

# ESTANCIA LA BELLACA

## VOLUME WILD PIGEON, DOVE AND PERDIZ SHOOTING

**\$1290 per person per night**

**Included:** ground transportation from/to the Montevideo airport, all meals, including beer, wine and cocktails, single-room accommodations when possible  
**Not included:** commercial air travel, Uruguay gun permits or gun rental, Uruguay hunting license, shotgun shells, gratuities, laundry, and miscellaneous purchases

### **AIR TRAVEL/ENTRY/TRANSFERS**

A valid passport is required to enter Uruguay. Visas are not required. Currently, the most efficient way to get to Montevideo's Carrasco International airport is on the American Airlines nonstop from Miami. Alternately, guests may opt to fly to Buenos Aires and take a short connecting flight over to Montevideo. Once you are finished with Immigration and Customs you will be met by outfitter staff and driven one hour to Estancia La Bellaca.

Rod & Gun Resources will be happy to assist in arranging your air travel, or you are welcome to purchase tickets on your own.

We are in constant contact with Estancia Bellaca and our transfer agencies. All organizations do an outstanding job handling all incoming/outgoing transfers.

### **GUNS AND GUN PERMITS**

The outfitter, River Plate Wingshooting, has excellent shotguns available to rent at \$70/day. Models available include Beretta and Benelli autos in 20 and 12 gauge, along with Browning and Beretta over/unders in 20 and 12 gauge. Of course, the lodge provides backups and cleans each gun after each outing. **Very few clients take their own shotguns.** In a special case where guests take their own guns, there is a gun entrance fee of approx. \$110/gun.

If you prefer to take your own guns, the process is simple. Rod & Gun Resources will send you a one page "gun permit pre - registration" form. You fill it out and have it back to us, along with a copy of your passport, no later than 30 days prior to your departure. That's it. We will send all of the proper travel documentation to you with your other final documents prior to your departure. Your outfitter will meet you upon arrival in Montevideo and assist with clearing your guns through Customs (they will have the original copy of the gun permits).

### **GUNS/CHOKES/SHELLS (if you are taking guns)**

Either 12 or 20-gauge is suitable for pigeons, doves and perdiz. 28 gauge shells are also available. 410 gauge shells are more difficult to come by, but will possibly be available. Price for the larger-gauge shells will be around \$16/box, fees for the smaller gauges will likely be higher (all are subject to change). We recommend you bring two guns. Doubles, semi-autos or pumps are fine. We suggest improved/modified for doves/ pigeons; skeet/improved for perdiz and improved/ modified for ducks (if available). Screw-in chokes can provide flexibility.

## **CLIMATE/CLOTHING**

Non-flaring-colored apparel is important for doves and pigeons---camo, brown, and dark green with a similar hat. Ankle-height shoes/boots are perfectly adequate. Temperatures will range from lows of 35°-40° to highs of 60°-70°. It is always wise to include light rain gear (similar colors). Plan to dress in multiple layers.

For perdiz, take well-broken-in hunting boots—ankle high is fine—along with traditional upland hunting clothes. Don't worry too much about super bright colors like blaze orange. Some perdiz will run more if they see lots of bright colors. Just take a bright hat, so your hunting partner is sure to see you. Snake protection is not necessary.

Evening wear in all areas will be very informal--whatever is most comfortable, including hunting clothes if you wish. If you plan to have dinner in Buenos Aires or Montevideo, include a jacket, as most diners in either country will be dressed nicely—tie is unnecessary.

## **OTHER ITEMS TO INCLUDE**

- Shooting safety glasses—yellow for dark days, dark for sun
- Thin, soft leather shooting gloves or adhesive tape to protect hands and fingers while loading and firing
- Shell bag or vest
- Ear plugs for protection while shooting
- Shoulder pad recoil reduction device (optional)
- Camera or video camera with extra battery
- Small container of bug repellent
- Light raincoat (brown, green, camo, etc.)
- Small backpack or field bag
- Copy of passport—packed separately
- Multi-tool or pocketknife
- Reading glasses
- Toiletry items and prescription drugs
- Zip-lock bag or case to protect camera
- Reading material
- Lip balm
- Travel alarm clock and flashlight
- Cell phone and charger
- Garbage bags for dirty laundry

## **BAG LIMITS/GAME TRANSPORT**

Doves are considered a “plague” in both Argentina and Uruguay and there are no limits. All other species have official or “lodge imposed” limits. Consider that these resources need to be preserved for generations to come. River Plate has a limit of 10 boxes of shells per shooter/per hunt on pigeons, a limit of 10 perdiz per shooter/per hunt and no limit on doves.

