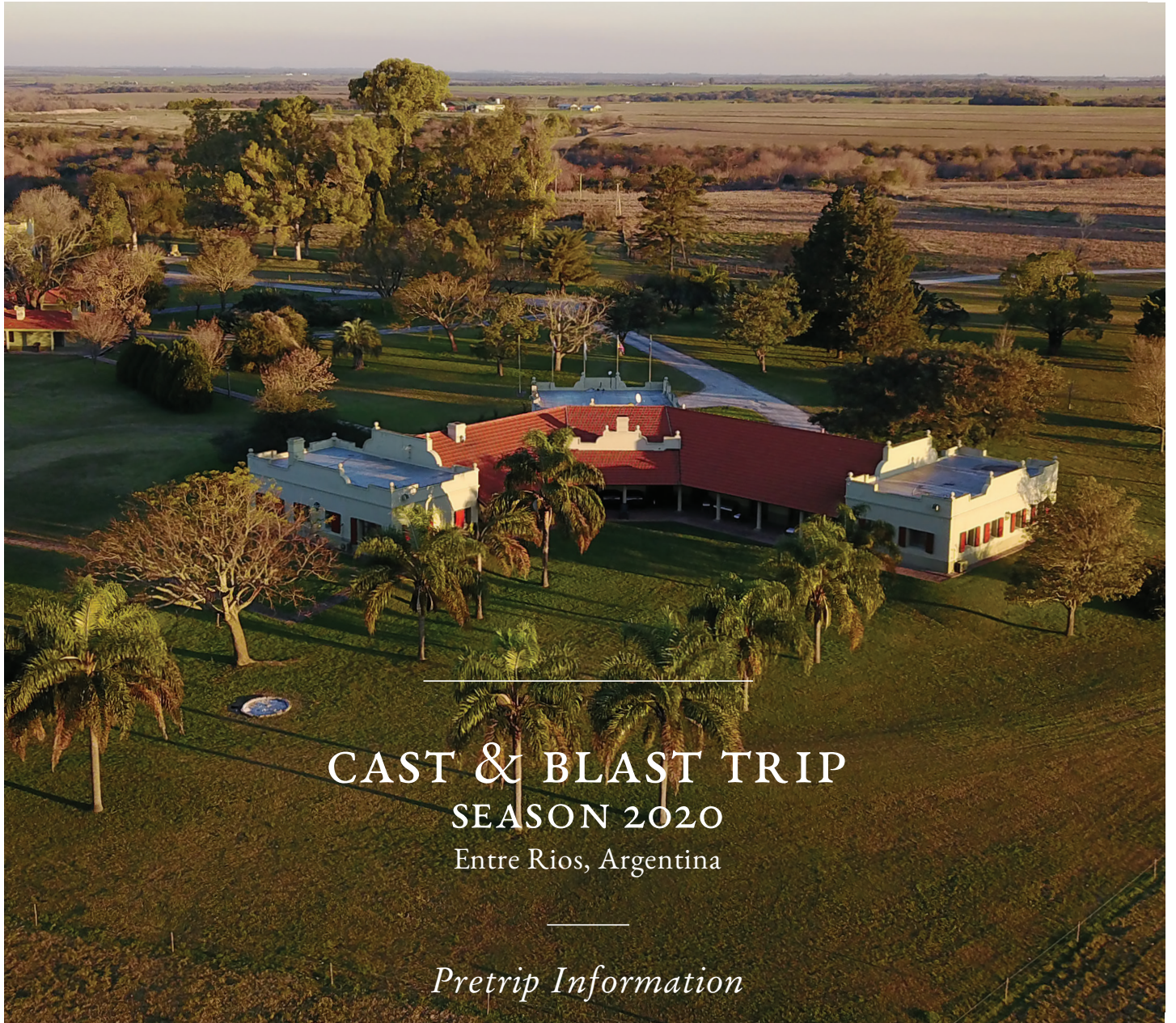




LOS
LAURELES
ENTRE RIOS - ARGENTINA



CAST & BLAST TRIP
SEASON 2020
Entre Rios, Argentina

Pretrip Information





LOS
LAURELES
ENTRE RIOS - ARGENTINA

First of all, thank you for choosing
LOS LAURELES LODGE as your next
Hunting & Fishing destination.

