

Disposition of Remains Report: Buenos Aires

November 1, 2021

Part I. Name of Country: ARGENTINA

Part II. U.S. Embassy Information

U.S. EMBASSY Buenos Aires, Argentina

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Argentine Information Travel Advisory:

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/International-Travel-Country-Information-Pages/Argentina.html>

Register with the U.S. Embassy: <https://step.state.gov/step>

Part III. Profile of Religions of Argentina and Religious Services Available to Visitors.

It is estimated that approximately 62.9 percent of Argentina's population is Catholic and about 15.3 percent Protestant, including evangelical groups. Argentina's religions also include Jehovah's Witnesses, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Islam, and Judaism. There are also small numbers of Baha'is, Buddhists, and adherents of indigenous religions.

Religious Activities for Visitors: English language services are available at certain religious facilities in Buenos Aires such as San Salvador Iglesia Anglicana (The San Salvador Anglican Church), located at Avenida Crámer 1820, Buenos Aires. Other religious facilities hold regular services in Spanish. The King Fahd Islamic Cultural Center consists of a mosque and other facilities and is located at Avenida Bullrich 55, Buenos Aires.

Part IV. Funeral Directors, Mortician, and Related Services Available in Argentina:

Disclaimer: The U.S Embassy in Buenos Aires, Argentina, assumes no responsibility or liability for the professional ability or reputation of, or the quality of services provided by, the following persons or funeral service providers. The order in which they appear has no particular significance. Professional credentials and areas of expertise are provided directly by the funeral directors, morticians, and other service providers.

City of Buenos Aires

Casa Lázaro Costa de Jardín del Pilar
Santa Fe 1799
Buenos Aires
Phone: +54-11-4812-8040/1778/1779
+54-11-4812-8040 (emergency 24 hrs)
Cellphone/WhatsApp: +54-9-11-4436-8299
Email: clazarocosta@jardindelpilar.com.ar
Web: www.jardindelpilar.com.ar

Casa Mauricio Usal
Monroe 3514
Buenos Aires
Phone: +54-11- 4541-7790 / 4545-1523
Cellphone: +54-9-11- 6980-0043 +54-9-11- 5460-5677
Cellphone/WhatsApp: +54-9-11-2401-2890
Email: mauriciosusal@hotmail.com
Web: www.mauriciosusal.com

Casa Rivera
Av. Córdoba 4902
Buenos Aires
Phone: +54-11-4773-2800 / 4772-3288
Cellphone: +54-9-11-3654-3654 +54-9-11-6636-8900
Email: info@casarivera.com.ar
Web: www.casarivera.com.ar

Cucchetti e Hijos
Vallejos 4460
Buenos Aires
Phone: +54-11-4501-8745
Cellphone/WhatsApp: +54-9-11- 4424-5419 +54-9-11-6471-1399
Email: cucchettifuneralservice@gmail.com
Web: www.cucchettisepelios.com.ar

Empresa Marín Sepelios
Bulnes 1346
Buenos Aires
Phone: +54-11-4863-8171 / 4864-7839
Cellphone/WhatsApp: +54-9-11- 4074-1831
Email: contacto@empresamarin.com.ar
Web: www.empresamarin.com.ar

Empresa Servicio Fúnebre Islámica Argentina (ESFIA)
(This funeral home reports that it abides by Islamic religious requirements)
Monseñor Bufano 2651
San Justo
Phone: +54-11-4651-2500
+54-11-4482-4056 (emergency 24hrs)

WhatsApp: +54-9-11-3063-5114/5116
Email: sepelios.esfia@gmail.com
Web: <https://www.sepeliosesfia.com/>

Grupo Jardín del Pilar
Av. Santa Fe 1971
Buenos Aires
Phone: +54-11- 4323-5600
0800-666-5566 (emergency 24hrs)
Email: 800@jardindelpilar.com.ar
Web: www.jardindelpilar.com.ar

