

Chile Handbook



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CHILE MAP





Dear Friend and Fellow Traveler,

Over the last ten years, Chile has captured the eye of many forward-thinking Americans.

Chile, although seemingly small coming in as one of the slenderest countries in the world, is an impressively large vertical stretch of diverse climates and increasing development, making it an exceptionally beautiful and comfortable destination for travelers. It is a place where investors see significant returns and where travelers enjoy a very inexpensive, yet culturally rich and fulfilling vacation experience.

But with all that, there are only a few thousand Americans who can honestly say that Chile has become their home.

This handbook is intended to provide a base of information for those who may be curious about investment opportunities in South America. Given the political climate in the States, as well as the increasingly unstable market there, more Americans are considering investing abroad.

In this handbook, you'll find everything from bus schedules to domestic airline routes, with contact information and websites. Each of the regions of the country are described. Hotels, restaurants, and tourist attractions are listed. Phone numbers and websites are included so you can check them out before you get here. For people interested in staying longer, or perhaps living here, we have included the invaluable "15 Questions You Should Ask When Buying Property Overseas," for you to utilize as part of your due diligence process. Quite simply, the Chile Handbook is a one-stop shop for all the information you want on the country of Chile.

Chile has incredible geographic diversity, honest culture, and the highest standard of living in Latin America. The cost of living remains reasonable, especially considering the standard of living that you are buying into.

Moving to a foreign land certainly comes with its challenges. But residency is increasingly easy to establish and expat communities in South and Central America are growing stronger every day. Once you arrive and experience the lifestyle first hand, you will likely find it difficult to leave this wonderful country.

What will you see? Hundreds of miles north to south of an astonishing array of climates, from seaside resorts and beach villages to mountains, lakes and urban hubs like Santiago. The people of Chile take pride in their low levels of public corruption. You'll meet dozens of honest, smart, and incredibly hard working people - folks willing to take part in the modernization of their country and eager for Chile to continue on its path of progress. And you'll experience a culture that's been fostered and cherished, giving it a glow that satisfies visitors and residents alike.

Chile is steeped in old-fashioned traditions: religion is a part of daily life and family traditions come far ahead of almost every other social consideration. This is a place where manners, customs, and friendships matter – more so than convenience. This is a place where grandparents live as part of the family.

Of course, there are immense financial benefit to buying real estate in Chile. International real estate is one of the most comprehensive forms of diversification one can add to their portfolio. It's for an individual to determine what real estate they may be interested in, but this guide will certainly help by familiarizing the reader with the country.

Whether you're interested in this Handbook as a guide for general knowledge, vacation, investment or even expatriation, our Chile Handbook will tell you all you want to know. With the country of Chile, you will have the opportunity to invest in culture, a culture that prioritizes a family-centric life and values deeply strong friendships. Where higher standard of living is obtainable. A cook, a maid, a gardener, and a driver – essentially 'round the clock help – in America is out of reach for most every middle class American. But here, that's all standard for middle class folks. What you pay for cable TV each month is about what you would pay for domestic staff here.

Chile is one of South America's most stable and prosperous nations. It offers beautiful geography to explore, a rich culture, and incredible investment opportunities for those interested in expanding their world. Allow our handbook to guide you with information in your first steps towards an investment of a lifetime.



Daniel Wilhelm
Publisher
Escape Artist

Introduction

Chile, the “land of fire and ice,” where you can see three drastically different, yet incredibly beautiful climates in one country. Renowned for its natural beauty, delicious cuisine, and inviting local culture, Chile has become a well-known Latin American tourist destination that still holds on to its mythical, unexplored ethos. In Chile you can experience the busy metropolitan and cosmopolitan allure of its historical major cities as easily as you can slip into the tranquil and secluded northern deserts, central mountains, or Arctic south.

Its legendary wine and cuisine will have you buying more Chilean products as soon as you get home. Additionally, as one of the safest and most stable countries in Latin America, Chile makes a perfect destination for your next vacation.

Welcome to Chile

GEOGRAPHY

Chile’s incredibly thin landmass tricks many people into thinking that it is a relatively small country. However, Chile’s length, about the distance from New York to San Francisco, makes up for what it lacks in width. This length of 2,700 miles/4,300 kilometers is the key factor that allows for there to be such climatic, biological, and geographical diversity. Though its maximum width is 150 miles/240 kilometers, this doesn’t impede you from seeing everything from deserts to penguins.