Please find in the following pages,
information that will be helpful in
planning y our trip.

At the bottom of this file you will find a
Checklist and Travel tips
that will help you organize your trip.

INDEX

Click over each section
for direct access.

- _ ARRIVAL
- _ CUSTOMS & FIREARMS REGISTRATION
- _ GUN INFORMATION
- _ AIR TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS
- _ BAGGAGE/ GUN CASE REGISTRATION
- _ GUNS & CHOKES
- _ HUNTING & FISHING IN ENTRE RIOS
- _ TRIP ITINERARY
- _ FLY FISHING EQUIPMENT
- _ SPINNING AND CASTING EQUIPMENT
- _ SUGGESTED CLOTHING & EQUIPMENT
- _ CATCH & RELEASE
- _ WEATHER
- _ FOOD
- _ HEALTH
- _ INSURANCE
- _ CURRENCY
- _ ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES
- _ TERMS & CONDITIONS
- _ GRATUITIES
- _ ELECTRIC CURRENT
- _ SAFETY FIRST
- _ ARGENTINE LAWS
- _ LODGE CONTACT INFORMATION
- _ CHECK LIST
- _ TRAVEL TIPS

Note to Group Leaders

It is important that as group leader you share this pre-trip information with all the members of your group. This is one of the best ways to ensure that everyone is informed and prepared to travel and understands our policies.

We cannot assume any financial responsibility for adverse consequences incurred if the group leader does not provide this information to all members of the party.



Arrival

US Citizens do not need a VISA to come to Argentina, but make sure your passport has not expired, and it should not expire within six month of your trip's departure date. If you are from another country, please check if you need a VISA to enter Argentina.

Customs & Firearms Registration

If you want to bring your shotguns to Argentina, you should request U.S. Customs a Form 4457-Certificate of Registration for Personal Effects Taken Abroad. This form can be obtained at any U.S. Customs office before your trip by presenting your firearms for this procedure. A copy should be carried in your gun case and a copy left at home. This regulation applies only for re-entry into the U.S.

Also, you will need to fill up the required form (the ficha tecnica) that we will send you in PDF format. Fill out the form and make a copy. Have the original and copy with you when you enter Argentina.

Once in the gun clearance area of the airport in Buenos Aires, present your "ficha tecnica" form and cash payment. The fee changes periodically but is presently USD 100 per gun. It is important to have cash at hand upon your arrival. When traveling with dollars, you will be directed to the airport bank who will change your money.

Please be aware that for guns with interchangeable barrels, each barrel will be charged separately.

If you bring guns, we will contract the services of a third-party agent who will assist you in the airports throughout your trip. This service is independent from the services included in your trip and requires an additional fee payable to the agent.

In addition to gun clearance both on your arrival and departure, the ground agent will also handle airport transfers both ways between the international and domestic airports.

NOTE: *The gun clearance process changed in 2013 and is more time consuming than previously. Unless you have a strong preference towards your own guns, we recommend renting guns at the lodge. Please inquire if intending on bringing guns to ensure that there will not be a conflict with connecting flight times.*

Gun Information

The assortments of shotguns that we have for rent are mostly 12 and 20-gauge. They include Benelli Montefeltro, Super 90, M1 and brand new M2's, also Beretta's semi-automatic A391 and Beretta's Silver Pigeon over and under. The cost is USD 70 per day, per gun.



Air Travel Arrangements

Numerous carriers offer daily flights from Miami, Houston, Dallas, Atlanta, New York and Los Angeles to Buenos Aires. Flights leave the U.S. in the evening and arrive in Buenos Aires early the next morning. Return flights leave Buenos Aires at night, arriving back in the U.S. the next morning. Flights are north/south, meaning that you stay in the same general time zone (Easter Standard Time plus 1 hour). You can go to sleep on the plane and wake up the next morning in Buenos Aires with virtually, no jet lag.

