

WHY URUGUAY?



Uruguay

10 reasons to invest in Uruguay



Political, legal, and social stability

Uruguay has a democratic system with institutional and legal stability, which guarantees a positive business environment and respect for the regulatory framework.



Macroeconomic soundness

Between 2004 and 2015, Uruguay grew 5% per year on average, consolidating over a decade of sustained growth.



Preferential market access

Uruguay is a member of Mercosur and has signed an FTA with Mexico. This makes it the gateway to a potential market with 400 million people.



Investor benefits

Uruguay offers significant incentives for foreign and domestic investors, which are related to aspects such as taxes, and the Free-Trade Zone and Free Port and Airport systems.



Ease of doing business

Uruguay has made state processes more efficient, customs procedures swifter, and international trade operations more seamless.



Modern logistics

Uruguay's first-class port infrastructure, road network, and Free Port system make it the best logistics platform of the Mercosur region, as well as an advantageous distribution center for goods in transit.



Leader in ICT

Uruguay ranks 1st in the ICT Development Index for Latin America (ITU). It is also the country with the fastest download speeds in the region thanks to its modern infrastructure (Akamai, 2015).



Competitive national talent

Uruguay was the first country to implement the One Laptop per Child program. It has full digital inclusion, free education, everyday use of English and Portuguese, and a State-run university accessible to everyone.



Efficient energy policies

Uruguay is the Latin American country with the greatest investment in clean energy. It is also a global leader in the production of electricity from wind power. 95% of Uruguay's electricity is produced from renewable sources, 30% of which comes from wind farms.



Excellent quality of living

Montevideo has the best quality of living in Latin America (Mercer, 2016). Also, Uruguay is the country with the highest and best-distributed income in the region.



Uruguay, a destination to invest and reinvest

The country's significant growth over the last decade is related to a strong increase in investments. In Uruguay, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) has reached record levels, which has allowed the country to become one of the main FDI destinations in South America over the last decade, in terms of GDP.

Besides being an important FDI destination, Uruguay is one of the top countries in profit reinvestment in Latin America. This shows how much investors trust our country, based on the return they obtain and the good business environment.

Strategic location

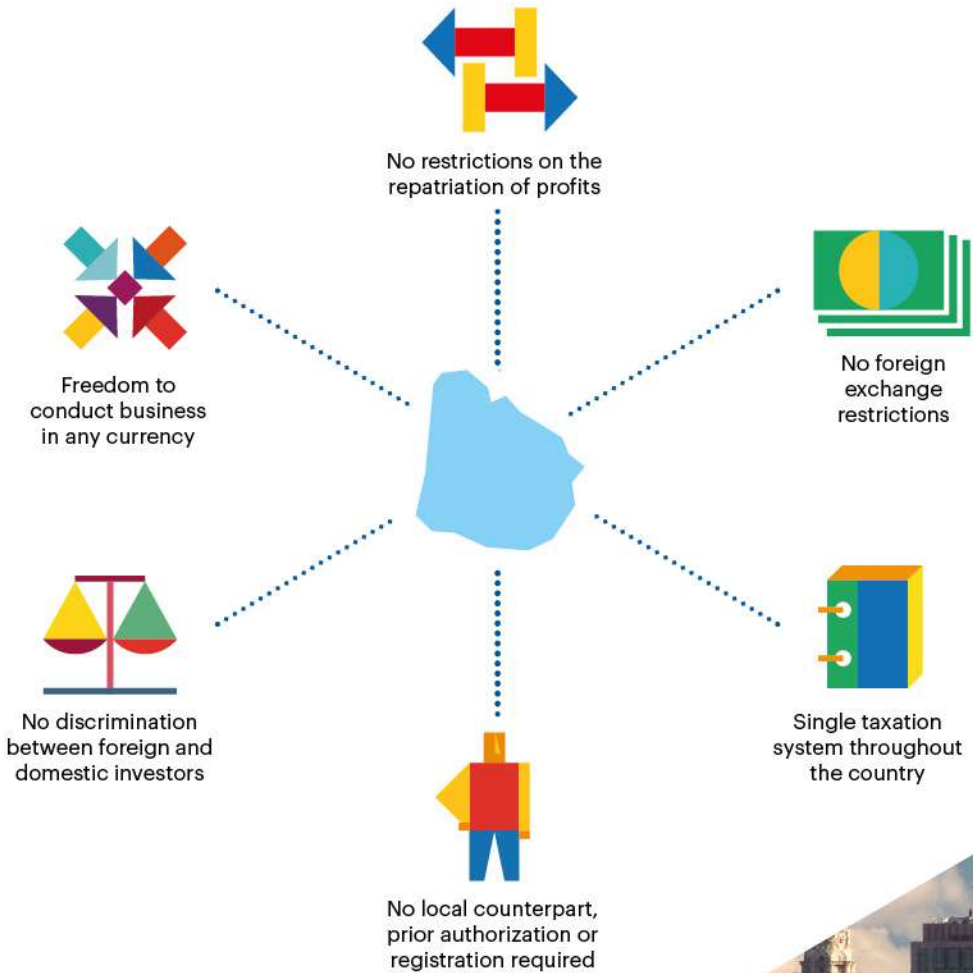
Uruguay has a strategic location as a gateway to Mercosur, and two of its main ports, Montevideo and Nueva Palmira, are located at the end of the Parana-Paraguay-Uruguay river system.

