



American Horticultural Society  
Travel Study Program

# GARDENS OF ARGENTINA: BUENOS AIRES, MENDOZA & SALTA

October 30–November 8, 2017

**POST-TOUR IGUAZÚ FALLS EXTENSION**

November 8–10, 2017

WITH AHS HOSTS JANE AND GEORGE DIAMANTIS AND  
TOUR LEADER CHELSEY HENDERSON OF BENEFACTOR TRAVEL





Announcing the American  
Horticultural Society  
Travel Study Program

American Horticultural Society  
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[www.ahsgardening.org/travel](http://www.ahsgardening.org/travel)

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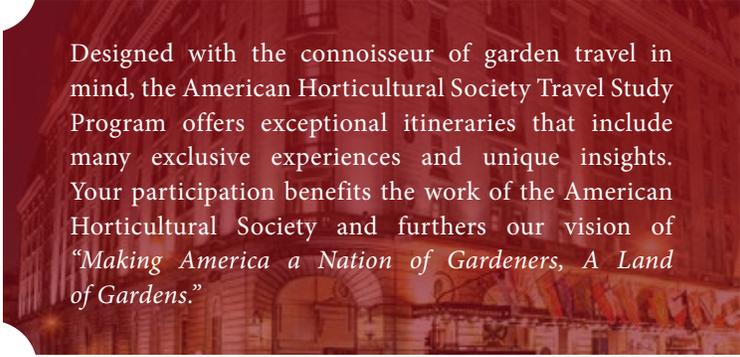
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LEADER CHELSEY HENDERSON OF BENEFACOR TRAVEL

## GARDENS OF ARGENTINA: BUENOS AIRES, MENDOZA & SALTA

- Experience the magnificent natural and cultivated landscapes of one of South America's most botanically and culturally diverse countries
- Be captivated by the richness and variety of three distinctly different regions – cosmopolitan Buenos Aires, the “Paris of South America,” with its fascinating architectural styles and neighborhoods; the scenic wine valleys of Mendoza; and, the colonial feel of beautiful Salta city in the Northwest
- Visit many private gardens, be welcomed by and meet with garden owners and designers, and get a firsthand feel for the life and culture of Argentina
- Relish the culinary delights of a flourishing “foodie” culture, enjoy top-rated and landmark accommodations, and tempt yourself with world-class window shopping and intimate boutiques filled with local handcrafts
- Enjoy the company and camaraderie of a small group of like-minded travelers

Discover the gardens of Argentina with the AHS – look inside for details!

Please refer to the enclosed reservation form for pricing and instructions to reserve your place on this AHS Travel Study Program tour. For more information about AHS Travel Study Program tours, please contact [development@ahsgardening.org](mailto:development@ahsgardening.org) or (703) 768-5700, ext. 127. Information is also available at [www.ahsgardening.org/travel](http://www.ahsgardening.org/travel).



Designed with the connoisseur of garden travel in mind, the American Horticultural Society Travel Study Program offers exceptional itineraries that include many exclusive experiences and unique insights. Your participation benefits the work of the American Horticultural Society and furthers our vision of “*Making America a Nation of Gardeners, A Land of Gardens.*”



Dear Friends,

We invite you to join us for a tour that promises a wide range of enriching and exhilarating experiences – “Gardens of Argentina: Buenos Aires, Mendoza & Salta,” October 30 through November 8, 2017. It has been more than a decade since our last study tour to Argentina, so if this part of the world is on your bucket list, this is an opportunity not to be missed!

Our itinerary is built around three distinctly different locations that will serve as jumping off points for our exploration of the cultivated gardens and unequalled scenic beauty of Argentina – Buenos Aires, Mendoza, and Salta. By special arrangement, our tour features visits to more than a dozen exceptional private gardens. Accomplished garden designers will join us along the way to enhance our experience and serve as local guides. Our days also include public gardens and parks, renowned museums, charming towns and squares, and, of course, the opportunity to enjoy regional cuisine and locally produced wines. If you extend your tour, you’ll also have the chance to visit Iguazú National Park on the border between Argentina and Brazil, and experience the monumental beauty of Iguazú Falls.

Hosting this program for the American Horticultural Society will be AHS Board member Jane Diamantis and her husband George. Jane and George are enthusiastic supporters of the American Horticultural Society and have previously led a number of successful AHS Travel Study Programs. Jane is a true garden aficionado, with a long-standing love of gardens that started when she was a small child growing up in England. George is an avid photographer and enjoys capturing remarkable images of plants and gardens on their travels. You will be sure to enjoy their warm personalities, deep interest in horticulture, and passion for world travel.

