by renowned dancing groups, comparsas. Every year, each group chooses a theme for their costumes and the opening of the parade is carried out with great pomp and ceremony.

As with the gigantic carnivals in Brazil, each dancing group has an intriguing history behind it, full of tribal folklore and the influence of witchdoctors that stems from Guaraní or African legends.

People come from across the country to lose themselves in the carnival madness. It's easy to go up to Guauguaychú for the weekend from Buenos Aires, but make sure you book accommodation far in advance, or simply stay up dancing all night with everyone else!

The Festival takes place every Saturday from January 1st to March 5th.



Cosquín National Folklore Festival!



Over the summer many festivals and shows of Folklore music take place in the city of Cordoba and around the region. It is not only a celebration of native music and dance but also of excellent food and wine.

The music of Argentina is known mostly for the tango, which developed in Buenos Aires and surrounding areas. However, in most parts of Argentina, folk music—called folklore in Spanish — is very popular and comes in many forms with different European and indigenous influences.

Among the first traditional folk groups to record extensively in Argentina, three of the most influential were from the northwest: Los Chalchaleros and Los Fronterizos from the Province of Salta and the Ábalos brothers from Santiago del Estero Province. Becoming nearly instant successes following their first albums around 1950, they inspired a revival of the genre in Argentina.

A famous soloist in the genre is guitarist Eduardo Falú, known for the many compositions that set traditional poetry into music. Traditional folk music became increasingly important during the protest movement against the military dictatorship and the community divisions of the 1970s, with artists like Mercedes Sosa and Atahualpa Yupanqui, contributing to the development of nueva canción. Soledad Pastorutti ('La Sole') has brought folklore to a new audience, and in the early 21st century Juana Molina has proposed a fusion between electronic music and folklore with ambient sounds, a gentle voice and short zambas.

A well-known venue for Argentine folklore music, the Cosquín National Folklore Festival, has been gathering musicians from the genre annually since 1961. A modest event at first, the festival has grown to include folk musicians from neighboring countries and Asia, as well as from throughout Argentina itself. Focusing on folklore music, the festival nevertheless features talent from the worlds of tango, acoustic music and international culture.



House of Ernesto Che Guevara!



The Alta Gracia childhood home of the South American revolutionary idol, Che Guevara, is a museum charting Guevara's life from his youth to his early death. Photos, letters and exhibits reveal fascinating snippets of the famous Argentine's life.

Thirty kilometres south of Córdoba lies the friendly town of Alta Gracia. Not only is the town surrounded by lush, undulating valleys and hills that invite the traveller for a hike or a ride on horseback, Alta Gracia is first and fore-

most known for an ancient Jesuit Estancia and a museum centered around Ernesto Che Guevara's life.

The South American revolutionary idol Ernesto Che Guevara was born in Rosario in 1928, but moved to Alta Gracia as a child after the doctors diagnosed him with asthma. The picturesque house at Avelaneda 501 was built in 1911 and named after the youngest daughter of the first owner of the house, Nydia, but the name was changed into Villa Beatrix after Che Guevara's family moved in. Guevara lived here from 1935-1937 and 1939-1943. The second house in Alta Gracia where the family lived is just down the road, on number 14.

In 2001 Villa Nydia opened its doors as "Museo del Che Guevara" and is considered a heritage site by Alta Gracia. It is one of the seven homes where the Guevara family lived and currently houses Argentina's best museum on Che's life – for example, in Buenos Aires are at least two other museums of Che Guevara, but their collections are much less complete.



News & Updates!

NOVEDADES! NEWS!

Summer in Cordoba!

Over the summer many festivals and shows take place in the city of Cordoba and around the region. Here are some of the important events that will take place in February/March.

Cosquin Rock!

An event that you should not forget to write down in your agenda for February is the 11th edition of the Cosquin Rock Festival that will be taking place from the 11th to the 13th of February in Comuna San Roque. It gathers both famous and new rock bands of Argentina, along with select international artists from mostly Spanish-speaking countries like Spain, Mexico and Uruguay. It is one of the most popular rock music festivals in the country with more than 120,000 people attending each year.



(For more information: www.cosquinrock.com)

Carlos Paz and Love!

Another important festival that takes place on February 18th & 19th is the fourth edition of the Carlos Paz & Love festival in Carlos Paz. During two days the city slows down and is swept up in a rhythmic experience with the arrival of bands, artists, stylists and of course lovers of the reggae culture music.



New Project!

