



Uruguay

Gentle hills full of cattle, long beaches on the Atlantic, a capital with a 22 km seafront walk, and a thermos of mate under every arm.

AT A GLANCE

Facts to know

CAPITAL

Montevideo

POPULATION

About 3.5 million (2023 national census)

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

Spanish in practice: it is the national language, although the constitution does not name an official language. Uruguayan Sign Language was recognised by law in 2001, and a mix of Spanish and Portuguese is spoken near the border with Brazil

CURRENCY

Uruguayan peso (UYU)

AREA

About 176,000 km² of land, the second smallest independent country in South America after Suriname

GOVERNMENT

Unitary presidential republic, divided into 19 departments. The president is elected for five years and cannot be re-elected straight away

HIGHEST POINT

Cerro Catedral, about 514 m, in the Sierra Carapé hills of Maldonado

MAIN RIVERS

The Uruguay River, about 1,838 km long, forms the western border with Argentina. The Río Negro, the main river inside the country, crosses it from east to west

NEIGHBOURS

Argentina to the west and southwest, across the Uruguay River and the Río de la Plata, and Brazil to the north and northeast

DRIVES ON THE

Right. Like Argentina, Uruguay drove on the left in the past and later switched

CALLING CODE

+598

A 45-minute trip to Uruguay

Everything you need is in this pack. No preparation beyond printing. Adapt the timing to your group.

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| 0 to 5 min | Welcome. Show the map page and find Uruguay together. Ask: who has been there, or knows someone from there? |
| 5 to 15 min | Read the facts at a glance, then three moments from the story: 1516: Solís reaches the Río de la Plata; 1903: Batlle y Ordóñez becomes president; 2013: Uruguay legalises cannabis. |
| 15 to 25 min | At the table: talk about Asado and Chivito. Idea: bring a small taste (bread, cheese, fruit, tea) if your kitchen can help. |
| 25 to 30 min | Say it like a local: practise "Buenos días" (Good morning, hello), "Buenas tardes" (Good afternoon), "Buenas noches" (Good evening, good night). Everyone says them together. |
| 30 to 40 min | Quiz: read the questions aloud, or play the big-screen version at https://worldstroll.com/countries/uruguay/group . No scores needed. |
| 40 to 45 min | Talk about it (questions page), then stamp or sign everyone's passport page. |

You will need

- This printed pack (one per table, or one each)
- Pens for the quiz
- Optional: a world map or globe, a small tasting, music from the country

Uruguay and its cities



- Montevideo (Montevideo): The Ciudad Vieja (Old City) and Plaza Independencia, The Rambla, a seafront promenade more than 22 km long, Carnival, candombe drums and the Estadio Centenario
- Colonia del Sacramento (Colonia): The cobbled Calle de los Suspiros, The lighthouse beside the ruins of a 17th-century convent, The old bullring, Real de San Carlos, now a cultural venue
- Punta del Este (Maldonado): La Mano, the giant fingers in the sand, Casapueblo at nearby Punta Ballena, Sea lions on the Isla de Lobos
- Atlántida (Canelones): Eladio Dieste's brick church, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, The calm Playa Mansa beach, Pine woods by the sea
- Rocha (Rocha): Gateway to Cabo Polonio, Lagoons along the Atlantic coast

- Chuy (Rocha): Duty-free shopping on the border avenue, The Fortaleza de Santa Teresa nearby, Quiet beaches nearby
- Minas (Lavalleja): A statue of Artigas on horseback on Cerro Artigas, Hill villages such as Villa Serrana, Parks in the hills, such as Parque Salus
- Salto (Salto): Hot thermal pools such as the Termas del Daymán, The Salto Grande Dam, shared with Argentina, Evening strolls with mate along Calle Uruguay
- Paysandú (Paysandú): The chajá cake, created here in 1927, Beaches on the Uruguay River, The General Artigas Bridge to Argentina
- Fray Bentos (Río Negro): The Anglo meat-packing plant and museum, The Fray Bentos brand name, later used for British pies, The bridge to Argentina
- Tacuarembó (Tacuarembó): The Fiesta de la Patria Gaucha, a gaucho festival held since 1986, A Carlos Gardel museum in nearby Valle Edén, Writers born here, such as Tomás de Mattos and Jorge Majfud
- Rivera (Rivera): The International Square, shared with Brazil, Duty-free shops, Life in two languages