With this tour, we are pleased to introduce a new travel partner – Benefactor Travel. With offices in Canada, France, and the U.S., Benefactor Travel works with the world’s top museums, art galleries, and other cultural institutions, creating custom-designed travel programs of the highest caliber for discerning travelers. Our tour leader from Benefactor Travel will be Chelsey Henderson. Chelsey is an art historian specializing in Post-War and Contemporary Art who was born in Buenos Aires and educated in Argentina, The Netherlands, and London. She has traveled extensively throughout Argentina and South America and speaks fluent English, Spanish, and Portuguese.

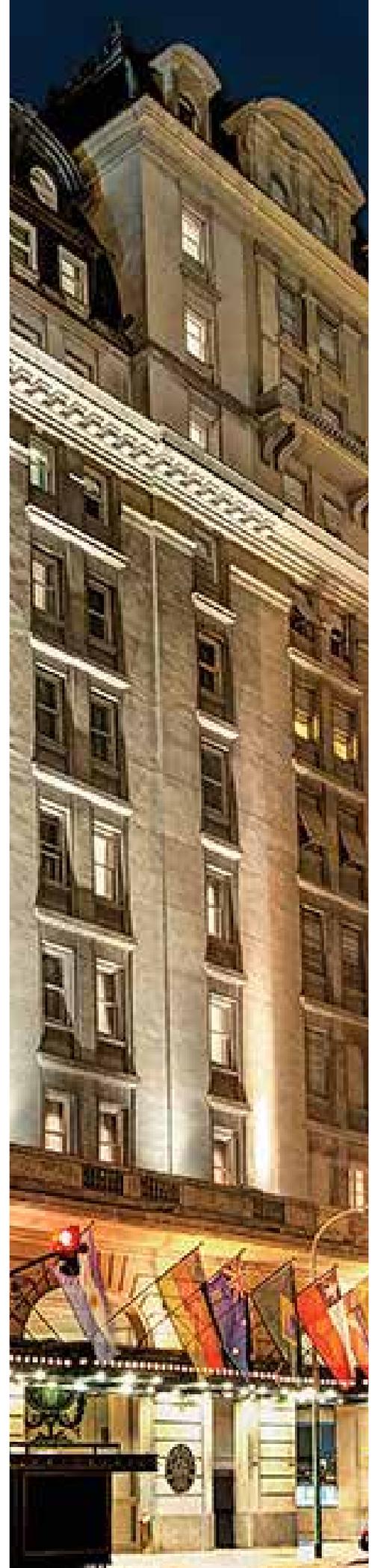
Our highly rated accommodations include: the Alvear Palace Hotel in Buenos Aires, a Belle Epoque beauty dating from the 1930s; the Park Hyatt Mendoza, a five-star hotel with an impeccably restored 19th-century Spanish colonial façade; and, the Sheraton Salta Hotel, with panoramic views of the Lerma Valley. For those extending, a very special experience awaits at the Loi Suites Iguazú Hotel, a five-star hotel set in a tropical jungle.

Space on this most unusual and intriguing program is limited, so early reservations are advised. A convenient reservation form is enclosed with this brochure. Please take a few moments to review the details outlined on the following pages and then contact us to reserve your place on this extraordinary garden travel experience.

Most sincerely,



Tom Underwood  
Executive Director



# GARDENS OF ARGENTINA: BUENOS AIRES, MENDOZA & SALTA

WITH AHS HOSTS JANE AND GEORGE DIAMANTIS  
AND TOUR LEADER CHELSEY HENDERSON  
OF BENEFACTOR TRAVEL



Join AHS Hosts Jane and George Diamantis and Tour Leader Chelsey Henderson for this once-in-a-lifetime garden travel experience.

## Itinerary Highlights

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29 – TRAVEL DAY, DEPART THE U.S. FOR BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA**

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 30 – BUENOS AIRES (D)**

After arrival at Ezeiza International Airport (also called Ministro Pistarini) in Buenos Aires, we will transfer to our accommodations, the renowned Alvear Palace Hotel in the heart of the Recoleta neighborhood. Built in the 1930s, the hotel reflects the Belle Epoque grandeur that flourished in Buenos Aires in the early 20th century. We'll have some time to enjoy lunch at leisure before our guided orientation tour in the late afternoon when we'll be introduced to the highlights of the city center and Recoleta. Of course, that will include driving up the famous Avenida 9 de Julio and taking in the well-known Pink Houses, the colonial buildings surrounding Plaza de Mayo. We'll see the Recoleta Cemetery, one of the most beautiful cemeteries in the world and final resting place of Eva Perón. Next we'll tour the city's Japanese Garden, with Sakura cherry trees, azaleas, and Japanese maples. Then we'll head up to the San Telmo neighborhood, the historic center of the city, for a reception and dinner at a spectacular warehouse filled with antiques owned by interior decorator Gabriel del Campo.

