



National Day of Uruguay



UruguayNatural

On August 25, 1825, the Uruguayan liberating forces, gathered in the department of Florida, proclaimed the "Declaration of Independence of the Oriental Province" from all foreign power, thus starting the independent life of the country.

Since then, Uruguay, with its culture, history, democracy and sports, has made invaluable contributions to the life and customs of the region.

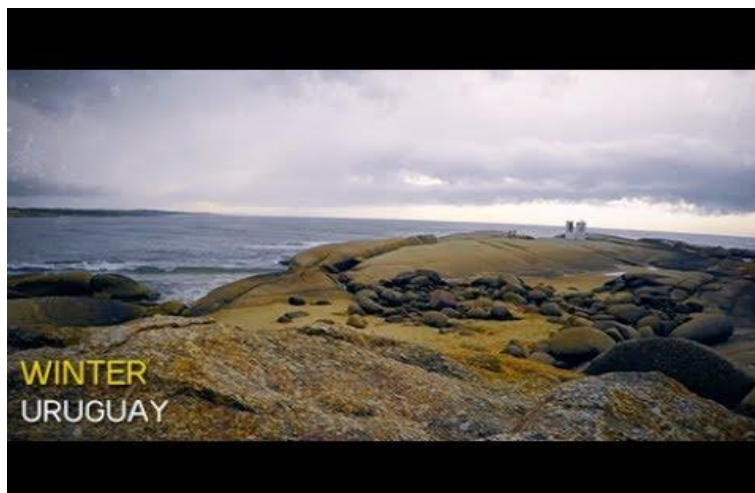
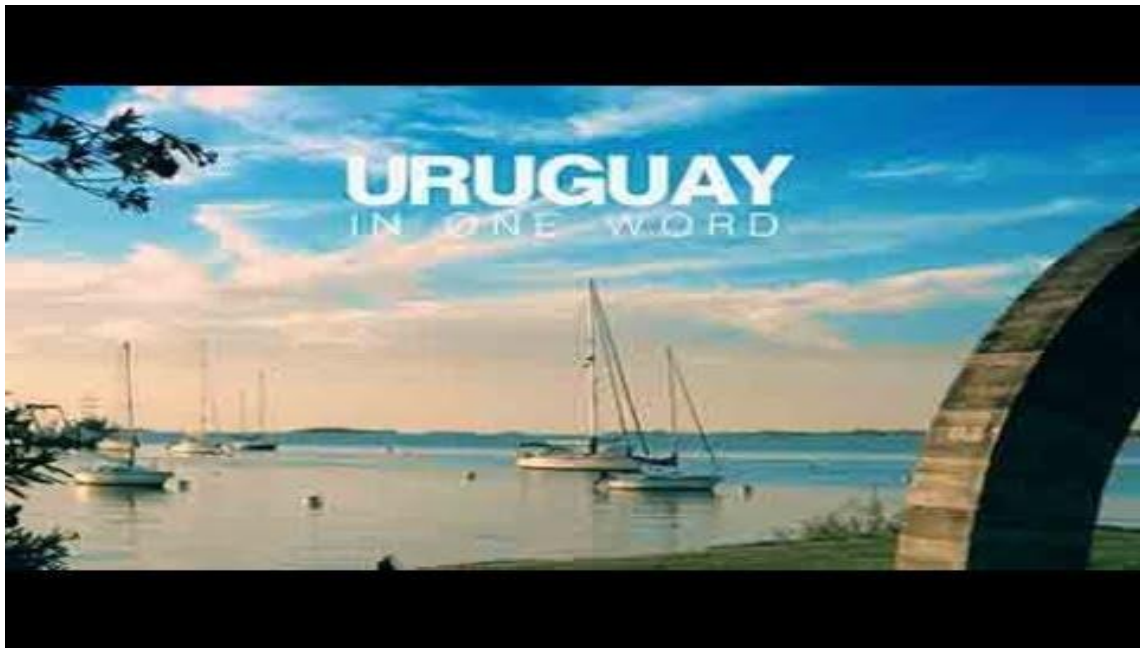
Please, find below some examples of these contributions:

Tourism

Uruguay is a tourist destination that offers from beautiful beaches, wide natural landscapes, unique traditional meals, to a wide cultural and historical offer.

There are options for every tourist and their different interests.