Radio Nativa, a humble community radio station in Unquillo town, 25km north of Cordoba city, arranges free English lessons for children, youngsters and adults over the summer. This is a brand new project thought for those who cannot normally afford to take English lessons privately, and who have not acquired a proper knowledge of the language through the basics they learned at school. As the lessons are free and open to any ages, the students are divided into different groups of 10 according to their ages and levels. This is a great chance to get closer to the nice community of

Unquillo town and benefit its people by teaching them something that will be useful and significant for them. Moreover, at the same time, we help develop Radio Nativa as they have just started out with their social commitment labour.

New Staff!



Meet our Medicine Project Supervisor Working with Projects Abroad since October 2010

Melisa Méndez is 25 years old and is a doctor. She is currently practising in local hospitals. She enjoys her job, teaching & helping people in need. She also likes to travel, visiting new places & meeting people.

Meet our Teaching Project Supervisor Working with Projects Abroad since January 2011

Aldana has lived in Córdoba for five years and she studied English Translation at the State University. She likes teaching because it is a very rewarding experience. In her free time she enjoys spending time with friends and family, listening to music and reading. She also likes meeting people from all over the world and learning about other cultures.



Meet our Volunteer Coordinator Working with Projects Abroad since January 2011

Roman has moved from a small town to Cordoba in 2008, He studied Media and TV and loves to listen to music, surf the net and going to the theatre. He lived in New Zealand for two years and enjoys meeting people from all over the world and learning new cultures.

Meet our Volunteer Coordinator Working with Projects Abroad since December 2010

Agustin lives in Cordoba where he is studying economics. In his free time he really enjoys listening to music and playing guitar. He has also been a boy scout for over 12 years. He loves nature and going camping with friends.



Donations!

Every month many donations are done by Projects Abroad to many of the Placements we work with in Cordoba province. This month, amongst others, we provided Teaching & Care materials for the volunteers; we bought the monthly rations of milk, sugar, cocoa, juice and cookies for el Copa de Leche, a placement that provide a snack for local kids who come from very poor families; we bought ventilators, a blackboard, chairs and many activity books to learn English for Radio Nativa Teaching project.

Many thanks to all of you who make a difference!

Testimonials!

[The most memorable experience]« My family because now they will always be my family. They were amazing, very welcoming and I felt so comfortable from the start. The food was amazing too, I actually enjoyed eating for the first time in my life. I was totally included in every part of their lives and I am so grateful to them for that! Besos to Inés and Jean!”

“I loved the summer camp I worked at also and that gave me the chance to really spend time with the children and make friends with local people too.”

Nicole Redsell, UK (3 months, Care)

“Playing my guitar for the volunteers, children and staff at Santa Catalina [summer camp] was the most rewarding part of my trip. As always music transcends all barriers.”

Lindsay Clinton, USA (2 weeks, Care)

(Extracts of the Debriefing Forms)

Gracias a todos for your dedication and commitment!

Birthdays!



And this time the greetings go to: Anastasia Sukhanova, Johan Wohlfahrt, Georgia James, Camilla Mustad, Stephanie De Graeve, Marie-France Tremblay, Fanny Verplancke, Regan O’Brien, Alina Bachmann, Ditte Volfbrandt, Willy Vuik, James Brock, Tamarind Wright, Paayal Shah, Jacob Zitterkopf, Priscillia Fautrat, Hazafirah Hassnar, Isabella Jenkins, Kiki Bornet, Brian Hastings, Timothy Hillgarth, Stella Charrington, Ryan Frew, Emily Brooke, Marina Veil & Ines Mariani.

Feliz cumple to all of you!

Project Articles

The following articles are contributed by volunteers sharing their experience in Argentina.



Argentina!
Bożysława Syrotiak, POLAND
(Equinetherapy, 2 months)

My trip to Argentina with Projects Abroad revived my boring life and opened a door to a whole new world. I volunteered in equine therapy at the Fundacion Cordobesa de Equinoterapia for 2 months.

I am an occupational therapist and I love horses, so it was only a logical choice that I chose equine therapy. I could not have chosen any better. Veronica, the owner of the equine therapy centre, is a very extraordinary and dedicated

therapist. It was an honour to have worked with her. The place was well equipped with good karma all around. The pretty big ponies (I call them horses) Negra, Toro (actually a horse), Chocolate, Milton, and Estrellita were awesome to volunteers and children. Estrellita was the star of the show, hard working and patient. Children were in love with her.

