

ARGENTINA



FUN FACT:

Argentina is the true birthplace of animation. Quirino Cristiani's film, *El Apostol*, was released in 1917 and consisted of 58,000 frames and had a run time of 70 minutes.

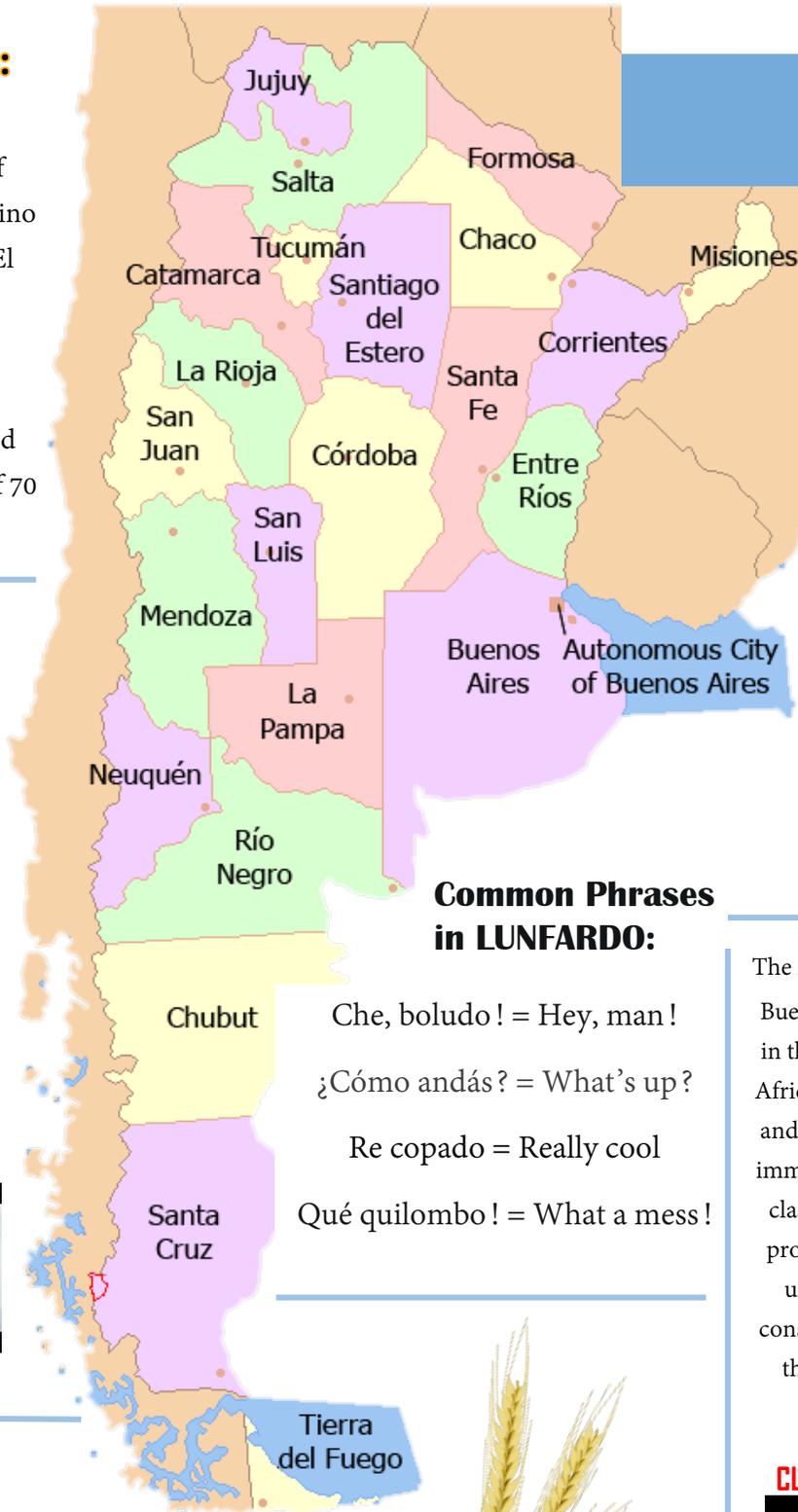
FOOD:

Argentina is best known for their high-quality beef, which is often served with chimichurri – a sauce made with parsley, oregano, garlic, olive oil, and vinegar.



PRODUCE:

Argentina produces more grain than any other country in Latin America. Argentina also produces soybeans, corn, and sugar cane.