IMPORTANT NOTE: *Bring a change of clothes in your carry-on. Checked baggage can be misplaced by the airline and it takes them, at least, a few days to get them back to you.*

Commercial domestic flights only depart from Aeroparque airport (AEP), which is in the city (Domestic Airport). If flying on a private charter, your domestic connection will depart either from the Ezeiza International airport (EZE), Aeroparque (AEP) or the San Fernando private airport on the other side of the city. Both Aeroparque and San Fernando airports are accessed by a drive across town. We will arrange your ground transportation to connecting airports prior to your trip.

IMPORTANT NOTE: *There is a law in Argentina that doesn't allow people to carry home native animals, including birds.*

We strongly advice against trying to bring birds back with you from Argentina. Additionally, airlines have been increasingly unwilling to allow the transport of game birds as well.

Baggage/Gun Case Registration

VERY IMPORTANT

Domestic Flights:

You are limited to one piece of checked luggage, one carry-on and a laptop / briefcase per person; this includes your gun case. This is for economy class.

The restriction on size of your checked luggage is 62 linear inches and 33 pounds per bag. Be advised that excess luggage (more than 2 bags) will cost around USD 20 per extra bag. Note that this charge may vary.

If you travel domestically in business class instead of economy, then the limit is two checked bags instead of one and they are 50 pounds each.

Moreover, if you fly down to Argentina in a Sky Team member airline, please let us know so we can add your frequent flyer number to your reservation.

Please check with your airline to confirm baggage regulations as they may vary. Specially in your international flight.

To comply with current airline policy regarding the carriage of firearms, shotguns must be carried in a lockable hard-sided gun case. Guns may not be broken down and carried in a duffel bag, not even duffel bags with a bottom compartment designed for guns, unless the hard sided, lockable case fits into that compartment.

You are NOT permitted to bring shotgun shells into Argentina.

Guns & Chokes

Either 12 or 20 ga. is suitable for ducks, pigeons, perdiz & dove. 28 and 410ga shells are available upon request and providing we are informed no later than 30 days prior to your trip. The price for 12 and 20 ga. shells is USD 13,50 per box of 25. 28 and 410ga. shells carry a distinct cost and will be quoted prior to your trip. We suggest using improved/modified chokes for dove & pigeons, skeet/improved for perdiz and improved/modified for ducks. Make sure your guns are in good shape before you leave, as you will be subjecting them to high-volume shooting in an area far from gunsmiths. Bring spare parts if you have them.

Hunting & Fishing in Entre Rios

We are located in the Southern part of Entre Rios, where you will find the best cast & blast in Argentina. Entre Rios is a fertile and productive agricultural and cattle stock area, and Dove thrive in its mild climate.

Hunting season is open year-round for dove, pigeons and fishing (catch & release for golden dorado). **Los Laureles Lodge** has a 700-acre Eared Dove roost inside the ranch. We have the best high-volume dove shooting in the area.

For Golden Dorado we fish the Parana River, accessed through the ranch, 5 minutes from the lodge. We use state of the art fishing boats with platforms for the fly fishermen, though bait casting and traditional fishing are also accepted.

Two fishermen per boat and one professional guide. Full day or half day excursions are available. The Dorado (*salminus maxillosus*) is an aggressive fish, and once hooked makes impressive and acrobatic multiple jumps.

We have equipment for rent at the lodge in case you don't wish to bring your own or if you need to use them as a replacement. The cost per day is USD 50 and it includes the rod, reel and line.

The driving distance from the Parana airport to the lodge ranges between 35 minutes to 55 minutes. The driving distance to the field ranges between 5 to 50 minutes depending on the bird you are hunting and the time of the year. Dove shooting is done inside the property and the travel distance is 5 minutes at the most.



