

# Puerto Madero

A century after the construction of the old Buenos Aires port, this newly renovated district houses an upscale residential and commercial neighborhood that connects the city center with the Costanera Sur.

## **Location:**

Puerto Madero is bordered significantly by the Rio de la Plata; it also borders the neighborhoods of San Telmo, Monserrat, San Nicolas, and Retiro.

## **A Little Bit of History:**

In 1882 engineer and civil servant Eduardo Madero's design project was chosen amongst many others for the Port of Buenos Aires. Once completed this port was the scene of the massive immigrant arrivals that took place in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The edifice complex, located on the north harbor was devoted to the reception of immigrants. Today this complex has been converted into a museum called EX GRAN HOTEL DE IMIGRANTES. Puerto Madero and its buildings were virtually abandoned when the new port (Puerto Nuevo) was built just a short distance north. Puerto Madero remained in deserted dismay until the 1990's when a complete renovation process began to be implemented. The "new" Puerto Madero exudes radiance as the most cosmopolitan barrio of the city.

## **Safety:**

Puerto Madero is controlled by "Corporación Puerto Madero", a private jurisdiction separate from the Federal Police of Buenos Aires. This corporation has its principal office located in the center of Puerto Madero, and their presence is known and seen at all times. This makes Puerto Madero the safest and most secure neighborhood of the city.

## **Restaurants and bars:**

The most exclusive restaurants in Buenos Aires line the docks that form Puerto Madero. Most of these restaurants transform into chic bars and pubs when the night falls. Many places in Puerto Madero are chains of elite places such as ASIA DE CUBA and OPERA BAY. There are also several American chain restaurants like TGI FRIDAYS and HOOTERS. Puerto Madero is also the home of many places to dine on the famous Argentinean steak. CABAÑA LAS LILAS, SIGA LA VACA and RODIZIO are excellent choices, and these are just a FEW of the many first class eateries that contour the river. There is also an abundant selection of international cuisine, such as the Italian restaurant IL GATTO. The Hilton Hotel is also in Puerto Madero and houses the exclusive restaurant EL FARO.

## **Main Activities of the Neighborhood:**

Enjoying a coffee or tea at an outside table looking over the river is very nice day or night. There are always people walking or exercising along the docks of Puerto Madero, so it is always a lively yet relaxed atmosphere.

It is difficult to find many kiosks or supermarkets directly in Puerto Madero, but since it is so close to downtown, San Telmo, and Recoleta, finding everything you need is never a problem.

### **Main Avenues and Transportation:**

The neighborhood's road network has recently been entirely rebuilt, especially on the east side. The layout of the east side relies currently on three wide boulevards running east to west crossed by east side's main street, Juana Manso Avenue. The layout is completed with some other minor streets, running both east-west and north-south and by several pedestrian malls.

An interesting fact is that all of the streets in Puerto Madero bear the name of women. The "Puente de la Mujer" (women's bridge) by architect Santiago Calatrava; is the newest link between east and west sides of Puerto Madero. The first section of a tram line "Tranvía Del Este" was completed in 2007 and runs parallel to Alicia Moreau de Justo Avenue. Currently it covers 3 of the 4 docks of Puerto Madero, with plans to expand the line soon.

### **Attractions and Nightlife:**

Most of the places that function as restaurants during the day in this area become bars and pubs when the night comes, and are mostly visited by tourists because they are very expensive. In any case the nightlife in Puerto Madero is usually a tad limited. There is also the floating casino in Puerto Madero, (the only casino in Buenos Aires), and it brings a lot of tourists to the area. The casino is built in a boat because it is forbidden to have a casino inside of the city.

### **Real Estate Evolution:**

In the 2000s the restoration process continued and more hotels, offices and apartment buildings, both low rise and high-rise have been built.

Recently, development has started in the last undeveloped part of the neighborhood, the east side of Dock 1, where infrastructure has been set and first buildings are rising, According to current plans Dock 1 will not have high rises because of height limitations of about 20 stories.

## **La Boca**

La Boca is perhaps the Barrio that has exhibited the most personality between the Porteño neighborhoods. It is a different world, one with original two-colored authenticity, different tones, especially in comparison to the classic city of Buenos Aires. It is a typical district of immigrants of the most diverse origins: Greek, Yugoslav, Turkish, and Italian, with the main immigrant concentration being Genovese.

### **A Little Bit of History:**

Historians agree upon La Boca being the place where Pedro de Mendoza founded the city of Santa Maria of Buenos Aires in 1536. In 1882 the rebellious neighborhood, mostly consisting of the Genovese, succeeded from the city of Buenos Aires and raised the Genoese

flag. The flag was then promptly taken down personally by the then Argentine president Don Julio A. Roca. The early inhabitants of La Boca were a very noisy and proud horde. They spoke a dialect of Genovese called xeniexe, as if they were still in their Italian homeland. They were very brotherly workers, who went to the point of forming several of their own institutions of charities and support. They also published newspapers, and founded sports and cultural clubs. The early people of La Boca also had a great sensitivity for the arts, and the neighborhood always hosted many singers, musicians, poets and artists.

### **Location:**

La Boca is on the very southern tip of Buenos Aires. It is bordered by the neighborhoods of Barracas and San Telmo.

### **Safety:**

La Boca is a touristy neighborhood in some parts, and is controlled by the federal police. However La Boca is a huge district and may turn dangerous in certain parts. You have nothing to fear if you stay in Caminito and the tourist circuit. La Boca is also the place of "CAJ" (Club Atletico Boca Juniors) the most recognized football- soccer club in Latin America and perhaps the entire world with Inter of Milano (Italy). Boca Juniors are the most loved soccer team in Argentina.

### **Restaurants and Bars:**

On the street of Caminito you will find many restaurants where you can watch Tango and eat all at the same time! There are also bars and cafes on and around Caminito Street.

### **Main Avenues and Transportation:**

Avenue of the Patricios is place of busy activity, with the innumerable commercial buildings. Necochea is a luminous street and famous for its bars, cafes and boardinghouses, where exquisite Italian food restaurants await! This street is filled with music, dance and much joy! Olavarría, is the important commercial axis of the district, The Avenue Admiral Brown and the street Benito Perez Galdós are of great transit to vehicular and accede to the incline of the Bridge Nicholas Avellaneda, and in Minister Brin and Olavarría, the Market of La Boca resides.

Caminito Street is hardly 100 meters in length, but is a street with which so much can be said! In other words, it needs a paragraph to itself! CAMINITO; is as small a street as it is peculiar. In Caminito are no doors, some windows, many balconies full of plants and a lot of clothes hanging to dry. Their painted walls of different colors remind us of Venice. The walls are decorated with all types of murals, ceramics, and different adornments of all sorts.

### **Important people:**

Benito Quinquela Martin: One of the most famous Argentine painters, who was born and raised in La Boca. Benito was famous for his port scenes which depicted his hometown of La Boca. He traveled the world and had many successes along the way. Not only was Benito a

painter, he was also a philanthropist, donating museums, schools, hospitals, and the famous Theatre of the Shore.

Alfredo Palaces: One of the most prestigious political men of the country. He was a lawyer delegated by the Socialist Party.

### **Main Activity of the Neighborhood:**

The main activity of La Boca for tourists is definitely Caminito Street and the Boca Junior's soccer games. After the games, you will find many of the bars and restaurants around the stadium filled with fans. Keep in mind however that with the exception of a few touristy streets, La Boca is mainly an industrial neighborhood, and can be very dangerous in parts of the city that aren't considered touristy.

### **Real Estate Evolution:**

In La Boca there are many properties in very bad condition. Also all of the new apartments built in La Boca are appealing to middle to lower class residents. You will probably find the cheapest prices for properties in La Boca.

## **San Telmo**

### **A Little Bit of History:**

San Telmo's history has been extensively documented and can be easily found on the internet. The neighborhood is named after the San Pedro Telmo church.

### **Location:**

San Telmo is located close to downtown, and its borders are: Chile Street (Montserrat border), Ingeniero Huergo (Puerto Madero border), Parque Lezama (Barracas and La Boca border), and 9 de Julio (Constitucion border). While San Telmo is in the middle of many different types of neighborhoods: the upscale Puerto Madero, the business district of Montserrat and the poor neighborhoods of Constitucion and Barracas, San Telmo has remained neutral and central. Kind of like Switzerland in Europe! With this said, San Telmo has two faces; one is commercial and nice (the central eastern part) and the remote areas remain dangerous and uninviting.

### **Safety:**

The central area is VERY safe during both day and night. The tourist police control the area, and the vicinity is also monitored by hidden police cameras. On the other hand, keep away from 9 de Julio Ave which is unsafe, as well as Parque Lezama. The innermost point of the safety in San Telmo is the central square "Plaza Dorrego", however, Barbara Bush (EX US President's Daughter) was pick pocketed there in 2006 ([read the abc news archive](#)) and

another source I was actually one block away that day and I saw a lot of police in the area, a police friend of mine, (the police station is just one block away) told me they never found the real pick pocketer. Despite this, the area is safe; just keep an eye on your belongings at all times!

### **Restaurants and Bars:**

There are a lot of restaurants and bars in San Telmo. Many are set in the classical style of yesteryear Buenos Aires; on the other hand, there are many that are very touristy, like "La Brigada". In general the bars that aren't "too touristy" are fair priced and of average quality. The majority of bars in the area are concentrated by Humbero Primo Street and close to the Dorrego Plaza. On Chile and Mexico streets there are many restaurants with inexpensive menus. These eateries are mainly oriented to office workers at lunch time, but are a great choice for a tourist seeking a true cultural experience! A very tasty and sensibly priced restaurant is Burzaco, located on Mexico Street close to Defensa. The lunch menu starts at 12 pesos. Some of the restaurants in this area are only open for lunch, while others offer night menus as well.