About 80% of Chile’s landmass is made up of mountains, big and small. The large Andes make up all of Chile’s eastern border, while smaller mountain and hill ranges can be found throughout the entire country. Chile’s rocky topography is due to the almost incessant tectonic activity off of its Pacific coast, which has also led to Chile’s proclivity for earthquakes - though the country is well prepared for them.

Due to the combination of its length and abundance of mountains, Chile is usually split up into five regions: the far north, near north, central Chile, southern Chile, and the far south.



The Far North (Norte Grande)

Home to the Atacama Desert, El Norte Grande is more diverse and vibrant than many tourists think it to be before they visit. In contrast to the common idea of deserts being flat and empty plots of land, the Atacama Desert is hilly and mountainous. Each one of its hills and mountains has a distinctive color, due to the mineral richness of this region. However, don’t let the beauty of its colorful landscape fool you, the Atacama Desert is one of the driest and most inhospitable regions on earth.

The land in this region is generally high in altitude, with some areas reaching 3,281 feet/1,000 meters above sea level. This causes microclimates by preventing moisture from reaching certain parts and concentrating it in others. There used to be lush micro forests in some areas due to underground water and moisture concentrations, but much of it has been cut down since colonial times in order to feed the furnaces at the mines.

This is also the only region of Chile that has a relatively large plateau. Here you can experience some of the heaviest rainfall in all of Chile. It is also a part of the country that only has two seasons: the rainy season and the dry season. Chile's longest rivers are also located here. Though they are thin and relatively shallow, they provide enough water to create relatively large patches of vibrant flora along their shores and valleys.

Though there are fertile areas in the far north which can support vegetables and fruit year-round, most of the wealth in this area comes from the mining industry. Here you can find the largest copper mine in the world, along with several other important mines for other raw materials.



The Near North (Norte Chico)

This area is similar to parts of the far north, but it does not contain any deserts. It is best described as a semi-arid climate and receives some rain year-round, but most of the precipitation falls during the rainy season. Besides being a microclimate itself, the near north contains several micro climates where moisture is concentrated, similarly to the far north. However, since there is no mining industry in this area, the rainforests created by these zones of concentrated moisture have been left largely intact.

There are several river valleys in this region that carry significant amounts of water year-round. These are some of the most important Chilean agricultural sites. Here they grow several kinds of vegetables and fruits, as well as raise cattle and other farm animals. Most of Chile's famous pisco liquor is grown and made here. However, the areas with the highest elevations are mostly covered in shrubs and cacti.



Central Chile (Zona Central)

Most of the Chilean population lives in this “central valley,” bordered on the south and north by two mountain ranges. This area is said to have a Mediterranean climate and is the most temperate part of Chile. Here you can find Chile's main cities, as well as Chile's main agricultural landscapes. Chile's famous wines come mostly from this region. Most of Chile's cattle and fruit are also grown here.

The southern part of this area of Chile was once a large ancient forest of impeccable beauty. However, throughout Chile's history, much of it has been cut down and repopulated by younger trees - and it has never been the same. Fortunately, there were some parts of the ancient forest that were left untouched and can still be visited within Chile's national forests. What makes these forests different from your average one is that, since they have

been around for so long, their diversity of flora has become immense and feeds the outstanding diversity of fauna there. These are usually in the more mountainous parts of the central valley.

Numerous rivers and lakes crisscross this region, due to rain and melting snow and ice from the Andes mountain range. You can also expect significantly more rain and humidity than in the northern portions, meaning that everything will be much more verdant.

In general, this region is much closer to sea level than the north. For example, unlike in the north, there are many beaches here instead of cliffs against the sea. In the central valley, you can find Chile's longest and best beaches.



The Near South (Zona Sur)

This zone is also known as the lake region and is the closest Chilean region to sea level. Similar to the central region but on a larger scale, these lakes are formed by hundreds of rivers that spring forth from the Andes mountains and run across the thin strip of land. Due to this proximity to sea level and abundance of large bodies of water, this part of Chile's coast is scattered with fjords, ragged peninsulas, near-to-shore islands, brackish lagoons, and estuaries where rivers drain into the ocean.

