



Córdoba & the Central Sierras

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Best Places to Eat

- ➔ El Bistro del Alquimista (p303)
- ➔ Rincón Suizo (p308)
- ➔ La Nieta (p292)
- ➔ Kasbah (p299)
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Best Places to Stay

- ➔ 279 Boutique B&B (p303)
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- ➔ Andamundos Hostel (p308)
- ➔ Hospedaje Casa Rosita (p306)
- ➔ Estancia La Estanzuela (p314)

Why Go?

Argentina's second city bursts with life. Home to not one but seven major universities, Córdoba has a young population that ensures an excellent nightlife and a healthy cultural scene. Córdoba also boasts a fascinating history, owing its architectural and cultural heritage to the Jesuits, who set up shop here when they first arrived in Argentina.

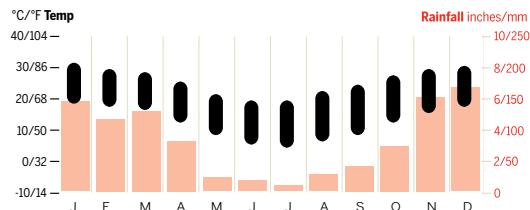
The rolling hill country out of town is dotted with places that could grab your attention for a day or a month, including five Jesuit missions that make for an easy day trip from the capital.

Adventure buffs also head to the hills, where the paragliding is excellent, or a couple of national parks offer excellent trekking opportunities.

Further to the southwest, the Valle de Conlara and Sierras Puntanas offer a real chance to get away from the crowds and into the heart of the countryside.

When to Go

Córdoba



Nov–Feb During the day, cool off riverside in the Sierras. At night, hit Córdoba's bars.

Jul–Sep Chances of snow at higher altitudes. Low rainfall makes for good trekking weather.

Mar–Jun Clear, cool days with occasional rain – ideal for outdoor activities.



Córdoba & the Central Sierras Highlights

1 Lap up the culture and wander the gorgeous streets of the stately city of **Córdoba** (p284)

2 Check out ancient caves, rock art and highland scenery around **Carolina** (p313)

3 Get high with the paragliding fanatics at **La Cumbre** (p298)

4 Take a breather at the atmospheric 17th-century Jesuit *estancia* (ranch) of **Santa Catalina** (p302)

5 Break in your hiking boots among the surreal rock formations of **Parque Nacional Sierra de las Quijadas** (p312)

6 Mellow out in the pedestrian-only mountain village of **La Cumbrecita** (p306)

7 Visit Che's house in **Alta Gracia** (p300)

8 Cool off riverside in the quaint resort town of **Mina Clavero** (p307)