### **Main Activity of the Neighborhood:**

In general, San Telmo is a residential /commercial neighborhood. People live there, but there are also many private business offices as well. The businesses are mainly related to arts and design. Publishers, producers, artists, and designers choose both San Telmo and Palermo as their favorite neighborhoods to place their businesses. This aspect of San Telmo adds to its already existing artistic and creative vibe that can be felt by just walking down the streets! Boutiques are also increasing their presence in San Telmo, and can be seen popping up on many streets around the central vicinity of the area. Another huge draw of people is the bountiful number of Antique shops by Defensa Street. There are SO many, and the number of antiques grows even more on Sundays for the famed "La Feria" (flea market) in Plaza Dorrego.

### **Main Avenues and Transportation:**

The main avenues are San Juan, Independencia, 9 de Julio and Alem Ave. The closest subway station is line E (Bolivar station and San Juan Station). There are many Colectivos (buses) that head the Palermo direction and La Boca route. San Telmo is fairly centralized, so many lines cross through or CLOSE to the area. On the other hand, one thing I like BEST about San Telmo is that a lot of the streets are REALLY narrow, so not TOO many buses can pass through. After being in Buenos Aires for anytime, you will understand what I mean by there not being too many buses. Sometimes you need a break, trust me. A cab from San Telmo to Palermo Las Canitas may cost around 20 pesos.

### **Attractions and Nightlife:**

The old market is a MUST see. It's beautiful. Sundays on Defensa Street are fabulous. There is an open sky ped mall market of almost everything. The streets of central San Telmo are buzzing with tourists and the atmosphere is magnificent with tango being danced in the street, and many other street performers displaying their talents for coins. The heart of this jubilation is unquestionably Plaza Dorrego, where there are numerous outside cafes and restaurants, so you can sit back, have a cup of coffee and enjoy the show! San Telmo is a great place to experience the Tango scene in Buenos Aires. There are many bars in this area that are devoted to our romantic and dramatic dance. You can feel the romantic aura radiating off of the dancers as they exhibit The Tango in one of the tanguerias around this neighborhood. San Telmo also attracts some of the locals because of the presence of argentine rock spots such as Mitos Argentinos (Humerto Primo and Bolivar). You will find many natives here as well as some tourists because it is the only place in the city that

dedicates itself exclusively to Argentine Rock. Other hot spots include La Trastienda (Balcarce and Chile), and Michelangelo (Tango / Restaurant), where you can always find a great time. There is a high nightlife activity in San Telmo; however, keep in mind that the neighborhood is more "hippie" oriented than "hip-oriented" as the Palermo Las Canitas / Puerto Madero areas.

### **Real Estate evolution:**

In August 2007, the value per square meter rose to \$1.300 USD per square meter (in the nice part of San Telmo). In 2006 it was close to the \$700 USD per square meter. The real estate in this area has most definitely been evolving, and it will continue to go up. There are very nice old classic buildings in the area as well as many old and unmaintained properties.

## **Monserrat**

### **A Little Bit of History:**

Monserrat was the first "barrio" in Buenos Aires, and it bears its name in tribute to Nuestra Señora De Montserrat. It was also called "Barrio del Tambor"(Neighborhood of the Drum), because of the drums played by African decadents of the area. Different groups were formed called: Cabunda, Banguela, Mondongo y Angola. Although most all of the people from Africa are gone from Argentina, they left the memory of their cheerful carnivals, where they would dance their "Candombes". Montserrat holds all the history of the city of Buenos Aires, and this can be easily seen as most of its buildings and parks had been declared Historical Monuments. In its original origins, Montserrat was a Spanish area, whose immigrants settled mainly on Avenida de Mayo, Belgrano and Rivadavia. The celebrations of "La Reconquista" and "La Defensa de la Ciudad", of 1806 and 1807, were celebrated on the "Plaza Mayor", later called "Plaza de la Victoria", till 1810 when it was the stage for the "Revolucion de Mayo" (Revolution of May) or "Plaza de Mayo" (May Square). In 1811 the first historical monument of Buenos Aires, "Piramide de Mayo" (Pyramid of May) was erected in Montserrat. A year later this structure was declared a National Historical Monument, it is a small obelisk, 13 meters tall. In 1856 a figure of the "Estatua de la Libertad" was added to its summit.

### **Plaza de Mayo and the Casa Rosada:**

The "Plaza de Mayo" also called by many the "Plaza de las Protestas"(sort of Protesting Plaza), is the place of remonstration and revolution for the people of Buenos Aires, past and present. The people of the city gather here, in front of the "Casa Rosada" (Pink House) when they don't agree with the governments decisions and make their claims known. The pink house is located on the west side of "Plaza de Mayo". The building is pink in color and built of Renaissance style. It has been the main site for the Argentinean government since 1810. In 1942 it was declared a National Historical Monument. There are several theories as to why the "Pink House" is PINK. One theory is the decision to paint it pink was made by Sarmiento to symbolize the union of all the political sectors up until that point in history. At that time Red was used by people who were siding with Rosas and white was the color used by those who were against him, so the pink color was seen as a neutralizer for the people. Another version is supposedly the pink color came from mixing white paint with the blood of cows. The building is a very diverse structure, because it has been reconstructed in many

different time periods. It is made up of three floors over the west side and four over the east side. The national flag of Argentina flies proudly from the top.

### **Location:**

Montserrat is located in the center of the city. It is in the middle of Downtown and San Telmo, and also borders Puerto Madero and Balvanera. It is an easy walk here to any where you want to go in the downtown area.

### **Safety:**

Montserrat is not an ESPECIALLY safe neighborhood, but it is not specifically dangerous either. During the day time, there are countless tourists snapping pictures of the Cabildo and the Casa Rosada at Plaza de Mayo. Take extra precaution at nighttime around this area, but it is not somewhere that should be avoided.

### **Main Activity of Neighborhood:**

Montserrat is the home to the Buenos Aires city hall, the city legislature, Casa Rosada, Libertador Building, The Cabildo, and the Colegio Nacional de Buenos Aires. During weekdays you will find this place to be humming with activity, and more quite on the weekends. If you go at the right time, you might be able to witness one of the many protests by the people of Buenos Aires.

### **Attractions and Nightlife:**

Montserrat houses the famous "Café Tortoni" (825 Avenida de Mayo), a coffee house which hosts a great deal of history. Café Tortoni also has a great Tango show at night. Many other vintage style cafés and bars dot the area of Monserrat.

### **Real Estate Evolution:**

The price per square meter for an apartment in Monserrat is around \$900-1100 USD. The price for the same kind of real estate property, house or apartment in Monserrat in 2005 was around the U\$S 900-1000. Short term rentals in Monserrat are very popular among tourists, because it is an area so close to everything in Buenos Aires.

## **La City**

### **Location:**

La City is the name for a few squares in Downtown Buenos Aires. La City is the financial and business district. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday this is one of the most vibrant and busy district of Buenos Aires, with that being said, of course after 7 p.m. and on the weekends it is pretty dead. The boundaries of La City are Puerto Madero, Plaza de Mayo, Cordoba, and Florida. It is a very small but concentrated district.

## **Safety:**

La City can be fairly safe during the day, because there are a lot of banks in the area and a high presence of police officers. Be very aware and careful around this area during the night, because there probably won't be too many people around. Also, people aren't allowed to live in a number of buildings around La City, therefore they close on Friday around 7 p.m. and re-open the next Monday. This permits many of these types of buildings to get robbed with ease during the weekends.

## **Main Activity of the Neighborhood:**

In La City you can make almost any monetary transaction known to man! There are banks, traders, and places to buy and sell stocks. If you need to make a financial operation, La City is your place! La City is the best place to trade your native currency for Argentinian Pesos as well!

## **Restaurants and Bars:**

There are many small restaurants and bars around the area of La City. As a word of advice, DON'T go to these places around 1 p.m. on weekdays. It gets crazy-busy and crowded from the business lunch crowd. Prices are also expensive around this area for lunch time and even the kiosks have steeper prices than other places in the city. Everything is fast moving in this little part of Buenos Aires!

## **Main Avenues and Transportation:**

La City is not for riding a car or a taxi, La City is for walking! Recently, the government transformed Lavalle Street into a pedestrian walking street. Many buses and Subway lines can be found near and around La City, but as said before, the best way to experience La City is to put on your walkin' shoes and look around!! Go for a stroll around La City and catch the nonstop ambience of this special part of Buenos Aires.

## **Attractions and Nightlife:**

Bahrain nightclub found its ideal place in La City. It is very convenient for this sort of place to be located in La City because most of the buildings surrounding the night club are office buildings, so no one complains about the noise at night!! Bahrain is located at Lavalle and 25 de Mayo.

# **Downtown (Centro)**

## **Location:**

The area of the city referred to as "Downtown" or "Centro" is composed of portions of the Monserrat, San Nicolás and Balvanera neighborhoods.

## **Main Activities of the Neighborhood:**

This part of the city is essentially a financial and commercial district, with a large concentration of banks, offices, businesses, and hotels. This large zone of the city includes a wide variety of activities to entertain all tastes. Officially named "San Nicolas", there is always a lot of bustle during the business days around this division of the city. This part of Buenos Aires has the atmosphere of the massive city that it actually is! I've excluded "La City" from downtown since it is the financial



district of Buenos Aires. I used to work in the Centro for two years, and it was very nice during the day. Millions (yes, this is accurate), millions of people pass through Florida pedestrian mall every business day. Lavalle ped mall is also in the Centro. Lavelle and Florida are two very different ped malls; Just by walking on the two ped malls you can feel the difference. Well, Lavalle is cheaper and Florida has a classier feel to it. Florida has more stores for shopping (a lot of leather), and you will also see more ties and suits around Florida. Lavalle is more tailored around video game shops, movie theatres, and small food shops. [Take a look here for DownTown pictures](#) and some downtown videos; This one is [downtown by night](#) (winter 2006). This one is a video of how the people of Buenos Aires express their [happyness for the new year](#) ; they throw pieces of white paper from their balconies to make it look like winter in Northern Italy. Don't miss it live next December 30th around noon!!

