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Facon, an essential stop for top-quality Argentine handicrafts. PHOTO: FACON

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## What to Buy in Buenos Aires? 4 Swell Souvenirs

From superior steak knives to bespoke boots, 4 quintessentially Argentine wares

*By Nora Walsh*

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## BEAUTY STEEP



ILLUSTRATION: MATTHEW COOK

Mate, the native tea, may be trendy abroad—crowded about for its antioxidant properties—but in Argentina, it's an old social ritual, typically shared among friends and family. To peruse mate sets like this one, a squash gourd embellished with alpaca silver, duck into Facon, a trove of high-quality handicrafts housed in a restored colonial mansion. *\$50, 4880*

*Nicaragua, [facon.com.ar](http://facon.com.ar)*

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## GET THE BOOT



ILLUSTRATION: MATTHEW COOK

Casa Fagliano, a family-run atelier, has been assembling made-to-measure boots for kings, princes and polo stars for five generations. Clients decide on the leather (calfskin, cordovan or buffalo), color, style and stitching. Make a fitting appointment in advance and be prepared to wait up to seven months for delivery. *From \$2,500, Tambo Nuevo 1449, [casafagliano.com](http://casafagliano.com)*

## BLADE UPGRADE



ILLUSTRATION: MATTHEW COOK

The asado, or traditional barbecue, is a cornerstone of Argentine culture. An essential component? A superior steak knife. Pick up a stainless-steel blade with a deer-horn handle and leather sheath from Arandu, an upscale saddlery shop that sells items handcrafted from all-local materials. *About \$130, Ayacucho 1920, [arandu.com.ar](http://arandu.com.ar)*



ILLUSTRATION: MATTHEW COOK

## POUR MOI?

Leave room in your suitcase for a *pingüino* pitcher. These white ceramic decanters, shaped like Patagonian penguins, have been used in homes and local restaurants to pour table wine since the 1920s. Find yours at the famed San Telmo antiques fair on Sundays. *Half-liter pitchers from about \$10, [feriadesantelmo.com](http://feriadesantelmo.com)*

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