The rivers here are the only ones in Chile that are deep enough for ships to sail continuously along their length. The volcanic rocks that they flow over create many opportunities for whitewater rafting, and the constant backdrop of the snow-covered Andes is truly a sight to behold. Along with the large lakes, these rivers were created by the massive amounts of yearly rainfall. The near south of Chile is one of the regions in the world with the most rainfall. This not only brings a vast source for rivers and lakes, but for the lush vegetation of the

region too. This area used to be completely covered in old-growth forest, but most of it has been relegated to isolated national parks in far flung corners of the region. There are also parks with younger forests that cover areas once used for farming. The northern section of this region is where most of its agricultural industry is. The region is particularly famous for its berries and fishing.



The Far South (Zona Austral)

The far south is one of the southernmost inhabited places in the world. It is usually very cold but receives less rain than the near south. Most of this area is made up of archipelagos, several national parks, and the southern tip that opens up to allow for the medium-sized city of Punta Arenas. It is also famous for its penguins and relatively large sheep industry, surprisingly, for an area with so little grazing land.

The strait of Magellan is also located in this region. It is very important to international shipping, since it keeps ships safe from the open waters of Cape Horn and also provides a significant boost to Chile's economy. Especially with the overcrowding of the Panama Canal, Chile's strait of Magellan has been seeing more business in recent years than it had for a while.

History

Pre-Columbian Period (12,000 BCE – 1535 AD)

There are several theories which attempt to identify the exact year in which Chile was first inhabited by humans. The most traditional account is the Clovis paradigm, which predicts that the Americas were first inhabited some 11,500 years ago via the Bering Land Bridge. However, a recent discovery of a child's footprint in the marsh region of Monte Verde, as well as other evidence, leads many archaeologists to date the first human presence as far back as 33,000 years. Following a 1998 convention, the Monte Verde site was named the second oldest inhabited site in the Americas.



Sometime around 12,000 BCE, the first Amerindians settled in Chile's fertile valleys and coastal regions. This region was filled with a vast variety of indigenous groups, including the Aymará, Atacameño, Chango, Diaguita, Picunches, and Mapuche peoples, to name a few. It is estimated that upon Spanish arrival in the 1530's, the native population in present-day Chile totaled 1.5-2 million. Most notably, the Inca empire expanded into northern Chile for a brief period in the late fifteenth century, until it was expelled via fierce resistance. At the same time, European explorers and conquistadors made preparations for their expeditions to the New World. In 1492, unbeknownst to the native Chileans, thousands of miles away from the South American mainland, the papal Treaty of Tordesillas was signed between European powers, granting all land west of Brazil to Spain. This agreement would forever change the landscape of the New World.



Spanish Arrival and Conquest (1535 – 1808)

Spaniard Diego de Almagro was the first European to reach Chile, making the dangerous trek through the northern mountain region. His footsteps would be followed a few years later when Pedro de Valdivia traveled south, reaching the fertile Mapocho Valley region in 1541. On February 12 of the same year, Valdivia and his men founded the city of Santiago, laying the framework for a new Chilean society. Conflict between the settlers and indigenous communities would continue for the next several decades; however, most native peoples withered and succumbed to foreign disease.

To their disappointment, the Spanish did not find equitable riches of gold and silver as they had in Central Mexico or Peru, and instead they saw indigenous labor as the highest commodity. Given their highly organized and hierarchical nature, the

peoples of northern and central Chile were easily subdued. Those in the south, however, put up a strong fight against further Spanish settlement. For the next several centuries, native populations would continue to wither, while a new mestizo race of mixed indigenous and European blood would rise.



Revolution and Independence (1808 – 1818)

During the colonial era, Chile fell under the jurisdiction of the Peruvian Viceroyalty, headquartered hundreds of miles away in Lima. This distance created a sense of isolation from Peru, creating a unique identity that enabled it to become a sovereign nation. The independence movement was largely facilitated by the creole class (American-born Spaniards), who were fed up with Spanish rule. While Simón Bolívar began his liberation campaign in the north, Argentine libertador José de San Martín, liberated the lands of modern-day Argentina, Chile, and parts of Peru. An official declaration of independence was issued by Chile on February 12, 1818. Upon liberation, San Martín appointed Bernardo O'Higgins, former Viceroy of Peru, as the Supreme Director of the new Chilean Republic.



