

# The Australian Association of Stud Merino Breeders' URUGUAY TRADE MISSION

Incorporating

## The 10th World Merino Conference

“The quality of global Merino production”

Montevideo, Uruguay



The Australian Association of Stud Merino Breeders' (AASMB) invites you to join its Trade Mission to Uruguay in 2018 and is pleased to offer the following packages:

1. **Departing Sydney 6 April:** Pre-Conference Study Tour, Uruguay (see below) - 10 World Merino Conference. Return options available.
2. **Departing Sydney 6 April:** Pre-Conference Study Tour, Uruguay (see below) - 10 World Merino Conference - Post-Conference Study Tour, Argentina (see page 3). Return 22 April\*
3. **Departing Sydney 11 April:** 10 World Merino Conference - Post-Conference Study Tour, Argentina (see page 3). Return 22 April\*

\* Return or onward travel options available all packages through consultation with Swagman Tours.

### Pre-Conference Study Tour Uruguay (6-11 April 2018)

**DAY 1: Fri 06 Apr SYDNEY – FLY TO MONTEVIDEO, URUGUAY (-)**

- Make your way to Sydney International Airport for your Qantas flight departing at 11:30 a.m. to Montevideo, via Santiago, Chile.
- On arrival you will be met and transferred to your accommodation.

**Overnight: Montevideo – Sheraton Hotel or similar**

**DAY 2: Sat 07 Apr MONTEVIDEO – SALTO (BLD)**

- After breakfast depart Montevideo travelling north to Durazno visiting Merino studs and a woollen mill.
- Continue to our destination for the next four nights, the 4.5 star Altos del Arapey Resort in the Salto region, complete with thermal pools and 18-hole golf course.

**Overnight: Altos del Arapey Thermal Resort**

**DAY 3: Sun 08 Apr SALTO – MERINO STUD AND FARM VISITS (BLD)**

- Today visit Merino stud and commercial flocks at Buena Vista farm and then continue to La Magdalena Merino stud (Los Tordos SenC), enjoying lunch at one of the properties on our travels.
- Return to Altos del Arapey this afternoon.

**Overnight: As above**

**DAY 4: Mon 09 Apr ALTOS DEL ARAPEY (BLD)**

- Today attend the 10 World Merino Conference Show and Sale in the resort grounds. Also included will be a fleece contest, lunch, young judges contest and awards dinner.

**Overnight: As above**

**DAY 5: Tue 10 Apr FARM VISITS (BLD)**

- This morning visit La Gringa and Talitas studs (Talitas Soc. Agraria) and afterwards San Ramon SG stud.
- After lunch visit the Uruguayan Wool Secretariat (SUL) Research Station before returning to the resort.

**Overnight: As above**

**DAY 6: Wed 11 Apr MONTEVIDEO (BL)**

- Visit Pingo Viejo farm (Ing Agr. Carlos Parietti) to see Criollo horses, Hereford & Angus cattle and a commercial sheep flock.
- Continue to Paysandu and see stud and commercial flocks followed by a presentation of the CRILU Fine Merino Project phases I & II. Enjoy lunch at the Paysandu Rural Association.
- Depart to Montevideo.

**Overnight: Montevideo – Hotel of choice must also be for the duration of the conference**

**DAY 7: Thu 12 Apr 10<sup>th</sup> WORLD MERINO CONFERENCE – SHERATON (BL)**

- Conference at the Sheraton Hotel. Includes morning and afternoon tea breaks as well as lunch.
- Opening Ceremony with the presence of official authorities.
- 7:00 p.m. - Welcome cocktail at the Sheraton Hotel.

**Overnight: As above**

**DAY 8: Fri 13 Apr 10<sup>th</sup> WORLD MERINO CONFERENCE – SHERATON (BLD)**

- Conference at the Sheraton Hotel. Includes morning and afternoon tea breaks as well as lunch.
- (Optional Montevideo City Tour available for accompanying persons)
- 8:30 p.m. – Closing dinner at the Uruguay Golf Club.

**Overnight: As above**

**DAY 9: Sat 14 Apr MONTEVIDEO – FLY HOME (B)**

- After breakfast, transfer to the airport for your flight back to Sydney.
- Please note: On current airline schedules a 10-hour layover applies in Santiago. Available options will be discussed on an individual booking basis.