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31 – BUENOS AIRES (B, L)**

This morning we will meet our local guide for the next few days, landscape designer Maggie Cavanagh. We'll take a short trip to the green and tranquil northern suburbs, where we'll visit two beautiful private gardens. Our first visit features an old forest beautifully contrasted with a redesigned garden. The second garden for the morning includes an ancient Ombu tree and a collection of outdoor sculpture – by kind arrangement, we will enjoy a special lunch at this fabulous home and garden. After lunch, we will visit El Cortijo, a spectacular property overlooking the Rio de la Plata. The home and garden of Laura Ocampo, daughter of the famous artist Miguel Ocampo, will be our next stop. A decorator in her own right, Laura's lovely home is set in a garden overlooking a river. Then, we will take a short walk to visit another particularly beautiful private garden. Afterward, we'll take time to relax in the hotel, before proceeding to a reception at

the home of Archibaldo Lanus, former Argentinian Ambassador to France. After the reception, dinner will be at our leisure.

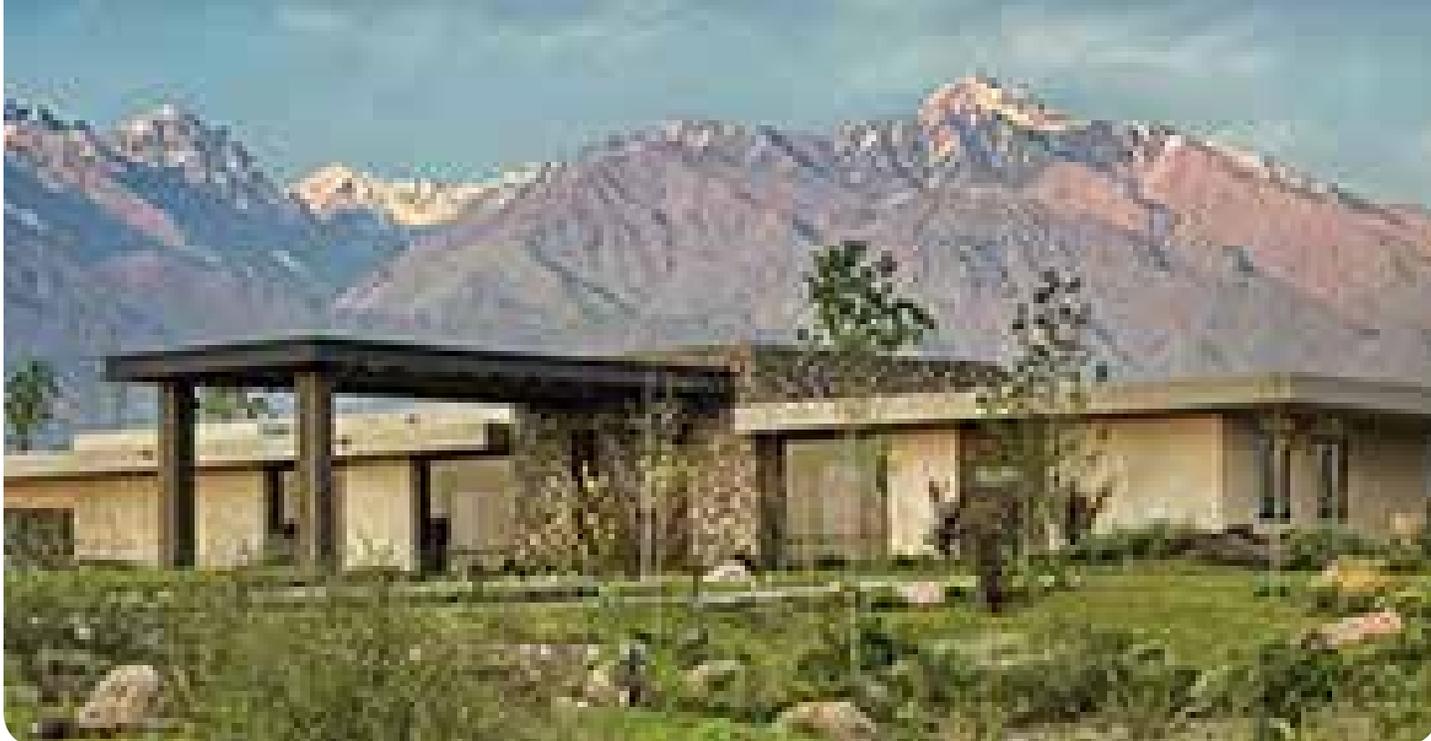
**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1 – BUENOS AIRES (B, L, D)**

