

THE IGUACU FALLS ARGENTINA/BRAZIL



The Iguacu Falls are located along a stretch of the Iguacu River on the border of Argentina and Brazil within 185,000ha of UNESCO World Heritage listed national park.

Iguacu is the Guarani or Tupi Indian word for 'big water' which is appropriate as the falls are spread over 2.7kms and include 275 distinct waterfalls up to 82m in height. There are walkways in all directions which take you out over the falls (Argentine side) or under the falls (Brazilian side).

As one would expect, the area abounds in wildlife and macaws and many other parrots, toucans and large colourful butterflies are in abundance and readily spotted in the trees. Other animals such as the capybaras (a giant relative of the guinea pig), anteaters and armadillos can also be found if you walk quietly.

The vegetation includes many popular and ornamental garden

plants. Due to the 80-90% humidity, the branches of trees are covered in epiphytes – particularly orchids and bromeliads such as *Oncidium tucumanense*, *Laelia purpurata*, *Aechmea nudicaulis*, *Acanthostachys strobilaceae*, and *Billbergia nutan*. Philodendrons (*Philodendron bipinnatifidum*) cling to the vertical rock cliffs and the familiar Cocos palm (*Syagrus romanzoffianum*) and less common Assai palm (*Euterpe edulis*) grow in abundance in this area.

The location is truly spectacular, the wildlife astounding, and seeing familiar plants in nature gives you inspiration as to how you might use them in your own garden.

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