### **Main Avenues and Transportation:**

The small center (the center of the center) receives the name of Microcentro, and it's axis it's located in Florida and Lavalle intersection.

The main avenues around downtown are Cordoba Avenue, Corrientes Avenue, and 9 de Julio. There are many cabs in El Centro, or it is a great place to walk around and enjoy the city life!

## **Congreso**

### **Location:**

The Congreso Neighborhood is unofficial; you will not find it on the official maps. Officially it's part of the Balvanera, Monserrat, San Nicolas, and San Cristobal neighborhoods. In my opinion there should be a new zoning for the neighborhoods, and they should be put officially on the map as many people call them. Any Porteño will refer the streets that encompass the Congreso area as "Congreso", and the same thing with Barrio Norte, Facultad and the many of the Palermo's. Congreso perimeter starts two blocks away from the Congress Building and borders with "El Once", the central police offices in Alsina, then limits with Consitucion. This area is considered part of downtown.

### **Safety:**

Congreso can be very unsafe during the night. Absolutely visit the Congress square during the day, but be very careful at night around this part of the city.

### **Restaurants and Bars:**

The area is full of cafés and bars with tables on the sidewalk. In La Piedad Alley you will find restaurants and nightclubs. The Avila bar on Avenida de Mayo 1300 and Agua y Fuego on Rivadavia 1400 are nice places to have dinner and enjoy flamenco shows at the same time. A group of excellent Spaniard restaurants surrounds the Avenida Theater.

### **Main Activity of the Neighborhood:**

The main activity of the neighborhood is concentrated in Congress square, which hosts the congress offices. Once Avenida de Mayo had been finished, in 1869, the government opened an international bidding of the building's construction works that would occupy the Avenue. As a result of this process, construction of the building of the congress was left in the hands of architect Victor Meano. Meano had been working in the country for a while and helping architect Tamborini in the Colon Theater project and other buildings.

The national congress is a monumental building in a classic Greek-Latin style. It may be viewed properly from Avenida de Mayo, hosts the executive office building or Pink House on one end and the National Congress, which houses the legislature body on the other. The national congress was opened in 1906 and the buildings that surround it were completed in 1910. Just in time for the independence centennial celebrations. Its adornments are made up of a combination of marble and granite, which exhibits both roman monumentality and Greek austerity. If you visit the Congress building you should not miss the inside! There are a series of beautiful halls, and it houses the two chambers that make up Argentina's legislative body: the chamber of representatives covers the back central area of the building and its semicircular shape may be seen from Los Pozos Street. The senators are located in the much smaller left wing of the building, the most magnificent spot in the building is the blue hall, which lies under the big dome (approx.60 meters high) the ceiling bears beautiful marble carvings, superb statues and a 2-ton bronze and baccarat crystal chandelier.

## **Main Avenues and Transportation:**

Avenue de Mayo and Callao are the main arteries around this part of the city.

## **Attractions and Nightlife:**

The "thing to do" in Congreso, is definitely to go to Congress square and look at all of the grand buildings that are built there. I have listed the MUST SEE buildings and a little history about them.

Avenida de Mayo stretches from Plaza de Mayo to Congress Square, which is framed by several rows of magnificent buildings with domes in a great variety of styles.

The most outstanding architectural designs are the Barolo building, the Inmobiliaria building, the Urban Heritage building, the Molino building and the National Congress building.

Congreso square was created to commemorate the centennial of the May revolution in 1810 and it was designed as a monumental frame for the square. The fountain of the two Congresses stands out with its huge staircases and banisters; at dusk, the combination of water, music and lights makes a nice show.

On the corner of Bartolome Mitre and Parana streets is the church of La Piedad. This chapel is a spacious example of neoclassical architecture, and this block is one of the many Parisian corners in the city.

**BAROLO BUILDING:** (find this and more pictures in our Congreso photo section)

Barolo Palace, an Estheticism style building, Built in 1922 located in Avenida de Mayo 1370, the architect was Mario Palanti. A hundred meters tall (as the same amount of chapters as the "Divina Comedia" wrote by Dante Alighieri) This building was the tallest one in Latin America until 1925. Constructed under Luigi Barolo (an Italian entrepreneur) this building shows a sequence of different styles (Neo-romantic and Gothic in the first floor and Hindu on the top) and on the top there is a spinning light. This light announced the famous boxing fight between Firpo-Dempsey in 1923, and the light can be seen from Uruguay.

**LA INMOBILIARIA BUILDING:** (find this and more pictures in our Congreso photo section)

the work of Luis Broggi, inaugurated on 25 may 1910, ordered by the insurance company la Inmobiliaria. It takes up the whole length of the street. Two high towers crowned by domes

indicate the corners.

FORMER CRITICA NEWSPAPER: (find this and more pictures in our Congreso photo section)  
Constructed by architect Kalnay, it is a strange example of art-deco architecture with expressionist elements.

FORMER MAJESTIC HOTEL: (find this and more pictures in our Congreso photo section)  
It serves as headquarters for a government office currently, but it used to be one of the main hotels in the city. Its robust frame has square domes on top. This is the place where NAJINSKY resided during his stay in Buenos Aires.

CHILE HOTEL: (find this and more pictures in our Congreso photo section)  
A solid frame with art-nouveau decoration, the corner balcony was completed by a onion-shaped dome conveying an oriental style to its lines, it is located in 1400 Avenida de Mayo.

AVENIDA THEATER: (find this and more pictures in our Congreso photo section)  
This theatre was recently restored after being victim to fire. It's one of the most important and traditional theatres for light opera.

DE LA PIEDAD CHURCH: (find this and more pictures in our Congreso photo section)  
1524-bartolome MITRE.  
This church was designed in typical neoclassical style with a huge central nave and a high dome. The church is richly decorated on the inside and has tangibles dating back from the 18th century.

DE LA PIEDAD ALLEY: (find this and more pictures in our Congreso photo section)  
A charming spot in the city; It was a condominium in the beginning of this century, it has gone through terrible deterioration and mutilations over the years, but its charms are still intact. The outside street has a nice Parisian touch, with the narrow passageways; it reminds us of some places in Europe.

There are also several theaters and nightclubs in the area. The most important theater among them is Avenida Theater, a traditional theatre house where zarzuelas (Spanish form of light opera) are usually performed. Across the street from the square on Rivadavia Avenue you will see Liceo Theater; a small traditional old theater.

## **Real Estate Evolution:**

In my opinion, Congreso is a great long term investment. There are many HUGE hold apartments in this area that can be bought for fairly cheap. Although, you would have to renovate almost all of the old apartments in this area, they are fairly priced and located right in the center of the city.

# Facultad

Facultad is officially part of the Recoleta neighborhood; it obtains the name "Facultad" because the University of Buenos Aires Economics and Medical Campuses reside in the area. The area's borders are Barrio Norte and Once. While in present maps it appears as Recoleta, the Porteños call it Facultad. Also, as one will notice quickly, the prices for real estate have nothing to with Recoleta.

## **Location:**

The boundaries of Facultad are: Callao, Cordoba, Santa Fe, and Pueyrredon Avenues. The center of Facultad is the area that surrounds the subway line "D" station "Facultad de Medicina".

## **Safety:**

The area has mentioned differences in safety depending on which part of Facultad you are in. Marcelo T. de Alvear and the Hussain Square are NOT quite so SAFE to walk by during the night, and generally the area gets dead, once school hours are over. Also, due its proximity to the ONCE neighborhood, the area is not very nice. However, during the day it's safe to walk around and explore the area. There are many small cafes and bars oriented mainly to students, with reasonable prices. There is an obvious vibrant ambience to the streets of Facultad.

## **Restaurants and Bars:**

There is a large selection of restaurants within the area. In general everything around Facultad is also very fairly priced. The eateries are mainly open during the day, and are oriented mostly to students, so there is fresh and noisy activity all the time.

## **Main Activity of the Neighborhood:**

The campuses are the main axis for activities in this neighborhood. There is nowhere you can find a larger selection or better prices if you want to buy books, notebooks, paper, pencils, or photocopies than in Facultad.

## **Main avenues and transportation:**

Subway line "D": Facultad de Medicina and Callao Stations. Main avenues are the contouring avenues mentioned above.

## **Attractions:**

A real piece of art is the "Palacio de Las Aguas Corrientes" building, it is now privately owned by the public water company, "Aguas Argentinas". This building is a MUST SEE!! You can go inside the building at no charge on business days from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Take advantage of this and go see a true work of art! A ride through the zone in a car or taxi is also interesting in itself; you will see the scene of college age students in Buenos Aires.

## **Nightlife:**

Basically with a few exceptions there is no nightlife in this area, however, due to its close proximity to Barrio Norte it's easy to find nightlife in the area.

## **Real Estate evolution:**

Real Estate in this area is cheaper than in Barrio Norte. There are basically only standard apartments with a few exceptions. In July 2007 the price per square meter was appraised around USD 1200. This is not without exceptions; the smaller the apartment, the higher the price per

square meter.

## Once

ONCE, (eleven) officially part of Balvanera neighborhood, receives the name of ONCE because the train station (Once de Septiembre) which is the main artery for this neighborhood. The name of September 11th (Once de Septiembre) honors the day Mr. Sarmiento (the face of the Argentinean \$50 bill) passed away more than 100 years ago. Sarmiento is known for his implementation of major changes in the educational system in Argentina, such as the opportunity of free education for everybody (University level included). Sarmiento's vision and plan are still used today.

### **Location:**

ONCE is limited by: Callao, Cordoba, Rivadavia, and Pueyrredon Avenues. The train station is located in the heart of Once.

