



1 The *calentador* is a gas cylinder that consists of a small burner with a steel surface where the cauldron leans on to boil the water.  
 2 Occasionally, water can be boiled through the use of the *sum*, an Uruguayan invention that consists of an electric resistor with a long cable that should be submerged into the water for boiling it. Never plug the *sum* while it is out of the water if you do not want to see it explode.  
 3 Water is usually kept hot in a flask called *termo*. The *termo* has a glass interior and is covered with a plastic coat.  
 4 One of the most exotic kinds of *mate* is the *pezuña*, the hollowed hoof of the cow, Uruguay's distinctive animal. Although the cow's hoof *mate* is a popular souvenir shown in stores, it's rarely preferred by those devoted to *mate* drinking. The same happens with the *mate of guampa*, (5) a hollowed bull horn.  
 6 The genuine *mate* is the traditional hollowed gourd. It comes in many different sizes, shapes and is often finished with a leather wrap.  
 7 Due to its unstable bottom, the *mate* may count with a metal base to keep it straight while no one is holding it.  
 8 The metal straw used to drink *mate* must be cleaned regularly with an *escobilla*.  
 9 This straw, called *bombilla*, may come in a wide variety of metals, like pewter, silver or even gold. The length, curvature and size of the *bombilla* also come in a vast variety to fit the user's liking.

Anyone who visits South America is far from getting involved with its deep culture until experiencing and tasting an exclusive, native, delicious and peerless drink like *mate*. Learn more about Uruguay's captivating culture and mysterious traditions at [www.redhostel.com](http://www.redhostel.com)

Montevideo, Uruguay

# The Mate Glossary

Based on *Dingmats*, designed by Maqui Saravia



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