

Spotlight on Montevideo



HISTORY

The Portuguese founded the Montevideo area in the 17th century. The Spanish chased the Portuguese out of a fort in the area in 1724. Then, Bruno Mauricio de Zabala – governor of Buenos Aires – founded the city on December 24, 1726. In 1828, the Montevideo became the capital of Uruguay.

The city fell under British influence from the early 19th century until the early 20th century as a way to circumvent Argentine and Brazilian commercial control. It was repeatedly besieged by Argentinean dictator Juan Manuel de Rosas between 1838 and 1851.

During World War II, a famous incident involving the German pocket battleship Admiral Graf Spee took place in Montevideo, which was a neutral port during the war. After the Battle of the River Plate with the British navy on December 13, 1939, the Graf Spee retreated to the port.

Unlike its more well-known neighbor, Buenos Aires, Argentina, Montevideo is blessed with a natural harbor.

DOCKING

The cruise ship docks at the pier on the southern tip of the city.

SHORE EXCURSIONS

Please check your tour voucher for the correct meeting time and location for your tour. Your cruise line representative will direct you to your transportation.

TRANSPORTATION

Take a 10-minute taxi for about \$2 to town from the port.

HOW TO GET TO TOWN

Take a 5-minute shuttle to Casa Mario in town.

SHOPPING

Montevideo is perfect for leather lovers. Find great values on excellent quality jackets, skirts, pants, coats, handbags, wallets and belts in calf, antelope, suede and sheepskin leather.

STORE HOURS

Casa Mario Leather is always open while ships are in port.

BANK HOURS

Banking hours are from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm (certain banks open from 11:00 am) but a vast ATM network is readily available.

POST OFFICE HOURS

The main post office is located at the pier.

TELEPHONES/INTERNET

Telephones and internet are located at the pier.

EMERGENCY

In case of an emergency, dial 911 for police.



MONTEVIDEO

PORT & SHOPPING MAP

English



CAPITAL

Montevideo is the capital, largest city, and chief port of Uruguay.

LOCATION

Montevideo is situated in the south of the country, at the northern mouth of the very wide River Plate estuary.

SIZE

Montevideo covers an area of 72,201 sq miles.

POPULATION

Approximately 1,349,000 people live in Montevideo.

LANGUAGE

Spanish is the official language of Uruguay.

CURRENCY

The Uruguayan peso is the official currency of Uruguay.

TIME ZONE

Montevideo is on GMT/UTC -3.

TOURIST INFORMATION

The tourist information office is located at the pier.

PLACES TO SEE

A. PLAZA INDEPENDENCIA

Originally the site of a Spanish citadel, Independence Square marks the beginning of the Old City. An enormous statue of Gen. José Gervasio Artigas, father of Uruguay and hero of its independent movement, stands in the center.

B. TEATRO SOLIS

Teatro Solis is Montevideo's main theater and opera house. It opened in 1852 and completed an extensive renovation a few years back. It hosts Uruguay's most important cultural events and is the site of the Museo Nacional de Historia Natural (National Museum of Natural History).

C. MERCADO DEL PUERTO

Montevideo's port market opened in 1868. The impressive wrought-iron superstructure houses outstanding seafood restaurants as well as the more traditional grills that sell parillas to choose your cut off the grill.

D. MUSEO TORRES GARCIA

The Museo Torres García displays the works of Joaquín Torres García (1874-1949), the Uruguayan artist who spent much of his career in France producing abstract and Cubist work, and unusual portraits of figures like Columbus, Mozart and Beethoven.

GUARANTEE

Shop with confidence, knowing that all merchants on this map have been carefully selected and each offers a 30-day guarantee to cruise line guests. This guarantee ensures buyers that all recommended merchants will repair or replace any unsatisfactory item, excluding buyer's negligence, buyer's remorse and lost or stolen merchandise. For purposes of determining quality and value of jewelry related to a buyer's complaint, only appraisals secured by a buyer from independent graduate gemologists, not affiliated with any retail jeweler, will be acceptable. Please inquire about individual store return policies before finalizing any purchase.

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Please send a letter and include the name of the ship, cruise date, store name and merchandise problem. Also enclose a copy of the sales receipt and any relevant documents relating to the sale. Onboard Media will contact the recommended store on your behalf for repair or replacement, and you will be notified accordingly.

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