In equine therapy you have to expect to get pretty dusty. Wear comfortable clothes that you do not mind getting dirty. Sometimes you ride ponies for a short time, so riding boots or chaps are a plus. I spent lots of time and money trying to find the perfect riding boots in Cordoba, so if you are prepared, you may eliminate that headache; Although Veronica has some protective gear at the equine therapy place. She always made sure that volunteers wore a helmet and a vest for protection. Veronica wanted everybody to have a great and safe time!

My volunteering co-workers were awesome! Aurore, Leonie, Kate, Sandrine, Damien, Hersha, and Mieke. What a great team!! Teamwork is a biggie in this setting. Putting on saddles and taking them off, cleaning horses and the area, assisting children, warming up horses, and cleaning up after stormy winds. We took pride in making the place look nice and tidy. Veronica in turn fed us dulce de leche and bread. She always made us



feel like part of the family. I miss the farm with its fresh air, greenery, horses and dogs. It always was a great place to work and a great way to balance out the busy city life.

Cordoba has lots to offer culturally, educationally and commercially. I doubled my luggage due to my productive shopping; it's a great place to buy leather goods. I lived with a great family right in the heart of the city. Alicia Fernandez and her daughters were super friendly and always interested in my well-being. It was nice to know that they really cared about me. I loved Alicia's light and healthy cooking. The food, especially the Argentinean meat, was unbelievably delicious. Night life in Cordoba offers a chance to go out with other volunteers and meet locals. I took tango lessons in Cordoba, and danced in La Boca when I visited Buenos Aires. I felt pretty well prepared even after just a few classes.

The Spanish classes with Susan Revol from Projects Abroad were very helpful and jump started my passion for Spanish aka Castellano. I still have lots to learn and I am excited about it. I cannot wait to return to Cordoba and visit with my new friends, study Castellano and explore surrounding South American countries. I had a chance to see lots of beautiful places in Argentina. I have travelled to the Iguazu Falls, Mendoza, Salta, Bariloche, and Buenos Aires, just to mention a few places that I have visited while with Projects Abroad. What an amazing country and people!! I am excited to return to South America one day and continue my adventure. Thank you to the amazing Projects Abroad team in Cordoba.



Thank you a bunch!!



Première semaine à Santa Catalina!
Marie Fouré, FRANCE
(Care, 2 months)

Les vacances d'été commencent pour plus d'une centaine d'enfants et adolescents de divers instituts de Cordoba. Nous sommes sept volontaires à être affectés dans ce camp de vacances, pour accompagner et encadrer ces enfants, travailler en collaboration avec les professeurs et les accompagnateurs des instituts, ainsi qu'aider pour diverses autres tâches notamment le service en cuisine. En tant que volontaires, nous avons été très bien accueillis et présentés comme membres du staff et moniteurs prêts à aider pour quoi que ce soit et disponibles pour tous les enfants de la colonie.

Cette première semaine est passée à une vitesse éclair. Les matinées étaient dédiées à des activités parfois sportives (jeux en équipes, promenades, tournois de ping-pong) ou encore manuelles (dessin, plasticolor, argile/modelage). Tous les après-midi, on s'est tous rendus au fleuve situé en contrebas de cet incroyable espace de verdure. L'eau y est vraiment très chaude et tous les jours pendant plus de deux heures, les enfants s'amuse inlassablement sans jamais sortir de l'eau.

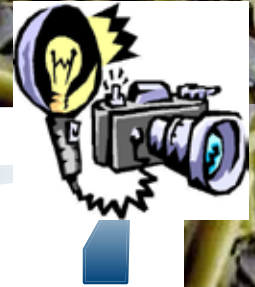
Même si peu d'enfants s'expriment à ce sujet, ils ont l'air heureux ici et surtout libres. Loin de la ville et au milieu de la nature, j'ai été particulièrement étonnée de la liberté qui leur était laissée ici. Libres de parcourir cet immense parc qui forme la colonie, on les sent détendus et il me semble qu'ils savent profiter pleinement de la confiance qui leur est accordée. D'ailleurs, tous les soirs, avant l'extinction des feux, d'eux-mêmes, ils mettent la musique dehors et dansent avec entrain. Nous sommes également toujours de la partie. Et lorsque l'on annonce qu'il est temps de dormir, en cinq minutes, tout le monde est rendu dans son dortoir, avec très peu de réticents.