8th Largest Country

LANGUAGE:

Toward the end of the 19th century, an underworld language called **LUNFARDO** developed in Buenos Aires, composed of words from many languages – among them Italian, Portuguese, Spanish, French, German, and Africa.

Common Phrases in LUNFARDO:

- Che, boludo ! = Hey, man !
- ¿Cómo andás? = What's up?
- Re copado = Really cool
- Qué quilombo ! = What a mess !

The **Argentine Tango** originated in the streets of Buenos Aires, Argentina, and Montevideo, Uruguay, in the late 19th century. The roots of this dance lie in African candombe, Cuban habanera as well as waltzes and polkas. It was a popular dance among European immigrants, former slaves and the working and lower classes. During Argentina's political struggles with prohibition and dictatorships, the dance was forced underground where some say performing it was considered an illegal act. It later came back to light in the 1980's and its popularity soared again before spreading throughout the rest of the world.





CUBA

MUSIC & DANCE:



Cuba is renowned for its music and

Cubans claim to be the creators of some well-known Latin musical styles, such as Son (which gave birth to Salsa), Mambo, Cha Cha Cha, Guaguanco, Bolero, Latin Jazz, Timba, and many others.



FUN FACT:

Cuba has one of the highest literacy rates in the world with almost all of the population (99.8%) being literate.

It is also one of the safest countries in Latin America, with almost no violent crime.



PRODUCE:

Sugar from sugar cane is the main crop grown in Cuba, followed by tobacco, which is used in making hand-crafted cigars.

The Largest Caribbean Island in Size and Population

FOOD:

The national dish of Cuba is **Ropa Vieja**, a hearty stew made with beef that is steeped in history. It is almost impossible to eat beef in Cuba because beef is considered a luxury. It is sold at high prices, is generally available in a limited number of restaurants, and is reserved for the rich and tourists. Like many islands, Cuba struggles with self-sufficiency, relying heavily on foreign imports.

COMMON PHRASES:

- ¿Acere, que bola? = Buddy, what's up?
- ¡Chao pescao! = See you later, alligator!
- Está volao = That's amazing

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SPORTS:

Baseball is the most popular sport in Cuba by far. The country is also dominant in boxing and has produced a number of Olympic boxing

champions. Other sports of interest include basketball, volleyball, cricket, and fútbol (soccer).

NATIVE ANIMALS:



Cuba is home to the world's smallest:

- Bird = 5 cm from beak to tail
- Frog = 1 cm long





PERU



FUN FACTS:

- Peru is the third most diverse country in the Americas. Peru also has the third-largest Chinese community outside of Asia and the second-largest Japanese community in Latin America.
- Peru's Nazca Lines is a collection of 10,000 lines comprising of more than 70 giant human and animal geoglyphs. (Some lines run up to 30 miles long.) The collection remains one of the world's greatest archaeological mysteries.
- The Amazon river starts high up in the Peruvian Andes near Machu Picchu. Pink Dolphins swim in this part of the Amazon river and do not exist anywhere else on Earth.



PRODUCE:

Peru is the 6th largest producer of **gold**, producing over 162 tons a year, worth over 7 trillion dollars.

Peru also grows more than 55 varieties of **corn**. When you go to the market in you can find corn in just about any color, including yellow, purple, white, and black. Peru is the birthplace of **potatoes** and over 3,000 types of potatoes are grown in Peru.

COMMON PHRASES:

Habla, [Name], ¿qué me cuentas? = [Name]! What's going on?

¡Ya fuiste! = You've missed out!

Bacán or Chévere = Cool

Ahí nos vidrios = See you later

NATIVE PLANTS & ANIMALS:

Peru is home to the **Puya Raimondii**, a relative of the pineapple, which is the world's tallest flowering plant. It can reach up to 50 feet in height. This giant plant can take up to a century or more to bloom and in full bloom, each plant flaunts up to 8,000 white flowers resembling lilies. It blooms only once in its lifetime and then dies.



There are 10 million **Alpacas** in the world and three-quarters of them live in Peru. Alpacas are related to llamas, grow to about 48-54 inches tall and can weigh anywhere from 106-185 pounds. Alpaca fiber has been described as stronger than mohair, finer than cashmere, smoother than silk, softer than cotton, and warmer than goose down. It is a hypoallergenic, flame-resistant fleece.



FOOD:

Ceviche is Peru's national dish. Every cook has their own variation, but it is usually served with side dishes that include red onions, sweet potato, corn, and lettuce.



Lomo Saltado is a popular, traditional Peruvian dish. It is a stir fry that combines strips of beef, onions, tomatoes, and french fries. The dish originated as part of the chifa tradition, the Chinese cuisine of Peru.

