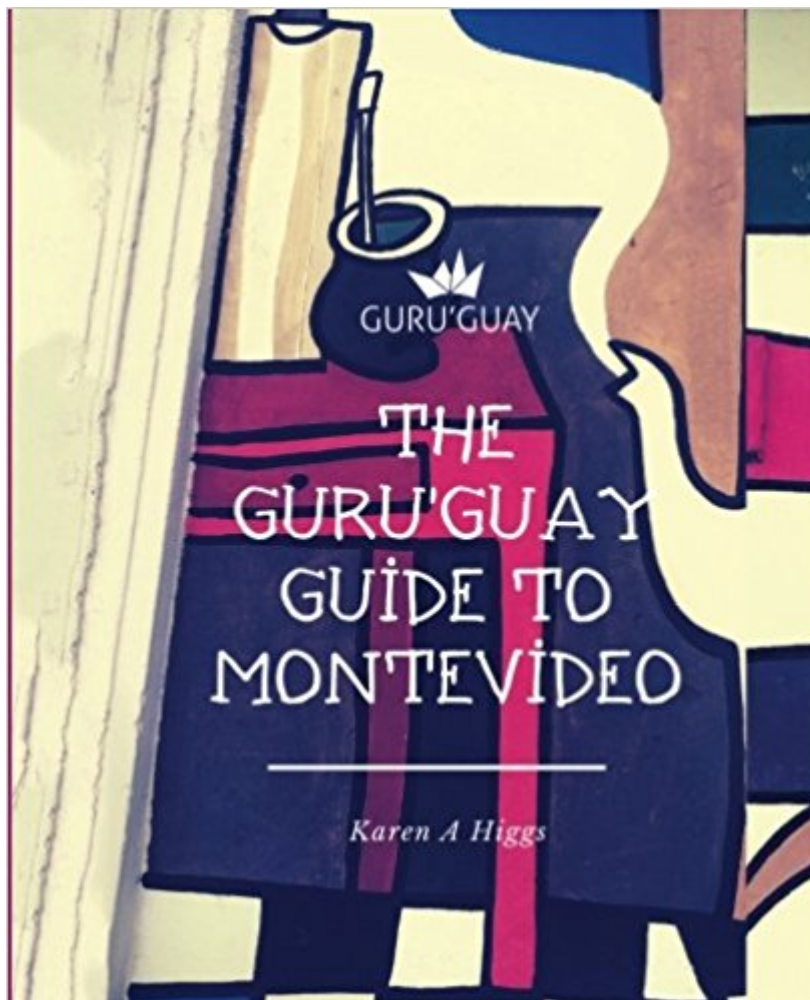


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Guru'Guay Guide To Montevideo, The



Synopsis

The *GuruGuay Guide to Montevideo* is the first REAL insider's guide to Montevideo, capital of Uruguay, and still one of South America's off-the-radar destinations. Up until now it's been virtually impossible to find a good guidebook on Uruguay. Why? Because they are written by people who fly in for a week and then leave. This guide is by a Spanish-speaking Brit, resident since 2000. While the guide focuses on Montevideo, it's indispensable for anyone visiting Uruguay. Features in-depth information on: **LOGISTICS** flying into Uruguay, including a candid look at airlines to avoid getting to (or from) Montevideo from Buenos Aires • The fastest, cheapest and most leisurely routes best time to visit and how long to stay • Insights only a long-term resident can give public holidays • when Montevideo pretty much shuts down, so it's essential to know when they are and festivals you must not miss, like the mysterious Sea Goddess celebrations best neighbourhoods to stay based on your personal preferences architecturally-lovely accommodation • Options for all pockets personal safety • Dispelling myths and tips specific to neighbourhoods getting around on public transport like a local driving and car rental • The logic in seemingly erratic traffic patterns and driving habits tipping demystified • eg why you don't tip taxi drivers but do tip street parking attendants money exchange including troubleshooting ATM withdrawals **THINGS TO DO** guided tours to wine, marijuana, soccer, carnival and more great day trips, from UNESCO heritage site Colonia de Sacramento, to glitzy Punta del Este, to the Santa Lucia wetlands architectural highlights • in possibly the city with the biggest concentration of Art-deco after New York art museums and underground art coops beaches including which of the 10 is best for children, windsurf and boat rental, etc shopping and buying original gifts Really. Ever heard of a guidebook that helps you with this thankless task? shopping for wine-lovers Wow, right? Where to go to get expert advice and dah goods why Carnival in Montevideo is so unique and where and when to track down the best (and worst) of carnival, even off-season tango Here tango is something the locals do, it's not "for export". One milonga, or dance salon, even takes place in a living room. the best live music and live acts that Montevideo has to offer • Tiny Uruguay has a huge share of highly talented musicians. Pay under • 10 USD to see a world-class band in a tiny cafe. gay Montevideo has a small but charming scene **FOOD & DRINK** what time the locals eat and how Uruguayans survive through to a 10pm dinnertime street food wine and craft beer from Uruguay are winning prizes internationally. The guide points you to which to try and why restaurants for people desperate for gourmet and veggie options restaurants for wine-lovers historic cafes The most charming, and the grittiest **SOCIETY & CULTURE** history How did this tiny country get to be so progressive? Your burning questions answered. the Uruguayan character, a chapter of

entirely personal anecdotes that illustrate that Uruguayans (from presidents to petty thieves) are friendly and down-to-earth expressions EVERYONE uses on the street and what they mean
films to watch, albums to listen to and books to read before you come