### **Safety:**

In general the area is NOT a safe place to walk around; there are numerous robberies per day in the area. However, it is a popular place for Argentines because there are many shops with cheaper prices for buying items in bulk. These shops and street vendors make the neighborhood alive, because at night and on the weekends everything is closed and the barrio is dead.

### **Restaurants and bars:**

As most of the merchants are immigrants an immense variety of Peruvian and Jewish food restaurants can be found in the neighborhood. If you are looking for a place for a nice fancy dinner, I wouldn't suggest Once, however if you want to try something new on a business day around lunch, check it out!

### **Main Activity of the Neighborhood:**

The many, many fabric shops are the main activity of the neighborhood; however there are a lot of other sorts of goods sold every day in Once. Electronics, cell phones, (or stolen cell phones on Corrientes), cheap novelty items, and cheap furniture, are just a FEW of the items sold. In Once you will find street after street of stores full of one thing or another.

### **Main avenues and transportation:**

The closest subway station is Callao line B (Callao and Corrientes). Also Once line A, and there are a lot of busses by the main streets mentioned above.

### **Attractions:**

The main attraction of ONCE is the rush during business days, Once has lots of people and lots of transactions. The neighborhood has been populated mainly by the Jewish community; however, lately Koreans and Peruvians also have a strong presence in the neighborhood.

### **Nightlife:**

Once is the place of the tragic fire of the disco "Cromagnon", where more than 200 died and at least 1000 were injured. The incident ended up sending the owners to prison, and the former mayor of Buenos Aires (Anibal Ibarra) fired and suited by the victims' families. Despite the accident, there are at least 10 "discos" or clubs inside or close to Once. Mostly focusing on the Cumbia/regional/foreigner type of music and people.

**Real Estate evolution:**

Once is central, very central, but not yet developed nor discovered. There are many buildings with great architecture there, but they have not been maintained well. Price per square meter is probably the lowest in the city of Buenos Aires, around \$600 per square meter. Four years ago it was around \$400 per square meter.

## Retiro

**A Little Bit of History**

Many years ago, the river reached to "San Martin Square" and close to the square was a small chapel, because at this time distances between places were much larger, the chapel was used for "spiritual weekends" or "Retiros Espirituales" which was meant for having rest and peace for a few days. Before the year 1700 Retiro was the place of a slavery market, which supplied slaves for many other South American Countries.

**Location:**

The small classic neighborhood is located in the center of the city. A train station (Retiro) was built in 1825 and its impressive structure is still there and used today. Behind the train station is a poor neighborhood "Villa 31". Villa 31 is centrally located and creates a big incentive of real estate for many greedy investors since those acres of land are now strategically located and able to produce lots room for apartments and perhaps money. The other side of Libertador Avenue is strikingly classic, with many well preserved European style mansions and buildings.

**Safety:**

This area is safe during business days 9am-5pm. Some parts (Around the train station) might get a little dangerous at night. Always take precaution when walking around this part of Buenos Aires.

**Main Activities in the Neighborhood:**

On Arenales Street many furniture designers have shops with imported design furniture. This is one of the only, if not the only place to find this type of furniture in Argentina. Prices are high and quality is high too, so why not? Don't miss the art galleries on Arroyo Street. This street hosts the main galleries of the city, and there are many places to shop for original art work. Quotes are made generally in dollars not pesos.

**Restaurants and Bars:**

Having lunch at the Sofitel Hotel is nice and fairly priced. La Recova which is close to hotels and Patio Bullrich offer some great restaurants worth considering on your next visit to BA. Also San Marin square is the meeting point for office workers to have lunch and take some sun in spring after 12:00 PM, the old trees that surround the square make this place unique and a perfect escape, plus it's only a few blocks from downtown!

## **Attractions and Nightlife:**

"Patio Bullrich" (known friendly as patio bullshit), is a mall with international brands. This mall is one of the many things that makes Buenos Aires different from other countries in South America since (of course on the account that have the cash) you can buy international brands, jewelry, watches, clothes as if you were in the USA or Europe. There is almost no nightlife in the Retiro neighborhood, you will see only coffee shops, restaurants, art galleries, design stores and international branches as Armani, but no nightlife since once the stores close about 8PM the neighborhood pretty much closes too.

## **Real Estate Evolution:**

It is very common for an apartment in this area to cover the whole floor, so apartments are big and perhaps expensive considering it is around USD \$1.500 / US\$ 2.000 per square meter. This makes it possible for an apartment may U\$D 500.000 / US\$ 1.000.000

# **Barrio Norte**

Barrio Norte is situated on the perimeter of Recoleta. It's now only locally known as "Barrio Norte". It was actually an official barrio until year 2000, when the former city mayor De La Rúa, (who later became president of Argentina) consolidated Barrio Norte and Recoleta as a new city plan. However, Porteños do not usually make the distinction between Barrio Norte and Recoleta.

## **Location:**

Barrio Norte extension starts in the line of Las Heras Ave which divides it from Recoleta, to Callao, Santa Fe (which divides Barrio Norte from Facultad) and Coronel Díaz that divides Barrio Norte from the Alto Palermo neighborhood.

## **Safety:**

The area is primarily safe during both day and night. Especially by Santa Fe Ave, which generally has activity 24/7. Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays and rainy days might be a little slow, but you will more than likely see many people walking by Santa Fe Avenue until late in the night. The adjacent streets however, are mainly safe but a little bit darker and empty. Lately, several restaurants have been robbed (including the clients) so, before going to a restaurant, verify if they have a police officer nearby the entrance. Cartoneros (people who search through the trash) are also common to be seen in the area.

## **Restaurants and bars:**

There are several restaurants and bars on Santa Fe Avenue. El Farol (Santa Fe and Callao) is a

classic of the neighborhood, but there are many more around. The Lebanese Club, and La Brigada (Barrio Norte branch) are high rated, but the main stream restaurants in the area are inexpensive.

### **Main Activity of the Neighborhood:**

The special thing about Barrio Norte is that it has the convenience of a lot of business, but it is also very much a residential area. It is common to see a lot of gyms, hairdressers, pharmacies, kiosks, restaurants and cafes. The portion of Santa Fe Avenue that is in Barrio Norte is a highly commercial street with sidewalks full of shops (Mostly women's clothing stores), as well as cafes, locutorios, etc.

### **Main Avenues and Transportation:**

Main avenues are Las Heras Ave, which has a lot of bus lines. There is also the subway, Aguero station, (by Santa Fe avenue). Santa Fe Avenue is a big one way street and Pueyrredon is also a main street of the area as well.

### **Attractions and Nightlife:**

The main attraction of Barrio Norte is Santa Fe Avenue. It's full of shops and cafés. There are also a couple of cubs located on the Avenue as well. The blocks on the right side of Santa Fe Ave from Pueyrredon to Callao gets populated during certain nights with male-to-male street sex offers. Those blocks attract (during the night only) many gays who stand on the corners Bollini alley had a boom in the late 80's and it was once similar to the Las Canitas neighborhood today. At that time it became very touristy and there are restaurants and tango academies in the alley.

### **Real Estate evolution:**

Santa Fe Avenue had a boom in the late 70's and you can see a lot of upscale construction from this time period. Almost all of the city blocks are populated with apartment buildings with a few exceptions, such as the Hospital Aleman city block. After 2002, new construction also took place in Barrio Norte and there are a good percentage of new buildings in the area. The price per square meter was below US\$1.000 in 2003 within 2006 practically doubled that amount, and in 2007 experienced a small reduction, mostly on old construction that was older than 1970's.

## **Recoleta**

Recoleta neighborhood receives the name from the Recoletos's, which were monks who started their monastery outside of the city (now practically the center of the city) a long time ago. The church donated part of this monastery to the city, and that is where the cultural center, Buenos Aires design, and the church of Pilar are located. The cemetery is the center of Recoleta. It is very strange that being close to a Cemetery would be so attractive for real estate, hotels, food, and other activities, but it definitely is!

### **Location:**

There are two Recoleta; the Recoleta in the maps and the other the real one. Porteños consider Recoleta's perimeter starting in Libertador Avenue with its other borders consisting of Libertad, Alvear Avenue, Callao, Las Heras, and Austria. The maps on the other hand, make Recoleta's borders from downtown to almost Once and that's why many get fooled renting apartments and even buying real estate in areas that have nothing to do with the "real" Recoleta.

### **Safety:**

The area is mainly safe, but lately due the tourism affluence there are some pick pocketing in some



streets, just be aware when you are walking and don't carry your expensive camera hanging on your shoulders.

### **Restaurants and bars:**

Mainly the restaurants are around the cemetery, most of the restaurants have typical Argentine food like pastas, pizza, and parrilla, however, there are many other options such as sushi, Irish pubs, etc.

### **Main Activity of the Neighborhood:**

Hotels, tourist restaurants, gift shops for tourists, and Recoleta Village (which includes McDonalds and cinemas), are some of the main activities of Recoleta. The favorite attraction for non-Porteño Argentines is going to the cinemas and eating at McDonald's. The cemetery itself is another interesting attraction, as several icons of Argentina, like Evita Peron and others 'rest there in peace', there are guided tours and visits to this unusual "attraction". Also, the cultural center is placed next to the cemetery with expositions and art shows practically every day.

### **Main Avenues and Transportation:**

Main avenues are Libertador, Las Heras, and Callao.

### **Attractions:**

Buenos Aires Design, the Recoleta cemetery, the cultural center, the arts and crafts fair, all located in the center of Recoleta

### **Nightlife:**

There is little nightlife activity in the neighborhood. The nightlife that is there consists of night clubs and bars, and also everything attached to Recoleta Village, there are also at least 6 night clubs for men, where prostitution is practiced openly.

