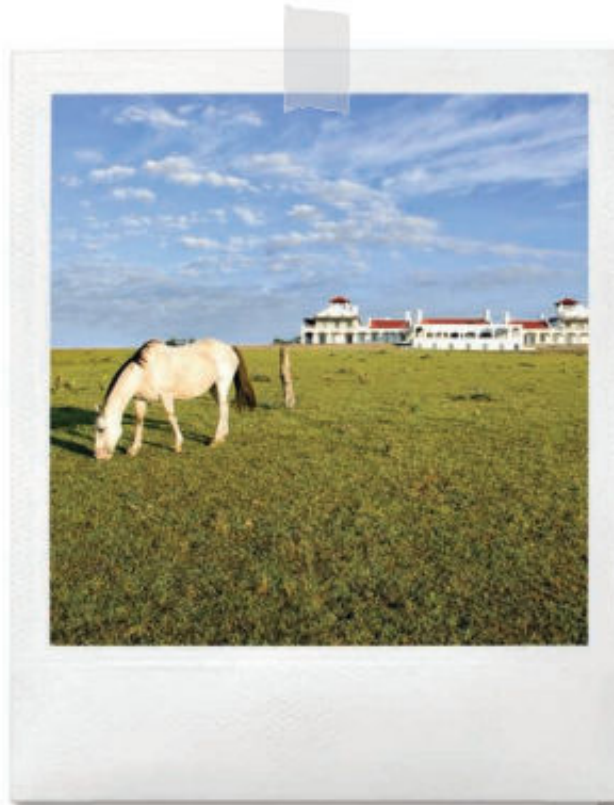


VIRTUOSO LIFE

Equestrian Culture in Argentina and Uruguay



From the back of a horse, I imagine looking out over plains of waving pampas grass, hearing the *thwack* of a polo stick, and smelling *asado* sizzling over a wood fire. – *Samantha Falewée, assistant editor*



ESTANCIA VIK JOSÉ IGNACIO

For my home base, I'll settle into this 12-suite **working estancia** that sprawls across 4,000 acres in southern Uruguay and head to its polo field for a lesson in the ancient sport (first recorded in the sixth century BC). Vocab tip: Polo matches are divided into seven-minute "chukkers" of playing time to ensure the ponies stay fresh.