A short history of Uruguay

Uruguay's story runs from hunter-gatherers and mound builders, through a long tug of war between Spain and Portugal, to independence in 1828 and a wave of European immigration. In the early 1900s it became known for bold social reforms and was called the 'Switzerland of the Americas'. A civic-military dictatorship ruled from 1973 to 1985; since then Uruguay has been one of the most stable democracies in Latin America.

1516 Solís reaches the Río de la Plata

The navigator Juan Díaz de Solís, sailing for Spain, reached the wide estuary later called the Río de la Plata and is said to be the first European to land in what is now Uruguay. He and several of his men were killed soon after going ashore. At that time the Charrúa, the Chaná and some Guaraní groups lived in the region.

1680 The Portuguese found Colonia del Sacramento

In January 1680 a Portuguese expedition led by Manuel Lobo landed opposite Buenos Aires and began building a settlement. The Spanish captured it within months, but it was handed back, and for the next century Colonia changed hands between Portugal and Spain several times. Its old quarter is now a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

1726 Montevideo is founded

In 1724 the Spanish governor Bruno Mauricio de Zabala drove a small Portuguese garrison away from the bay of Montevideo and began to settle the site, first with families from Buenos Aires and then from the Canary Islands. His diary gives 24 December 1726 as the date of the city's founding. Its fine natural harbour soon made it a rival to Buenos Aires.

1811 Artigas wins the Battle of Las Piedras

On 18 May 1811 José Gervasio Artigas, later called the Father of the Nation, defeated Spanish forces at Las Piedras near Montevideo. After the battle he gave the famous order to show mercy to the defeated and care for the wounded. The date is a national holiday. Artigas later spent 30 years in exile in Paraguay, where he died in 1850.

1825

The Thirty-Three Orientals declare independence

In April 1825 a small band of exiles led by Juan Antonio Lavalleja, the Thirty-Three Orientals, crossed the Uruguay River to free the land from Brazil, which had annexed it as the province of Cisplatina. On 25 August 1825 independence was declared, and 25 August is Uruguay's Independence Day.

1828

A peace treaty creates an independent Uruguay

After a war between Brazil and the United Provinces of the Río de la Plata (today's Argentina) ended in stalemate, British diplomats helped the two sides agree on a solution. The Preliminary Peace Convention, signed on 27 August 1828, recognised Uruguay as an independent country, belonging to neither of its big neighbours.

1830

The first constitution is adopted

On 18 July 1830 the new Oriental State of Uruguay adopted its first constitution. It divided power between a president, a two-chamber General Assembly and the courts. Montevideo's main avenue, 18 de Julio, is named after this date.

1839

The Guerra Grande begins

Uruguay's two parties, the Blancos (Whites) and the Colorados (Reds), were each backed by factions in Argentina. In 1839 the Colorado leader Fructuoso Rivera declared war on the Argentine ruler Rosas, and the 'Great War' lasted until 1851. Montevideo was besieged for nine years, from 1843, and was defended with the help of foreign volunteers, including an Italian legion led by Giuseppe Garibaldi.

1903

Batlle y Ordóñez becomes president

José Batlle y Ordóñez was elected president in 1903 and again in 1911. His reforms, known as Batllismo, brought a welfare state, free secondary schooling, the eight-hour working day and the separation of church and state. Divorce was made legal in 1907. These changes earned Uruguay the nickname 'the Switzerland of the Americas'.

1927

Women vote for the first time, in Cerro Chato

In July 1927 women were allowed to vote in a local plebiscite in the small town of Cerro Chato. It is remembered as the first time women cast votes in Uruguay. A decree of 1932 gave women the vote nationally, and they took part in a national election for the first time in 1938.