The Early Republic (1818 – 1890)

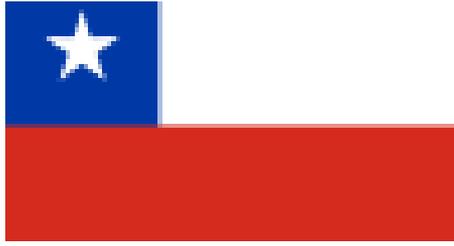
Chile's start as a sovereign nation was rocky, to say the least. While it maintained hold over the Santiago and Concepción districts, it shared ambiguous boundaries with Bolivia, Argentina, and the hostile Mapuche nation in the south. In spite of this, the Chilean government focused heavily on its agriculture,



mining, and commerce industries, which led to substantial economic growth. Much like the days of Spanish rule, discrepancies arose regarding land rights, taxation, and duties of government, which caused conflict and continuous shifts in power.

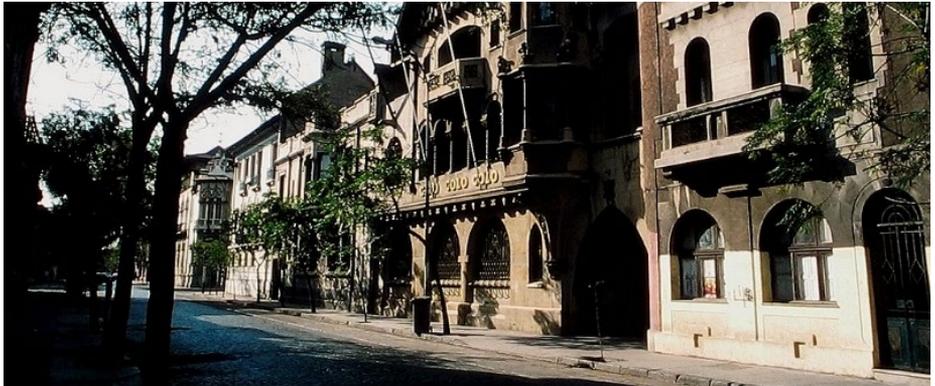
Between 1879-1884, Chile would engage in the War of the Pacific, which would solidify its position as a dominant nation in the region. During this conflict with Peru and Bolivia, Chile would seize several territories from both nations, including Bolivia's only access to the ocean. While Santiago expanded and fortified its borders, its economy boomed as a result of great mining riches like nitrate and copper. These riches attracted both European and North American investors who would build railroads and develop infrastructure. Moreover, its recent acquisition of key pacific ports would transform Chile into a major player in regional commerce. During the late nineteenth century, Chile would sign border agreements with Argentina and the Mapuche peoples, annexing much of its southern Patagonian territory.

Civil War (January – September, 1891)



It became clear that Chile's impressive economic expansion was only experienced by its elite class. Attempts were made at redistributed wealth by investing heavily in schools, hospitals, and other public works. This faced fierce backlash from conservatives, who later took military control of Chile in 1891 under the command of Naval Commander Jorge Montt. While the Chilean army remained loyal to the former government, Montt's Navy took control of major ports and eventually defeated the government. This conflict resulted in the death of more than 10,000 and would be the beginning of an economic downturn and political instability.

Twentieth Century (1900-1973)



For the next several years, Chile would face several blows to its economy. A new petroleum-based fertilizer was being produced, making mineral nitrates (of which its economy relied so heavily on) obsolete. Secondly, the opening of the Panama Canal in 1914 would virtually eliminated commercial traffic around the Horn, hurting major ports like Valparaiso, Antofagasta, and Iquique. Further, as demand for copper skyrocketed during WWII, North American corporations would gain control of this key Chilean industry.

Throughout the next several decades, many political factions would arise and create a complex political scheme. Similar discrepancies regarding land rights, power distribution, and political ideology would cause the rise and fall of various governments.

