



# Day Trips from Buenos Aires

## Tigre & the Delta p153

Take laid-back boat rides along the peaceful backwaters of the Río de la Plata. A nearby outdoor market and interesting museums are pluses.

## San Antonio de Areco p155

Explore this serene village and its historic buildings, and perhaps visit a nearby *estancia* (cattle ranch). If you're lucky, you might spot a gaucho or two.

## Colonia p157

Located across the Río de la Plata in Uruguay, this pleasant little colonial gem is lined with cobbled streets and charming old buildings.

# Tigre & the Delta

## Explore

Only an hour's drive from BA, tranquil Tigre and its huge river delta make a popular weekend getaway for cement-weary *porteños*. And while Tigre itself is a pleasant enough riverside town, it's really the swampy waterways that everyone is after. Latte-colored waters – rich with iron from the jungle streams flowing from inland Argentina – alongside reedy shores are far from any stereotypical paradise, but there are a few surprises here. Boat rides into the delta offer peeks at local houses and colonial mansions, or you can just get off and explore some nature trails. All along the shores are signs of water-related activity, from sailing, kayaking and canoeing to sculling and even wakeboarding.

## The Best...

- ➔ **Sight** Puerto de Frutos (p153)
- ➔ **Place to Eat** Boulevard Saenz Peña (p154)
- ➔ **Place to Drink** María Luján (p155)

## Top Tip

Kayak or canoe tours (try [www.eldorado.kayak.com](http://www.eldorado.kayak.com) and [www.selknamcanoas.com.ar](http://www.selknamcanoas.com.ar)) are a good way to explore the peaceful back waterways of the delta.

## Getting There & Away

- ➔ **Train** From Estación Retiro you can take a train straight to Tigre (one hour). The best way to reach Tigre, however, is via the **Tren de la Costa** (tickets AR\$40) – a pleasant light-rail train with attractive stations and views. This train line starts in the suburb of Olivos; to get there, take a train from Retiro station and get off at the Mitre station, then cross the bridge to the Tren de la Costa. Buses 59, 60 and 152 also go to the Tren de la Costa.
- ➔ **Bus** 60 (most 60 buses go to Tigre, but double check with the driver). The trip takes 1½ hours.
- ➔ **Car** Take the Panamericana Hwy north to *ramal* (branch) Tigre.

➔ **Boat Sturla Viajes** (📍 in BA 4314-8555, in Tigre 4731-1300; [www.sturlaviajes.com.ar](http://www.sturlaviajes.com.ar); Estación Fluvial, local 10 in Tigre, Grierson 400 in BA) has a commuter boat (AR\$35) to Tigre that leaves from Grierson 400 in Puerto Madero, but it's only at 6.10pm from Monday to Friday. However, you can take its Tigre tour directly from Puerto Madero, which includes boat transport and a trip around the Delta (AR\$260 round-trip).

## Need to Know

- ➔ **Area Code** 011
- ➔ **Location** 35km northwest of Buenos Aires
- ➔ **Tourist Office** (📍 4512-4497; [www.vivittigre.gov.ar](http://www.vivittigre.gov.ar); Mitre 305; ☎ 8am-6pm) Located behind McDonald's; will help you sort out the complex delta region



## SIGHTS

The waterways of the delta offer a glimpse into how the locals live here, along peaceful canals with boats as their only means of transportation. Frequent **commuter launches** (AR\$45 to AR\$68) depart from Estación Fluvial (situated behind the tourist office) for various destinations in the delta. A popular destination is the neighborhood of **Tres Bocas**, a half-hour boat ride from Tigre, where you can take residential walks on slender paths connected by bridges over narrow channels. There are several restaurants and accommodation options here. The **Rama Negra** area has a quieter and more natural setting with fewer services but is located an hour's boat ride away.

Several companies offer inexpensive **boat tours** (AR\$60 to AR\$120, one to two hours), but commuter launches give you flexibility if you want to go for a stroll or stop for lunch at one of the delta's restaurants.

## PUERTO DE FRUTOS

MARKET

(Sarmiento 160; ☎ 10am-6pm) At this popular waterside market you'll find furniture, housewares, wicker baskets, dried flowers, plants and a whole lot of kitsch. Friday to Sunday is best, when a large crafts fair sets up; there are several restaurants too. There's a tourist office at the entrance to the port.