1930

Uruguay hosts and wins the first World Cup

Uruguay was chosen to host the first FIFA World Cup because it was celebrating 100 years of its constitution and was the reigning Olympic football champion. Every match was played in Montevideo, most of them in the new Estadio Centenario. On 30 July 1930 Uruguay beat Argentina 4 to 2 in the final.

1950

The Maracanazo

On 16 July 1950 Uruguay met host country Brazil in the deciding match of the World Cup at the Maracanã Stadium in Rio de Janeiro, in front of at least 173,850 people. Brazil needed only a draw, but Uruguay won 2 to 1, one of the greatest upsets in football history, and took its second world title.

1973

A coup begins twelve years of dictatorship

On 27 June 1973, amid economic crisis and years of violence involving the Tupamaros guerrilla group, the armed forces and President Juan María Bordaberry closed Parliament. The civic-military regime that followed banned political activity and imprisoned and tortured many opponents; Uruguay had one of the highest numbers of political prisoners per person in the world.

1980

Voters reject the military's constitution

In November 1980 the regime put a new constitution, drafted by the military, to a referendum. Uruguayans voted it down. After this defeat the armed forces announced a plan to return the country to civilian rule.

1985

Democracy returns

National elections were held in November 1984, and on 1 March 1985 the elected president, Julio María Sanguinetti of the Colorado Party, took office. Press freedom was restored on his first day. Since then Uruguay has held regular free elections.

2013

Uruguay legalises cannabis

In December 2013, under President José Mujica, Uruguay passed a law to regulate the growing, sale and use of cannabis, making it the first country in modern times to legalise it fully. The aim was to take the trade away from criminal gangs. Same-sex marriage was also legalised in 2013.

What people eat in Uruguay

Uruguayan food is built on beef and on the cooking of Spanish and Italian immigrants, with touches from Germany, Britain and Brazil. There is pasta on Sundays, pizza with a slice of fainá on top, and cakes filled with dulce de leche. The biggest social meal is the asado, the barbecue. It usually starts with a picada, a board of cheese, olives, salami and bread with an aperitif, then sausages and black pudding come off the grill, and finally the big cuts of beef, with salads and bread. In the afternoon people drink mate with small pastries called bizcochos or with tortas fritas.

Asado

The whole country

The Uruguayan barbecue, and a social ritual as much as a meal. Beef ribs (tira de asado), sausages (chorizo), black pudding (morcilla), offal and other cuts are cooked slowly over wood embers on a large grill. Many Uruguayan homes have a brick and iron grill on the patio, and in Montevideo's Mercado del Puerto you can eat asado at the counter.

Chivito

Punta del Este, now the whole country

Uruguay's national dish: a huge sandwich of thin grilled beef steak with ham, mozzarella, bacon, tomato, lettuce, mayonnaise, olives and a fried or hard-boiled egg, usually served with chips. Chivito al plato comes on a plate, without the bun.

Choripán

The whole Río de la Plata region

A grilled chorizo sausage split in half and served in bread, often with sauces such as salsa criolla, a mix of chopped tomato and onion. It is a favourite street food and the first thing off the grill at many asados.

Milanesa

The whole country, from Italian immigrants

A thin slice of beef or chicken dipped in egg and breadcrumbs and fried. It comes 'a la napolitana' with tomato sauce, ham and melted cheese, 'a caballo' (on horseback) with fried eggs on top, or 'al pan' as a big sandwich.

Matambre relleno

Uruguay and Argentina

A thin, wide cut of beef rolled around a filling of spinach, carrots and hard-boiled eggs, tied with string, boiled, pressed and served cold in slices, which show a colourful spiral.

Pascualina (Torta pascualina)

Liguria, Italy, brought by Italian immigrants

A savoury pie of thin pastry filled with chard or spinach, cheese and eggs. Whole eggs are broken into hollows in the filling, so each slice shows a hard-cooked egg. It is a favourite family dish, brought by Italian immigrants.

