

The Final Tramites

Information re Funerals in Argentina

The following information is from angloinfo.com

1. Report the death to a local doctor who certifies the death. If the death has occurred in suspicious circumstances, or if the deceased is a stranger to you, it should be reported to the police (Tel: 101)
2. The doctor issues a death certificate (*Certificado de defunción*) and an *Informe Estadístico de Defunción* (IED) certificate. The IED contains information on the date of death and is used for statistical purposes only. A death needs to be registered within two working days at the local civil registry (*Registro civil*).
3. Register the death by submitting the following to the civil registry:
 - IED Certificate
 - Passport or DNI document of the deceased
 - An affidavit (*declaracion jurada*) signed by a relative or a funeral home (*funeraria*) confirming the personal data of the deceased along with documental proof. This includes:
 - Date and place of birth, and parent's names - birth certificate
 - Marital status - marriage certificate or death certificate of spouse if a widow(er)
 - Death certificate (*Certificado de defunción*)
 - The identification number of the person or funeral home registering the death

The paperwork must be submitted and signed by the civil registry before permission is granted to bury the body. There is no fee to register the death, but there is an administrative fee to obtain the burial permit (licencia de inhumación). If the burial is to take place in another location, copies of the paperwork are required by the civil registry in the place of burial.

Burial

Funeral homes (*funeraria*) can usually guide you through the registration process, as well as everything required for the funeral, or repatriation of the remains.

Cremation

Permission for cremation (*cremación*) is generally given once the next-of-kin have submitted the death certificate and the IED to the Civil Registry Officer. If death has occurred through suicide or accident, or murder, a warrant is required for cremation.

Repatriation of remains

Deaths of foreigners must be reported to your local embassy, who may be able to assist with repatriation. If the deceased had insurance, costs may be covered. Otherwise, family or friends must cover transportation expenses.

Euthanasia is illegal throughout Argentina except in the province of Rio Negro, where a person with a terminal illness can refuse sustenance, surgical procedures or artificial resuscitation.

Costs

The least expensive is cremation without a wake, which costs about 25,000 pesos.

For burials, rents at public cemeteries in Buenos Aires, including maintenance, range from 400 to 2,000 pesos per month. Plots in private cemeteries sell for a minimum of 55,000 pesos, with monthly maintenance from 50 pesos.

Information re Health Care In Buenos Aires

Government-funded Health Services

Public hospitals are free of charge for both nationals and foreigners. A patient's identification documents are required. The only charges for both nationals and foreigners are prescription charges for outpatients. Pharmacies require a prescription for most medicines. No special registration is required to benefit from government-funded health services. However, long waiting lists for medical care means that many people choose to take out private health insurance.

If you are taken to hospital in an ambulance, you should tell them which hospital you wish to go to. Following are public hospitals in Buenos Aires:

Hospital Garrhan, Viamonte 960, C1053ABT C1053ABT, Buenos Aires

Hospital General de Agudos Dr. Juan A. Fernández, Av. Cerviño 3356, C1425 CABA

Hospital General de Agudos Bernardino Rivadavia, Av. Gral. Las Heras 2670, C1425ASQ
CABA

Private Hospitals

These hospitals charge fees for their services, and most patients have private medical insurance to cover them. These insurance costs vary according to age and needs, and generally they do not cover pre-existing conditions.

It is possible to inquire in advance about costs for various services at these hospitals, and it may be wise to do this before you need them.

Here are just three of the private hospitals in Buenos Aires:

Hospital Italiano, Virrey del Pino 2456, C1426 EGQ, Buenos Aires

Hospital Aleman, BBB, Beruti 2566, C1425 C1425BBB, Buenos Aires

Hospital Britanico, Perdriel 74, C1280 AEB, Buenos Aires

As a foreign national, you may be able to get information and assistance from your Embassy, and it's a good idea to look at their sites. The U.S. Embassy, for example, has a good deal of information.

If you have to go into hospital in Buenos Aires, it is essential that you have an advocate to help you, especially if you are unable to speak for yourself. Talk to your friends about this in advance and try to arrange this in advance. You should make this person aware of how you want your death to be handled should it occur in hospital, as well as how to access funds you have put aside for this purpose,

The best time to think about these arrangements is before you need them so that your friends will not be needlessly burdened through lack of knowledge of your wishes.

