

CITIES OF THE WORLD

SECOND EDITION

SUPPLEMENT

**Includes
Cumulative Index
to Second Edition,
Volumes 1-4**

**MARGARET WALSH YOUNG AND
SUSAN L. STETLER, EDITORS**

Cities of the World

Supplement

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Supplement

**A Compilation of Current Information
on Cultural, Geographical, and Political
Conditions in the Countries and Cities
of Six Continents, Based on the Department
of State's "Post Reports"**

**Includes
Cumulative Index
to Second Edition,
Volumes 1-4**

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Introduction

The nature of a reference work is such that it demands a continuing process of research and revision. In the year that has passed since the publication of *Cities of the World*, second edition, a number of international happenings has emphasized the need for this 1986 supplement. Events of the intervening months have already brought changes tangible enough to be reflected in print.

Supplement Expands and Updates Series

The current volume is built on the foundations of earlier editions. Its data is based on 29 of the newest *Post Reports*, or diplomatic personnel briefings, issued by the U.S. Department of State. These reports are enhanced by constant monitoring of the world press, plus a generous supply of solicited information from government agencies, statistical offices, and educational and business organizations. As a result, the expanded and updated material is as current as global circumstances and printing deadlines allow.

Each revision of *Cities of the World* brings significant expansion to its scope. A total of 117 major cities are covered in this supplement. Some have appeared in previous editions, even though information was not broad enough for thorough review. Special effort has been made to reexamine reliable sources, and now a more comprehensive survey of these cities is presented here. New information has also expanded the coverage of cities previously included as major cities.

Especially noted will be the many entries in the sections pertaining to cities of lesser importance—585 in all. Population centers in France, in particular, as well as in Czechoslovakia, Japan, and even the emerging nations, are in greater evidence as the search continues for better and more useful information.

Format and Arrangement of Entries

This supplement to *Cities of the World*, second edition, is arranged alphabetically by country name. Its individual chapters are divided into two basic sections, Major Cities and Country Profile, each of these with several subdivisions. The Major Cities sections include such subdivisions as Schools for Foreigners, Recreation and Entertainment, and Other Cities. The Country Profiles are subdivided into Geography and Climate; Population; Government; Arts, Science, and Education; Commerce and Industry; Transportation; Communications; Health; Clothing and Services; Local Holidays; Recommended Reading; and Notes for Travelers.

Some sections of data, of interest only to the diplomatic community, have been deleted from the original *Post Reports*, and supplementary information has been added to make the contents more relevant to the layperson.

New Features, Maps, and Photographs

The small Caribbean island of Grenada, an independent nation within the British Commonwealth since 1974, makes its initial appearance in this volume. Now that a resident U.S. diplomatic mission has been established at St. George's, the capital city, routine *Post Reports* are being issued and will be presented as a regular feature of *Cities of the World*.

Another new feature, making its first appearance in this supplement, is a guide to foreign currency exchange rates against the U.S. dollar. It is found on page 679 and is current as of June, 1986.

All of the photographs and many of the maps displayed here are new. Superimposed locator diagrams indicate each nation's geographic position in relation to its continental neighbors.

A list of maps included in this supplement follows the Table of Contents.

Table of Contents and Indexes

A Table of Contents and Index provide easy access to these reports. Listed under each country in the Table of Contents are the entries that are featured in its Major Cities section, as well as a listing for the Country Profile. The Index, arranged alphabetically by city name, includes both the major and minor cities mentioned throughout the book. Major cities are distinguished by uppercase lettering; boldface numbers indicate the pages on which that information is found.

A Cumulative Index, combining the four volumes of *Cities of the World*, second edition, into one alphabet, follows the index for this supplement. Volume designations appear in bold italics.

Suggestions Welcome

The editors invite comments and suggestions concerning *Cities of the World* and its supplement.

