



March 3rd, 2026

INTERNATIONAL HORSE RACING VISITORS IN ARGENTINA

South America continues to be a focal point for visits from important international horse racing figures after an intense 2025.

Just as our region had the pleasure of receiving the top horse racing authorities from Japan, Hong Kong, France, and the United Kingdom, among other countries, throughout 2025—in addition to the display of international visitors in the frame of the Gran Premio Latinoamericano in Rio de Janeiro and the tour of renowned Italian jockey Lanfranco “Frankie” Dettori, who bid farewell to his professional career by firstly fulfilling his dream of competing again in South America and came to ride in Argentina, Uruguay, and Brazil before retiring from racing,—the Summer season in the Southern Hemisphere also attracted international visitors during the last week of February.

Distinguished figures from Australia, Japan, and France traveled to Buenos Aires, and on Friday the 27th they enjoyed a visit to the San Isidro Racecourse's Training Center, led by Mr. Horacio Espósito - Vice Chairman of IFHA and OSAF Advisor on International Affairs. In addition to watching the morning training session, the visitors stopped at several stables located there, including Stud Friends, Haras Abolengo, Haras Firmamento, and Haras Pozo de Luna, where they were welcomed by Nicolás Martín Ferro (trainer at Stud Friends) and Ezequiel Valle (representative of Haras Firmamento).

Initiatives such as this visit are of great importance to our region, as they provide an opportunity to learn more about our local racing industry and strengthen ties among horse racing stakeholders worldwide.



In the photo, Mr. Horacio Espósito, Ms. Lucie Dieuiade (Assistant Director of Ecurie des Monceaux, France), Mr. Mael Thibault (Bloodstock Executive of Arqana, France), Mr. Toshihiro Onikubo (Head of the International Department at Netkeiba, Japan), Ms. Marie Rohaut (Head of the Owners Department at France Galop, France), Ms. Caitlin Smith (Program Manager in AgriFutures Australia), Mr. James Fathers (Assistant Trainer to Portelli Racing, Australia), Ms. Lowri Allen (Laurel Oak Bloodstock, Australia), Mr. Pierrick Barancourt (Head of Exports for Cognac Hardy, France) and Ms. María Marta Quignon (assistant to Mr. Espósito)

About OSAF

The South American Organization for the Development of Thoroughbred's activities (Organización Sudamericana de Fomento del Pura Sangre de carreras - OSAF) was founded in 1958 as the advisory body for the regulation and harmonization of the thoroughbred racing industry in Latin America, following the recommendations of the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities (IFHA), the world's leading regulatory body for the racing sport.

Our members include the major racetracks, Stud Books, Breeders' Associations, and Owners' Associations in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Peru, Uruguay, Panama, Venezuela, Ecuador, Colombia, and Paraguay.

The main objectives of our Organization are:

- To promote an extensive exchange of information between its Members and with International racing organizations worldwide,
- To promote the alliance with international racing and breeding authorities,
- To promote the harmonization of racing protocols and regulations within the region;
- To promote the control and fight against doping in Thoroughbreds and jockeys;
- To improve the quality of pattern races within South America;
- To promote the integrity and the best practices in the Thoroughbred industry in South America;

- To communicate about the evolution achieved by the horseracing activity within the continent, highlighting its quality and importance; developing reports, statistics and technical research on the Thoroughbred industry;
- To organize and take part in regional and international events related to the Thoroughbred industry;

OSAF is Member of the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities (IFHA), International Stud Book Committee (ISBC) and the International Thoroughbred Breeders's Federation (ITBF), being the regional representative before these institutions.