

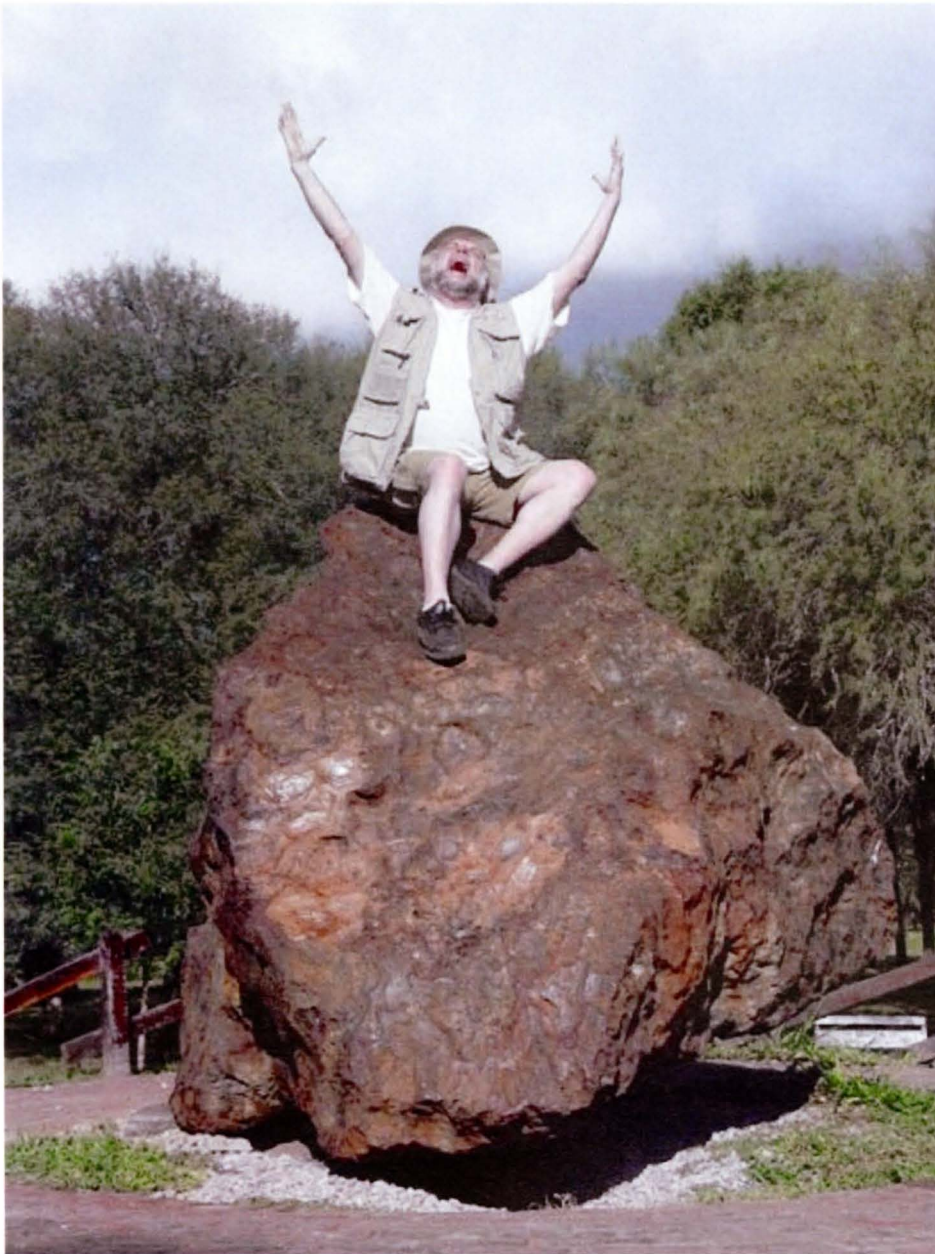
2. El Chaco, Argentina: Estimated weight: 37 tonnes



Photographer unknown via [Planeta Pia](#)

The largest fragment of the iron meteorite that splintered to form the Campo del Cielo group of meteorites and the 60 sq km crater field of the same name in Argentina, El Chaco is a colossal chunk of a space object. It is the second heaviest single-piece meteorite recovered on Earth – though the total [mass](#) of the Campo del Cielo fragments would have it claim the title at a canter.

Halleluiah: Campo del Cielo's 37-tonne El Chaco put into scale



Photographer unknown via [Jensen Meteorites](#)

El Chaco was located in 1969 at a depth of 5 metres using a metal detector, though its surrounding craters – estimated at 4,000–5,000 years old – were reported in 1576 and already well known to the aboriginal inhabitants of the area. Sensationally, in 1990 a local Argentinean police officer foiled a plot by meteorite hunter Robert Haag to steal El Chaco, which at the time had already been moved out of the country.