Fainá

Genoa, Italy, brought by Genoese immigrants

A thin, flat bake of chickpea flour, water and olive oil, cut into slices and sprinkled with pepper. In pizzerias people order a slice of pizza with a slice of fainá on top, called 'pizza a caballo'.

Capeletis a la Caruso

Montevideo

Small stuffed pasta (cappelletti) in a warm, rich sauce of cream, ham, mushrooms and a spoonful of beef extract, sometimes with onion or walnuts. It is Uruguay's own contribution to Italian-style pasta.

Ñoquis del 29

Italian immigrants all over the Río de la Plata region

Potato gnocchi, usually with tucó (a meat and tomato sauce), eaten on the 29th of every month. It is a family tradition in homes and restaurants alike.

Tortas fritas

The whole Río de la Plata region

Thin, round pieces of fried dough with a little cut or hole in the middle, sprinkled with sugar or salt. They are sold at street stalls and fairs and are the classic partner for mate.

Chajá

Paysandú

A light cake of sponge, whipped cream, crunchy meringue and fruit, usually peaches and sometimes strawberries. Some versions add dulce de leche or chocolate. You can buy it in bakeries and supermarkets all over the country.

Pastafrola

Italy, brought by Italian immigrants

A sweet tart of crumbly shortcrust pastry filled with quince paste (dulce de membrillo), sweet potato jam or dulce de leche, covered with a lattice of thin pastry strips. It is a favourite with afternoon mate or coffee.

Alfajores

Brought from Spain; now a Río de la Plata classic

Two soft round biscuits sandwiched with dulce de leche, the thick caramel made by slowly cooking milk and sugar. In Uruguay they come in two main styles: covered in chocolate, or 'nieve' (snow), covered in white meringue icing.

Mate

The Guaraní peoples of South America

An infusion of dried yerba mate leaves, drunk through a metal straw (bombilla) from a gourd that is filled again and again with hot water from a thermos. It contains caffeine and tastes strong and bitter, and most Uruguayans drink it without sugar. Let the water cool a little: very hot drinks are bad for the throat.

Tannat

Southwest France; now grown above all in southern Uruguay

A deep red wine from the Tannat grape, which Uruguayans call their national grape. Uruguayan Tannat is usually softer than the French wines made from the same grape, with notes of blackberry. It contains alcohol.

GOOD MANNERS

At the table

- An asado is slow. Expect a picada of cheese, olives, salami and bread first, often with an aperitif such as medio y medio, a mix of sparkling and white wine first made at the Mercado del Puerto in Montevideo.
- Mate is shared. One person prepares the gourd, fills it with hot water and hands it to each person in turn. Drink it all through the straw and hand it back to the same person. Do not stir the straw.
- On the 29th of the month, many families eat gnocchi and put a banknote or coin under the plate for luck. Join in if you are invited.
- Friends and acquaintances usually greet each other with a single kiss on the cheek, and in Uruguay men often greet each other this way too. A handshake is fine if you prefer.

- Many restaurants add a cover charge to the bill. A tip of about 10 percent is usual for good service, but it is not compulsory.
- In pizzerias, try your pizza 'a caballo', with a slice of fainá on top. It is completely normal to eat it with your hands.

Chivito

Uruguay's national dish: a huge sandwich of thin grilled beef steak with ham, mozzarella, bacon, tomato, lettuce, mayonnaise, olives and a fried or hard-boiled egg, usually served with chips. Chivito al plato comes on a plate, without the bun.

Ingredients

- 2 thin slices of beef sirloin or fillet steak, about 120 g each, flattened
- 2 large soft bread rolls, split
- 4 rashers of bacon
- 4 slices of cooked ham
- 2 slices of mozzarella
- 2 eggs
- 1 tomato, sliced, and a few lettuce leaves
- Mayonnaise and a few green olives, sliced
- 1 tablespoon oil, salt and pepper

Method

1. Fry the bacon in a large pan until crisp, then keep it warm.
2. Season the steaks and cook them in the hot pan for 1 to 2 minutes on each side.
3. Lay the ham and then the mozzarella on each steak, cover the pan for a minute so the cheese melts, and lift them out.
4. Fry the eggs. Older people, pregnant women and young children should cook them until the yolk is firm.
5. Spread the rolls with mayonnaise, add lettuce and tomato, then the steak with ham and cheese, the bacon, the egg and the olives. Close and serve at once with chips.