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Customer Reviews

Uruguay and its capital Montevideo are still off-the-radar destinations in South America Part of the reason is that there's very little information available and what there is is written by writers who jet in for a week and jet back out. The Guru's Guay Guide to Montevideo is a fifteen year labour of love. And it's so thorough, it's good for visitors to the rest of the country too. What readers say "It's not your typical Lonely Planet. This guidebook has soul & passion." "Uruguay was totally off my radar. Not anymore. It's gone to the top of my list in big measure because of this guide." "The great advice in your guide saved me 500 dollars on my airline ticket!" "Indispensable from the moment we arrived." "During our two weeks in Uruguay we travelled 2000 km from La Paloma to Colonia del Sacramento and from Piriápolis to Pirarajá and we used the Guru's Guay Guide constantly. The advice on cellphone service, tipping, traffic rules, taxis... all was indispensable." "Thank you for the years of real research you are offering up for newcomers to get a glimpse into this wonderful country. And without the typical tourist guide stuff I've been exposed to so far." "Outstanding. Crisp, concise, realistic and helpful information on every page." "Am loving the Guru's Guay Guide. The wine lists are excellent." (Leslie Fellows, Artesana Winery)

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reason is that there's very little information available and what there is is written by writers who jet in for a week and jet back out. The Guru's Guay Guide to Montevideo is a fifteen year labour of love. And it's so thorough, it's good for visitors to the rest of the country too. What readers say "It's not your typical Lonely Planet. This guidebook has soul & passion." "Uruguay was totally off my radar. Not anymore. It's gone to the top of my list in big measure because of this guide." "The great advice in your guide saved me 500 dollars on my airline ticket!" "Indispensable from the moment we arrived." "During our two weeks in Uruguay we travelled 2000 km from La Paloma to Colonia del Sacramento and from Piriápolis to Pirarajá and we used the Guru's Guay Guide constantly. The advice on cellphone service, tipping, traffic rules, taxis... all was indispensable." "Thank you for the years of real research you are offering up for newcomers to get a glimpse into this wonderful country. And without the typical tourist guide stuff I've been exposed to so far." "Outstanding. Crisp, concise, realistic and helpful information on every page." "Am loving the Guru's Guay Guide. The wine lists are excellent." (Leslie Fellows, Artesana Winery)

I wish this guidebook had been published when I visited Montevideo 16 years ago. Though I had a good time, I see now it could have been 10-times more fun. But I'm enjoying thinking about my next trip from my swivel chair at home because the book is so lively and personable, reading it is like making a new friend. I mean, this is the only guidebook you'll find that uses rating categories of "Thumbs up!", "Mehhh" and "Mehhh antidote." The author, Karen, defines what it means to be the hostess-with-the-mostess. The Live Music chapter includes lists of lesser-known artists who will "blow you away," the popular and the off-the-beaten-track venues where they play, how to post a request for a reservation via FB, and exactly what to write in Spanish! She even tells you what albums to listen to before you arrive. Though a self-proclaimed "beer woman," Karen still goes out of her way to appeal to wine-lovers like me, consulting real experts to list the best restaurants for wine lovers, 12 best budget wines, vineyard tours from "rustic" to "luxury," and "great little wine stores." The guidebook has advice about everything you would expect to see, from tips on getting to and from, weather and what to wear, where to stay, what to tip, it's all in here, along with a good dose of humor and enticement

to buy your tickets to Uruguay straight-away.

It's hard to find info on Montevideo and this has it all. She got us to and from places and helped experience the everyday culture! Thanks to the author and her website we got tickets for the ferry between Montevideo and Argentina for half the price we were finding through Boquebus on their other brand Seacat. Same company and equip. Different brands.

Luckily I found this guide just before my husband and I left on a two-week plus trip to Uruguay a month ago. The information provided by the guru was invaluable as it dovetailed with our desire to sample historic cafes, travel by bus around Montevideo and further into the country. The author's website, guruguay.com, featured an article on an estancia, which we arranged to visit and enjoyed immensely. Besides the great practical advice, we indulged in some of her recommendations, which were spot on. Looking forward to her next guidebook.

Gives you all the essentials you need for your stay in Montevideo and Uruguay. We stayed at the authors guest house, which also is a great experience. Well invited money. Light weight to fit in every travelers bag.

Informational: Yes! Not what I would describe as a true guide. Author provides personal opinions based on her experiences and makes several recommendations (sounded more like sale-pitches to colleagues) without comparative points of reference. For someone who is ignorant of the culture it may be more useful than to experienced travelers. All in all she reveals things about the area that will be helpful to anyone who does not know what to expect and for that reason it will be valuable to many. For whatever is worth I bought two (one to gift), in hindsight I should have bought one and after glancing at it for a couple of hours, I would give it to someone planning on travelling there. I'll get my money's worth just to try a couple of the author's favorite places, but it will not be the rental car place she recommends - absurd pricing for car rental regardless of what they do before, or after the car rental.

Karen's guide is extremely easy to consume. Of course, there was the expected useful info (were to stay, where to eat, etc.) but what I personally loved was that she included things that travelers might want to ask a friend, but not a "travel guide", The entire book was personal and friendly, but above all, super helpful. I was even inspired to sign up for a couple tango lessons in preparation for my

trip!

Pulled at my Uruguayan heartstrings! Can't wait to use it when we visit next. Recommended to all those travelling to this small latin-american country with a big heart!

Good book, very helpful

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