



**Argentinian
Explorer**

ARGENTINA TOURS

BARITU NATIONAL PARK: JUNGLES AND YUNGAS

A trip to the heart of the Yungas jungle in the Bermejo basin, the biggest biosphere reserve in Argentina. Baritú is the synonym of the environment preservation. We offer an organized itinerary for all those people who love and enjoy the nature in real virgin jungle and for those fans of bird-watching. We can take advantage of the flora and fauna which are endangered species but some private enterprises like the Portal de Baritú help and try to preserve and avoid the economic situation which tries to destroy this virgin areas and replace them with commodities like the soya and other cultures.

Previously this area was in danger of being overrun by cultivations such as coffee, zapallos and vineyards and unrestricted hunting. Fortunately the awareness of the importance of the balance of animals, land and vegetation in order to preserve a vital ecosystem stopped the 'march of progress' and allowed the area to maintain or return to its natural form. Each ecosystem interacts together with the climate and the soil in order to assist the survival of its inhabitants by forming chains of alimentation. The Yungas jungle is one of the areas richest in mammalians of this tropical region. It is estimated that there are 100 species of mammals in the 600km extension of the northeast of Argentina and 35% of them are encountered in the ecosystem of the jungles and Yungas.

It is possible to observe mammals such as the jaguar, tapirs, great anteaters, cai monkeys, great ferrets, porcupines, coloured squirrels, bats, armadillos etc. and birds such as Toucan parrots, humming birds, eagles, partridges, orioles and many more, also amphibians such as different frogs and toads including the red stomached toad and many types of fish.

The mountain jungles are on the slopes between 500 and 1000 metres where the vegetation is dense and humid. The highest treetops of over 30 metres are those of the cedars, laurels and walnuts whilst those at the 20 metre level consist of oaks, chachal, palo luz and tala. There are other stratas such as that of shrubs and herbs, plants that spread over the surface and there is an important number of vines and epiphytes. In the Calilegua National Park there are different forests of mountain pines, alders and queñoa that are on the slopes up to 3000 metres.

6 DAYS - 5 NIGHTS

- Accommodation in double room with breakfast, lunch and diner.
- Transfers detailed itinerary
- Regular excursions listed in the itinerary (except optional)
- Bilingual English Spanish Guide
- Permanent coordination

Day 1 - Jujuy

Welcome to Argentina. Reception and transfer from Ezeiza International Airport (Buenos Aires City) to Jorge Newbery Airport. Reception and transfer from Libertador Gral. San Martín Airport (San Salvador de Jujuy) to the Hotel.

Day 2 - Tropical Jungles: Calilegua National Park – Baritú

Breakfast in the hotel. We commence our enjoyable adventure visiting the National Park where we undertake a guided tour of one of the three trails, the Mamota, the Herradura or the Lagunita that go between an altitude of 475 to 1700 metres. We follow the road through sugar, banana and citrus plantations until we arrive at the Portal of Baritú which we find hidden in the tropical jungles of Salta. To go to the lodge we cross the river Bermejo by boat and walk by a cañada entering the jungle. It is a special place to observe the birds. We eat and sleep in the Portal of Baritú.

Note: The season to visit the Portal de Baritú is from April until November in the dry season. The climate is warm and humid. The altitudes go between 300 and 3,000 metres. The rainy season is in the summer and it receives between 900 mm and 1,300 mm per annum.

Recommended to pack for the visit:

- Long and short trousers
- Socks
- Warm jacket, polo type
- Comfortable walking shoes
- Torch and water bottle
- Binoculars
- Camera or video
- Personal medicines

Day 3 - Portal de Baritú

Breakfast in the hotel. We have the morning free to relax. At midday we take an intermediate level of trekking to La Ciega river returning by Los Cafetales (coffee plantations) for dinner in el Portal.

Apart from trekking by the adventure trails looking at the flora and fauna both during the day and at night, at the Lodge, it is possible to practice sport fishing. Another typical activity is to look for the footprints and marks of the puma, jaguar or tapir. We can visit the old coffee plantations, go on boat trips on the river Bermejo or hunting with the camera. There is also horse riding and the opportunity to join others and enjoy a local barbecue accompanied by a good guitar.

Los Yungas have four levels of vegetation and the height defines the type of flora and fauna. They stretch from the border with Bolivia in the north of the Salta province where they are tropical, transforming into sub tropical in Jujuy and continuing through Tucumán until Catamarca.

Day 4 - Portal de Baritú - Arroyo Catuy

Breakfast in the hotel. After an active day we take the morning for a well earned rest and after lunch we take another walk on the island before returning to the Lodge via the Catuy Creek. This trek takes half a day and has an intermediate difficulty. On the way it is possible to encounter the foot prints of the animals such as tapirs, jaguars, pumas and maybe the wild pigs. We should see a great variety of birds including the Toucan parrot, humming birds and maybe monkeys.

The flora is very abundant and we will observe bromelias, very large ferns, lapachos and discover the Queen of the Baritú: La maroma which translated means the thick rope. During the night time there are the typical jungle or wetland sounds of the frogs and chicharras. If you are fortunate to be there with a full moon, a walk at night on the river bank is a spectacular. After we return to dine and sleep in the Portal de Portal de Baritú.

Day 5 - San Salvador de Jujuy

Breakfast in the Hotel. We return to San Salvador de Jujuy.

Day 6 - San Salvador deJujuy - Return to Buenos Aires

Breakfast in the hotel. Transfer to San Salvador de Jujuy Airport. Reception and transfer from Buenos Aires Airport (Domestic Airport) to Ezeiza International Airport in Buenos Aires. End of our services.

ARGENTINIAN EXPLORER EVT

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