Trip Itinerary

A typical dove or fishing day begins with a wake-up call at 6:00 a.m. followed by a full breakfast. You will depart for the shoot at 7:00 a.m. Wake-up calls and departure times may vary a little, depending on the time of year and where you will be hunting that day. As to how many shells each hunter will shoot, it depends on the hunter; most hunters can expect to shoot two or three cases of shells per day -each case has 500 shells-. On most days, you will return to the lodge for lunch, around noon and there will be time for a nap afterwards. Afternoon hunts or fishing excursions will begin between 3:00 and 3:30 p.m. and will last until late in the afternoon 6:30 / 7:00 p.m. After the shoot, the group will drive back to the lodge where there will be time for a drink, massages, and a hot shower before dinner.



Fly Fishing Equipment

RODS

We recommend bringing 2 different single-handed rods. An 8wt. 9ft. rod, with reels carrying tropical floating lines and other carrying sink tips (teeny 200 / 250 works fine or shooting heads that sink fast) to cover most fishing conditions, as well as to approach bigger fish in the 8+ lb. range. A 6wt 9ft with a reel carrying a floating tropical will work perfect to fish smaller flies.

REELS

A strong, smooth drag is a must, as many fish will take very strong, fast runs. Reels (and spare spools) should have capacity for the fly line and 100 yards of 20-pound backing. comparable sinking line for the deeper parts of the Parana river.

LINES

You should bring weight forward floating lines for warm water (saltwater, tarpon, bonefish or tropic) or intermediate sinking tip lines. Lines such as: Scientific Anglers Ultra 3 Bonefish Taper, Tarpon Taper, Cortland Tropic Plus, or comparable warm water lines will prove invaluable. Also bring a fast sinking shooting taper like Teeny's T-200 or T-300 or comparable sinking line for the deeper parts of the Parana river.

LEADERS

The Freshwater Golden Dorado isn't particularly leader shy. While reasonable stealth should be exercised, the leaders should be heavy enough to turn over big wind resistant flies, so heavy-strong butts are important.

Spools of mono should include 8, 12, 16, 20, 40lbs, test weights, for tippets. For floating lines, you should have 6 to 9-foot-long tapered leaders. For sinking lines, 4-7 feet of 20 lb. mono with a piece of 16 lb. tippet should work well. The most important thing to consider in a Dorado leader is the shock, or bite tippet. These fish have very sharp teeth that will cut even the strongest mono. We recommend using a 15 to 30 lb. wire section at the end of your leader. American Fishing Wire and Malin BOA wire are both good selections.

FLIES

The Lodge provides a selection of fly patterns as well as a modest supply of backup tackle at reasonable prices. We still recommend you bring your own flies to get you through your stay.

WET FLIES

Big Saltwater Streamers are usually the norm.

Colors: Black, White, Black and Chartreuse/Red/Yellow, Red/Black, Purple and Black with plenty of flashabou.

Deceivers traditionally work very well. Other well-known patterns such as: Lefty's Half and Half, Whistlers, Cock-Roaches and Clouser Minnows are excellent choices as well.

Weed guards, though not a must, have proven to be quite useful. Size: from 1/0 to 3/0 (mostly 1/0 and 2/0).

FLOATING

Large Bombers, frogs, soft foam poppers, pencil poppers, deer hair poppers, Chernobyl ants and large bass or pike bugs. Size: 2/0 to 3/0.



Spinning and Casting Equipment

RODS

An 8-foot 6-inch, two-handed medium- to heavy-action rod for 8- to 20-lb line will let you cast the 1/4 to 1 1/2 oz lures normally use in this area. Take 2- or 3-pieces rods for ease of transport.

REELS

Open-face spinning reels are the easiest to use but, in experienced hands, bait casters are the easiest to use accurately and they give you the best chance to place your lure where you want it. Bait casters should feature a high-speed retrieval ratio, as lures are normally worked very rapidly. It will need to be loaded with 10-20 lb monofilament line.

LEADERS

Steel leaders are a must. Dorado have sharp teeth and a 5 to 10 inch, 20-30 lb test (Sampo) steel leader is needed. Don't buy cheap leaders.

LURES

Of course, the list available is never-ending. Don't be afraid to take your own and experiment. There is a good possibility that a lure you bring will change our way of fishing forever.

