

A detailed map of Montserrat, Argentina, showing a grid of streets. Major streets include Av Santa Fe, Av Córdoba, Av Corrientes, Av Rivadavia, Av de Mayo, Av Independencia, Av Entre Ríos, Av Callao, and Av 9 de Julio. Landmarks such as Plaza B. Houssay, Plaza Rodríguez Peña, Plaza Lavalle, Plaza Libertad, and the CONGRESO are marked. Numbered locations 1 through 5 are indicated: 1 is near Plaza Libertad, 2 is near Hipólito Yrigoyen, 3 is near San José, 4 is near Cerito, and 5 is near Ayacucho. A scale bar at the bottom left shows 0 to 500 meters and 0 to 0.25 miles. A north arrow is also present.

5 Visiting the toilets and bidets at the bizarre little museum in **Palacio de las Aguas Corrientes** (p79).

For more detail of this area see Map p240 ➡

Explore: Congreso & Tribunales

Plaza del Congreso is at the heart of this neighborhood and an easy walk from Plaza de Mayo (in the Center) along the important thoroughfare Av de Mayo. This avenue connects the city's two most significant political centers and is itself lined with beautiful buildings, so be sure to take a stroll along it.

To do this, however, you'll have to experience crossing Av 9 de Julio (p110), which is 'the widest street in the world!' as proud *porteños* love to boast. This may be true, as it's 16 lanes at its widest; nearby side streets Cerro and Pellegrini make it look even broader. Fortunately, traffic islands provide raised breaks for the thousands of pedestrians who cross this monstrosity every day, but it's still an intimidating barrier (and can't be done in one green light without breaking into a run – trust us).

Once you've explored the Plaza de Congreso area, head up to Av Corrientes and have a look around – it's the city's traditional old theater district, but there's still plenty of action going around. Further north is Plaza Lavalle, home to its own important cluster of buildings, including one of the principal gems of the city, Teatro Colón. Just a couple blocks from here is the Obelisco, Buenos Aires' key landmark, with a small plaza near the base.

Local Life

➔ **Hangouts** Break for afternoon teatime at the classic institutions of Café de los Angelitos (p81) or El Gato Negro (p81).

➔ **Culture** Av Corrientes is lined with theaters and cultural centers where locals catch inexpensive art exhibitions and plays.

Getting There & Away

➔ **Bus** Take bus 29 from Palermo or San Telmo, bus 64 from the Microcentro.

➔ **Subte** Líneas A and B from the Microcentro.

Lonely Planet's Top Tip

Check the big theaters like Teatro San Martín or Teatro Colón for inexpensive or even free events that are occasionally put on. Cultural centers like Centro Cultural San Martín are also good sources of free or affordable entertainment.

Congreso is busy during the day, but certain smaller streets feel desolate at night when all the stores close and businesspeople go home. Take a taxi if you feel uncomfortable.

Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Aramburu (p81)
- ➔ Chan Chan (p81)
- ➔ Parrilla Peña (p81)

For reviews, see p80 ➔

Best Places to Drink

- ➔ Café de los Angelitos (p81)
- ➔ El Gato Negro (p81)
- ➔ Cruzat Beer House (p82)

For reviews, see p81 ➔

Best Entertainment

- ➔ Teatro Colón (p82)
- ➔ Tango Porteño (p83)
- ➔ Ávila Bar (p83)

For reviews, see p82 ➔