### **Real Estate Evolution:**

Recoleta it's very valuable and central. One of the first neighborhoods to get recovered in value in the 2002 crisis. However, the prices in real estate did not evolve after 2005. Ask for professional advice if you want to learn more about this.

[Pictures of Recoleta](#)

### **Videos in Recoleta:**

[Tribu](#), aborigin street show shot in Francia square in Recoleta. [Baires001](#), our first testing video, shot also in Recoleta. There will be more videos soon...

## **Palermo Viejo**

Palermo Viejo neighborhood receives its name because of the old buildings and townhouses that remain in the area.

### **Location:**

Palermo Viejo is bordered by: Cordoba, Scalabrini Ortiz, Sanchez de Bustamante, and Santa Fe Avenue. The center of Palermo Viejo is located in Cordoba and Scalabrini Ortiz.

### **Safety:**

The area is mainly safe, but some of the streets are deserted at certain times. Palermo Viejo is not as safe as Palermo Soho, but the area is a great place to be, and safe in comparison to other neighborhoods.

**Restaurants and bars:**

This is the right place to go for Armenian, Middle Eastern and Turkish cuisine. These international restaurants are concentrated on Scalabrini Ortiz. Also Marini, located on Santa Fe and Scalabrini Ortiz is very popular for offering a high quality all inclusive menu.

**Main activity of the neighborhood:**

Cordoba Ave has a big amount of clothes outlets operating business days and Saturdays half day in the morning. It's also a zone for car shops and minor industrial activities.

**Main Avenues and Transportation:**

Subway: Scalabrini Ortiz. Main avenues are the bordering avenues mentioned above.

**Attractions:**

Shopping by Cordoba Avenue, the Arabian restaurants on Scalabrini Ortiz, the Bizantine church on Scalabrini Ortiz.

**Nightlife:**

There are some discos like AmeriK, (gay and bisexual oriented) and other discos along the same lines, also the Arabian restaurants offer shows that last until the early hours of the morning.

**Real Estate Evolution:**

The problem in Palermo Viejo (certain areas) is basically the FOT restriction, this does not allows to build a high building. In addition, the area is considered as a mixed zone (residential and semi-industrial) so for now many will consider the area not attractive. However, in certain areas and with special permission there are brand new apartment buildings. The FOT restriction was applied in the city of Buenos Aires after 1990, so if you see tall buildings in the area, they have most likely been constructed before the restriction. One of the most valuable things about Palermo Viejo it's it proximity to Palermo Viejo and Alto Palermo sub-zones. Palermo Viejo is very central. Often Palermo Soho is also called Palermo Viejo, but lately the differences between neighborhoods have become more obvious.

## Alto Palermo

Alto Palermo neighborhood receives its name because higher elevation of land in the general area.

**Location:**

The neighborhood of Alto Palermo starts in Las Heras and Coronel Diaz, where Parque Las Heras is located. Alto Palermo borders Palermo Botanico, Palermo Viejo, and Barrio Norte, the perimeter is Coronel Diaz, Las Heras, Salguero, and Charcas. The center of the action in Alto Palermo is in Santa Fe and Coronel Diaz where the Alto Palermo shopping mall is located.

**Safety:**

The area it's mainly safe, But it is not recommended to walk by Las Heras park on the nights of business days.

**Restaurants and bars:**

There are several American chain restaurants located close to the Alto Palermo shopping mall, such as Fridays. If you stay away from the mall, you will find many lovely cafes and some nice restaurants.

**Main activity of the neighborhood:**

The shopping mall brings the attention of thousands of people daily, the park (Parque Las Heras) is a huge park and many of the people living in apartments around the area bring their children there to play. Basically it's one of the best equalized neighborhoods in BA for having green spaces, lots of shops and residential apartments.

**Main avenues and transportation:**

Subway Line D: Bulnes Station. Main avenues are Santa Fe, Coronel Diaz and Las Heras.

**Attractions:**

Shopping at Alto Palermo mall is not the only thing to do around this area!! Although it is tempting to shop all day, get out and see this beautiful neighborhood! Pleasant evenings on Charcas Boulevard or playing hockey in the park are just a few of the other attractions in Alto Palermo.

**Nightlife:**

There are a couple of small discos in the area, Titanic for example. In the back of Alto Palermo, there are some bars mainly oriented to people younger than 21.

**Real Estate evolution:**

Alto Palermo is very valuable and central. One of the first neighborhoods to get recovered in value after the 2002 crisis. You will find mainly 80's and 90's era apartment buildings around this area. Keep in mind the prices vary a lot depending on the street it's located. No one really knows why, but in certain streets the prices never rise, ask for professional advice if you want to learn more about this.

## Palermo Chico

Palermo Chico (small Palermo) used to be "outside" of Palermo in the past, and because of its original origins, it's completely different from the rest of Palermo. You will be able to see this distinction by walking down the streets of Palermo Chico.

**Location:**

Palermo Chico extends from the limits of Recoleta at Libertador Ave to the limits of Palermo Botanico. It is a quaint, classic, and beautiful residential area of Buenos Aires. Its beginnings came about around 1912 and its major building period was during the 1920s. Most of its expansion in the 20's was designed by Carlos Tays; especially Barrio Parque. This park is the icon of the neighborhood and a reminder of the luxurious times that Buenos Aires experienced in those years. The mansions placed on the streets of Palermo Chico reveal the international importance that Buenos Aires had worldwide in those expansionist years. Many of the jewels of the Argentine architecture were acquired in the depression years of the 20's by foreign governments and still used as embassies and ambassador residences today. While not placed in Palermo Chico, the US ambassador residency is also applicable to this phenomenon. Materials for the construction of these houses were mainly imported from Europe, as well as their builders, often based on the French architecture. No matter if you are interested in the architecture or not, walking these streets will

reveal a special sensation, and that one of the most interesting things about Palermo Chico.

### **Safety:**

The local police have more of a presence in Palermo Chico versus other neighborhoods, especially around the streets of Barrio Parque. However, night walking in certain areas, like close to Las Heras avenue, is not as safe as walking in Palermo Las Cañitas, Puerto Madero or Recoleta. Distances are bigger in Palermo Chico, and many use their cars as transportation.

### **Restaurants and Bars:**

Salguero street is full of restaurants like the famous 1st location of Dashi (Japanese). There are restaurants, bars, and coffee shops on Libertador avenue. Restaurants are mainly targeted toward the local crowd.

### **Main Activity of the Neighborhood:**

This neighborhood is mainly residential, and services around the area are residential oriented. The Fernandez Hospital supplies a number of medical - oriented services. The Paseo Alcorta shopping center has several shops to satisfy the nearby residential demand of goods, and a big Carrefour supermarket is placed there. Besides the residential apartments, there are several embassies and international organization offices that operate in the neighborhood massive old mansions. There are also a couple of museums and high-end art oriented galleries.

### **Main Avenues and Transportation:**

The main avenues are Libertador, Las Heras, and Figueroa Alcorta.

### **Attractions:**

**Malba** (Museo de Arte Latinoamericano de Buenos Aires) is a MUST SEE!

**PLAZA CHILE** (Located in Av. del Libertador, Tagle, Av. Figueroa Alcorta, Mcal. Ramón Castilla.) By this square there are several sculptures of Chilean artists like Gabriela Mistral and Pablo Neruda and also other less known artists, such as Bernard O'higgins. There are also statues of Military personal among other ones. An interesting one is the artwork representing San Martín as a civilian with his grandsons (because it's the only one representing the famous military man as a civilian).

**MUSEO DE ARTE DECORATIVO**, (Av. del Libertador 1902) built in 1911 by the French architect René Sergent for the Errazuriz Family; it's now a decorative art museum.

**AUTOMÓVIL CLUB ARGENTINO**, (Av. del Libertador 1850), built in 1943 reveals the rationalist style of these years in Buenos Aires. The first person that brought a car into the country, Varela Castex was one of the pioneers to start the ACA.

**ITALIAN EMBASSY** (Bilghurst and Libertador corner), built in 1926 by Federico de Alvear and his wife Susana Ortiz. Federico de Alvear is also a famous sparkling wine brand.

**SPANISH EMBASSY**, (Av. del Libertador 2075) Built in 1914, designed by the architect C. Nordmann based on a neoclassical French style; the house was purchased by the Spaniard kingdom in the early 20's.

**CASA DE VICTORIA OCAMPO**, (Rufino Elizalde 2831) Victoria Ocampo was an intellectual and writer. She once said, "Yo no soy una escritora. Soy simplemente un ser humano en busca de expresión. Escribo porque no puedo impedírmelo, porque siento la necesidad de ello y porque esa es mi única manera de comunicarme con algunos seres, conmigo misma. Mi única manera..." Victoria Ocampo. ("I'm not a writer. I'm simply a human being in search of expression. I write because I cannot deny this to myself, because I need it, and because that is my only way to communicate with some people.. myself. .. My only way.") It is interesting to see how very modern this house looks, considering it was built in the 1920s, the architecture is amazing!

**BELGIUM EMBASSY**, (Rufino Elizalde 2830) The Tornquist family owned this house for two years before selling the house to the Belgium government.

**RESIDENCY OF THE SAUDI-ARABIAN AMBASSADOR**, (Av. Del Libertador 2141) A Huge and beautiful place built in the 20's for a jet-set family, looks like a French styled symmetrical house with a big balcony on the 2nd level. Very nice!

**PORTUGAL EMBASSY**, (Ocampo 2831) Also built in the 20's for another Argentine jet-set family, portrays the times they lived in the early 20's.

**GREECE EMBASSY** (Ocampo 2855) Another great example of the 50's architecture, this mansion with a huge garden on the front, was built for Ms. Reneé Matilde Olga Oser de la Tour D'Auvergne Lauraguais, that's a great high-society name, isn't it? The house is simply impressive.

