

## Polo Week

Weight limit: 83kg  
Nearest airport: Cordoba  
8 days / 7 nights / 7 riding days



Fun, fast and exciting, polo is a competitive team sport that combines good horsemanship with tactics and ball skills. Los Potreros polo weeks allow you to try this fabulous game in a truly unique environment, whilst not breaking the bank at the same time. Argentina has the best polo players in the world and so what better place to start? If you have never tried it, we should warn you that polo is highly addictive, and it may be the start of an extremely expensive habit!

### The Riding

Polo is a fast and physically strenuous game. Riders should be secure and confident in the saddle, and able to control their horse at all paces. There is a strict maximum weight limit of 83kg.

In addition to polo sessions there are also daily trail rides. The horses are ridden 'gaucho style', in a relaxed manner with loose reins, which is very intuitive and easy to pick up. Trail riding is tailored to suit ability and the hills provide a surprising variety of landscapes and terrain. Rocky outcrops give way to open hillsides. Hidden valleys lead to tumbling waterfalls and wooded paths. Trails take you to swimming holes and spectacular viewpoints, or further afield to neighbouring lands that offer a glimpse of rural life, past homesteads, churches and remote schools.

There are between 4-6 hours of riding a day. The itinerary is flexible, and subject to weather, particularly in the case of polo.



### Guides & Group sizes

There is a maximum number of 12 guests at any one time. Due to the flexible itinerary the group size varies, but it is normally 4-6 riders plus 2 guides.

### Horses and Tack

There are over 80 riding horses, with the herd being a mixture of Criollos, Peruvian Pasos and polo ponies, which are forward-going, responsive and sure-footed. Your hosts tend to change horses during a guest's stay, giving guests the opportunity to try several different horses. There is a strict riding weight limit of 95kgs and 85kgs for polo and the Peruvian Paso breed.

### Level of riding and fitness

Polo weeks are aimed at the beginner, novice or occasional player who wishes to learn how to play, brush up their skills or just have some fun in an informal and friendly environment. Half-day polo sessions are combined with stunning trail rides out into the estancia on fabulous horses, so combining two amazing holidays in one!



### Accommodation & Dining

The estancia has comfortable but simple rooms, traditionally furnished with plenty of antiques, all individual and with private bathrooms. Rooms are heated with wood-burning stoves or fireplaces. You can expect top quality beds, linen, dressing gowns and amenities, with a maid service 3 times per day.

Meals are held together in the main dining room or on the veranda, with lunch and dinner hosted by the Begg family. Breakfast includes bacon and eggs, toast, cereals, yoghurt, fruit and porridge. Lunch and supper consist of two courses with coffee and a combination of international and traditional Argentine cuisine. Afternoon tea is tea and homemade cake or biscuits. There are regular picnics and 'asados' (barbecues). Meal times are one of the highlights of a stay at the estancia as they are highly sociable and the hosts are always keen to share their insights into Argentine life. There is a swimming pool which is open mid-Oct-April.



## Itinerary

### **Day 1**

Your transfer will meet you at the international airport of Córdoba. Just under an hour from your pick-up you will arrive at Estancia Los Potreros in time for a late lunch. An introductory ride to get used to the 'gaucho' style of riding – long legs, deep seats and neck reining, whilst enjoying the comfortable sheepskins on the saddles. After your ride, the Begg family invites you to dinner in what has been the family home for over 100 years.

## **Day 2 - 7**

The itinerary is flexible and subject to change. Polo is weather dependent; if the ground is too wet to play, an alternative ride will be offered, and where possible the sessions will be made up during the week by playing twice per day.

Typically after a hearty breakfast of bacon and eggs, you will take the horses down to the polo ground. A short session on the ground covers the skills and tactics that are going to be focused on that day, and then you will mount your polo pony for a short 'stick and ball' session, followed by practice chukkas. Back to the estancia for lunch, a siesta and maybe a swim in the pool, followed by a sunset ride out into the beautiful Sierras Chicas. A candlelit dinner accompanies the tales of the day that get longer as the week goes on! The week culminates in an in-house tournament, often joined by players from the local area.

## **Day 8**

After breakfast depart for your onward travels.

### Price includes

- Transfers to/from Córdoba airport
- All accommodation, food and drink (including alcoholic beverages) on a full board basis
- Riding and all other estancia based activities
- Guides
- Local taxes

### Not included

- Flights
- Personal insurance
- Discretionary gratuities
- Activities off the estancia

### International flights & Airport transfers

The nearest international airport is Cordoba, transfers can be arranged between 08:00 - 20:00 in accordance with your arrival time. The estancia is a one hour drive from the airport.



### What to bring

- Riding clothes, including one set of white breeches/jodhpurs
- Riding boots and chaps
- Riding helmet (compulsory for polo)
- Light riding gloves
- Swimming costume
- Casual wear for the evening
- Comfortable shoes

### Climate

During the months of April, May, August, September and October you are most likely to experience good weather with pleasant average temperatures that fall between 20 degrees Celsius and 25 degrees Celsius. On average, the warmest months are January, February and December, but they also have a high chance of rain. August is usually the driest month. The warmest month is January with an average maximum temperature of 29°C.

## Health

For health and vaccine recommendations, please consult your healthcare provider at least 8 weeks before your trip.

Country specific information can also be found at National Travel Health Network and Centre website: <https://travelhealthpro.org.uk/countries>.

## Travel documents

For entry requirements to Argentina for UK citizens, please visit the Foreign Travel Advice website:

<https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/argentina>

For any other nationalities, please contact your local embassy to check entry requirements.

Having the correct travel documents is entirely your responsibility.



## Currency & Tipping

This is an all-inclusive stay, and you will therefore need minimal money. Tipping is at your discretion, any currency is welcome.

## Cancellation policy

Payment & Cancellation Terms

[saddletravel.com](https://saddletravel.com)

Holidays are confirmed with a 20% non-refundable deposit. The full balance is due 56 days before the start date.

If you cancel your booking less than 56 days before the start date of your trail we are entitled to receive full payment, less refunds as follows:

42 days or more before booking date - 50%

30 days or more - 30%

less than 30 days - nil

*Book with confidence – Covid Guarantee:*

*If the ride operator is closed or you are unable to travel due to lockdown:*

*1/ The deposit is reissued as a rebooking voucher to rebook anytime.*

*2/ Any balance payment will be refunded to you in full within 1 week of departure date.*

## Insurance

All saddletravel.com customers are required to take out appropriate travel insurance that covers horse riding and holiday cancellation. Proof of insurance details will be required during the booking process.

## Contact details

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