Uruguay Research Guide

ANCESTOR'S BIRTH LOCATION UNKNOWN

FamilySearch Indexed Records: Try searching in the indexed records for the name of your ancestor if they were born before 1900. Try a variety of searches with you ancestor's name, or with parents' names, o just by parents' surnames AND using the option to limit the locality by the country "Uruguay" and the name of the department. If there are no results, you will have to find more information from home sources or by asking family members.

Contact Family Members: If you do not have even a minimal amount of information AND have no idea of where and when to look, you need to contact family members you might have that information This could be older aunts, uncles, grandparents, etc.

ANCESTOR'S BIRTH LOCATION AND NAMES OF PARENTS, SPOUSE, OR CHILDREN ARE KNOWN

FamilySearch Indexed records: Try searching first in indexed records as explained above.

FamilySearch Catalog: There are no available records for Uruguay online. Be sure to check the catalog before giving up on finding records. Be sure to locate your ancestor in the Civil Registration and/or Catholic Church Record indexes before trying to locate the original records.

Civil Registration Index: Civil Registration began in 1879 in Uruguay. The Civil Registration of Uruguay has a National Index from 1900-1930. To find the index, type **Uruguay** into the **place search** in the Catalog and click enter. Click on the link **Uruguay Civil Registration – Indexes** and click on the **Indice nacional alfabetico de los libros**…

Before 1900 you will need to go to the department in order to find the Civil Registration. Department indexes began in 1879. From the catalog page for Uruguay, click on **Places within Uruguay** and select the department where your ancestor lived. Click the link for **civil registration** and use the index to locate the section number where their birth, marriage, or death was recorded.

Catholic Church Records Index: Catholic Church records are also a good choice as they cover all time periods. There is a nationwide index of church record transcriptions for the years 1791-1880. On the catalog page for Uruguay, click the link **Uruguay Church records – Indexes** and select the index you wish to search first. Begin with these indexes and use the information to find the correct digital image or microfilm for the transcriptions.

There are also some church records found on the local level. If you can find the ancestor in both Civil Registration and Catholic Church records that is best as you will get more information to advance the pedigree.

RESEARCH STRATEGIES

Who to Search For? If you don't know the names of the parents, but you know the name of the spouse and/or the names of some of his children, begin with a marriage search (if they married in Uruguay and you know the place). Or begin with a search for the birth/baptism record for one of their children (if you have an approximate birthdate and place).

FamilySearch Wiki: Translation, handwriting help, and descriptions of specific record collections can be found on the FamilySearch Wiki. Under Search on the home page selection Research Wiki. Type **Uruguay** and hit **Enter.** The information on this page will lead you to helpful topics such as **Languages** (under Uruguay Background), which includes a list of genealogical terms in Spanish and a letter-writing guide if you need to request documents from Uruguay.

FamilySearch Community: You can get immediate research and handwriting help from a community of researchers through the FamilySearch Communities. Go to http://community.familysearch.org/ and click **Groups**. Search for **Latin American Genealogy Research** or **Investigación Genealógica** to find the group for Hispanic genealogical research. While the second group is in Spanish, the members will respond to posts written in English. On the group pages, you can post research questions and upload documents to get translation help.

IMMIGRATION RECORDS

FamilySearch Wiki: Many people who went to Uruguay went through Argentina so many of the websites for Argentina are applicable to Uruguay. See the articles **Argentina: Emigration and Immigration** and **Uruguay: Inmigración (Spanish)** for a list of websites you can search. There are more resources on the FamilySearch Wiki in Spanish in the page **Argentina: Inmigración.** The links between the English and Spanish versions of the articles can be found at the bottom of the page.

FINDING A LOCALITY

For help locating a place in Uruguay, try the following sources:
- Google
- Wikipedia (The Spanish version works the best)
- Try a keyword search in the FamilySearch Catalog for Uruguay Gazetteers

ONLINE RESOURCES

For other online resources please review the Wiki article **Hispanic Genealogy Resources Online.**