



History continued

people who had struggled to survive in this brutally unforgiving land for 12 thousand years, were driven into extinction.

Beginning in 1884, to bolster its claim to the region, the government of Argentina began to build a series of prisons around Ushuaia, a small settlement that was little more than an English missionary outpost at the time. Fishing, logging, cattle and sheep ranching, together with the discovery of gold, all combined to lure more settlers to Ushuaia and the surrounding region. Today visitors from around the world come to Ushuaia to discover for themselves the natural wonders of Tierra del Fuego...“the end of the world”.

POINTS OF INTEREST

1 The Prison Museum is part of the refurbished military prison complex that began construction in the early 1900s. The museum has on display many prison cells and artifacts that show the harsh environment endured by some of Argentina’s most hardened criminals as well as those who simply fell out of favor with the country’s political powers of their day.

2 The Maritime Museum is also located in the old and infamous military prison on the grounds of the former Presidio de Ushuaia. The museum displays a number of exhibits that tell the story of Ushuaia and its relationship to the surrounding islands and the sea. The museum is supported in large part by the town and the Argentine Navy.

3 The End of the World Museum traces the heritage and history of Ushuaia and the surrounding region beginning with the indigenous people and continuing through to the first European explorers, adventures and settlers.

Beyond Ushuaia

4 The Sea Wolves Island (Isla de los Lobos) Nature Reserve is reached by boat through the Beagle Channel. The island is the protected home to a large colony of sea lions, seals and sea birds.

5 The Tierra del Fuego National Park is an amazingly beautiful reserve that includes numerous hiking trails and walking paths that wind through forests, around the lakes and along the rocky bays and inlets that dot the coastline of the

Beagle Channel. The trails continue beside rivers that flow with the runoff of the snow covered mountain peaks. The park also features the Tierra del Fuego Southern Train that slowly makes its way through this wonderfully scenic wilderness.

6 The Martial Glacier is just a couple miles northeast of Ushuaia. A chairlift takes visitors from the base to the top. The views are spectacular.

SHORE EXCURSIONS To make the most of your visit to Ushuaia and surrounding areas we suggest you take one of our organized Shore Excursions. For information concerning tour content and pricing, consult your Shore Excursion Brochure, Shore Excursion TV Channel or contact the Shore Excursion Desk. When going ashore, guests are advised to take with them only the items they need and to secure any valuables. Clouds and rain often move in quickly. It is suggested that guests dress in layers and bring a waterproof jacket.

LOCAL CUSTOMS Bargaining: Prices are generally fixed.

Tipping: A 10% tip is customary at restaurants.

Local Cuisine: This region is famous for salmon and other seafood. Some favorite local dishes include: *Patagonia Pie* combines freshly caught salmon (cooked and shredded) with carrots, red pepper, parsley, ginger, salt and pepper, garlic, cream and hard-boiled eggs then mixed to make a pie filling, sprinkled with grated cheese and baked till golden brown. *Patagonian Lamb Chops*, *Magellan Spider Crab* and *Smoked Salmon* are among the local favorites.

Local drink: *Yerba Mate* is Argentina’s national drink. It is a strong herbal tea. Wine has been grown in Argentina for over 400 years and today the country is the 5th largest producer in the world. Little has been exported over the years due to mediocre quality and the fact that the Argentineans consume most of it themselves. Over the past decade or so, some of the best wineries (large and small) have greatly improved their vintage and consequently expanded their export markets. Today many of Argentina’s best wines are highly sought after and greatly appreciated.

SHOPPING FACILITIES Ushuaia is a tax free zone. San Martin St. is the main shopping area for stone, metal, wood and wool crafts and clothing. Try to find a good local craftsman (as opposed to foreign factory made). Don’t be surprised if you get a scent of sweet warm chocolate on San Martin St. Just follow your nose...you will not be disappointed.

LOCAL CURRENCY Argentina’s currency is the peso (ARS). Several banks have ATMs and will accept traveler’s checks for a fee.

POST OFFICE & TELEPHONE FACILITIES The Correo Argentino (Argentine Post) is located at the intersection of San Martin Street and Godoy Street.

Dial the following access numbers to use a personal calling card:

AT&T: 0800.555.4288

MCI: 0800.555.1002

Sprint: 0800.555.1003

TRANSPORTATION Car rentals and 4WD vehicles are available. There are a few taxis in town.

TOURIST INFORMATION The City Tourist Information Office is located at 674 San Martin Street. The Provincial Tourist Information Office (Instituto Fueguino de Turismo) is located at Albatros Hotel, 505 Avenida Maipu.

USEFUL WORDS & PHRASES

Yes - Si

No - No

Good Day - Buenos Dias

Good Bye - Adios

Thank-you - Gracias

You’re welcome - De Nada