**MUSEO DE MOTIVOS ARGENTINOS JOSÉ HERNÁNDEZ**, (Av. del Libertador 2373), The traditional arts- expression of the Argentinean can be found in here, from sculptures of Jose Hernandez (writer) and Walter Owens (who translated "Martin Fierro"; literature icon of the Argentine culture) to collections of hand crafted silver from the XVIII to the XX centuries.

The recently (2002) built **Floris Generis** was created with the idea of replacing the Obelisc as the main icon of the city. The obelisc is placed in the middle of the city, but many Porteños don't like the Obelisc as the icon of the city. The Floris Generis is a huge robotic flower and it open and closes depending on the time of day. The day of its grand opening the system failed.

### **Nightlife:**

Although not placed inside of the neighborhood, Costa Salguero, one of nightlife's bigger centers in Buenos Aires, concentrating several clubs is very close.

### **Real Estate evolution:**

Palermo Chico, while not balanced from city block to city block (there may be a HUGE difference depending on the exact location) is one of the more remarkably higher valued prices per square meter; rising up to US\$ 6.500 per square meter in certain city blocks. The recently finished Grand Bourg building started US\$500.000 per apartment when pre-construction and ended US\$1.000.000 per apartment (200 sq meters). The FOT in certain areas it's 0,5 meaning you can build the half of the land. So if you need to build 10 floors with two 50 sq meter apartments per floor you'll need a land of 2 acres (1 Ha).

# Palermo Botanico

Palermo Botanico receives its name from the botanical gardens (Jardin Botanico) a collection of numerous vegetal species and sculptures which are in the center of this neighborhood, overall this is a small area inside of Palermo.

**Location:** Palermo Botanico borders Bosques de Palermo (Palermo Parks), Alto Palermo, and Palermo Soho.

**Safety:** The area is relatively safe, as Santa Fe Avenue is almost always full of people, but as always, be very aware when walking at night.

## Restaurants and Bars:

There are many restaurants and Bars located along Santa Fe avenue.

## Main Activity:

The botanical gardens are surrounded by apartment buildings and some shops as well as Santa Fe Avenue.

## Main Avenues and Transportation:

The main avenues are Santa Fe ave, Sarmiento, Salguero and Libertador. There are two subway stations in Palermo Botanico; Plaza Italia, and Scalabrini Rrtiz, both D (green) line of subway.

## Attractions and Nightlife:

If you are in Palermo Botanico, you definitely have to check out the Botanical Gardens! These gardens are a tranquil and great way to escape the busy life of the city. Also, it's possible to say that the Buenos Aires Zoo is located inside of Palermo Botanico, or anyway, it is very close! The City Zoo is a classic zoo, and a great place to spend the afternoon!

## Real Estate Evolution:

The value for sq meter in that area is about USD 1.400 in July 2007, depending on several factors.

# Palermo Soho

Palermo SOHO, originally Palermo Viejo, receives its name because in the early 90's some people began to escape from Barrio Norte where there were no townhouses available to this forgotten area. For the same money they had more square meters. Many artists and actors moved in here to mansions and large houses that they renovated. Natalia Oreiro, famous Uruguayan actress, married to Mojo, the leader of Divididos rock band were pioneers, and they bought a big house in the center of this neighborhood. Suddenly, Plaza Serrano, (Cortazar Square) was surrounded by small cafés and nice spots and the neighborhood attracted more people, then shops and designers began to

populate this area. Today is one of the more wanted neighborhoods to develop a designer clothing store, restaurants, etc.

**Location:**

Palermo Soho is limited by: Santa Fe Avenue, Scalabrini Ortiz, Cordoba, and Juan B Justo. There are two centers in Palermo Soho; one is the Plaza Cortazar (or Plaza Serrano) and the other one the "Plaza Palermo Viejo".

**Safety:**

The area is mainly safe, however, lately several assaults to restaurants has been registered, the restaurants owners now hire the police to watch out their venues, nights are darker and the distance from one shop to another is walk able, less than in Palermo Las Canitas and Recoleta / Barrio Norte, more than in Palermo Hollywood / Puerto Madero.

**Restaurants and Bars:**

The Soho is full of bars, restaurants and spots, they don't concentrate in just one axis but are all the way around, if you like Mexican food, this is the place to go since there are at least 4, Maria Felix moved from La Imprenta (Las Canitas sub-area) to Palermo Soho.

**Main Activity of the Neighborhood:**

Commercially, the designer shops, food and bars are the main activity, cars shops are being moved to other near neighborhoods, and the arts craft fair on the weekends is famous.

**Main Avenues and Transportation:**

The closest subway station is Plaza Italia, however it's not that close to the center of Palermo Soho. There are some buses in the area and plenty of cabs that cross its roads.

**Attractions:**

The weekend's arts craft fair and the "Buen Dia Festival" in December. Check out on the videos section, since we have shot a video on this event.

**Nightlife:**

There are a couple of clubs in the area; there are some recognized gay clubs, and many bars that draw a huge tourist crowd.

**Real Estate Evolution:**

Due to the rules within the zone, the center of Palermo Soho has not been populated by tall buildings, there are some apartments buildings and living in a townhouse could be not a good idea, since the business are crazy looking for large houses to start restaurants, shops, etc so they pay more than USD 3.000 per month for a rental, for a 5 years contract. A smart owner could take USD 80.000 buy a similar house on the suburbs on the province (Pilar, Martinez, etc) finance 20.000 and duplicate his/ her capital.

Regarding apartments, the value has been steady lately, around USD 1.200 per sq meter.

## Palermo Nuevo

Palermo Nuevo is a small area inside of Palermo. It used to consist of old houses and it was just

another Porteño barrio, but the Le Parc towers changed that in the late 1980s. Today, just a few houses are findable; many are restaurants, banks and businesses

### **Location:**

Palermo Nuevo starts in Santa Fe Avenue where it borders with Palermo Soho, by Ingeniero Bullrich it borders Palermo Las Canitas, there is a non defined span of territory where the Mosque, Jumbo Supermarket and Easy hardware store, and the military fields are located and this is what divides Palermo Nuevo from Palermo Las Canitas. This is basically a small area, smaller than Palermo Las Canitas, which you can cross in just a few blocks.

### **Safety:**

This area is very safe, it is an inner part of Palermo and mostly residential. Most of the towers and apartment buildings have security guards. There are many police officers around this area. It is also safe because La Rural, the American Embassy, and the American Residence area all in the area.

### **Restaurants and Bars:**

There are restaurants, cafés (like Cafe Martinez in Libertador and Oro), grocery stores, banks, and gas stations.

### **Main Activity:**

In general it is a quiet residential neighborhood inside; many people use these streets to pass through to other neighborhoods.

### **Main Avenues and Transportation:**

Libertador Ave separates Palermo Nuevo from Bosques de Palermo, and Sarmiento Ave divides Palermo Nuevo from Palermo Botanico.

### **Attractions and Nightlife:**

La Sociedad Rural, (A convention center for large events) is located in Palermo Nuevo and brings a lot of visitors to the area. Hotels and services are also close to La Rural. Palermo Nuevo is also the neighborhood where the US embassy is located; it is the building next to La Rural.

### **Real Estate Evolution:**

The value for sq meter in that area is about USD 1.900 in June 2007, depending on several factors. Extremes: An apartment in Le Parc Tower may reach USD 1.500.000 and a small studio apartment over Oro street is still finable for less than USD 45,000. Most of the apartment buildings are newer (built after 1985) and for the most part many are classy and upscale.



# Palermo Hollywood

## **A little bit of History:**

This area of Palermo took its American name as a joke, regarding our "Little Hollywood", where there are several production companies that serve TV channels (channel 2 and 9). When you add together the people from the radio stations, makeup artists, and the artists and producers from the TV channels you have Palermo Hollywood!

## **Location:**

Bordering with Palermo Soho, Colegiales, Palermo Embassy, and Palermo Las Canitas. Palermo Hollywood is central, and easy to access from almost anywhere, plus it had relatively cheap original prices, so it attracted these broadcasting industries to be located there.

## **Transportation:**

Palermo Hollywood is not extremely walking friendly; the venues are more spread out than in Barrio Norte, Palermo Las Canitas, or San Telmo.

## **Safety:**

Several houses in the area are occupied by squatters (casas tomadas) and this makes this neighborhood more unsafe than other Palermo counterparts. On a positive note, the neighborhood and local police are working very hard to fix this problem, and I believe in a few years there won't be any more squatting in Palermo Hollywood. It is definitely a neighborhood on the up rise.

## **Restaurants/Bars & Main Activities:**

Nothing to do with the Hollywood in California, there are no palm trees, or exclusive boutiques, if you think that in Palermo Hollywood you'll find a "Rodeo Drive" you'll lose your bet. However, there are a lot of fancy restaurants, pubs and decor stores. Palermo Hollywood has no public squares, as there are in Palermo Soho, Palermo Las Canitas and other Palermo's. Nights are extremely dark, since the government allows industrial activities in this neighborhood. However, this gives the neighborhood a special nightlife, very, mysterious and there is action in Palermo Hollywood. Give it a try!

Here is an article wrote by Clarin (A newspaper in BA) that refers to the informal neighborhoods in Buenos Aires, reading this is very interesting to understand the Porteño mentality regarding the neighborhood structure <http://www.clarin.com/diario/2005/10/23/laciudad/h-06015.htm>

[Read this PDF document](#) written by the geographer Fernando Alvarez de Celis that describes precisely the differences between Palermo Hollywood and Palermo Soho / Viejo and its commercial development.

## **Real Estate Evolution:**

FOR SURE, Palermo Hollywood is a great long term investment. As of July 2007 it's possible to buy for USD 1.000 per square meter, and I strongly believe this will be double in a few years (if no

crisis affects the real estate value in general in BA). So, why is so cheap? The neighborhood is currently in a transitional period of change. Lately, due the economy recovering, this part of Palermo has been building large towers that probably will change the traditional "feel" of Palermo Hollywood. And it is cheap because the development is not yet done. Check out the pictures of the neighborhood and you'll see, but in P. Hollywood you are central and accessible. There are at least 4 developments that will change the face of this abandoned neighborhood which eventually will be the extension of Palermo Nuevo and Palermo Las Canitas.