But let Uruguay explain itself through these videos:



Information and media source: <https://turismo.gub.uy/index.php/en/>

Gastronomy:

With worldwide recognition, the “parrilla” is the most recognized menu in the Uruguayan diet. It is made up of different cuts of beef, grilled on what is known as a parrilla -an iron grill construction made specifically for cooking-. The age-old secret to this cooking technique is that it allows the juices in whatever is being grilled to remain in the meat, thus preserving the individual flavors and characteristics.

Uruguayan wines are ideal for pairing with exquisite grilled cuts of beef. Amongst the many wines available in Uruguay, Tannat often stands out as the wine of choice. Defined as intense and bold, this variety of grape is originally from the south east of France and was introduced to Uruguay around the 19th century. Since then, it has had much success in Uruguay where it has been produced to worldwide recognition.



The dairy industry has been very developed in Uruguay for a long time and it is because of this that you can find dairy products of excellent quality. Of the most celebrated dairy products in Uruguay, dulce de leche is often the first mentioned. This sweet, caramel-like spread, adored by children and adults alike is often used in a variety of desserts, making it the most important ingredient for sweets in Uruguay. Visitors who get to try this sensational spread will find its smooth and creamy attributes hard to forget; these are the characteristics that make dulce de leche unique and distinct from other similar spreads elsewhere in the world.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UwIBEe69HU8&app=desktop>

<https://www.uruguayxxi.gub.uy/en/information-center/article/flavors-of-uruguay/>



Picture: Instituto Nacional de Carnes de Uruguay



Mate

Mate is the inseparable companion of Uruguayans and a warm welcoming gesture for those just arriving.

Mate is a drink made by infusing “yerba mate” (dehydrated and shredded leaves of the *Illex Paraguensis* shrub) and is one of the more emblematic and common traditions of Uruguayan society.

The custom of using a thermos bottle instead of a kettle to prepare the infusion was a Uruguayan initiative allowing the ritual to move beyond the confines of home. This way, as it is today, mate could be enjoyed in almost any public space and this has now become very illustrative of the quotidian Uruguayan lifestyle.

Surely, anybody who has ever seen Uruguayans outside of the country will have noticed that they were not without their thermos and mate.



Music

For Uruguay, music plays a fundamental role in the daily life of its inhabitants. The country has in candombe, murga, tango and folklore its most identitarian genres, while together with popular Uruguayan music, rock and electronic, they shape the wide and modern Uruguayan music scene.

<https://turismo.gub.uy/index.php/en/uruguay-is/item/1390-music>

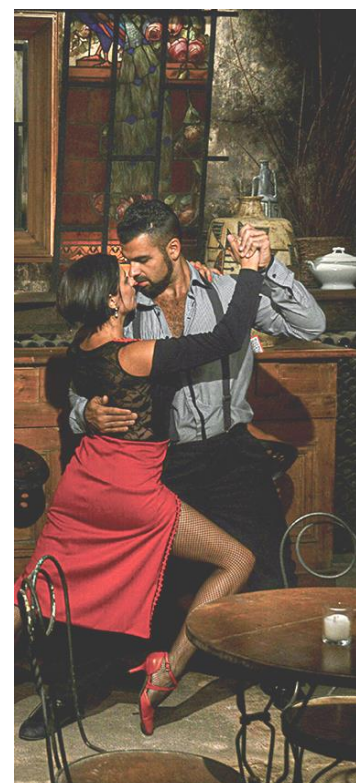
Tango

Emerging in the late XIX century in the suburbs of Montevideo, tango has come a long way and today is recognized worldwide. In its beginnings, the music was played only with flute, guitar and violin, but it is with the inclusion of the bandoneon that it acquired the specific sonority that identifies it.

It has meant the greatest cultural contribution of the Rio de la Plata region to the world and in 2009, it was declared Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity by UNESCO.

The song "La Cumparsita" is its best-known exponent. With lyrics and music by Uruguayan Gerardo Matos

Rodríguez, it is the most widely disseminated tango in the world and has more than 2,500 recorded versions. In 1998 the Uruguayan Legislative Assembly made it the Popular and Cultural Anthem of Uruguay.



Carnival:

The Carnival of Uruguay, which with a length of 45 days is the longest in the world, represents a regional musical phenomenon with its typical murgas and the classic Candombe in "Llamadas de Negros and Lubolos" that pay homage to the African roots so present in the music of the country.