As the rest of the world entered the Cold War, a similar political battle was occurring in Chile between leftist parties, such as the Popular Action Front (FRAP) and the Christian Democrats, and the conservative elite. In the 1970s, a socialist doctor, Salvador Allende, would lead the Popular Unity (UP). In 1970, by a close election of 36% to 35%, Allende would become the world's first democratically-elected Marxist president. He hoped to implement several radical

reforms, such as the nationalization of mines, banks, and insurance, as well as the expropriation and redistribution of large landholdings. His victory by no means signaled smooth sailing, however, and the Chilean left remained greatly fractionalized between socialists, Stalinists, and communists, while a great fear arose among the conservatives, as well as the United States. Chilean politics became increasingly polarized and even violent, sparking instability and crumbling the government's authority.

Chaos reached its peak on September 11, 1973, when rightwing military general, Augusto Pinochet Ugarte, led a brutal coup d'état against the Allende government, resulting in the Allende's death. Immediately afterwards, leftist sympathizers were apprehended, tortured, killed, and forced into exile. It later became clear that this mission was aided in large part by Operation Condor, a CIA-funded program to militarily eradicate communist influence in South America. This would mark the beginning of one of South America's most brutal military regimes.

The Rise and Fall of Pinochet (1974 – 1989)

Augusto Pinochet quickly took action to fortify a strong military junta, dissolve Congress, ban leftist parties, prohibit all political activity, and rule by decree. Most notably, his regime ruled through fear and would make thousands of political dissidents “disappear” throughout his 17-year rule. During this time, Pinochet crafted a new constitution which gave him special privileges and protections, and forced it into law.



Seeing his end in sight, Pinochet held a national plebiscite to determine his future as the country's premier ruler. In 1989, Chileans would overwhelmingly vote against him in favor of Christian Democrat, Patricio Aylwin. Chile would experience basic democracy for the next few years, however, the military maintained substantial power and Pinochet remained largely untouched. Now out of control, Pinochet would assume a senate position which, according to his constitution, would grant him judiciary immunity from prosecution. This immunity would last until 2005, when the president was granted the right to abolish unelected senators.

Throughout the next several years, known as the “Pinochet saga,” Chilean courts would go back and further as to whether they should try Pinochet on accounts of crimes against humanity, or if he was physically and mentally unfit. In a 2002 trial, on account of him suffering from dementia, the court ruled him unfit to undergo a trial. Ultimately, on December 10, 2006, Pinochet died without ever standing trial for his crimes.

Beyond Pinochet: Democracy and Prosperity (1990 – Present)

Despite not being able to charge Pinochet himself, Chile made great strides in investigating the crimes against humanity committed under the regime and ensuring that it would never happen again. Beyond the years of Pinochet, Chile would experience a healthy democratic processes, economic prosperity, and far-reaching social changes. Chile quickly emerged from the 2001-2003 crisis to become one of the region's strongest and most stable economies. It maintains

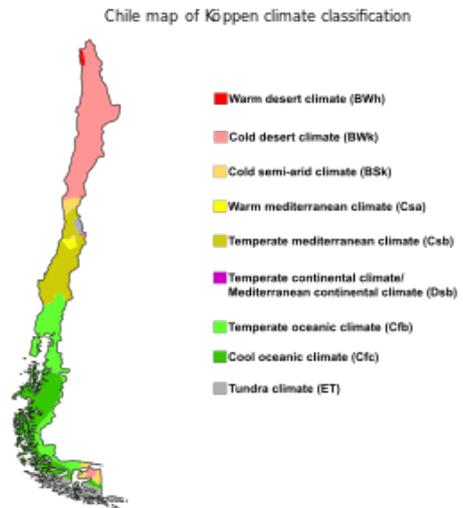


low foreign debt, high foreign investment, and various free-trade agreements. Moreover, infant and child health care has improved, education has increased by 25%, life expectancy is higher, national poverty has been halved since 1999, and Chile is now ranked as the world's 37th most developed country. It has since made other social progresses, such as freeing the press and media, abolishing the death penalty in 2001, legalizing divorce in 2004, decriminalizing homosexuality in 1999, and legalizing same sex partnerships in 2015. In 2006, Chile elected its first female president, who herself was kidnapped and tortured by Pinochet's regime; a great step forward in gender equality.

Chile has come a long way since the dark times of the Pinochet rule in the late twentieth century. Not only has it experienced substantial economic growth and achieved impressive social advancements, but it has increased its global clout and is considered a strong regional leader.