Below is a sampling:

- Spoons, all colors; 1/4 to 2 oz silver and gold are very effective
- Rat-L-Trap, 1/2-3/4 oz
- Rapala Husky Jerk, 3/4 oz
- Rapala Jointed Minnow (very effective)
- Rapala Original Floating, 3/4 oz
- Rapala Rattlin Rap, 3/8 oz
- Daredevil Spoons, 2 oz
- Mepps Spinners, 1/2 oz
- Zara Spook
- Slugg-O Plastic Baits
- 1/4 to 3/4 oz Jigs with varied plastic bodies
- Any topwater prop bait

NOTE: *All sinking lures are better with weed guards.*

Suggested Clothing & Equipment

For pigeons and doves, it is recommended that you wear dark green, brown or camo shirts/pants/hat and ankle height boots.

Depending on the types of shotguns you use, a good recoil pad is essential. Light gloves to protect your fingers and hands from loading so many shells are a good idea as well; even a golf glove will work. We also recommend bringing tape and Band-Aids, as your hands tend to get blisters from so much shooting. Ear protection is also recommendable. If you are coming in summer season, please bring a good hat, sunscreen, sunglasses and insect repellent.

For golden dorado fishing, it is recommended that you wear normal “flats gear”, light colored trousers (full length) and long sleeved shirts will protect you from the sun and insect bites. A light rain & windbreaker jacket is also recommended. On the boat, comfortable tennis shoes, tevas or canvas deck shoes.

Evening Dress Code: Clothing is casual, slacks and a sport shirt is all you need.

Catch & Release

To ensure the best fishing possible, a strict catch-and-release policy is in effect. We also ask that all fishermen debarb all lures and flies. Not only do barbless hooks penetrate more readily, allowing for more successful hook-ups, but they are also more easily removed, should a cast go errant. We strongly encourage you not to handle fish, not only to reduce stress on the fish, but also because many species have strong jaws and sharp teeth that can severely injure you! The guides are well trained in fish handling and care. If you want to photograph measure or weigh the fish, have the guide hold it. If you have questions, ask your guide. They know the fishery well and can usually give you the best recommendation on how to approach a particular fishing situation.

Fishing days are long and the climate can be difficult. Concentrate your fishing during periods when fish are taking, and don't hesitate to rest at midday. If you find that you tire as the week progresses, talk with your guide about departing a bit later; they will be happy to accommodate you.

Check leaders regularly for wind knots, which halve the breaking strength of monofilament. The hook-set for Dorado is similar to that of many saltwater fish such as tarpon. Simply raising the rod will not do the trick. A good, solid strip-strike is key in hooking this fish.

Handle all fish with care and release them unharmed. Try not to let your trophies thrash on the boat. When taking pictures, cradle the fish in wet hands while gripping the tail firmly.

Weather

Remember that Argentina is south of the equator and therefore seasons are opposite of the northern hemisphere.

- Autumn (March 21st - June 21st), the temperatures average 57F (14C) in the morning up to 79F (26 C) at midday.
- Winter (June 21st – September 21st), is cold in the morning and late afternoon; temperatures will average from 34F (1C) to 59F (15C) respectively.
- Spring (September 21st – December 21st), is warm, with temperatures averaging between 55F (13C) in the morning to 82F (28C) at midday.
- Summer (December 21st - March 21st), is hot and humid, with temperatures averaging between 66F (19C) in the morning to 90F (32C) at midday.

For your convenience, near your trip departure, please check the following link for a local weather forecast:

<https://weather.com/weather/tenday/l/ARXX2725:1:AR>

(Pueblo Brugo - Entre Rios, nearest town to the lodge)

Food

The food in Argentina is excellent. Argentinean beef, served to the group, is world-famous for its quality. In addition, the lodge offers, Italian dishes, pork, fish, chicken, and game (Dove, Ducks, Perdiz and European Hare –Season restrictions may apply) salads and other culinary delights. Plan on adding a couple of pounds on the trip—it's your vacation, after all! Argentinean wine and beer are also served at each meal.

If you have any special requirements or food allergies, please do not hesitate to tell us.



