

# Podcast Episode 5

## Transcript - 4 Days of Argentinian Quarantine

So, as I was saying in the, in this episode, I'm going to describe the last day of my trip during this crazy Corona virus situation, right? And so last Tuesday. And I believe that last Tuesday was exactly the day I recorded episode four. So last Tuesday I told you how we got there, right? And how we were told about the problems and everything.

So now I'm going to tell you what happened after that Tuesday. On that Tuesday, we went to the airline office in Mendoza, and when we got there. We were told we might have quarantine in Chile so. We decided to take a direct flight from Mendoza to Sao Paulo. We didn't want to stay in Santiago, do nothing because we were told that everything was closed, all the stores and everything in the city was closed.

The city was being shut down as I said in the previous episode, so we were afraid of having to stay there for. One or two weeks, you know, and paying for a place to stay and doing nothing. So we decided that we had to fly direct to San Paulo. So remember that was Tuesday and the only available available direct flight would be on the following Friday, March 20th.

So we took it, re booked the tickets, and then we went back to the hotel and booked four more nights. Well, we were supposed to stay four more nights in Santiago. So we, we didn't really, uh, mind, um, staying four more nights or three more nights, in Mendoza even that, that would even be a little cheaper because the hotel in, in Santiago would be more expensive anyway.

And we were, you know, we were kind of excited too, cause we thought we would still be able to visit a few Vineyards that hadn't canceled reservations. At

least their restaurants hadn't canceled yet, so we settled things in a hotel and drove to a restaurant. In one of the vineyards. In the car, I realized that the Argentinians were taking things quite seriously.

Very, very few people on the streets, few cars on the roads, and when we got to the restaurant, the manager came to the door to see us and told us he couldn't take us. We looked inside and there were quite a few people eating and having fun at the tables. Our friend got angry with the situation. But the manager explained that the authorities had just been there, prohibiting the entrance of any customer from that time on.

And I said, Oh shit, this is getting really, really serious. So we went back to the hotel and had lunch there. Now this part is interesting. The hotel closed. All the facilities such as swimming pool, spa, gym, all the restaurants and bars, except one for the meals, for all the meals in the hotel. By that time, I realized that we were about to quarantine and the hotel in Mendoza.

We still had three or four nights ahead of us and nothing to do in the city or in the hotel. We tried not to worry so much, but you know what? With internet and smartphones, we were in touch with all kinds of messages, news, fake news, opinions, suggestions, predictions, assumptions, et cetera, et cetera, et cetera.

I got really tired with all the flood of information, good information and bad information, but you know what, the four of us actually. Had a lot of fun during those four days. We relaxed, we slept, we ate. I worked a little, I record the, the, the, um, uh, a few podcast episodes recorded a video class and Oh.

And you know what? We did? We drank the bottles of wine we had bought to bring home. Hey, well, we just figured we wouldn't be able to drink with our friends in Brazil. We might as well just finish them up before we leave. Right. Anyway, Friday came, we packed left to Mendoza airport, and by the way. The airport was closed.

Yeah, the airport was closed. Well, and then what? Well, let me explain the, they only allowed passengers with tickets and passports inside of the airport. It was really bizarre. We got on the flight, landed in Sao Paulo and everything was back to normal. Can you believe it? Back to normal? There was no health check upon entrance in the country or anything like it.

Guarulhos was completely operational. The stores were open, duty free was open, restaurants were open, but there weren't lots of people though. And here we are in Brazil and now. In real quarantine, keeping safe and doing what we have to do to reduce the spread of the virus.