Cities of the World

Supplement

Argentina

Major Cities: Buenos Aires, Córdoba, Rosario, La Plata, Mendoza, San Miguel de Tucumán, Mar del Plata, Salta

ARGENTINA is different from most Latin American countries in that 97 percent of its population is Caucasian, with Spanish and Italian strains predominating. There were few Indians in the area when the first permanent Spanish colony was established in 1536 on the site of what is now Buenos Aires. As a result, the Indian genealogical influence is slight. In the early years of this century, large-scale European immigration stimulated the modernization of the country, giving it economic and cultural status in the Western Hemisphere. Argentina is the second largest country in South America (after Brazil) and its capital, Buenos Aires, is the sixth largest metropolitan area in the world.

The country is still experiencing economic difficulties in the aftermath of its unsuccessful war with Great Britain over control of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) in April 1982. However, the civilian presidential election victory of the following year is considered to have been a turning point in Argentine history. With Raúl Alfonsín's triumph over the military government and its pervasive influence of the past half-century, Argentina has taken the first steps

toward rebuilding its once-enviable international position.

Major Cities

BUENOS AIRES is situated on the Río de la Plata (River Plate), 100 miles from the Atlantic Ocean, and is the major port, as well as the center of virtually all activity within the country. Greater Buenos Aires has a population of 9,677,000; it is the sixth largest metropolitan area in the world, third largest in the Western Hemisphere, and the one with the greatest number of Spanish-speaking people. The city proper is home to 2,908,000 people.

The general atmosphere of this capital city is cosmopolitan, and its people are literate and sophisticated. The change from leisurely 19th-century-European living to present-day patterns is striking in the residential areas of Barrio Norte, Palermo, and Belgrano. Here, Paris-inspired mansions with wrought-iron grillwork and carved doors pass from private hands to become embassy residences, government agencies, and museums, or to make way for tall apartment buildings boasting penthouses and swimming pools. In the

high-rise apartments of the near north, and in the comfortable houses of the northern suburbs of Olivos, Martinez, and San Isidro, it is possible to duplicate U.S. patterns of living while enjoying much of the Argentine culture and traditions.

The streets and avenues of Buenos Aires tell the story of the city, from afternoon tea at a sidewalk restaurant on Avenida Callao to late night on Avenida Corrientes, the "Broadway" of Buenos Aires. There is, for instance, Avenida 9 de Julio, the widest avenue in the world, and Calle Florida, a pedestrian mall where tourists shop year round. Avenida Santa Fe could be called the Fifth Avenue of Buenos Aires, while on Avenida Alvear, the small, elegant shops remind the visitor of Paris and Vienna. The Costanera, a wide riverside boulevard, boasts dozens of open-air cafés.

There is a modern system of transportation with bus, train, and subway complexes. It contrasts dramatically with horse-drawn vehicles whose drivers offer baskets and brooms, and carriage rides through Palermo Park. The supermarket and the department store are found, although not in such numbers as in the U.S. However, the tradition of the small business persists at all levels, from open and covered market places to arcades lined with small boutiques and café-bars.

The foreign community is extensive, reflected in the New York- or Paris-type traffic rush, Spanish late dining and theater hours, British love of country life and games, and the Italian passion for auto racing—particularly on city boulevards. The Italian influence is also evident with pastas and wines rounding out average meals, although beef remains the primary staple of the

Argentine diet. The Italian community is the largest, followed by Spanish, Polish, and German. The British number about 22,000; North, Central, and other South Americans account for an additional 685,000.

Schools for Foreigners

Most American children in Argentina attend the Asociación Escuelas Lincoln, generally known as the American Community School. It is a tuition-supported institution receiving periodic and special grants from the U.S. Government, and is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

American School maintains a preschool, kindergarten, and grades one through 12. It is located in the Buenos Aires suburb of La Lucila, on the shores overlooking the Río de la Plata. The address is: Andrés Ferreyra 4073, 1636 La Lucila, Buenos Aires. Enrollment is approximately 650. The majority of students are Americans, but Argentines and children from other countries also are registered.

The curricula of both private and public schools in Argentina must conform with that stipulated by the National Council of Education. By Argentine law, all students under 14 years of age must pursue the designated primary course, with instruction in Spanish; at least half of each day must be devoted to these studies.

Newcomers at American School are placed in language classes commensurate with their knowledge or abilities. A grace period of one semester is allowed before testing in Spanish proficiency is attempted. At present, mathematics and science are taught only in English, and supervised by an Argen-