**OPTIONAL POST-CONFERENCE DAY TOURS**

**DAY 9: Sat 14 Apr PUNTA DEL ESTE FULL DAY TOUR (BL)**

- Full day tour visiting Piriapolis, de los Argentinos and going to the top of San Antonio Hill. Visit the Punta del Este region with its peninsula, lighthouse and port, Brava Beach and residential areas.
- **Tour Cost, per person: \$315 - Sheraton Hotel, \$275 - Aloft Hotel, \$260 - Regency Hotel**

**Overnight: Montevideo**

**DAY 9: Sat 14 Apr MONTEVIDEO HALF DAY CITY TOUR (BL)**

- Enjoy a half day tour of the city rich in history and architecture. See the residential areas of Carrasco, Punta Gorda, Pocitos and the waterfront promenade and beaches. Continue to the Old City founded in 1724 and finish with lunch at the Port Market.
- **Tour Cost, per person: \$255 - Sheraton Hotel, \$215 - Aloft Hotel, \$200 - Regency Hotel**

**Overnight: Montevideo**

**DAY 10: Sun 15 Apr COLONIA FULL DAY MERINO STUD TOUR (BL)**

- Includes transfers, English-speaking guide, and typical BBQ lunch and accommodation in Montevideo. Visit the Santa Catalina stud of Mr Douglas Cortela. Afternoon Colonia city tour of this World Heritage listed city first settled by the Portugese in 1630. Return to hotel – conclusion of 10WMC Uruguay.
- **Tour Cost, per person: \$225 - Sheraton Hotel, \$185 - Aloft Hotel, \$170 - Regency Hotel**

**Overnight: Montevideo**

## Post-Conference Study Tour Argentina (15-22 April 2018)



### **DAY 10 Sun 15 Apr COLONIA FULL DAY MERINO STUD TOUR (BL)**

This morning visit the Santa Catalina stud of Douglas Cortela. After a typical BBQ lunch travel to Colonia for a tour of this UNESCO World Heritage listed city first settled by the Portugese in 1630.

**Overnight: Colonia**

### **DAY 11 Mon 16 Apr COLONIA – BUENOS AIRES – SAN CARLOS BARILOCHE (BLD)**

After a leisurely breakfast, transfer by ferry to Buenos Aires, arriving around 12 noon. Following lunch, transfer to the airport for your flight to San Carlos de Bariloche in north west Patagonia. This city, one of the largest in Patagonia sits on the shores of Nahuel Huapi Lake. It is also a very important tourist destination, famous for its beautiful landscapes, great trout fishing and ski resort. Arriving in the evening you will have dinner in your hotel.

**Overnight: San Carlos Bariloche**

### **DAY 12 Tue 17 Apr BARILOCHE – ESQUEL (BL)**

Depart after breakfast on a scenic journey across the National Park travelling south on the east side of the magnificent Andes. Pass by Gutiérrez, Mascardi and Guillermo Lakes prior to crossing the border of Río Negro and Chubut provinces. Stop to visit one of the largest breeders in the country, the well-known Leleque Merino stud owned by Benetton. On their 96,000 hectares situated 100 km north of Esquel, Leleque will be displaying their stud and commercial flocks and facilities. Following lunch, a visit to the Leleque Museum will showcase Patagonia's history. You will then continue to the renowned Estancia Shaman, located near Trevelin, to inspect their facilities and stock. End the day in Esquel.

**Overnight: Esquel**

### **DAY 13 Wed 18 Apr ESQUEL – RIO PICO – ESQUEL (BL)**

After breakfast, journey south towards Rio Pico, continuing a parallel path with the Andes. Our drive today will give insight to the vast size of Patagonia and its emptiness. Arrive at our visit to Rio Pico stud for an inspection tour of their flock and facilities. After lunch, visit the famous Tecka Merino stud, and enjoy a tour of part of the 200,000 ha property and its huge sheep flock. Return to Esquel where the remainder of the day is at leisure.

**Overnight: Esquel**

### **DAY 14 Thu 19 Apr ESQUEL – COMODORO RIVADAVIA (BL)**

After an early breakfast travel across the widest part of Patagonia to the Atlantic shore, stopping for an inspection of the Laguna del Toro Stud flock. Enjoy lunch at the farm before visiting a Chacra El Labrador and Cabaña Media Luna stud near Sarmiento to see their Merino flock. Travel then to Comodoro Rivadavia, a prosperous and growing city due to the important oil mining areas that cover the surrounding steppes.

