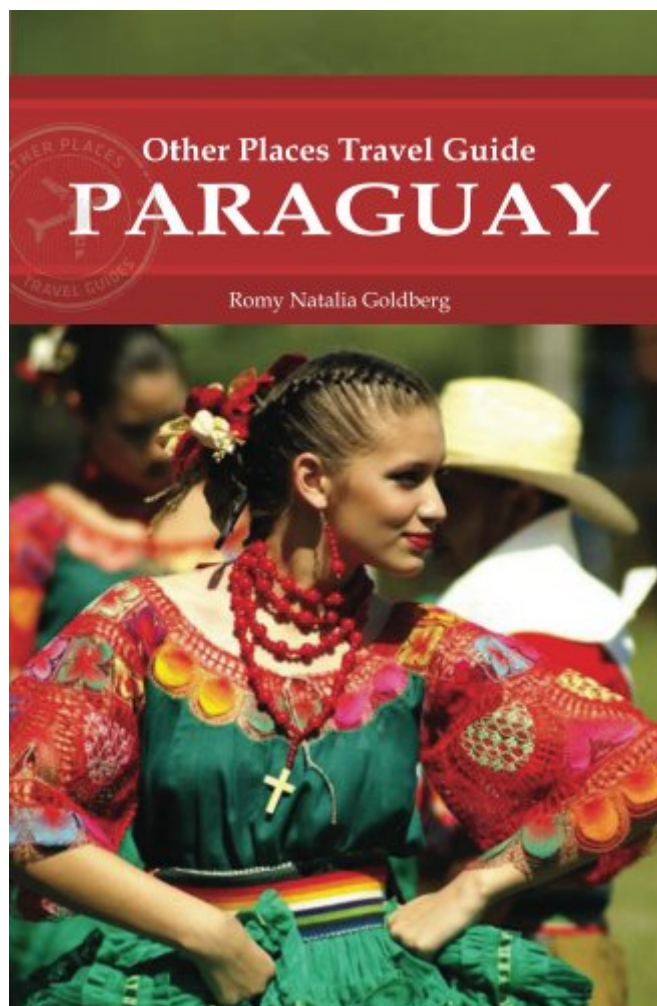


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Paraguay (Other Places Travel Guide)



Synopsis

Of Paraguayan descent, the author spent four years exploring Paraguay's hidden gems and popular tourist attractions. This is an invaluable guide to experiencing everything Paraguay has to offer with cultural insights and practical recommendations. Included is the only available guide to traveling along the Paraguay River to the Pantanal, a little visited region where remote indigenous communities coexist with endangered wildlife. No matter your budget or appetite for adventure, this book is a must for discovering the real Paraguay.- Learn key cultural insights and useful Guaraní phrases that will have you bonding with friendly locals in no time.- Embark upon a riverboat adventure to the Paraguayan Pantanal where jaguars hunt capybaras, jabiru storks soar overhead, and tourists are rare.- Take part in Paraguay's unique culture by eating local food, drinking tereré, participating in religious festivals, and engaging with artisans.- Navigate the country like a local with detailed maps and comprehensive information on driving, public transportation, and traveling on foot.- Enjoy Asunción's active and affordable nightlife or soak up the countryside's relaxed atmosphere from the comfort of a hammock.

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Customer Reviews

I have been to Paraguay a number of times in the past five years, visiting friends who live there, mostly sticking to the capital city of Asuncion. Touring in Paraguay was daunting, because there are few if any organized programs -- everything has to be one on one's own, and mostly in Spanish. The few guidebooks that I checked in the past did not seem helpful, so I bought this one in the hope that it might be of some use on my next trip. What a pleasant surprise! Detailed descriptions of places (some of which I've been to, so I know they are correct), with locations, travel instructions and even history and cultural background. But the best part is that this book is so well written that it reads like a novel. Honestly, it's a joy to read the background, history and culture sections (the ones I usually skip in other guidebooks). At the same time, the town and city chapters are crammed with to-the-point information that I'm sure will prove helpful. The hotels and restaurants that are listed range from moderately-priced to inexpensive, so I imagine they will be helpful for a range of people, from backpackers to diplomats (I'm a retiree, so I don't spend lavishly, but I won't sleep in a pup-tent either.) I like this author's style-- so many guidebooks have no style at all. This is definitely worth buying, even if you never end up traveling to Paraguay.