Candombe

Candombe is a style of music and dance that immigrated to Uruguay with enslaved Africans. In 2009, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) inscribed candombe in its Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity:



Candombe songs:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2qibzXUFx8&list=PLaJVycCORJ34ri9yiH80RsiGISIgG9fpN>

Murga

The "murgas" present themselves in the neighborhoods of the country with a show with humorous lyrics, satire and topical criticism, as well as very striking costumes, creative make-up and a powerful and characteristic chorus.

Throughout the Uruguayan history, this artistic expression has had a great influence on local music, merging with other genres and giving rise to what is known today as "murga canción".

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hJmLaBd17m4>

Modern Music:

The history of Uruguay in general, but in particular its musical culture, comes from our European ancestors, many of whom arrived in large waves during the second half of the 19th century and in the 1950s. Most of these immigrants came from Spain (Galicia, Basque Region, Catalunya, and the Canary Islands) followed by Italians and a significant number of French, German, Armenian, Portuguese, British, Swiss, Russian and Polish, amongst others. This cultural melting pot was reflected in the Uruguayan musical scene and it was through all these influences that different styles unique to our region would begin to emerge.

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLaJVycCORJ377nFr3h5N2kILY8r-MRYJQ>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ph1HyLGajrQ&list=PLaJVycCORJ37NXILI3ArYqpmBWDRD>
[DyRY](#)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=COVZTQ1w5t0&list=PLaJVycCORJ34iYwqjBBOj6Taed-G_v68Q&index=2



Spotify – Play list of national authors made by Uruguayan parliamentarians

<https://open.spotify.com/user/icirl5emiewv3d0l1dk5x9rxj/playlist/4UjIBOK2NxTJAWDJ3svOPY?si=f7ansNDITDCzrDiawq8yJg>

Literature

Books in Spanish by Uruguayan authors:

Felisberto Hernández - El Caballo Perdido:

<http://autores.uy/obra/8828>

Hernandez is considered the father of fabulism, preceding artists of the importance of Julio Cortazar, Gabriel Garcia Marquez, and others. They all pointed to Hernandez as a great influence on their work.

Some of his most famous stories are: "My First Concert", "The lost horse", "Daisy Dolls" and "The Balcony".



Horacio Quiroga - Cuentos de la selva (ingles): <http://autores.uy/obra/13633>

Horacio Quiroga was born in Salto, Uruguay on December 31, 1878. He was a Uruguayan storyteller and poet.

Quiroga was outstanding in the narration of mental illnesses and hallucinatory states, a theme inspired by the stories of Edgar Allan Poe. His influence can be traced to Latin American magical realism.

He also wrote stories that use the supernatural to show the struggle of man and animal to survive.



Availability in the United Kingdom of Uruguayan authors:

Mario Orlando Hardy Hamlet Brenno Benedetti Farrugia (Paso de los Toros 1920 – Montevideo 2009)

He was an outstanding Uruguayan novelist and poet. His works are recognized all over the world, and even movies have been made with his texts.

In the Spanish-speaking world he is considered one of the most important writers in Latin America.

He died in Montevideo at the age of 88.

<https://www.penguin.co.uk/authors/118095/mario-benedetti.html?tab=penguin-books>



Eduardo Hughes Galeano (1940 – 2015)

He was a Uruguayan writer and novelist. His best known works are: Memories of Fire and The Open Veins of Latin America.

He is known among other things as "the most important man of letters in football world".

<https://www.penguin.co.uk/books/309567/football-in-sun-and-shadow/9780241355350.html>

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Books-Eduardo-Galeano/s?rh=n%3A266239%2Cp_27%3AEduardo+Galeano



Juan Carlos Onetti Borges (1909 - 1994)

He was born on July 1, 1909 in Montevideo and was one of the most important Uruguayan novelist and author of short stories of all times.

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/Shipyard-Juan-Carlos-Onetti/dp/1852424818>

Juana Fernández Morales de Ibarbourou (1892–1979)

Also known as Juana of America, was a Uruguayan poet. She is one of the most popular writers in Latin America. Her poetry is notable for the parallelism between feelings and nature, which is the reason for many of her texts. It is important to mention that she was nominated four times for the Nobel Prize in Literature.

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Lenguas-Diamante-Hispanicas-Hispanic-Writings/dp/843761645X/ref=sr_1_2?dchild=1&keywords=juana+de+ibarbrourou&qid=1594050042&s=books&sr=1-2



Art and museums:

360-degree view of several Uruguayan museums and historical sites:

<https://uruguay360.com.uy/categorias/atractivos/museos>

San Gregorio de Polanco Open air Museum



Walking on the streets of San Gregorio de Polanco becomes a unique visual experience. It is globally known for its open air murals which decorate the façades of some of the houses and it is located in a paradisiacal enclave of the river Río Negro.

