

Suggested Reading List for Argentina

Books

Allá en la Patagonia (*María Brunswig de Bamberg*)

On the 3rd of February, 1923, after a 30-day journey from Hamburg, Ella Hoffman arrives with her 3 daughters in Buenos Aires, on the way to Patagonia, where Hermann Brunswig, her husband works as a Manager at a estancia.

However, the magic of the book is in it not being a novel or a fiction tale, but the actual recompilation of the letters of María Brunswig's mother, who started this journey from Germany to the Argentine Patagonia. Thus she lets us see what life in Patagonia was like back in the day, and magically contrasts it with life in Europe and Buenos Aires.

A State of Fear (*Andrew Graham-Yooll*)

For ten hair-raising years, Andrew Graham-Yooll was the news editor of the Buenos Aires Herald. All around him friends and acquaintances were 'disappearing'. Although the slightest mistake might have caused his own disappearance, he didn't shrink from getting first-hand experience of this war of terror. He attended clandestine guerrilla conferences, helped relatives trace the missing, and took tea with a torturer who wasn't ashamed to make the most chilling of confessions. "'I have never read any book that so conveys what it is like to live in a state of permanent fear.'"--Graham Greene.

In Patagonia (*Bruce Chatwin*)

Published in 1977, *In Patagonia* was written by an English writer and journalist who ended up spontaneously travelling to the vast Argentinian region of Patagonia, where he spent six months exploring the wilderness. The book is non-fiction, and consists of a series of short chapters covering amusing anecdotes from his travels, snippets of history, and accounts of his day-to-day adventures. The book is an excellent introduction for those heading to Patagonia, and his vivid descriptions really give readers a taste of what the region is truly like.

Enduring Patagonia (*Gregory Crouch*)

In *Enduring Patagonia*, Gregory Crouch offers a magnificent first-hand account of the highs and lows of exploring Patagonia's wild landscape. He depicts the harsh climate and rugged environment perfectly, including perilous tales of mountaineering that consume and terrify the reader. Crouch describes both his successes and his failures, which gives a realistic and honest aspect to the book, and includes a number of photos from his trips.

Sebastian's Pride (*Susan Wilkinson*)

Set in Argentina at the end of the 19th century, this novel traces the fortunes of Sebastian who joins his father in the cattle trade in Buenos Aires and begins a dramatic love affair with both the country and its people. The sequel will take the family up to the time of the Falklands War.

The Southern Road and other Tales (*Julio Cortázar*)

Julio Cortázar is one of Argentina's most celebrated writers, and this anthology serves as a good introduction to his work. It is a collection of short stories, and is an excellent demonstration of his skills as a writer in the genre of magic realism, a genre special to Latin America that combines both supernatural and realistic elements. This collection includes a number of Cortázar's most famous short stories, such as *Casa Tomada* and *Las Puertas del Cielo*. A fantastic introduction to a genre and an author who has set the standards for Argentinian literature.

The Tango Singer (*Tomás Eloy Martínez*)

The Tango Singer is a fictional tale of an American student who travels to Buenos Aires to research for a piece that he is writing about Argentine tango. He is searching specifically for a legendary but mysterious tango singer, but his search begins to reveal an unsavoury side of the city. It is set in the early 2000s, and while one of the main themes is the problem of crime and lack

of justice, it also paints a beautifully vivid picture of Buenos Aires' tango culture. It also serves as a homage to Borges, of whom the protagonist is a fan. A great introduction to Buenos Aires, both the positive and negative sides of the city.

Websites

Argentina <https://www.argentina.travel/#!/?lang=en>

Ecuador.com <https://www.ecuador.com/>

Blogs

Along Dusty Roads <https://www.alongdustyroads.com/argentina>

Wanderlust Chloe <https://www.wanderlustchloe.com/south-america/argentina/>