## Palermo Embassy

Palermo Embassy got its name from; you guessed it, the embassies in the area!!

### **Location:**

Palermo Embassy borders Belgrano, Palermo Hollywood, and Palermo Las Canitas. Basically the Military War Academy and hospital divides Palermo Embassy from Las Canitas. Palermo Embassy is a quiet and very centrally located neighborhood.

Safety: The area is fairly safe because of all the embassies in the area, there are also a lot of police! Although this doesn't guarantee safety, and always be aware of your surroundings.

### **Restaurants and Bars:**

This part of the city has lots of restaurants, especially on Cabildo Avenue. Just take a walk around this avenue and you are sure to find something that sounds good to you! During the night, with the exception of a few pubs and restaurants everything closes around 8PM. So the nights are fairly quite.

### **Main Activity:**

It's not a touristy destination yet since it has not been discovered, but it has a lot to provide, in addition, prices are fair, and you can get great rentals opportunities.

### **Main Attractions:**

It's a quiet neighborhood with big mansions, many of which are institutions, consulates and embassies (Germany embassy is at least 30 acres). The Australian consulate, European Union headquarters, Italian Labor house, and many other embassies are also in Palermo Embassy. There are also a lot of stores for shopping on Cabildo Avenue.

### **Main Avenues and Transportation:**

The main Avenue is Cabildo. Subway line D, stations Olleros and Carranza are close to this area.

### **Real Estate Evolution:**

This area is not as expensive as Las Canitas.

## Palermo Las Canitas

Palermo "Las Cañitas" receives its name because the old days of Las Canitas (the canes way), the

area used to be a sugar cane plantation.

**Location:**

Strategically located in Palermo, Las Canitas is a residential area with many outlets for anything you need. Its domains are extended from Lacroze to Av del Libertador, Bulrich, Luis Maria Campos. It's a small area, but has a lot of services, banks, supermarkets, clothes shops, a shopping mall, jewelry stores, hair shops, internet cafés, pet shops, pharmacies, drugstores, designer boutiques, laundries, bakeries, pasta shops, vegetable/fruit stands, ice cream shops, and especially restaurants, there are a lot of restaurants in the area.

**Safety:**

Local police patrol Palermo Las Canitas more than any other neighborhood; there are military installations within the area which makes it one of the safest in Buenos Aires. Some bars are open until late hours and it's common to see people walking on the streets of Palermo Las Canitas during the night. Taxi cabs are around 24/7 waiting to find clients, and in weekends there are more people around than during business days.

**Restaurants and bars:**

Baez is the main street of Palermo Las Canitas, some of the restaurants on Baez are: Liborio (Argentine), Sushi Night (Japanese-fusion), Entre Amigos (Argentine Parrilla), El Portugues (general), La Cchava (Argentine parrilla), Piegari (international), Parrilla (argentine parrilla), la Fonda del polo (argentine parrilla), Van Konning (Dutch bar with a great beer selection), Kandi (very fashionable and fancy bar that attracts a young and hip crowd), Delmonico (argentine), Campo bravo (great argentine parrilla), sushi club (Japanese argentine styled sushi), Soul Cafe (hip bar), Baez (international), De La Ostia (cocina de autor), El Estanciero (argentine parrilla), El Classico (bar), Novecento (Argentinean branch, they claim to have restaurants in NY and Paris) Also, by the adjacent streets there are more restaurants, bars, Italian, French, pizza, Mexican, Japanese, Thai, American, etc.

**Main activity of the neighborhood:**

This neighborhood is residential during the day and also has a lot of nightlife activity (because of the restaurants and bars) up until 1 to 3 AM, especially on Fridays and weekends and even more so in the summer. The shopping center has a movie theatre and streets around the area are populated everyday with people, but the neighborhood is still quiet and classy. Most of the people live in apartment buildings and many of them own their apartments, some apartments are rented furnished for short time rental, but just a few tourists are seen in the neighborhood, especially during the day. Recently three boutique hotels have started their businesses in Palermo Las Canitas. The polo fields also attract polo fans and players (when in season), and the restaurants attract people from other areas of the city such as Belgrano, Recoleta, Barrio Norte. Some famous model agencies and designer offices as well as media offices are placed in Palermo Las Canitas. As in the rest of the city, you'll find real estate brokers and b2p businesses. The Military War Academy is also placed in Palermo Las Canitas and this makes the area safer, while a few cartoneros can be seen around. It's important to not gain too much confidence and always be alert against pick-pocketing. Several Argentine TV stars and other famous people live in Palermo Las Canitas, and this in itself attracts people to the area. The horse tracks and casino are also in the area.

**Main avenues and transportation:**

Main avenues are Libertador, Bulrich, Luis Maria Campos, the best way to get quick to Puerto Madero, San Telmo, downtown, Recoleta, Palermo Nuevo, Palermo Chico, Belgrano, and Palermo parks is Libertador. The best way to get to Palermo Viejo, Palermo Soho and Palermo Hollywood is by Luis Maria Campos (or just walking). The closest subway station is Carranza (D line) or Olleros

(D line) depending on which part of Las Canitas you are in.

### **Attractions and Nightlife:**

As stated above, the polo fields, the horse tracks and the large selection of restaurants are the areas main attractions. In my opinion it's the best area to live, especially if you like tranquility, green areas, gyms and health clubs, and restaurants during the day, And bars at night. The area is also close to the domestic Aeroparque Airport, Palermo lakes and Palermo parks, and the most hip clubs of the city such as Pacha, Mint and others in Punta Carrasco and Costa Salguero.

### **Real Estate Evolution:**

Palermo Las Canitas is one of the most valued areas in the city, this is basically due its strategic location, nice streets, and services. However, it's less expensive than Puerto Madero, Palermo Chico, and around the same price as Palermo Nuevo. The average price per square meter in August of 2007 it's around US\$2.000 per square meter, while this may vary depending on the city block and quality of the apartment. La Imprenta (small area of Palermo Las Canitas) is more expensive than the rest of the neighborhood. The FOT in certain areas may vary from 2 to 5, but several towers have been built with a special permission.

## **Palermo Parks (Bosques de Palermo)**

### **A little bit of History:**

No one lives in Bosques de Palermo because it is a large extension of green area, parks and artificial lakes. It officially has the name Parque Tres de Febrero in memorial of an old battle that happened on February 3rd more than 100 years ago.

The park was inaugurated November 11th of 1875. The president Nicolas de Avellaneda symbolically planted a "magnolia" and it is still alive. Also President Sarmiento planted a new specimen, although unknown at the time, it now populates many streets in the city, the "jacaranda", a beautiful tree with violet flowers that blooms in the fall.

Probably because of his participation, one of the most important streets on the park is named Sarmiento Ave.

In the year 1836 the lands (now the park) and a house were property of Juan Manuel de Rosas, but an adversary government expropriated the lands and the house.

The same year a law past forbidding building structures on, or selling the park.

In 1888 the federal government transferred this property to the city of Buenos Aires.

And in 1891 Mr. Charles Thays, a French architect began to redesign the park. The lakes exist since circa 1900.

In 1941 the authorities of the park decided populate it with different birds.

In 1951 the bicycle race tracks were built for the Pan-American games.

In 1966 the planetarium with a futuristic design was built.

The park is huge and beautiful, many kind of trees such as eucaliptus, robles, cipreses de los pantanos, palomeras, palos borrachos, jacarandás, lapachos rosados, ceibos, ombúes, tipas, etc. can be found there, along with flowers, birds (more than 190 species), fish, and during the summer months many different kinds of butterflies. Native turtles, beavers and other small animals also live at the park.

The Rosedal is the most visited part of the park, next to the Gardens of the Poets with famous Latin American poet's sculptures. The Patio Andaluz donated by the city of Sevilla, and the bridge built by the architect Benito Carrasco in 1914 are also popular attractions. La Roselda has more than 12.000 plants of roses.

The limits of the park are Libertador Ave, Virrey del Pino, Migueletes st, La pampa ave. Figueroa Alcorta Ave, Florencio Sanchez Ave, Lugones Ave, the railways of the mitre train line, Mitre and Casares Ave.

### **Squares in the park:**

Plaza Sicilia, Plaza Irán, Plaza Dr. Benjamín Gould, Plaza F. Quiroga, Plaza Holanda (Rosedal), Plaza República de Haití, Plaza Almirante General Páez, Plaza Almirante R. Fernández, Plaza Republica de Paquistán, Plaza Republica de Ecuador, Plaza Wvsockl, Plazoleta Florencio Sánchez, Plazoleta Dr. Carlos Alberto Pueyrredón, Plaza República de México, Plaza General Aguilar, Paseo de la Infanta.

**Institutions and Clubs inside of the park:** Jardín Japonés, Club de Amigos, Automóvil Club Argentino, Club Suboficiales de Fuerzas Armadas, Velódromo Municipal, Cuba, Club Hípico Mediterráneo, Jardín de Infantes Mitre, Centro de Investigaciones Aeroespaciales, Campo de Equitación, Club Alemán de Equitación, GEBA, Club Argentino de Caza Mayor, Club Manuel Belgrano, Club Excursionistas, Club Harrods, Vilas Raquet, Buenos Aires Lawn Tennis Club, Hipódromo Argentino de Palermo, Tennis Club Argentino, Campo Municipal de Golf.

**Galileo Galilei Planetarium:** Was opened to the public for the first time in 1968, and visited by more than 7 million people since that time. The building has a futuristic structure and a circled theater with capacity for 360 people. At the entrance there is a metallic meteorite found in the province of El Chaco, and also a rock from the moon collected in the Apollo XI mission.