Murals

Murals have a long tradition in Uruguay. In this video you will find the story of Leo Arti and the murals of the town “25 de Agosto”.



Pedro Figari Museum:

Pedro Figari was a Uruguayan lawyer, writer and politician. However, he is internationally recognized for his work in painting.

In his paintings, he emphasizes on capturing the everyday aspects of people's lives.

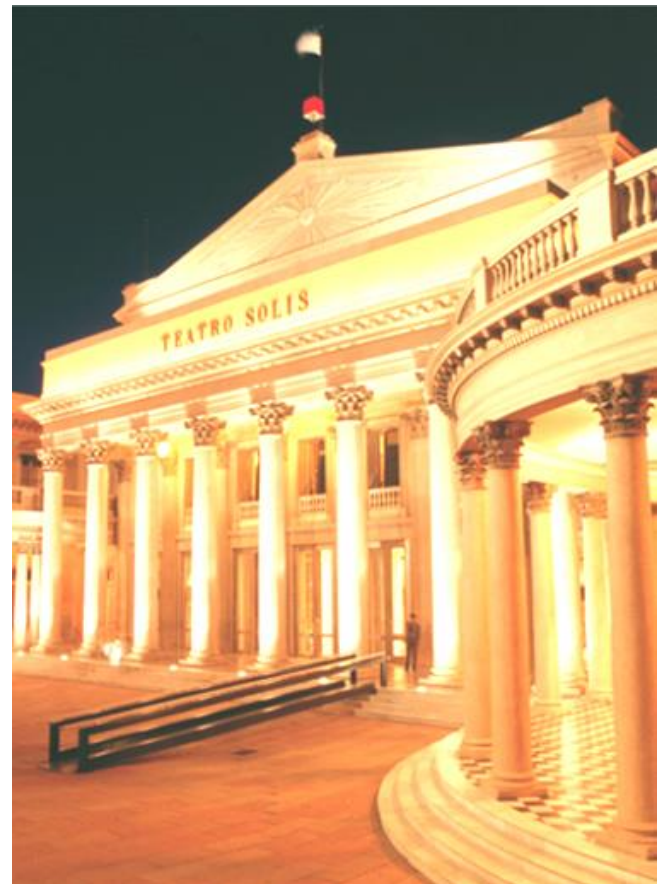
He, among other outstanding Latin American artists, triggered an identity revolution in the arts of the region.

Virtual tour of the museum:

<https://my.matterport.com/show/?m=K6SejJpmkYB&lang=es&guides=0>

Collection:

<http://autores.uy/colecciones/351>



Portraits of the National Historical Museum:

<http://autores.uy/colecciones/705>

Collection of the National Museum of Visual Arts:

Virtual tour of the museum:

https://my.matterport.com/show/?m=6yYxrfJWpDH&guides=0&lang=es&utm_source=2

Catalog: <http://autores.uy/colecciones/234>



Museum Gurvich:

José Gurvich (5.01.1927 – 24.06.1974) was a Uruguayan painter, leading figure of the Constructivism Art movement following the teachings of the famous Uruguayan painter Joaquín Torres García.

Virtual tour of the museum:

https://my.matterport.com/show/?m=itUbHXANWaG&fbclid=IwAR2XbplaUZ9SZxQ94t92cp_BzcJ8wOI-8wMKngSNrIKz0otQdmo1L1ORyg

Museum of AGADU:

ASOCIACION GENERAL DE AUTORES DEL URUGUAY - AGADU - The General Association of Authors of Uruguay (AGADU) <https://www.agadu.org/> - is an association for the collective management of authors' rights in Uruguay.

It was founded in 1929 and was the result of a merger of diverse cultural institutions that, through different paths, sought to defend and protect the moral and economic rights of authors.

The AGADU Museum was inaugurated on August 25, 1964. It was dismantled in 1999 for recycling works. It was reopened in 2008 in the basement of the Casa del Autor. The AGADU Museum has a permanent exhibition of objects belonging to outstanding personalities of the Uruguayan culture.

Virtual tour of the museum:

https://www.agadu.org/somos_agadu_museo_centro_de_documentacion.php