Fainá

A thin, flat bake of chickpea flour, water and olive oil, cut into slices and sprinkled with pepper. In pizzerias people order a slice of pizza with a slice of fainá on top, called 'pizza a caballo'.

Ingredients

- 250 g chickpea flour (gram flour)
- 750 ml cold water
- 5 tablespoons olive oil, plus extra for the tin
- 1 teaspoon salt
- Freshly ground black pepper

Method

1. Whisk the chickpea flour with the water and salt until there are no lumps. Cover and leave it to rest for at least 1 hour, then skim off any foam.
2. Heat the oven to its highest setting, about 250°C. Pour a generous layer of oil into a large round baking tin or roasting tin and heat it in the oven for 5 minutes.
3. Stir the 5 tablespoons of oil into the batter and pour it carefully into the hot tin. It should be only about 5 mm deep.
4. Bake for 15 to 20 minutes, until the top is golden and the edges are crisp.
5. Leave it to set for a few minutes, cut it into wedges, grind plenty of black pepper over it and serve warm, on its own or on top of a slice of pizza.

Tortas fritas

Thin, round pieces of fried dough with a little cut or hole in the middle, sprinkled with sugar or salt. They are sold at street stalls and fairs and are the classic partner for mate.

Ingredients

- 500 g plain flour
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 50 g beef dripping or butter, melted
- About 250 ml warm water
- Oil for frying
- Sugar, for sprinkling

Method

1. Mix the flour, salt and baking powder in a bowl. Add the melted fat and enough warm water to make a soft dough.
2. Knead for a few minutes until smooth, cover and leave to rest for 20 minutes.
3. Roll the dough out to about 5 mm thick and cut rounds about 12 cm across. Make a small cut or hole in the middle of each one so it does not puff up like a balloon.
4. Heat about 2 cm of oil in a deep pan. Fry the rounds one or two at a time for 1 to 2 minutes on each side, until golden. Take care with the hot oil.
5. Drain on kitchen paper and sprinkle with sugar while still warm. Serve with mate or coffee.

Pastafrola

A sweet tart of crumbly shortcrust pastry filled with quince paste (dulce de membrillo), sweet potato jam or dulce de leche, covered with a lattice of thin pastry strips. It is a favourite with afternoon mate or coffee.

Ingredients

- 250 g plain flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 100 g caster sugar
- 125 g soft butter
- 1 egg and 1 egg yolk
- The grated zest of 1 lemon and 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 400 g quince paste (membrillo)
- 3 to 4 tablespoons hot water

Method

1. Beat the butter and sugar together, then beat in the egg, the yolk, the lemon zest and the vanilla.
2. Add the flour and baking powder and mix to a soft dough. Wrap it and chill it for 30 minutes.
3. Heat the oven to 180°C. Mash the quince paste with the hot water until it is soft and spreadable.
4. Roll out about two thirds of the dough and line a 24 cm tart tin. Spread the quince paste over it. Roll out the rest of the dough, cut it into thin strips and lay them over the top in a criss-cross pattern.
5. Bake for 30 to 35 minutes, until the pastry is golden. Let it cool in the tin before cutting.

Useful phrases

Buenos días

BWEH-nohs DEE-ahs · Good morning, hello

Buenas tardes

BWEH-nahs TAR-dehs · Good afternoon

Buenas noches

BWEH-nahs NOH-chehs · Good evening, good night

¿Qué tal?

keh TAHL · How are things? How are you?

Mucho gusto

MOO-choh GOOS-toh · Nice to meet you

Me llamo...

meh ZHAH-moh · My name is...

¿Hablás inglés?

ah-BLAHS een-GLEHS · Do you speak English?

No entiendo

noh ehn-TYEHN-doh · I don't understand

¿Me podés ayudar?

meh poh-DEHS ah-zhoo-DAR · Can you help me?

