

# SALTA~ESTANCIA CHACU

## Dove & Pigeon Shooting~Dorado Fishing

### PRE-TRIP INFORMATION

#### PRICE

**\$695 per person, per night**

**Included:** All ground transportation in the hunting areas, all meals, including beer, wine and cocktails, single-room accommodations when possible.

**Not included:** Commercial or charter air travel, Argentine gun permits or gun rental, shotgun shells, gratuities, and miscellaneous purchases.

#### TRAVEL/GUN PERMITS/ENTRY

Salta is accessed by traveling overnight from the United States to Buenos Aires and then connecting to Salta via Aerolineas Argentinas or LAN Airlines jet service. A valid passport is required to enter Argentina. Visas are not required.

The process of taking your shotguns to Argentina is simple. Rod & Gun Resources will send you a one page "gun permit pre-registration" form. You just fill it out and have it back to us no later than 30 days prior to your departure. That's it. We will fill out the required Argentine technical form—*ficha tecnica* and send it (with three copies) to you, along with your other final documents.

**PLEASE BE AWARE THAT IT SOMETIMES TAKES AN HOUR OR MORE TO CLEAR GUNS AT CUSTOMS—BUT NONE OF THIS APPLIES IF YOU RENT GUNS.**

Upon arrival in Buenos Aires you proceed to the gun clearance area, present the *ficha tecnica* form and pay the approx. \$100 per gun fee (US dollars accepted) for each firearm. **Please make sure you have this amount of cash on hand when you arrive.** Of course, our representative will provide assistance throughout.

#### SHELLS

All shells must be purchased in Argentina. The quality is quite good, and the outfitter will always have ample quantities. The cost of shells is tied closely to the cost of lead and fluctuates a bit. Generally you should expect to pay \$13/box for 20 and 12 gauge and a bit more for 28 gauge. **THESE PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.** Payment for shells can be made with cash or a personal check, and will be handled as you depart. Traveler's Checks or credit cards are not accepted.

#### GUNS/CHOKES

If you bring guns, we suggest you bring two in case of breakdown. 12, 20 or 28-gauge are all suitable. For chokes, we suggest improved/modified for double guns and modified for single barrels. Screw-in chokes can provide flexibility. Make sure your guns are in good working order before you leave—this is high-volume shooting in the country, away

from gunsmiths. Take extra parts for repair if you have them. Gun cleaning equipment is not necessary—the lodge cleans all firearms.

You should transport your guns in lockable hard cases. Even in a hard case, the gun must be disassembled. We also suggest a lightweight, storable soft case to carry guns into the field. ***Of course, none of this applies if you rent guns.***

#### **IMPORTANT**

Upon your return to the U.S., the Customs authorities will require you to have proof-of-ownership of your firearms. You must register your guns with U.S. Customs (personal effects form 4457) prior to your departure from the U.S. This can be accomplished at your international departure city airport.

#### **SHOTGUN/ROD RENTAL**

Good-condition Benelli and Beretta autoloaders are available to rent in 20 or 12 gauge at \$75/gun per day. Fly rods/reels are also available for rental at \$75/rod per day.

#### **SHOOTING LIMITS**

Bag limits in most provinces of Argentina are very liberal, and on some species that are considered “plagues” there are no limits. The dove shooting in Salta is in this category, and consequently, there are no limits. Hunters generally shoot from 1,000 to 3,000 rounds a day, sometimes more, depending on conditions and personal inclination. Pigeon hunters are limited to 200 pigeons per day.

**CATCH AND RELEASE:** In the spirit of sportsmanship and preserving our world-class fishing, we encourage catch and release on all species.

#### **AIRLINE SCHEDULING**

Many excellent carriers, such as American Airlines, Delta, United, Lan Chile, Aerolineas Argentinas and Varig offer flight service to Buenos Aires, Argentina, from Dallas, New York, Houston, Miami, Atlanta, or Los Angeles. All of the flights depart the U. S. in the evening and arrive Argentina early to late morning the next day. From Buenos Aires, anglers/shooters take a two-hour jet flight north to Salta City.

We are in constant contact with our outfitters and our transfer agency—both organizations do an outstanding job handling incoming/outgoing transfers.

#### **TRIP CANCELLATION & BAGGAGE INSURANCE**

For travel insurance you can contact:

Kevin Martin  
Martin Travel Services  
(954) 748-6881 office  
(954) 748-6855 fax  
(800) 627-8468 toll free  
Cell – 954-558-8154

Check your homeowner’s insurance for coverage of your shotguns and baggage contents while traveling.

Global Rescue provides unparalleled emergency medical services and is the only company that conducts field rescue and medical evacuation from the point of illness or injury back to your home country hospital of choice. In addition, a Global Rescue

membership also includes 24/7 access to critical care paramedics, and in-house physicians backed by specialists from Johns Hopkins Medicine, the leading hospital in the US since 1990.

Before traveling with Rod & Gun Resources, we recommend you take out a Global Rescue membership. If you have any questions or would like to sign up, please visit [www.globalrescue.com/rodandgun](http://www.globalrescue.com/rodandgun) or call Global Rescue at (617)459-4200.

## **GRATUITIES**

Gratuities for hotel and field staff are not included in the hunt cost, and we suggest \$65-\$70 per day per shooter in cash as a general guideline. This will be distributed by the outfitters to luggage handlers, pick-up boys, and lodge staff. Camouflage caps, shirts, or other shooting-related items are also appreciated by younger bird boys as an extra tip. A pair of anglers should tip \$50 total per day to their fishing guide. All tips can be paid at the end of the trip.