On peut également ressentir tout l'amour qu'ils se portent les uns envers les autres entre enfants,



adolescents de tous instituts confondus. Ils savent également nous montrer combien ils ont besoin d'affection. Dès les premiers instants, dès les premiers contacts avec eux, ils n'hésitent pas à vous serrer dans les bras ou vous prendre la main. Ils semblent avoir saisi que nous sommes là pour eux, pour leur sécurité mais aussi pour leur donner toute l'affection dont ils ont besoin. Petit à petit, au fil des jours, ils s'habituent à nous et nous à eux. On essaye d'être au plus à leur écoute, de les faire sourire voire même rire, autant que possible, d'intervenir dès qu'ils deviennent agressifs en tentant de donner quelques explications en espagnol. Au fil des semaines, j'imagine que nous allons tisser des liens assez forts avec ces enfants. C'est ainsi que de moniteurs étrangers nous allons je l'espère devenir des personnes sécurisantes et de confiance auprès desquelles ils pourront se référer, se confier et avec qui ils auront pu s'amuser et profiter pleinement de ce mois de vacances hors de la ville, hors des problèmes.





Socials & Dirty Weekends

In January we had many Social meetings. Amongst all these wonderful moments with the volunteers we went to a swimming pool, played bowling, walked up Pan de Azucar mountain and went to the Jesus Maria Festival! Thanks to all of you who take the time and effort to attend our Socials as you make it possible to have a good time together!



Unquillo swimming pool!

During summer holidays it's very common that that people gather with their friends and families in rivers, lakes or public swimming pools. And that's exactly what we did!!!! The scheduled day was Saturday, January 8th. I had checked the weather forecast the day before and rain was announced, luckily the day was spectacular and the sun was shining brighter than ever!

The gathering point was the Projects Abroad office and by the time I reached the place, all the volunteers where already there. As soon as we got to Unquillo swimming pool, we all dived into the beautiful clear water and freshened up after days of unbearable heat. We then sat in the shade and played different card games like CHANCHO VA before heading back to the pool for more fun. As the boys played volleyball in the water, us girls had fun taking many pictures underwater with my camera! Some volunteers preferred staying in the sun listening to music, reading or just sunbathing than getting into the pool! After a while, exhausted of playing and swimming, almost everyone joined them in the sun.

It was rewarding to have most of the volunteers together as many of them travel at weekends around Cordoba province or even Argentina. We all had a great time together and we were more than happy to be part of this!!!!





Bowling!

Bowling is always fun especially when it means over 20 volunteers getting together to share around pizzas and play a few games of bowling. This was also a great way to meet all the new volunteers that had recently arrived.



Festival de Doma y Folklore de Jesus Maria!

Every year in January, Argentine gauchos leap onto their horses and folklore musicians tune their guitars for the Jesús María Festival of Horse Taming and Folklore. Together with the volunteers we got to see impressive rodeo stunts, eat some great food and rock along to the folk music! The volunteers were amazed by the whole evening.





Pan de Azucar & Festival Nacional del Folclore!



Mid-January I took over 20 volunteers on a day trip to Cosquin city. Located north of Cordoba, this town lies at the feet of the Pan de Azucar Mountain and at the margins of the Cosquín River. I had chosen this emblematic destination for two reasons. First, for its Festival Nacional del Folclore which has been uninterruptedly performed since January of 1961, conveying dozens of thousands of visitors every year. This festival

has turned over the years into the main event of popular song in Argentina and for nine nights the entire city becomes a party at all times: the different peñas (folk restaurants) where local gastronomy and traditional chanting can be enjoyed by costumers, stay open until the small hours of the day, and in the afternoons the rooky folklore performers, aiming for fame and fortune, gather up in the beach resorts at the shores of the Cosquín River. Secondly, for the incredible view that can be seen from the top of Pan de Azucar Mountain.



After taking the las Sierras Train for a 2h ride through the picturesque mountains from Cordoba to Cosquin city, we huffed and puffed up Pan de Azucar Mountain for a breath taking view before heading back to the Festivities of the Festival in downtown Cosquin. It was truly an amazing day!



Argentinean Cuisine

Choripan con Chimichurri!

Like a taco is to Mexicans or a gyro is to Greeks, the Choripan is the most recognized street food in Argentina. It's one of those ubiquitous cultural icons that unifies a country by combining all the things that they love into one little package that nourishes and comforts its people no matter what their socioeconomic status might be. It's a real simple equation: fresh bread + chimichurri + a meaty sausage = a national obsession. Try it out!