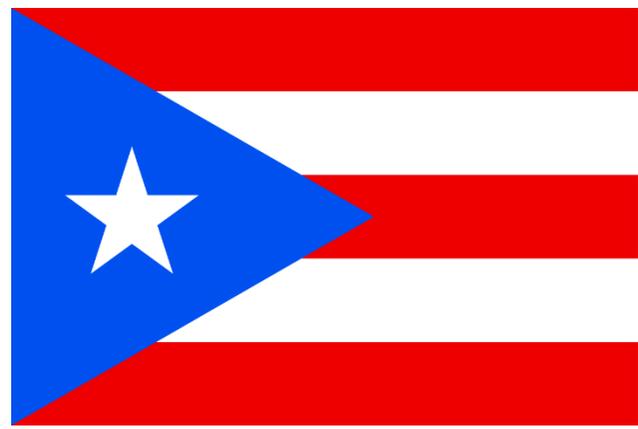




PUERTO RICO

FUN FACTS:

- Christopher Columbus discovered Puerto Rico in 1493 and declared it part of Spain.
- There are only five bioluminescent bays in the world. Three of them are in Puerto Rico.
- More than 70 percent of the rum sold in the U.S. comes from Puerto Rico and is the only rum producer in the world to maintain a minimum aging law for its rum.
- Puerto Rico has the second largest single-dish radio telescope in the world, measuring 1,000 feet in diameter.
- Puerto Rico is the only place that has a tropical rainforest without bears and snakes.
- Approximately five million people visit San Juan each year.



NATIONAL FLOWER:

The hibiscus is Puerto Rico's national flower.



SPORTS:

Boxing and basketball are the most popular sports in Puerto Rico.

Puerto Rico Is Roughly the Size of Connecticut With Over 270 Miles of Beaches

MUSIC:

There are five main styles of music that one hears on the island: Salsa, Merengue, Bomba, Plena, and Reggaetón.



[Click for Bomba](#)

[Click for Plena](#)



Coconuts are not indigenous to Puerto Rico. They were introduced in 1542 when the Spanish imported them from the Far East.



FOOD:

The national dish of Puerto Rico is Arroz con Gandules, or "party rice." It is a savory rice with pigeon peas that is traditionally served in Puerto Rico during Christmas, but is appreciated all year round.



NATIVE ANIMAL:

The unofficial mascot of Puerto Rico is a tiny tree frog called a **coqui**, which can only be found in Puerto Rico. The inch-long amphibian has a



powerful and melodic voice. The high-pitched, chirrupy song can be heard for miles.

Puerto Rico is also home to the world's largest living reptile, the **leatherback sea turtle**.



COMMON PHRASES:

¡Chacho! = Oh boy!

¡Wepa! = Yay! or Congrats!

Comiendome un cable = I'm bored

Ni pa = No way

Tú sabes = You know



SPAIN



aka *ESPAÑA*

SPORTS:

Fútbol (soccer) is Spain's national sport, so it is no surprise that it is also the most popular sport. Spain's national team won the FIFA World Cup in 2010.



2nd Largest Country in the European Union
&
5th Largest Population in Europe

MUSIC / DANCE:



Flamenco is a form of song, dance, and instrumental (mostly guitar) music that is commonly associated with the Andalusia Roma (Gypsies). It includes singing, guitar playing, dance, hand claps, and wooden castanets.

PRODUCE:

Spain produces most of the world's **olive oil** (43 percent). The Iberian region produces over 1.6 million tons, the majority of which comes from the southern region of Andalusia. Spain is also one of the world's biggest producers of **saffron**.

PHRASES IN CATALAN:

Bon Dia = Hello
Si us plau = Please
Fem un café? = Let's have a coffee?
Déu n'hi do! = Wow! or Amazing!

FUN FACTS:

- In 1605, Miguel de Cervantes wrote *Don Quixote* in Spanish and is widely considered to be the world's first modern novel.
- There are four official languages in Spain (Castilian, Catalan, Basque and Galician), three unofficial regional languages (Asturian, Aragonese, and Aranese), and several more dialects.
- Spaniards have lunch between 1pm and 3pm, and dinner around 10pm.
- Spanish culture greatly influenced modern art from the late 1800s, with artists like Antoni Gaudí, Pablo Picasso, Joan Miró, and Salvador Dalí.
- Spain's national anthem has no words.
- La Tomatina is the world's biggest food fight that takes place in the small town of Buñol, where people throw tomatoes at each other.