**Overnight: Comodoro Rivadavia**

**DAY 15 Fri 20 Apr COMODORO RIVADAVIA (BL)**

This morning travel 90 km north of Comodoro to visit San José Merino stud. On the return a visit will be paid to the well-known Manantiales Stud for a tour of their stud and commercial flocks. Lunch at the ranch before returning to Comodoro Rivadavia, where the remainder of the day is at your leisure.

**Overnight: As Above**

**DAY 16 Sat 21 Apr COMODORO RIVADAVIA – BUENOS AIRES (B)**

After a leisurely breakfast and free time, transfer to the airport for your flight to Buenos Aires. You will be met on arrival and transferred to the hotel to rest before the early transfer tomorrow morning to the airport.

**Overnight: Buenos Aires**

**DAY 17 Sun 22 Apr BUENOS AIRES – FLY HOME (Inflight Meals)**

Meet your airport transfer very early this morning for your flight back to Australia, via Santiago in Chile.

**DAY 18 Mon 23 Apr ARRIVE SYDNEY (Inflight Meals)**

Arrive into Sydney this afternoon, ending a wonderful journey through Uruguay and Argentina.

**- An extension in Buenos Aires is available: enquire for details -**

**If you would like quotations for extended travel to Iguassu Falls, Rio de Janeiro, Machu Picchu, Chile, the Amazon, or elsewhere, please enquire.**

## TOUR COSTS

1. **Departing Sydney 6 April:** Pre-Conference Study Tour, Uruguay - 10 World Merino Conference. Return options available.

**\$4630 per person, twin share, staying at the Sheraton Hotel**

2. **Departing Sydney 6 April:** Pre-Conference Study Tour, Uruguay - 10 World Merino Conference - Post-Conference Study Tour, Argentina (see page 3). Return 22 April.

**\$8470 per person, twin share, staying at the Sheraton Hotel**

3. **Departing Sydney 11 April:** 10 World Merino Conference - Post-Conference Study Tour, Argentina. Return 22 April.

**\$7025 per person, twin share, staying at the Sheraton Hotel**

Tour cost is subject to air/tax increases plus currency fluctuations  
Alternate hotel options available in Montevideo - quote available on request

**PRICES LISTED ARE APPLICABLE FOR "EARLY-BIRD" BOOKINGS & REGISTRATION  
UNTIL 05 DECEMBER 2017.**

**BOOKINGS AFTER THIS DATE WILL INCUR A SURCHARGE**

Post-Conference Study Tour, Argentina, is based on a minimum of 25 passengers travelling

**Non-refundable deposit required to confirm seat: \$1,500.00 per person**

**Balance required no later than: Monday 05 February 2018**

**Single Supplement:**  
For pre-conference tour (6-10 April) - \$675 at Sheraton  
Sheraton Hotel - \$130 per night  
Aloft Hotel - \$90 per night  
Regency Hotel - \$75 per night  
Post-conference tour (15-21 April) - \$690

**Cancellation:** In the event of cancellation, levies will apply. See Booking Conditions

**Due to the large range of options available as part of this package, full costs/quotes will be provided with a tax invoice on an individual basis once preferences are noted. The price will be given as a whole package, individual breakdowns will not be provided.**

### **PRE- AND POST-CONFERENCE TOURS - FARM & TECHNICAL VISITS**

A fully furnished list of confirmed visits both to farming properties and technical stops will be given with your ticket wallets approximately 3 weeks prior to your departure.