¿Cuánto cuesta?

KWAHN-toh KWEHS-tah · How much is it?

¿En pesos o en dólares?

ehn PEH-sohs oh ehn DOH-lah-rehs · In pesos or in dollars?

¿Dónde está el baño?

DOHN-deh ehs-TAH ehl BAH-nyoh · Where is the toilet?

Un chivito al plato, por favor

oon chee-VEE-toh ahl PLAH-toh, por fah-VOR · A chivito on a plate, please

La cuenta, por favor

lah KWEHN-tah, por fah-VOR · The bill, please

¡Buen provecho!

bwehn proh-VEH-choh · Enjoy your meal!

¡Salud!

sah-LOOD · Cheers! Also 'bless you' after a sneeze

Permiso

pehr-MEE-soh · Excuse me (may I pass?)

Tá, gracias

TAH, GRAH-syahs · OK, thanks

¿A qué hora sale el ómnibus?

ah keh OH-rah SAH-leh ehl OHM-nee-boos · What time does the bus leave?

Things you might not know

1. Uruguay is the only country in South America that lies entirely south of the Tropic of Capricorn, and Montevideo is the southernmost national capital in the Americas.
2. Uruguay hosted and won the first FIFA World Cup in 1930, and every match was played in Montevideo. It won the World Cup again in 1950, and it has by far the smallest population of any country that has won it.
3. The Estadio Centenario in Montevideo was declared the first Historical Monument of World Football by FIFA in 1983. As of 2026 it is the only building in the world with that title.
4. In December 2013 Uruguay became the first country in modern times to legalise cannabis fully, with the state regulating how it is grown and sold.
5. In 2023 about 98 percent of Uruguay's electricity came from renewable sources, mostly hydroelectric dams and wind farms. The switch took less than ten years.
6. Uruguay has far more cows than people. In 2007 it had about 12 million cattle, around 3.8 for every person, the highest number of cattle per person in the world at the time.
7. In 2009 Uruguay became the first country in the world to give a laptop to every primary school pupil, through a programme called Plan Ceibal.
8. One of the most famous tangos of all, La cumparsita, was written in 1916 by the young Uruguayan Gerardo Matos Rodríguez and first played at the Café La Giralda in Montevideo, where the Palacio Salvo stands today.
9. In 2009 UNESCO added candombe, the drumming and dance tradition of Afro-Uruguayans in Montevideo's Sur, Palermo and Cordón neighbourhoods, to its list of the intangible cultural heritage of humanity. Its three drums are called chico, repique and piano.
10. Montevideo's carnival lasts about 40 days, starting in late January, and it bills itself as the longest carnival in the world. Its highlight is the Desfile de Llamadas, a parade of candombe drummers.
11. The nine blue and white stripes on Uruguay's flag stand for the nine original departments of the country. The golden Sun of May in the corner also appears on the flag of Argentina.

12. In December 1939, after the Battle of the River Plate, the damaged German warship Admiral Graf Spee took refuge in Montevideo harbour. Allowed to stay only 72 hours, her captain had the ship scuttled just outside the port on 17 December.
13. The country takes its name from the Uruguay River, a Guaraní name. Its meaning is uncertain: 'river of the uru birds' is one explanation, and the poet Juan Zorrilla de San Martín's 'river of painted birds' is a popular one.
14. Uruguay's official name is the Oriental Republic of Uruguay, meaning the 'Republic East of the Uruguay River'. In colonial times the land was called the Banda Oriental, the 'Eastern Bank'.

TALK ABOUT IT

Questions for the group

- Have you ever been to Uruguay, or has someone in your family? What do you remember?
- Have you ever tasted Asado or Chivito? What is a dish you remember from a trip?
- Voters reject the military's constitution (1980). Do you remember hearing about it? Where were you then?
- Democracy returns (1985). Do you remember hearing about it? Where were you then?
- Have you seen The Historic Quarter of Colonia del Sacramento, in person or in pictures? Which famous place would you most like to see?
- If you could spend one day in any city of Uruguay, which would it be and why?

