

Flag of Argentina

How to display and carry the flag

When ceremonially carried, the Argentine flag is subject to certain particular and elaborated practices:

- **Flag Apparels:**

The law requires that an Argentine National Pavillion (a carrying flag) shall be:

- Tied by four sets of double white ribbons to a carrying pole.
- The carrying pole shall be of a specific national wood (similar to mahogany), 2.10 m tall, tipped with a silver polished metal point and a horizontal crescent.
- A Cravatte, with a bow and two long tippets, all in the same design as the flag, finished in gold thread, shall be tied to the point. The name of the Army, School, Club, etc. could be embroidered on the tippets. Decorations and medals (if any) are pinned to the cravatte.
- The Sun of May (which is centered in the white stripe), complete with face and right and flaming rays, shall be embroidered in gold thread, normally with a certain volume or relief in the face.

- **Flag Bearers:**

- The carrying belt is not frontal, but a complete body band, used from left shoulder to waist, made of strong leather and covered with satin flag colours. It shall have an embroidered national coat of arms (not the Sun of May, to avoid confusion with the Presidential badge).
- The flag bearer shall wear white gloves.

As you can easily imagine, ceremonial flags (which are a must in Schools, Scout Groups, etc) are **expensive**. In my last check, the full set will cost around US\$ 800! Flags are always carried with at least two *escoltas* (escorts). Flag bearers are usually selected through a careful screening process, and even in schools there is strong competition to achieve the honour.

Sergio Laurenti, 29 Jan 1996