Health

We suggest that you consult with your physician for medical advice on travel to Argentina. Do not forget your personal medication; sometimes it's difficult to find the same medication here, without a medical prescription. No vaccines are required to visit Argentina. You may also visit the CDC's Web site at www.cdc.gov

Insurance

We highly recommend that you consider purchasing trip cancellation insurance and have medical insurance as well. We work with Global Rescue, you can use the link in our website.

Currency

Acceptable payment forms to book your trip include: International Wire Transfers and Credit Cards (Currently only AMEX).

Acceptable payment forms at the lodge to pay for extras include: U.S. dollars and Credit Cards (VISA, MASTER and AMEX). If you plan on paying your shell bill in cash, be aware that local ATM machines only dispense Argentine pesos. Due the unfavorable exchange rate of pesos to dollars, we recommend traveling with sufficient dollars to cover all expenditures during the trip. Credit Cards have a 2.5 % surcharge. We regret any inconvenience.

Alcoholic Beverages

For your convenience you can pick up your favorite type of drink at the Duty Free upon departure from your country or when you arrive in Argentina.

Despite import restrictions we usually manage to carry: Absolut Vodka, Johnny Walker's Scotch Whisky, Bacardi Rum, Jose Cuervo Tequila, Jack Daniels Whiskey, Campari, Martini and Beefeater Gin. Other imported liquor is not readily available in Argentina so please bring it with you.

Terms & Conditions

INCLUDED IN THE RATE

- Transfer in / out from Parana or Santa Fe airport
- Transfer from the lodge to the fields
- Professional hunting & fishing guide
- Full board and lodging, deluxe double occupancy with private bathrooms.
- All beverages, including a selection of the finest Argentine wines, local beers, and hard liquor. Soft drinks and snacks in the field.
- WIFI Connection at the lodge
- Activities, other than hunting & fishing (photo safaris, boat rides, etc.)
- All local taxes and service charges.

NOT INCLUDED IN THE RATE

- Hunting & Fishing license: USD 250, per stay of 5 consecutive days, per hunter.
- Gun rental at the lodge: USD 70 per day.
- Tackle rental at the lodge: USD 50 per day.
- Gun entry fee at the airport: USD 100 per gun.
- Shells: USD 13,50 (12 ga. & 20 ga.) / Please inquire for 28 and .410 ga
- Massages: USD 60 per 1 hour.
- Optional services (Gift shop, telephone, etc.)
- Hunting & Fishing Guide Fee: You will have the same field assistant for the entire trip; the standard fee is USD 50.00 per day. They have all worked with us for a number of years and speak and understand some English. You are welcome to pay him directly.

Note: Your field assistant will also enthusiastically welcome any apparel, which you may want to leave behind.

- Gratuities for the staff and the manager.
- Assistance at customs at International Airport (EZE)
- Transfers from | to International Airport (EZE)
- Laundry: USD 1 per garment.

Gratuities

Since we are often asked about gratuities, we wanted to provide some suggestions. If you feel that our staff has gone above and beyond their job duties, and you wish to reward them, here are some suggested guidelines:

- Satisfied guests typically give USD 30 per day to the house staff (Chef, Maids & Cleaning crew).
- Many guests also give around USD 10 per day to the lodge supervisor.

- Many guests also give around USD 15 per day to the hunt-master who organizes the hunt locations and logistics with the field assistants.
- Many guests also give around USD 15 per day to the General manager.

A total of USD 120 per guest per day is suggested. This amount includes your hunting or fishing guide. Again, these are only suggestions, and please do not feel obligated as tips reflect great service.



Electric Current

The standard electrical current at the lodge and throughout Argentina is 220 volts.

Most new laptop computers and cell phone chargers will operate on either 110 or 220 volts but if you have a device you are unsure about, don't worry we have a standard convertor in each room.

Safety First

Ensure all guns are unloaded before leaving: home, hotels, and the lodge. Recheck your guns before putting them in any vehicle, in the field, and prior to departure from the field. Don't be offended if the outfitter checks them again.

Everyone wants to be as safe as possible.