QUIZ

How well do you know Uruguay?

Circle the right answer. The answers are on the last page.

1. Which team did Uruguay beat 4 to 2 in the final of the first World Cup, in 1930?

- A) Argentina
- B) Brazil
- C) Yugoslavia
- D) Italy

2. As of 2026, how many UNESCO World Heritage Sites does Uruguay have?

- A) 3
- B) 5
- C) 7
- D) 1

3. In a Uruguayan pizzeria, what is "pizza a caballo"?

- A) A pizza cooked over an open wood fire outdoors
- B) A slice of pizza with a slice of fainá on top
- C) A pizza folded in half like a pasty
- D) A pizza delivered on horseback

4. What does "¡Buen provecho!" mean?

- A) Cheers!
- B) Good night!
- C) Excuse me!
- D) Enjoy your meal!

5. In Uruguayan Spanish, the "ll" in "Me llamo" is usually pronounced like the "s" in "pleasure" or the "sh" in "shop".

- A) True
- B) False

6. According to the 2023 census, which of these cities has the most people?

- A) Rivera
- B) Salto
- C) Colonia del Sacramento
- D) Paysandú

7. What is the capital of Uruguay?

- A) Montevideo
- B) Colonia del Sacramento
- C) Punta del Este
- D) Salto

8. Which two countries share a land border with Uruguay?

- A) Argentina and Brazil
- B) Argentina and Paraguay
- C) Brazil and Paraguay
- D) Argentina and Chile

9. In 2023 about 98 percent of Uruguay's electricity came from renewable sources.

- A) True
- B) False

10. Uruguay celebrates its Independence Day on 25 August.

- A) True
- B) False

11. On which Montevideo square does the Palacio Salvo stand?

- A) Plaza Mayor
- B) Plaza Independencia
- C) Plaza de Mayo
- D) Plaza Zabala

12. Which famous tango, written by the Uruguayan Gerardo Matos Rodríguez, was first played at a café in Montevideo?

- A) La cumparsita
- B) El choclo
- C) Por una cabeza
- D) Mi Buenos Aires querido

Quiz answers

1. A) Argentina

Uruguay beat Argentina 4 to 2 in Montevideo on 30 July 1930.

2. A) 3

Uruguay has 3: the Historic Quarter of Colonia del Sacramento (1995), the Fray Bentos Industrial Landscape (2015) and the Church of Atlántida by Eladio Dieste (2021).

3. B) A slice of pizza with a slice of fainá on top

Pizza a caballo, "on horseback", is a slice of pizza with a slice of fainá on top.

4. D) Enjoy your meal!

"¡Buen provecho!" means "Enjoy your meal!" and is said before eating or to people who are eating.

5. True

True. In the Río de la Plata region "ll" and "y" sound like the "s" in "pleasure" or the "sh" in "shop", so "Me llamo" sounds like "meh ZAH-moh".

6. B) Salto

Salto had about 114,000 people in 2023, more than Rivera (about 85,000), Paysandú (about 81,500) and Colonia (about 32,000).

7. A) Montevideo

Montevideo, on the Río de la Plata, is the capital and by far the largest city.

8. A) Argentina and Brazil

Argentina and Brazil are Uruguay's only neighbours: Argentina to the west and southwest, Brazil to the north and northeast.

9. True

True. Most of it comes from hydroelectric dams and wind farms.

10. True

True. On 25 August 1825 independence was declared after the landing of the Thirty-Three Orientals.

11. B) Plaza Independencia

The Palacio Salvo, finished in 1928, stands on Plaza Independencia, where Artigas's statue and mausoleum are.

12. A) La cumparsita

La cumparsita, written in 1916, was first played at the Café La Giralda, where the Palacio

Salvo stands today.

Uruguay visa page

Name: _____ Date: _____



Next stops

Country: _____	Country: _____	Country: _____
Country: _____	Country: _____	Country: _____

Play the interactive version, collect a stamp in your passport:

<https://worldstroll.com/countries/uruguay>