If you spend some time in Buenos Aires or Salta City, the standard restaurant tip is 10 to 15%.

## **TIME**

When we are on Daylight Savings Time here in the U.S., Argentina is Eastern Time plus one hour (it's later in Argentina). The remainder of the year they are Eastern Time plus two hours.

## **LANGUAGE**

Spanish is the national language, although English is spoken in most shops and restaurants.

## **ELECTRIC CURRENT**

220 volts; a standard converter and European adapter for two-pronged plugs should work fine.

## **SEASONS/CLIMATE/CLOTHING**

Dove hunting is excellent year-round in Salta Province. Pigeons are best in the cooler months of mid-May through August. Golden dorado fishing is best April/May and September through November. During the colder months, lows will be 35° to 50°. Highs run 50° to 80°. During the warmer months, lows will be 50° to 60° and highs will be 80° to 90°. Generally, Salta is much closer to the equator than other Argentine destinations and has a milder climate.

For doves and pigeons, use dark green/brown or camo clothes with a corresponding hat. Ankle-height shoes or boots are perfectly adequate. Pants are better than shorts due to the occasional irritation from gnats or no-see-ums. Always take a raincoat to the field. Recommended fishing clothes are listed below. Evening wear will be very informal—whatever is most comfortable, including hunting or fishing clothes if you wish.

## **OTHER ITEMS TO INCLUDE**

- Shooting safety glasses—yellow for dark days, dark for sunny days
- Thin, soft leather shooting gloves or adhesive tape to protect hands and fingers while loading and firing
- Shell bag or vest
- Ear plugs for protection while shooting
- Shoulder pad recoil reduction device (optional)
- Camera with extra battery
- Small container of bug repellent
- Light raincoat (brown, green, camo, etc.)

- Small backpack or field bag
- Copy of passport—packed separately
- Multi-tool or pocketknife
- Reading glasses and reading material
- Toiletry items
- Prescription drugs
- Zip-lock bag or case to protect camera
- Lip balm
- Travel alarm clock and small flashlight
- Garbage bags for dirty laundry
- Sunscreen

#### **ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR DORADO FISHING**

**Dorado fishing at Chacu Lodge is done by wadefishing smaller rivers. Chacu has excellent fly rods and reels available for rent. Anglers will need to bring flies and these additional items:**

- Several cotton or microfiber long-sleeved shirts
- Several pairs of shorts (weather permitting)
- A pair(s) of nylon/microfiber pants for fishing/wading.
- Wading boots
- Fishing hat
- Fishing pack or bag
- Amber polarized fishing glasses
- Fishing gloves (optional)
- 15-30 lb. range of tippet material
- Plastic-coated 30 lb. steel tippet material (Tyger Wire)
- Fishing pliers
- Hook sharpener
- Fly vest or fanny pack

#### **FLY FISHING TACKLE**

- 6- to 9-weight fly rod(s) in 9' to 10' length
- Reel for 6- to 8-weight rod
- Floating fly line for 6- to 8-weight rods
- Sink tip line for 6- to 8-weight rods

#### **FLIES**

Large muddler/deceiver flies #1 to #3/0 in color combinations of yellow, orange, black, red, and blue with lots of flash and some with white underbellies. All flies should be three to five inches in length.

Flies can be ordered from Feather-Craft Fly Fishing [www.feather-craft.com](http://www.feather-craft.com) (800) 659-1707. Please order well in advance of your departure.

## IN BUENOS AIRES

**Shopping:** Most shops are generally open all day to 7 p.m. on weekdays and until 1 p.m. on Saturdays. Florida Street (Calle Florida) is for pedestrians only and is lined with many attractive shops. One example is Mundo del Cuero (World of Leather) which houses two dozen leather goods merchants.

**Restaurants:** The restaurant environment in Buenos Aires is very diverse and dynamic. We suggest that you consult with your transfer agent or hotel concierge for recommendations or assist with reservations for any restaurant. You should plan on eating a little later than you may be used to in the U. S.—many Argentines don't eat dinner until 10 p.m., and most restaurants do not begin serving dinner until 8:30 p.m.

## HELPFUL HINTS

Get to the airport plenty early on your day of departure. You will have spent a lot of money on the trip, so start off on the right foot. Carry some bills in small denominations for tips, airport meters, snacks, etc.

Check the expiration date on your passport. Some countries require that the passport is valid for as much as one year from your date of entry. And, take a photocopy of the photo page of the passport, in case you lose the original. The copy will greatly facilitate the process of securing a new one.

Plan for rain. Always take a raincoat (in hunting colors) and **always take it with you** on each outing. It's amazing how many wet hunters/fishermen have a nice dry raincoat in their guestroom at the lodge. If it doesn't rain, they make an excellent outer shell for cool mornings.

Pack sensibly. Try to use soft-sided luggage and take only as much clothing as you will need. Always take your passport, airline tickets, medications, camera equipment and valuables in a carry-on such as a backpack or small valise.

Bandannas are a good idea for protecting your neck against the sun, and they work well as an emergency head-cover if you misplace your hat and need to protect your slightly balding head.

Bring two pairs of sunglasses.

## Rod & Gun Resources

(800) 211-4753

(830) 792-6800

[www.rodgunresources.com](http://www.rodgunresources.com)