Israel – Argentine Mutual Association (AMIA)
(Funeral Services for Jewish community only)
Pasteur 633
Buenos Aires
Phone: +54-11- 4855-8088/0804
Email: servicioscomunitarios@amia.org.ar
Web: www.amia.org.ar/sepelioscomunitarios

Córdoba

Casa D'Spontin de Pere Lachaise
Av. General Paz 373 1A
Córdoba
Phone: +54-351-422-0272/421-5814
Cellphone/WhatsApp: +54-9-351-216-5665
Cellphone (English only) +54-9-351-703-9560
+54-9-351-661-8666
Email: correo.perelachaise@gmail.com
Web: www.grupodespontin.com

Mendoza

Empresa Zapata Sepelios
9 de Julio 778
Phone: +54-261-423-8412
Email: empresazapatasepelios@gmail.com
Web: www.empresa-zapata-sepelios.negocio.site

Flores San Miguel Servicios Funerarios
Maipú 636
Mendoza
Phone: +54-261-429-1655 +54-261-430-8612 0810-999-2191 (emergency 24hrs)
Cellphone/WhatsApp: +54-9-261-518-0131
Email: contactos@floressanmiguel.com
Web: www.floressanmiguel.com

Salta

Empresa Pieve
San Luis 545
Salta
Phone: +54-9-387-431-4591
Cellphone/WhatsApp: +54-9-387-455-1553
Email: lorenareami@grupopieve.com
Web: www.grupopieve.com

Ushuaia

Manantial
Kuanip 328
Ushuaia
Phone/Cellphone/WhatsApp: +54-9-2901-60-0330
Email: casamanantial@hotmail.com
Facebook: Casa Manantial

Ramon Oviedo Servicios Funerarios y Repatriaciones
Cmdte Luis Piedrabuena 383
Ushuaia
Phone: +54-2901-421-776 (emergency 24hs)
Cellphone/WhatsApp: +54-9-2901-510-993
Email: administration@ramonoviedo.com.ar
Web: www.ramonoviedo.com.ar

Part V. Profile of Services Available in Argentina Regarding Preparation and Shipment of Remains:

a. There are different options regarding the disposition of remains. The remains may be interred in Argentina or remains may be preserved and transported to international destinations, such as the United States. Traditional embalming is not a common practice in Argentina but remains may be preserved in another manner in order to facilitate international transportation.

Cremation services are generally available in Argentina and cremated remains may also be transported to international destinations. The transportation of cremated remains is available at a lower cost and in some circumstances family members choose to work directly with their airline so that cremated remains may accompany a traveling family member.

b. A funeral home may help obtain the necessary documents from various Argentine government agencies and arrange for the preparation and transportation of the remains or cremated remains as part of their services. Funeral homes are usually unable to begin work until payment is made.

c. Autopsies may be ordered by a prosecutor or judge in the following circumstances:

1. Violent death, either accidental or intentional (suicide and homicide),
2. Death occurring on the street or in a public place,
3. Undetermined cause of death under suspicious circumstances,
4. Any patient that arrives deceased at the hospital or dies shortly after being admitted to the emergency room and the cause cannot be determined.
5. When the deceased cannot be identified by fingerprints even if the death is due to a clear medical cause.

d. Domestic transportation of remains may be carried out by land or air. There are daily flights from all provinces to Buenos Aires, although delays may occur. Remains being transported to an international destination may depart from any Argentine international airport. There are four major air carriers with regular, direct flights to the United States: American Airlines, Delta, United Airlines, and Aerolíneas Argentinas. If the next of kin chooses to have remains transported to the United States, either remains or cremated remains, a Certificate to Transport Remains (Certificado de Traslado) or Certificate to Transport Ashes (Certificado de Traslado de Cenizas) is required. The certificate must be apostilled by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto).

e. The Dirección General de Cementerios for each jurisdiction is responsible for licensing funeral homes in Argentina.

f. The cause of death will be established by a certified medical doctor (if the patient died at home or hospital). If an autopsy is performed, the cause of death will be established by the Office of the Judicial Morgue, known in Argentina as “Cuerpo Médico Forense.” As soon as the cause of death has been determined, the local Civil Registry Office, known as the “Registro Civil” will issue the death certificate (Certificado de Defunción). This is a public document and it can be obtained by anyone.