Today we start with a short journey to the riverport town of Tigre and the Delta del Paraná, where we will board a private boat to immerse ourselves in the exotic world of the delta and visit a collection of outstanding private gardens. Constantly shifting as sediment from tropical Brazil is deposited by the Río Paraná, the delta region is a seductive maze of lush, green islands of subtropical vegetation. We'll see the magnificently restored Tigre Art Museum and the former home of Faustino Sarmiento, the seventh president of Argentina. Our day continues with a visit to the beautiful gardens at Isla El Descanso, lunch, and a garden tour at La Becasina, a charming riverfront lodge surrounded by nature. Our return to Buenos Aires will be by boat, disembarking at Puerto Madero. After some free time, we'll gather for dinner at Oviedo, an elegant Spanish-style restaurant in the heart of Recoleta regarded as the best seafood restaurant in Buenos Aires.

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2 – BUENOS AIRES (B, L, D)**

Today's travels will take us to the northern suburbs, where the city gives way to large farms and private clubs. This is the outskirts of the Argentine Pampas, with its flat horizon and extensive grasslands. Our first visit will be to some fabulous private gardens designed by Maggie Cavanagh in the Aires del Pilar Country Club. We'll follow that with a stop at the rose gardens and polo fields of a private estate, where we'll pause for a specially hosted lunch. After lunch, we will visit Pampa Infinita, the gardening school set up by Martina Barzi and Josefina Casares in collaboration with renowned English landscape designer John Brookes. By late afternoon we'll return to Buenos Aires with some time to relax before dinner at El Mercado Restaurant in the luxurious Faena Hotel. There, we will be treated to a guided walk of the fabulous rose gardens of Puerto Madero.





### **FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3 – BUENOS AIRES (B, L)**

Our day will start with a guided visit to the award-winning rose gardens of Rosedales de Palermo. After our rose-infused morning, Maggie Cavanagh will take us to visit Lucia Cane's garden. The founder of *Jardin* magazine, Lucia is a well-known garden designer, and as we'll see, her own garden is a stunning example of her talent. The Tortugas Country Club will be next on our agenda – we'll enjoy lunch in the clubhouse there. Then we'll return to Buenos Aires, where we will visit Madero House, the residence of the British Ambassador. The beautiful home, filled with fine and decorative arts, is surrounded by one of the largest private gardens in the city. Its British-style design includes rose and herb gardens as well as a fine sculpture by Elizabeth Frink, erected in 1991 to mark the resumption of diplomatic relations between the United Kingdom and Argentina. After a late afternoon return to the hotel, we will have the evening to ourselves.

### **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4 – BUENOS AIRES TO MENDOZA (B, D)**

After breakfast, we will head for the Jorge Newbery city airport. A delightful feature of this small airport is that it's built along the River Plate and flights take off over the water, providing a wonderful view of this wide river. Our travels will take us about 1,000 kilometers (approximately 600 miles) west from Buenos Aires, and we will land amid the Andes mountains. Mendoza is the most important wine-growing region in Argentina and the largest wine-producing area in Latin America, with some 370,500 acres of vineyards and more than 900 wineries. In the last few years, local winemakers have begun to enhance their wineries with gardens. The area that surrounds Mendoza is a fascinating mix of desert vegetation, including hardy grasses and an occasional cactus, and introduced species such as poplars and olives. After settling into the Park Hyatt Mendoza, lunch will be on our own. We'll gather in the lobby in the early afternoon to start exploring this marvelous wine- and olive-growing province. After meeting our local guide and host, garden designer Eduardo Vera, we'll head into the highlands to view some of his spectacular vineyard designs. Retiring back to the hotel, we'll have some time to wind down

before a delicious dinner at the trendy restaurant Maria Antonieta.