Its time zone, between the U.S. and Europe, makes the country a great complement to offer global services to the region and the world.



An excellent environment for business

Laws that protect investors, a free foreign exchange market, and a single tax system throughout the country are some of the conditions that make Uruguay an attractive and safe destination for business.



Highly attractive tax benefits

Uruguay offers a wide array of incentives adapted to the different business sectors that can be developed in the country, e.g., industry, trade, or services.

- » Investment promotion system (Investment Law) - 20% to 100% refund of invested amounts
- » Free -trade zone - Users are 100% tax free
- » Temporary admission of raw materials and supplies
- » Only South American country with free airport regime, in addition to being the only one on the South American Atlantic coast with a free-port regime.

A country with investment grade

Uruguay is a country with an investment grade that has been increased and confirmed by the main rating agencies: Moody's, Standard & Poor's, Fitch Ratings, and DBRS.

Some of the reasons behind this vote of confidence for Uruguay were its macroeconomic balance and stability, an incremental diversification of the economy, and its efficient debt-management strategy.



Stability, transparency, and international competitiveness

These characteristics make Uruguay the best destination for investments in Latin America, and one of the most reliable and attractive destinations worldwide. Well-known international rankings show its strong political, legal, and social stability, as well as the strength of its democracy.

Leader in Latin America

Low Corruption 2015

Country	Ranking
Uruguay	#1
Chile	#2
Costa Rica	#3
Panama	#6
Brazil	#7
Argentina	#13

(Transparency International, 2015)

Democracy Index 2015

Country	Ranking
Uruguay	#1
Costa Rica	#2
Chile	#3
Panama	#4
Argentina	#5
Brazil	#6

(Economist Intelligence Unit, 2015)

Prosperity Index 2015

Country	Ranking
Uruguay	#1
Chile	#2
Costa Rica	#3
Panama	#4
Argentina	#5
Brazil	#6

(Legatum Institute, 2015)

Rule of law Index 2015

Country	Ranking
Uruguay	#1
Costa Rica	#2
Chile	#3
Brazil	#4
Panama	#5
Argentina	#6

(World Justice Project, 2015)

Success stories



"In Uruguay we found a strong source of highly-skilled professionals who graduate from its world-class universities every year".

Berthold Ebner, Managing Director BASF Services Americas



"Uruguay has different dimensions that are important for us... the most important is the quality of its institutions; not only legal security but political stability as well as established ground rules needed for an investment".

Erwin Kaufmann. Former General Manager of Montes del Plata



"We chose Uruguay for its location in the center of Mercosur between Argentina and Brazil, and specifically because of the Free Port Law which makes a big difference".

Renato Ferreira. President and founder of Lobraus



"We decided to settle in Uruguay due to the guarantees that the country offers on the field of legal and data protection stability. We are really satisfied."

Gabriel Rozman. Former vice President for emerging markets at Tata Consultancy



Uruguay XXI

INVESTMENT AND EXPORT
PROMOTION AGENCY