

TAKE A TOUR ON THE WILD SIDE

If the idea of lining up to take pictures of the obelisk fills you with dread, and you're desperate to find out what the city's really about, one of Buenos Aires's funky new alternative tours could be right up your street.

When British journalist **Rosie** moved to BA four years ago she fell in love with its vibrant streets, relaxed lifestyle and dulce de leche ice cream. In her free time she enjoys photography, storytelling and writing songs about board games. www.rosieholder.com



Foto Ruta Tour



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SNAPTRACKING BUENOS AIRES

A photography tour with a twist, **Foto Ruta Weekly** is a sociable and eye-opening way to explore the city on foot (www.foto-ruta.com, 6030 8881, Saturdays, location varies, US\$32). After a short workshop on creative photography, participants take to the streets armed with a map of the area and a list of clues. The quest: capture the clues on camera. On the unguided hunt for 'sneaky pigeons', 'the ultimate temptation' and 'automobile apocalypse', groups notice things they normally wouldn't, experiment with different shots and interact with local people. "The *porteños* are incredibly open to having their photo taken," says Becky Hayes, co-founder of Foto-Ruta. "If you ask someone in the street, 8 times out of 10 they'll say yes, and sometimes they'll even get a comb out and do their hair for you." The afternoon ends with a relaxed photo review over a glass of wine: a fantastic chance to get photography tips from a professional and marvel at the city's visual contrasts and various means of interpretation. The location for Foto-Ruta Weekly varies, but whether you choose upmarket Recoleta or more down-to-earth areas like Villa Crespo, you'll end the day feeling inspired and equipped to explore elsewhere on your own. Other photogenic spots in the city are the antiques market in San Telmo, roller-bladers and family picnics at Parque Tres de Febrero, and the dilapidated grandeur of Recoleta and Chacarita cemeteries.