I received Paraguay (Other Places to Travel) and sat down to peruse it. One hundred pages later, I realized what a wonderful book it is. I found myself reading for the sheer enjoyment. It is so interesting and informative. I used to be a parttime tour manager for an American travel company specializing in South America. But I've always led tours by air of major destinations like Rio, Buenos Aires, Iguazu Falls, Santiago and Machu Pichu. Then eight years ago my wife and I took a 10 week bus trip of 6 countries starting in Rio and ending in Quito. The two most amazing discoveries were Paraguay and Bolivia. The rest of the places had significant Western and European influences. But Paraguay and Bolivia were the real key to getting to know the indigenous peoples, their lives and cultures. This guide book captures that essence. In addition, the history and politics of these two countries is astounding. We've visited many of the major sites mentioned in the book (and ate lunch in the Lido Bar). We still drink yerba mate on occasion in a guampa. But this book made us want to return to Paraguay and experience even more. It's a cheap place in which to travel and a great place to shop. But, even more, we enjoyed getting to know the people. If you never get to go to Paraguay, this book gives you a good idea of what you are missing. Buen viaje!

Got my copy this past weekend and have been engrossed in going thru it ever since. Having a wife who is Paraguayan and having visited Paraguay over a dozen times in as many years, I have always been frustrated by the poor quality and quantity of available information on the country. It has always been a daunting task trying to gather travel information or decent accounts of what Paraguay is really like. Most "guidebooks" for this country are usually not much more than a chapter within a multi-country guidebook (usually the shortest chapter!) or they appear to be written from what seems to be second hand knowledge or very cursory knowledge at best. In the past this has meant that if you wanted timely or accurate info you had to spend hours going to little known blogs (BTW, Ms. Goldberg has an excellent one on guess what - Paraguay! check it out at [...]), obscure travel web sites or even more obscure Paraguayan web sites which either are heavy on hype or hopelessly out of date. Having said all this, that state of affairs has always been somewhat the "charm" of visiting Paraguay, as it has traditionally been off the radar of most travellers and you tend to break new ground when you venture off the beaten path. But no more. Ms. Goldberg has written the definitive guide, using her vast "in country" experience due to a lifetime of visiting or living there as well as having family ties and speaking both languages well. Just wish she had done it about 12 years ago, it would of saved me a lot of time and effort! Sigh...so now the hordes of tourista's bored with or scared off by the high prices of Argentina, Uruguay or Brazil will start descending on Paraguay now I guess. Hmmm, might be time to buy into the paddle boat concession on Lago Ypacarai....

I hate to think of all the mistakes that I would have made planning my trip if I had not bought this book. It is a must. 4/04/2014 After reading the book, and starting to plan my trip the only wish I have is that the maps should have more resolution. I find that when you try to increase the size so as to read the names on the maps, it is not much use because of the low resolution. I also have the book in my Kindle dx, (which I plan to take with me) but still have trouble reading the maps. PLEASE update this book with better quality maps. Then it would be a five star. 14/09/2014 Thanks to this book my wife and I had a well planned and enjoyable trip. The bus information was very usefull. Off course we saw the Itaipu power plant and the Iguazu falls, but I hate to think that if I had not read this book I would not have known about the cheap trip up the Paraguayan river in the "Aquadaban" boat. Although the bathrooms were not nice, this boat trip was one that allowed us to really get to mix with the local people. (We speak Spanish) This boat trip provided us with the best memories of Paraguay.

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