Regarding bringing birds home for consumption: Since around 2007, the international airlines departing from Montevideo, Buenos Aires and Santiago usually refuse to allow the birds/meat to be checked onto the planes. In the current climate, we consider it unlikely any hunters will succeed in getting birds on their flights, so we suggest clients do not make the attempt. Of course it is up to the individual—occasionally a hunter manages to get the birds home.

### **CURRENCY**

The official currency of both Uruguay and Argentina is the peso; the exchange rates fluctuates, but Uruguay's peso is roughly \$28.20 to the US\$1. If you plan to spend time shopping in Punta del Este or Montevideo, you might consider asking your outfitter about the "grey market" and perhaps receive a better exchange rate. Also U.S. dollars are fairly widely accepted. If you pay with dollars you will usually receive your change in pesos. Visa, MasterCard and American Express are widely accepted in larger cities.

### **MEDICAL EVACUATION/TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE**

From minor medical issues to life-threatening situations, Global Rescue's critical services have been there when they were needed most. Outdoorsmen have trusted Global Rescue's medical and security travel services since 2004. Global Rescue memberships start at \$119 and feature the following benefits:

- Medical evacuation services to your home country hospital of choice
- Field Rescue services from the point of injury or illness
- 24/7 access to board-certified physicians, clinicians and specialists from the Johns Hopkins Emergency Medicine
- Division of Special Operations

Additionally, Global Rescue and IMG have created one of the industry's most complete travel insurance products, integrating Global Rescue's advisory and evacuation services with the financial protection of a comprehensive travel insurance program. Signature Travel Insurance guarantees that a trip is covered no matter what happens, and features the following highlights:

- CANCEL-FOR-ANY-REASON BENEFIT
- Trip cancellation insured up to \$100,000
- Up to \$2,500 for lost luggage/baggage delay
- \$100,000 emergency medical/dental coverage

Rod & Gun Resources recommends a Global Rescue Membership with Signature Travel Insurance for your next trip. Visit <http://www.globalrescue.com/rodandgun/> or call 617-549-4200 for more information.

### **ELECTRIC CURRENT**

Most homes and hotel outlets accept a standard 220 volt European two round-prong converter. Very modern buildings use the Australian style three flat prong converter (two angled prongs below with straight ground prong above). La Bellaca accepts both.

### **GRATUITIES**

Gratuities for lodge and field staff are not included in hunt cost, and we suggest \$60 total per day per shooter as a general guideline. This will be distributed by the outfitters to luggage handlers, pick-up boys, and lodge or hotel staff. Tips are paid at the end of the hunt, prior to departure.

Gratuities to hotel staff and at restaurants in cities are not included; the standard restaurant tip is 10-15%.

### **LANGUAGE**

Spanish is the national language, although English is spoken in most shops and restaurants.

### **SHOPPING**

Most shops are generally open all day to 7 p.m. on weekdays and 1 p.m. on Saturdays.

Stylish clothes, leather coats, gloves, purses and boots, silver items and good wine are often purchased.

### **CITY RESTAURANTS**

Tastes vary, so consult your tour guide or outfitter for suggestions. This southern part of South America is known for terrific European-style cuisine, with emphasis on many types of meats and fresh baked pastries and breads. For dinner, you should plan to eat a bit later than you may be accustomed to in the U.S.--many Uruguayans don't eat dinner until 9 -10 p.m., and most restaurants do not begin serving dinner until 8:00 p.m. The lunch hour is also a bit later than ours.

### **HELPFUL HINTS**

- Get to the airport very early on your day of departure. Carry some bills in small denominations for tips, airport meters, snacks, etc.
- Check the expiration date on your passport. Some countries require that the passport is valid for as much as six months from your date of entry. Take a photocopy of the photo page of the passport packed in a separate piece of luggage in case you lose the original. The copy will greatly facilitate the process of securing a new one.
- Plan for rain. Always take a raincoat (in hunting colors) and always take it with you on each outing. It's amazing how many wet hunters have a nice dry raincoat in their guestroom at the lodge.
- When you fly, always take your passport, airline tickets, medications, camera equipment and valuables in a carry-on such as a backpack or small valise.