



GUÍA TURÍSTICA ANUAL

"TIME OUT"

Julio 2006 - Julio 2007

with gardens, the zoo and well-kept plazas; opulent, tranquil Palermo Chico; and trendy Palermo Viejo (unofficially divided into sub-barrios Palermo Soho and Palermo Hollywood), full of hip restaurants and boutiques. The dining quarter of Las Cañitas is in Palermo too.

Just to the **West of the Centre** are Once and Abasto, rich in immigration, history, tango and commerce. Other western barrios for visitors willing to wander are Caballito, Villa Crespo and, slightly north, Chacarita, home to a vast proletarian necropolis.

Along the River is the Costanera Norte, north of the city airport, a popular place for weekend promenades. Next to the southern bank of the river is Puerto Madero – BA's yuppie dockland complex – and Costanera Sur, skirting the coastal eco-reserve.

Heading **Further Afield** to the north is Belgrano, with its plazas, museums and shops; nearby are Nuñez and Saavedra. Further still, beyond the limits of the capital, are the wealthier suburbs of Zona Norte: Olivos, Martínez and San Isidro. On the city's western edge are Liniers and Mataderos, both associated with cowboys, cattle-dealing and meatpacking.

See the sights

On a bus

There are any number of bog standard BA bus tour outfits and several very good ones. **Eternautas** (4384 7874, www.eternautas.com) has a team of university teachers and historians who lead visits to different barrios, exploring tango, politics and history. **Opcion sur** (4777 9029, www.opcionsur.com.ar) is a new and highly professional company whose tour buses are fitted with video screens that play archive footage of historical events related to whatever neighbourhood the bus is passing through. Other operators include **Travel Line** (4393 3557, www.travelline.com.ar), **Buenos Aires Tours** (4785 2753, www.buenosaires-tours.com.ar) and **QN Guías Argentinos** (4833 6525, www.guiasargentinos.com.ar).

www.tangol.com) has 15-minute helicopter rides over the city (from US\$70).

On foot

Cicerones is an organisation offering free, tailor-made tours. Fill in the online form detailing your topic of interest, allow 72 hours, and a guide will be chosen from among 50 multilingual volunteers. Two other good companies offering walking tours are **Urban Explorer** (4813 0385, www.urbex.com.ar) and **PlanBA** (4776 8267, www.planba.com). Both are run by native English speakers.

With the specialists

To understand the history of Argentina's immigrant communities, join a walking tour with an architecture specialist (4374 2222, www.espacioverde.com.ar, AR\$25). Explore Jewish Buenos Aires on a private tour with Deb Miller of **Travel Jewish** (4257 5977, www.traveljewish.com, US\$35 per hour).

Sightseeing

The Best Sights

Brilliant buildings

El Abasto shopping centre (see p98); **Edificio Kavanagh** (see p73); **Palacio Barolo** (see p67); **Palacio Duhau** (see p89).

Dramatic deathvilles

Chacarita (see p99) and **Recoleta** cemeteries (see p89).

Sensational sculptures

Canto al Trabajo (see p79); **Florals Genérica** (see p90)

Gorgeous greenery

Jardín Japonés (see p95); **Parque Lezama** (see p80); **Plaza San Martín** (see p73); **Parque Tres de Febrero** (see p92).

Soccer shrines

La Bombonera (see p81); **Estadio Monumental** (see p104).