All autoloaders will be carried with the magazine open when outside of your shooting station. Uncased double guns should always be broken when walking, or anytime when you are not in shooting position.

Do not hand loaded shotguns to the field assistants. Do not let field assistants shoot. Many of them know how to shoot but allowing this introduces another element of risk.

What is the most important safety rule? Do not shoot low birds! There is never any excuse for taking a low-angle shot. Shooting low birds (at angles less than 45 degrees) puts field assistants, hunters that have accidentally wandered out of position, and farm animals at risk.

There are thousands of birds to shoot, please exercise discipline and good judgment on each and every shot you take.

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.

For the fishing portion of the trip, for eye protection, sunglasses should be worn while fishing. Polarized glasses and a fishing hat with a brim that will protect your eyes and ears make an ideal combination. Take a few Band-Aids for cuts, scrapes and blisters.



Argentine Laws

Los Laureles Lodge operates within all current Argentine laws. Accordingly, we expect our guests to respect bag limits. Argentine authorities are enforcing applicable game laws more than in the past and hunters who violate said laws will be held personally accountable by local game wardens. Nonetheless, the liberal nature of bag limits as compared to those of the U.S. provide ample opportunity for unforgettable hunts especially for bird species branded as agricultural plagues.

Additionally, **Los Laureles Lodge** is family-friendly in nature and will not accommodate requests for or allow participation in illegal activities at our lodge, including prostitution and drug use.

Lodge Contact Information

Los Laureles: +54 343 499-3055
(from Argentina 0343 499-3055)

Los Laureles US number: +1 (832) 295-9965
Toll Free: 1-800 246-9114

BA Office Tel.: +1 (786) 207-4532

Emergency contact

John John Reynal: Cell Phone +54 9 (11) 5566-7737
(from Argentina 011 15 5566-7737)
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(from Argentina 0343 15 504-8362)

www.excitingoutdoors.com





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Check List

- Passport and Copy of Passport
- Travel Gun Case (stainless steel or heavy-duty fiberglass) if you are bringing guns
- Chokes: full chokes, modified, improved cylinders, or improved modified
- Cleaning Equipment you might need
- Shooting Glasses
- Recoil Reduction Equipment. Shoulder pads or kevlar lined vests
- Hearing Protection: Earplugs
- Shooting Gloves
- Adhesive tape for shell loading
- Side carry Shooting Pouch for shells, or shell vest
- Hunting Clothes: Dark colored, or camouflage hunting clothes and hats
- Flashlight
- Fishing Gear (Rods, Flies, Lures, tackle in general) if fishing and do not wish to rent
- Polarized glasses
- Light colored trousers and long-sleeved shirts
- A long-billed cap or wide brim hat
- A light rain jacket
- Comfortable tennis shoes, tevas or canvas deck shoes
- Shaving Kit, Mylanta, Advil, Neosporin, Band-Aids, vitamins, prescription medications, 50spf sunscreen or stronger, Chap Stick, insect repellent, and Cutter's Cream
- Camera & Memory Cards, if you are planning on taking photos, do not forget memory cards—they are hard to find in Entre Rios. Bring extra batteries as well
- Small Field Bag to carry personal items into the field

Travel Tips

- Purchase Trip Insurance in case you have an unforeseen emergency and must cancel.
- Travel with a Valid Passport and copies of first two pages in a separate location in case lost or stolen.
- Give yourself plenty of time in your travels in case of airline delays. Plan on staying a few days in Buenos Aires, you will be pleasantly surprised.
- Pack your carry-on baggage carefully and do not try to carry your rods or reels on the airplane in Argentina.
- Have an extra change of versatile clothes (toothbrush, underwear, hunting or fishing shirt and pants) in your carry-on if possible.
- If you do not use our ground transfer services, make sure you take a “radio taxi” in Buenos Aires or have someone call you a radio taxi or Remis. Please note that Uber is not 100% legal in Argentina.
- Travel with some small bills to tip baggage handlers, drivers, etc.
- Make sure the data and calling features on your phone are turned on. Please be aware that roaming charges will apply. Plan on getting an international roaming plan before leaving your country.



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