**Palermo Lakes:** There are four: Lago Victoria Ocampo, Lago del Rosedal, Lago del Planetario and Lago de Regatas. All of them populated by different fish, turtles and beavers, as well as fresh water shrimp. To rent small boats to paddle around the lakes is around 40 pesos an hour.

**Zoo:** The main entrance is at the Las Heras and Sarmiento Arcade. Upon arrival you will encounter a panoramic view of the Darwin Lake, set in a romantic landscape of the 19th century. The ruins on the isle of this lake are made of authentic byzantine marble, brought from Trieste in 1910, the elephant palace is made like a beautiful Indian fantasy, Japanese pagodas and roman shrines complete a didactic imaginary stroll. There is a wide variety of species as well an aquarium and snake exhibition.

**Sivori Museum:** An important museum of Argentinean painting, sculpture, engraving and illustration from the 19th and 20th centuries. Its huge collection is only partly exhibited in this newly opened branch at Av.de La Infanta 555. Operating hours: Tuesday through Friday 12 to 6 pm.

## **Belgrano**

### **A little bit of History:**

Belgrano was once an independent city, but today it is a neighborhood of the "Cuidad Automa de Buenos Aires" Belgrano is divided into the business area, the residential area (Belgrano R), the Chinatown which are only 4 blocks and Belgrano C or Bajo Belgrano (the part closest to the river).

Location: Belgrano is bordered by Palermo and Nunez.

**Safety:**

Around the residential and business areas Belgrano is relatively safe. Be very careful around the area close to the river, as it can be dangerous.

**Restaurants and Bars:**

There are countless restaurants and bars up and down Cabildo Avenue.

**Main Activity of the Neighborhood:**

The main source of activity for this neighborhood is Cabildo Avenue where it is possible to find many banks, restaurants, cinemas, cafes, art galleries, shops, etc.

**Main Avenues and Transportation:**

Cabildo Avenue is the main artery of Belgrano and the avenue where the subway stations pass by.

**Attractions and Nightlife:**

Belgrano is residential and classy. It is a big area but not very touristy since it's more focused to local people. Walking down the streets of Belgrano, or having a coffee at an outdoor café on a side street off of Cabildo Avenue can be very nice. There are also countless clothing stores along Cabildo Avenue, you can spend a full day on this Avenue shopping for the latest fashions. You may check out some pictures of Belgrano [pictures taken in belgrano](#). [This video has been shot in Chinatown](#), and [this video](#) it's a quick ride on Belgrano area.

**Real Estate Evolution:**

The real estate in Belgrano varies, from very expensive nice houses in the nicer parts, to cheaper apartments in the less developed areas. For more information on this subject consult a professional.

Nunez

**A little bit of History:**

Don Florencio Emeterio Nunez was the founder of the neighborhood that bears his name. In early 1873 he formed a company, "Nunez y Cia," whose main objective was the foundation of a neighborhood to be called Saavedra. The company hired the engineer Laurentino Sierra Carranza and the architect Juan Antonio Buschiazzi, who drew the map of the new barrio. On Sunday, April 27, 1873 the railroad opened in this area and a train brought 2000 people for a banquet and speeches. This happening is what we might consider the founding of the neighborhoods of Nuñez and Saavedra. At the same time they inaugurated the North Railway Station which received the name of the founder of the neighborhood. In a short time they started the auctions of land and began to build up the neighborhood to what it is today.

**Location:**

Nunez is located on the very northern rim of the city.

The Streets that border Nunez are:

Cabildo Avenue, Crisólogo Larralde, Zapiola, Congreso, Udaondo, Cantilo and Avenue General Paz. Nunez is bordered by the neighborhoods of Belgrano, Saavedra, Coghlan, and Olivos (Buenos Aires Province).

Ciudad Universitaria:

Ciudad Universitaria situated in Nunez neighborhood is the most important university in Buenos Aires. The university is free and offers courses such as architecture, design, urbanism and exact sciences. It also offers many activities for students.

### **Safety:**

Nunez is not the safest neighborhood in the City by any means; it can actually get quite dangerous, especially at night. If you go there during the day to see some of the attractions, you should be fine, but be very careful and aware!

### **Restaurants and Bars:**

Here is a list of several options for restaurants in Nunez:

Pizza

<http://www.guiaoleo.com.ar/detail.php?ID=2271>

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sushi

<http://www.guiaoleo.com.ar/detail.php?ID=123>

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Parrilla

<http://www.guiaoleo.com.ar/detail.php?ID=1947>

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Mexicana

<http://www.guiaoleo.com.ar/detail.php?ID=130>

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Espanola

<http://www.guiaoleo.com.ar/detail.php?ID=3080>

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### **Main activity of the neighborhood:**

The neighborhood is residential, with some restaurants and commercial buildings.  
Centro Cultural Barrial: Centro Cultural Julio Cortázar – (O´ Higgins 3050)

### **Main Avenues and Transportation:**

Libertador and Cabildo Avenue.

### **Attractions:**

#### **ESMA (ESMA)**

Museum of memory, truth and justice: (Libertador 8209), one of the largest and most terrifying secret detention

centers during the last military dictatorship (1976-1993) located at Cdad.

Bs. Ace. It has been converted into a museum of memory. It is estimated that 5000 abductees spend time there and there are very few survivors.

The President Nestor Kichner, by decree, evicted all units of the Navy that still worked there and handed the property to the Government of Buenos Aires in order to make it a Museum of Memory, Truth and Justice.

### **Municipal School of Arts and Crafts "Raggio"**

(Av. del

Libertador y Av. Gral Paz) is a school for studying technical careers as electronics, mechanical construction, industrial and furniture design, etc.. This school has been operating since 1924 which is recognized by the very high level of teaching and is especially noted for joining youth from all walks of life, without privileges of any kind, and allowing them a better future.

### **School Colonel Brandsen:**

The street Juana Azurduy 2541, is the oldest in the neighborhood and many say that the structure of the building was the former home of Don Florencio Nunez.

### **CENARD**

(Crisólogo Larralde and Av. Libertador) Cenard or the National Center for High Performance Sports, is a center where athletes are trained so they can compete successfully nationally and internationally. There are currently more than 300 athletes training there.

### **RIVER PLATE STADIUM**

In 1934, River Plate was already 33 years old. It had already achieved an amateur title and another as a professional team. It was already known as the millionaires due to their spectacular signs ups. Liberty was already chairman, the first of his four terms. Albear and Tagle stadium was getting too small due to the amount of fervent fans.

On October 31st 1934, the bill of sale was signed for the purchase of 83.950 square meters of land, 35.000 of which were given to them by the Municipality, for a new stadium at Nuñez. As the Centenario Avenue was to pass by there, as Municipal property, River was exempted roadway tax. Many people thought this was a wild idea because the place was considered inhospitable and unappreciated; anyhow their first stage had taken place. On May 25th 1935, the foundation stone was laid on the property of Centenario Avenue and the Río de La Plata river. On December 1st of that year, the Board of Directors presented the clubs members at a Special Assembly the approved draughts and a detailed review of how they were going to get down to work. A \$2.500.000 loan was granted by the Government and on September 27th 1936, construction started under the supervision of the architects José Aslan and Héctor Ezcurra.

A special characteristic of this construction was that a direct foundation was chosen, at six to eight meters deep, opencast, in the open air to allow stability of the land and water pumping to avoid it sprouting up. The construction of all three grandstands took two years. 50 km of rows were built, with 26.000 square meters of concrete and framework of almost 3.000 tons of steel. A few years later, during the Second World War, the same steel used would have cost more than the whole stadium.

The "Monumental" Stadium was, according to Adolfo Pedernera, the first great step of this giant. The parterre box was finally completed in 1958, under Chairman Enrique Pardo, and for this new construction, the Colonia grandstand, was decisive the entered money (10 million pesos) from Enrique Omar Sívori's transfer to Juventus Football Club. About 100.000 spectators



could fit in the impressive circle.

If something was lacking in this National Symbol, it was accomplished when the 1978 World Cup took place. With the construction of the missing wing, with less capacity, grandstands for a total of 76.609 spectators, capacity that had never existed at any stadium before. The unforgettable inauguration took place on June 1st (West Germany vs. Poland), another seven more meetings, Argentinean's victory, River Plate's titles, plus the international consecrations.

Many bands have also performed at this stadium such as: the rolling stones, U2, Robbie Williams, Aerosmith, and Guns N' Roses. Every year "Quilmes festival rock" takes place here.

If you would like to visit River Plate Stadium, there are guided tours offered that go throughout the inside of the stadium.

## **TIERRA SANTA**

Tierra Santa (Holy Land) is a theme park oriented to the different stages in the life of Jesus Christ, since His birth until his crucifixion and resurrection.

Inside a giant park, you can go along the streets of Jerusalem, discovering different cultures with every step you make. There, Christians, Jews, Romans and Arabs seem to have co-existed interchanging their customs.

If you decide to live this experience in the late afternoon, the park will turn on a series of lighting systems, which will give the journey an even more mystical touch.

Built in a seven-hectare venue, the atmosphere is architecturally perfect. Sculptures of characters of those days and animals modeled at life-size with a wealth of detail animate the venue. Besides, the large amount of staff working in the park, all of them dressed in typical costumes of the time, make the visitor feel as if he has been transported back through the time tunnel, to about 2000 years ago.

Also, if you have enough time, you can see various shows. Music bands, folkloric dances, puppets, among other things, can be experienced at different scheduled timetables on an open air stage.

## **Real Estate Evolution:**

It would be a good investment to buy in Nunez. There is a lot of construction going on now. Nunez is more catered to local people, and it is a little bit cheaper than other neighborhoods, so you would be able to get more meters for you money.