(1) Maximum Period before Burial: Remains must be buried within 48 hours after death except under the following circumstances:

1. When ordered delayed by the judicial authority for investigative purposes.

- (2) Embalming/Preservation: Traditional embalming is not permitted in Argentina. A preservation method known as tanatopraxia may be performed by specialists (tanatólogo).

- (3) Cremation: Cremation is permitted by national law and there are generally adequate cremation facilities in Argentina; however, the technology used by service providers may not meet the same standards as utilized in the United States. In addition, families should consult with

the selected funeral home as there may be different options and levels of standards for cremation, for example, between the public crematorium in Buenos Aires and private facilities located outside of the city in Buenos Aires Province. The cremation of remains in Argentina may not always result in the fine sized ash, which is customary in the United States. A cremation consent declaration must be executed in life before a notary public. In absence of this document, the following family members (in the order shown) may request cremation:

- 1) the surviving spouse; the majority of adult children; surviving parent(s).

- (4) Caskets and Containers: Caskets must have a metallic lining and be hermetically sealed. In addition to this requirement, the casket must be encased in a strong wooden container when the remains will be shipped outside of Argentina. All such caskets and containers are available in Argentina. Preparation and air shipment are carried out in accordance with the laws of and facilities available in Argentina. In some cases, the services may not meet the same standards as mortuary services in the United States; thus, family members should always consult with their U.S. funeral service provider when planning for certain religious traditions such as a visitation or viewing of the deceased.

- (5) Exportation of Human Remains: The following Argentine documents must accompany the casket encased in a strong wooden container when shipped out of the country:

- 1) Argentine death certificate issued by the Civil Registry Office,

- 2) Transit Permit (Certificado de Embarque de Cadáver) issued by Sanidad de Frontera at the airport,

- 3) A written statement executed by the licensed physician that performed the preservation of the remains,

- 4) A written statement executed by the physician which states that the deceased did not die of a contagious disease and that the remains can be shipped to an international destination without public health risks,

- 5) Statement executed by the funeral home representative attesting to the fact that the casket contains only the remains of the deceased along with the necessary clothing and packing material,

- (6) Exportation of Cremated Remains/Ashes: The following Argentine documents must accompany the cremated remains when being shipped out of the country:

1) Argentine death certificate issued by the Civil Registry Office,

2) Certificate issued by the crematorium stating that the remains of the deceased were cremated and placed in a sealed urn.

(7) Costs: Remains may be shipped to the United States from any Argentine International Airport. Therefore, national transport fees to Buenos Aires must be factored in when death occurs outside of Buenos Aires. The prices quoted below for funeral services in Argentina are average costs (fees may vary according to weight, shipment origin/destination, judicial intervention, etc.)

a) Funeral service and local interment: USD \$800.00 – USD \$2,500.00 (the cemetery parcel fee may vary from USD \$500.00 to USD \$2,000.00)

b) Funeral service and cremation of the remains: USD \$800.00 – USD \$2,800.00

c) Funeral service and preservation of remains, including shipment to the United States: USD \$5,000.00 – USD \$9,000.00

d) Cremation service and shipment to the United States: USD \$2,500.00 - USD \$5,700.00

(8) Exhumation and Shipment: The next of kin must request disinterment of the remains. The cemetery authority must inspect the casket to determine the possibility of the exhumation depending on the state of the remains. Disinterment is not generally possible before 5 years. If the remains are to be removed from the cemetery to be transported within Argentina or to an international destination, a permit must be obtained through the National Public Health Service.

(9) Local Customs Regarding Funerals, Disposition of Remains, Mourning, Memorial Services: Most Argentines pay tribute to their loved ones who have died. Following death, a funeral is held at a funeral home or cemetery where family and friends attend the religious service. Most Argentines prefer to inter remains in gravesites, but in recent years there has been a significant increase in cremation.