Ingredients

Preparation

CHIMICHURRI (Sauce):

Parsley, 2 cups, minced.

Garlic cloves, 2, diced.

Oregano (dried), 1/4 tsp.

Red pepper flakes 1 pinch.

Cumin seeds 3/4 tsp.

Paprika 1/4 tsp.

Salt 1/2 tsp to taste.

Black pepper 1/2 tsp to taste.

Bay leaf ½.

Olive oil 2 Tbsps.

Balsamic vinegar 2 Tbsps.

White distilled vinegar 1/2 cup

Canola oil 1/4 cup.

SANDWICH:

Argentinean Chorizo, as many as you and your guests want to eat.

French rolls, as many chorizos you have.

1. In a glass bowl combine the minced parsley and diced garlic.
2. Add the oregano, red pepper flakes, cumin seeds, paprika, bay leaf, and salt & pepper.
3. Add the olive oil and canola oil and mix with a spoon.
4. Add the balsamic vinegar and white vinegar and mix again.
5. Taste. Adjust mixture by adding more of the oils, vinegars and salt & pepper. For the best results let the mixture stand for 2 hours at room temperature.
6. If you are using a gas grill set the temperature to medium. If you are using a charcoal barbeque get the coals to the point that white ash is showing and the coals are glowing and are spread out in an even layer.
7. Poke holes in the chorizo and place on the grill. Grill for 8 to 10 minutes per side.
8. Slice the French roll on one side to open up. Place on the grill to toast.
9. Place a chorizo inside of the roll. Spoon the chimichurri over the chorizo.

¡Buen provecho!



Useful information

Media links!

Check out our Facebook group: [Projects Abroad Argentina - The Official Group!](http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=299652262027) It is regularly updated with photos from Social events and news on the projects and the city of Cordoba!
<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=299652262027>

Read our [monthly Newsletters!](http://www.projects-abroad.co.uk/volunteer-destinations/argentina/newsletters-from-argentina/)

<http://www.projects-abroad.co.uk/volunteer-destinations/argentina/newsletters-from-argentina/>

See what is going on with Projects Abroad! Read our [Country Blog!](http://www.mytripblog.org/mod/blog/group_blogs.php?gl=true&group_guid=263)

http://www.mytripblog.org/mod/blog/group_blogs.php?gl=true&group_guid=263

Contact Information!

Cordoba Bus Terminal

Bv.Peron 380 – Planta Baja.

Tel: (0351) 4331982 / 87

Hours: Mondays to Sundays from 8 AM a 8 PM

Police: 101

Fire department: *100

Medical emergency: 107-136

International Airport of Cordoba

Tel: (0351) 4348390

Hours: Mondays to Sundays from 10 AM a 8 PM

What?	Where?	When?
National Festival of Tonada	Tunuyán, Mendoza, Argentina	February 3rd - 6th
Slow, melodic lyrics drift out of the packed amphitheatre in the town of Tunuyán, near Mendoza, at the annual National Festival of Tonada. Tonada is a genre of folk music prevalent in Argentina's Cuyo region, sung with a guitar accompaniment.		
Gauleguaychú Carnival	Gauleguaychú	1 Jan - 5 Mar 2011; Saturday only
Cosquin Rock	Santa María de Punilla, Cordoba province	February 11th-13th
Huge international stars, like Manu Chao and Deep Purple, and Argentina's own Charly García, Babasónicos and others have rocked the crowds in the countryside at Cosquín Rock. Every year, thousands flood Santa María de Punilla for the rock music festival.		
Quilmes Rock	Estadio Antonio V. Liberti (River Plate Stadium), Buenos Aires	February 2011
Quilmes Rock returns to Buenos Aires' River Plate Stadium with a bang every year. Big international groups and Argentina's very own rock sensations make up the headliners.		

There are many things to see in Cordoba, here are a few places that are worth checking out!

Museo Municipal de Bellas Artes "Dr. Genaro Perez"

Founded in 1943, this museum has one of the most complete and best conserved Argentine art collections done by the precursors of the 19th and the 20th century art to our days.

Av. General Paz 33. Tel. 4285905

Entrance fee: Free

Feria Artesanal Paseo de las Artes

Achaval Rodriguez esq. Belgrano – Barrio Guemes

Hours: Saturdays & Sundays from 6 PM to 10 PM.

Tourist office: Casa Cabildo

Independencia 5

Tel: (0351) 4341200

Hours: Mondays to Sundays from 8 AM a 8 PM