

ESTANCIA LOS POTREROS



A TRUE ESTANCIA EXPERIENCE

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

HORSE RIDING

WALKING THE TRAILS

BIRDWATCHING

FARM DRIVES

GAUCHO SKILLS

EXPLORE ARGENTINE
FOOD AND WINE

Estancia Los Potreros is located in a truly privileged position on the top of the secluded Sierras Chicas. 6,500 acres of private land set within provincial reserve provides the perfect backdrop to a range of activities for lovers of nature and the outdoors.

Rocky outcrops give way to grassy hilltops and cascading streams, just waiting to be explored on horseback or on foot.

Abundant birdlife and beautiful wild flowers colour the landscape, and as the estancia remains a true working

farm there is always something happening. Learn about the tradition of the gaucho, and share some 'mate' with them before taking to the corrals yourself.

Armed with binoculars try to spot the Andean Condor or some of the vultures, kestrels and burrowing owls that inhabit the farm.

Try the famous Argentine Malbec alongside the estancia's homegrown beef.

Whatever you choose to do, you can be guaranteed a unique and unforgettable experience.



Did you know ...?

- The oldest building on the estancia dates back to the early 1600's
- The Sierras Chicas were one of the preferred holiday destinations of Jackie Kennedy
- The stone walls are over 300 years old and were built by the Jesuits



HORSE RIDING



The principal activity on the estancia is horseback riding, and the quality of the horses and the riding are of international acclaim. With over 100 horses on the estancia, there is something for all levels of ability and half of the horses are 'gaited' Peruvian Paso horses which are particularly comfortable to ride. The riding options are virtually limitless, and ride size is kept small and split according to the ability of the riders so that guests can ride at their own speed. There is wonderful varied trail riding, or guests can help the gauchos in their daily work. There is also the

option to play polo once a week, with full tuition.

SAMPLE RIDING OPTIONS:

Ride to the hidden waterfall on the estancia and have a swim in the fresh mountain water (half day)

Take a sunset ride to the 'Bellstone' to learn more about the history of the estancia and then help the gauchos round up and bring in the mares and foals (2 hours)

Join the gauchos taking salt out to the cattle herd and checking over the newborn calves (half day)

Test your skills against the gauchos in a round of 'gaucho games' including barrel racing and sortija (2 hours)

Don't miss the chance to have a lesson and practice game of polo, complete with tuition (1/2 day)

Visit the local rural school and community Dominican church to get an insight into rural life in the region (full day)

WALKING AND BIRDPWATCHING



The same trails that are used for riding make for wonderful and varied walking. Guests can either join a guided walk with one of the estancia staff, or head out on their own or with some of the estancia dogs! The estancia is blessed with plentiful and varied birdlife all year, and the Andean Condor, Black Chested Buzzard Eagle, American Kestrel and Black Vulture are just some of the commonly seen larger birds. Wildflowers throughout the year are spectacular, and do not be

surprised to crush wild mints and herbs underfoot.

SAMPLE WALKING OPTIONS:

Visit the burrowing owls which inhabit many parts of the estancia and share their burrows with a large rodent called a 'vizcacha' (2 hours)

Take a sunset walk to the 'Bellstone' to learn more about how this mysterious rock is part of the history of the estancia. Continue on up onto one of the

nearby hills to get an amazing sunset view of the estancia (2 hours)

Pack a picnic and head alongside a rocky stream to arrive at 'Las Tazas', some stunning natural rock pools, ideal for swimming, sunbathing and lazing a few hours away (full day)

For the more energetic, walk up to the 'Top of the World' for outstanding 360 views of the estancia from the highest point on the farm (half day)

FARM DRIVES



Take a trip around the estancia by pick-up with one of your hosts. Learn about the family history of the estancia and see some of the many references to the Jesuit farming in the area, as well as spotting wildlife along the way.

SAMPLE DRIVING OPTIONS

Drive to the cattle station to understand more about the

management of the Aberdeen Angus herd, the day-to-day role of the gaucho and the rural traditions. (half day)

Head to the north of the farm, Potrero de Niz, the original family home of the Beggs. Watch the landscape change and learn about the challenges faced by Robert Begg in the building of the original family home, along

with stories of Louie Begg, Kevin's grandmother, one of the pioneers of rural tourism in the 1940's (half day)

Visit the local rural school, long supported by the estancia, which supplies rudimentary education for the families of the gaucho. Walk further up to the local Dominican church, founded in the 1880's (half day)

GAUCHO AND HORSE TRADITION



The Argentine gaucho are considered to be amongst the greatest horsemen in the world. Even today, the horse remains the principle mode of transport amongst many rural workers and an essential tool for work on cattle estancias. Traditions hold strong amongst the gaucho and many festivals are held throughout the year where they gather together to show off their hand-made bridles, their latest horse and their finest clothing.

Alongside the gaucho the estancias prize winning horses are a source of pride to Kevin and Lou Begg.

SAMPLE GAUCHO AND HORSE TRADITION OPTIONS:

Gaicho skills - discover your inner gaucho and learn how to lasso from one of the boys on the estancia. Learn how the lasso is made, what it is used for and most importantly have go yourself! (1 hour)

Introduction to the Peruvian Paso horse—learn about this unique breed of horse, the ‘dancing horse’ of Peru that came to Argentina through the trading route of the Camino Real between Lima and Salta. Learn why they are different to

‘normal’ horses, their history, the traditional saddles and bridles used and watch our stallion be put through his paces. (1 hour)

FOOD AND WINE



No visit to Argentina would be complete without experiencing of one of the Argentine national pastimes—eating and drinking. Argentine Malbec is legendary and best enjoyed with the traditional ‘asado’ - a usually beef based barbeque, often of many courses and often over many hours!

SAMPLE FOOD AND WINE OPTIONS:

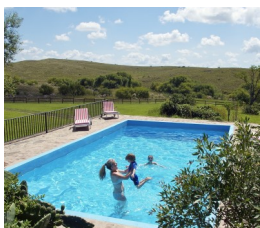
Explore Argentine wines—Kevin Begg shares his appreciation

and fondness for Argentine wines with an informal and fun wine-tasting.

Introduction to traditional Argentine cooking—join Pato our cook in the warm and spacious estancia kitchen and learn how some of the traditional Argentine dishes are prepared, including the famous empanada and home-made pastas.

Sundowners—accept an invitation to sundowners on the verandah at Lou and Kevin’s home, and meet some of their various animals including peacocks and pygmy goats.

RELAX!



The estancia is a perfect place to kick back and unwind. Relax by the pool with stunning views over the hillsides. Curl up in one of the hammocks with one of the many books to be found around the estancia, with a dog at your feet. Drink a gin and tonic on the verandah and watch the world go by. Or simply enjoy the gentle art of conversation. Your hosts, Kevin and Lou

Begg, are always extremely generous in sharing their passion for their animals, lifestyle and the Argentine countryside.

ESTANCIA LOS POTREROS

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NIL SINE AMICITIA — NOTHING WITHOUT FRIENDSHIP

Estancia Los Potreros is an exclusive 6,500-acre working estancia, in a privileged and delightfully secluded rural location in the 'Sierras Chicas' in the province of Córdoba.

Kevin and Louisa Begg welcome guests to share their home and lifestyle, providing a unique, authentic and unforgettable experience in first hand contact with the rural traditions of Argentina. They pride themselves on their hospitality, taking care of guests with unrivalled personal attention to detail.

Whether your passion is outstanding horses, beautiful scenery, walking, photography, bird-watching, soaking up the local culture or simply enjoying good company in a truly unique setting, Estancia Los Potreros has something for everyone.