### **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5 – MENDOZA (B, L)**

A scenic journey outside the city will kick off today's busy itinerary. First, we will visit the spectacular gardens and art collection of Salentein vineyard. We'll see how the green and irrigated valley of Mendoza gives way to the desert highlands and its sturdy vegetation. Then, we will head further into the hills for a tasting lunch at Chef Francis Mallman's new restaurant The Vines, which features stunning gardens designed by our guide, Eduardo Vera. After lunch, it's off to the Chacras de Coria neighborhood on the outskirts of Mendoza to visit some spectacular private gardens designed by Eduardo and Cristina Le Mehaute. We'll see Andean vegetation that has been combined with introduced species that thrive in the green valley. After some time to relax at the hotel, we have been invited for a visit and evening drinks at the home of local artist Sergio Roggerone. Following the reception, we will return to the hotel for dinner at our leisure.

### **MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6 – MENDOZA TO SALTA (B, L)**

This morning, we will hop a short flight to the province of Salta, nicknamed by locals "Salta the Beautiful" for a reason. Higher up in the Andean foothills, the Argentinian northwest is a desert-like region. Many types of cacti – in particular the iconic candelabra cactus known locally as the Cardon – are found at the higher altitudes where rainfall is rare. However, in between the Andes and the Chaco lies one of the country's most diverse areas of vegetation known as the Yungas, a subtropical region that benefits from plenty of summertime rainfall. Part of the allure of Salta is that it enjoys both of these ecosystems. Upon arrival, our luggage will transfer separately to our hotel, the Sheraton Salta, while we go directly for lunch at the beautiful House of Jasmines restaurant. Afterward, we will head into the hills to the neighborhood of El Típal. There, we will meet with landscape designer Veronica Saguier, our local guide and host, who will show us two of her most important designs. After a late afternoon return to the hotel, we will have the evening to ourselves.

# Post-Tour Iguazú Falls Extension

NOVEMBER 8 – 10, 2017

For those who choose the post-tour addition of Iguazú National Park and its highlight, Iguazú Falls, you will be getting the icing on the cake. Taller than Niagara Falls and twice as wide, no description of Iguazú Falls – one of the world's largest and most impressive waterfalls – could adequately describe its majesty.

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8 – SALTA TO MISIONES (B, D)**

After breakfast, we'll enjoy a day of leisure in Salta city with its fine museums, such as the Museo de Alta Montaña (High Mountain Museum) where the famous Llullailaco Mummies are exhibited. In late afternoon, we will hop a flight to Puerto Iguazú in Misiones Province, a part of La Mesopotamia, one of Argentina's most verdant and biodiverse regions. The finger that points northwards from the main body of Argentina into Brazil is a region of almost constant rainfall and, as such, supports dense, subtropical forest. In the forests that extend across the horizon, all types of indigenous hardwoods and softwoods can be found, among them giant mahoganies, palms, rosewoods, and jacarandas. Our five-star hotel, Loi Suites Iguazú, is nestled in the jungle. There will be time to enjoy the grounds before dinner at the hotel's excellent restaurant.

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9 – MISIONES (B, L, D)**

We will depart the hotel for a short drive to Iguazú National Park, where we will board the private train to the world-famous



falls and its iconic Garganta del Diablo (the "Devil's Throat," the tallest of the many falls). After admiring the falls, we will go on a walking tour in the jungle with a specialist guide. We'll take the higher of two paths on our way to lunch in the national park at Fortin Cataratas restaurant. Our afternoon will end with a hike of the lower path, which will take us to the water's edge, where we'll board a private boat that will take us close to the massive falls, a thrilling and memorable experience. Our day will end with time to enjoy the jungle walking trails and swimming pools of our hotel before our farewell dinner at De La Fonte Restaurant.

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10 – MISIONES TO BUENOS AIRES (B)**

After breakfast at the hotel, we will transfer by private coach to board our flight back to Buenos Aires, and then onward with individual connections to the U.S.

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7 – SALTA (B, L, D)**

We will head into the mountains to visit a stunning private garden where we will see the harmonious play between local species and introduced ones. By kind arrangement, we will have lunch in the garden with the owner before departing for the neighborhood of San Lorenzo, a suburb with picturesque houses nestled in the hills. There we will visit private gardens designed by Veronica Saguier that combine the subtropical vegetation that thrives in the green valley with the sturdier Andean desert vegetation that takes over in higher altitudes. We will return to the hotel for some well-deserved down time, followed by our farewell dinner at Osadia Restaurant in Salta city.

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8 – DEPART SALTA FOR U.S. VIA BUENOS AIRES, OR CONTINUE ON POST-TOUR EXTENSION (B)**

After breakfast at the hotel, those of us who are not extending the tour will transfer by private coach for our flight back to Buenos Aires, and then on to the U.S.

*While no revisions of this itinerary are anticipated, the AHS and its travel partners reserve the right to make changes, with or without notice that may become necessary.*