\* Changes and alterations may take place from details listed in the itinerary \*

#### **Pre-Conference Tour cost includes:**

- Economy airfares and pre-payable taxes Sydney to Montevideo return and airport transfers
- Full 10th World Merino Conference costs (including social functions). Please advise if not required and costs will be adjusted accordingly
- Pre-dinner drinks hosted by AASMB (days and times TBA)
- Vehicle travel/transfers with experienced driver
- Local English speaking guides where applicable
- Twin share accommodation with en suite facilities
- Meals as per itinerary (B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner)
- All sightseeing entries and farm & technical visits as indicated in the itinerary
- A tour escort travelling with the group from Australia
- For accompanying persons, a Montevideo city tour on Friday 13 April



#### **Pre-Conference Tour cost does NOT include:**

- **Travel insurance** – this is **COMPULSORY** to have in place prior to departure and Swagman Tours will require a copy of the insurance policy prior to documentation being released. Swagman can assist with arranging travel insurance with a 20% discount offered; please enquire for a quote or issue of a policy
- Items of a personal nature, e.g. laundry/phone calls/souvenirs etc
- Any item listed as optional in the itinerary
- All beverages & meals not listed in the itinerary
- Cost of passport and any medication required
- Visas - Swagman Tours can assist with visas if required for onward travel, please enquire
- Gratuities/tips for the tour guide and driver

#### **Post-Conference Tour cost includes:**

- Economy airfares and pre-payable taxes Sydney to Montevideo & Buenos Aires to Sydney
- Internal flights within Argentina as listed in the itinerary
- Full 10th World Merino Conference costs (including social functions). Please advise if not required and costs will be adjusted accordingly
- Ferry tickets and transfers in Uruguay & Argentina
- Vehicle transport with experienced driver & guide
- Meals as per itinerary (B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner)
- Entries/farm & technical visits as listed in the itinerary
- Accommodation on a twin/double share basis

#### **Post-Conference Tour cost does NOT include:**

- **Travel insurance** – this is **COMPULSORY** to have in place prior to departure and Swagman Tours will require a copy of the insurance policy prior to documentation being released. Swagman can assist with arranging travel insurance with a 20% discount offered; please enquire for a quote or issue of a policy
- Any item listed as optional in the itinerary
- Items of a personal nature, e.g. laundry/telephone
- All beverages & meals not listed in the itinerary
- Cost of passport and any medication required
- Gratuities/tips for the tour guide and driver





## WHERE TO STAY IN MONTEVIDEO

**The 10th World Merino Conference is being hosted at the Sheraton Hotel in Montevideo and the AASMB's executive members plan to stay at the Sheraton.**

**Other hotel options are also available and should be advised when completing your Registration/Booking form. The Aloft Hotel is across the road from the Sheraton and the Regency Hotel is located 2 blocks away.**

Prices advised in the three packages are an indication only and will change according to individual choice and preferences. A complete cost will be provided on an individual booking basis.

### **IMPORTANT NOTES:**

The tour cost is subject to change due to currency fluctuations, airfare and fuel surcharges and / or tax increases. As this is a group package, all passengers must travel on the same outbound flight to Montevideo. Post touring options are available and will incur an amendment fee of **\$100 per person** (plus extra touring and insurance costs).

### **PASSPORTS AND VISAS:**

**At the time of printing there are no visas applicable for Australian passport holders for travel into Uruguay or Argentina. Please note that a reciprocity fee between USD \$30.00 and USD \$200.00 per person may be payable at Santiago airport in Chile (even in transit only).** Non Australian passport holders please check your visa requirements.

All travellers will require a full valid passport, and it is your responsibility to ensure that you have valid visas for all countries visited on your holiday, and/or sufficient blank pages for any visas and for entry/departure stamps. **Your passport must be valid for at least six months after the end of your trip.** If you have more than one passport, we recommend that you use one passport only for the entire journey. This will save problems and potential delays at border crossings. Requirements differ depending on your nationality - check with the appropriate embassies for details. It is your responsibility to ensure that you are in possession of the correct visas for your holiday and onward travel. Swagman Tours cannot accept responsibility for anyone who is refused entry to a country because they lack the correct documentation. Please check the actual requirements with the necessary embassy. Please also do not assume that any inaccuracies within your documentation will be detected or can be rectified - you must ensure that your "paper-work" is in order. There will be times during the trip when your passport will be collected e.g. by your tour leader, hotel reception staff or police.

**HOLDERS OF FOREIGN PASSPORTS:** Travellers holding **non Australian** passports must have the relevant re-entry permit to return to Australia and must check with their National Consulate of any visa requirements to your holiday destination country/ies.

**NOTE:** Passport and visa requirements are liable to change at short notice. Travellers are advised to check their entry requirements with their embassy or consulate.

### **FOR BOOKINGS CONTACT:**

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