Weather, Climate, and Clothing

In the far north, and most of the near north, one should bring clothes appropriate for a desert climate and expect no rainfall, with temperatures averaging in 70s (fahrenheit) . However, if visiting the central and southern zones, you may want to pack as if you were going to the French Riviera. In other words, temperatures will average in the 60s. Those two region are reasonably temperate, but the farther South you go within them the more rain you can expect. Last but not least, the far south has less rain than the central and southern regions, but it by no means has good weather. Much of the far south is a bit chilly, with temperatures averaging in the low 60s and 50s. However, southernmost regions of the far south are a tundra climates, and one should prepare appropriately.



Demographics

Chile has a population of 17,508,260 - making it the 64th most populous country in the world. 88.9% of the people are white or non-indigenous, 9.1% is Mapuche (an Amerindian group), 0.7% is Aymara (Amerindian), and around 3% is other Amerindian tribes, such as the Rapa Nui, Quechua, etc.

Language

99.5% of the population speaks Spanish, which is the official language of Chile. However, another 10.2% also speak English, and around 3% speak an Amerindian language. Chilean Spanish is different from traditional Castilian, but it is not as different as other Latin American countries. They use both the vos and the tu forms in Chile, which makes it easier for any Spanish speaker to understand their dialect no matter which form they are used to.

Religion

Chile is predominantly Roman Catholic, with 66.7% of the population saying that they are practicing. Evangelicals or Protestants are the next largest group, forming 16.4% of the population. There are also several religious minorities, such as Jehovah's Witnesses (1%) and non-religious (11.5%).

Currency

The Chilean Peso is currently valued at about 658 pesos to \$1. Many places will accept dollars, though expect your change to be in pesos. Carry many low denomination dollars with you, as many places won't accept \$50 and \$100 bills unless you are buying something that costs close to that amount. If you have euros, you will have to get them exchanged into dollars or pesos.

Government

Chile is a well-established Democracy that follows the Presidential Republic system with its capital at Santiago de Chile and the seat of the national legislature in Valparaiso. The latest version of its constitution was made effective in 1980, but it has been amended many times afterwards, and through the end of 2015 into 2016 there are more reform processes already in the works.

Legal System

Their legal system is based on a mix of Western European styles, such as Spanish law, English common law, etc. They do have a judicial check to the legislature called the Constitutional Tribunal.

Executive Branch

Chile's executive branch is made up of the president, who is the chief of state and the head of government, and his cabinet/appointed positions. There are a maximum of two rounds of elections if needed for the position of president, and each term is four years.

Legislative Branch

The Chileans have a bicameral legislature similar to that of the U.S. The two houses are called the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies. The officials in the Chamber of Deputies hold four-year terms, while the ones elected to the Senate hold eight-year terms. Both houses are directly elected. Just like in the U.S., the laws must be passed by each house with adjustments and compromises coming from both.

Judicial Branch

The three highest courts of Chile are the Supreme Court (21 judges), the Constitutional Court (7 judges), and the Electoral Court (5 judges). The Supreme Court judges serve indefinitely until they are 70 years old, while the Constitutional Court judges serve for 8 years, and the Electoral Court judges serve until new ones are appointed. These three courts have separate jurisdiction, and each one oversees different lower courts.

Politics



There are 30 legally acknowledged political parties in Chile, though they are usually consolidated into two main conservative and progressive coalitions. The centre-left coalition is called “Nueva Mayoría” (The New Majority) and the centre-right coalition is called Chile Vamos (Let’s Go Chile). Currently The New Majority is in power and the president of the country, Michelle Bachelet, is from the Socialist party within the coalition. These coalitions are known to have a high turnover rate. In other words, don’t expect the coalitions to last more than a decade since, at the very least, a party or two will exit the coalition and possibly causing the coalition to change its name and symbols.

Chile’s politics are stable, coup-free, and not very corrupt when compared to the rest of Latin America. They are also fairly representative of the people. Though there is an extremely high level of inequality, most citizens are still well-represented and are able to live a free and relatively successful life away from poverty. Both political coalitions are supporters of enlightenment rights, and they implement the same freedoms that people in Europe or North America are used to.

Flag and National Emblems

The Chilean flag is composed of a white and a red band with a blue square in the top left corner. The blue square has a five-pointed star within it. The five-pointed star stands for progress and honor, while the blue stands for the sky, the white stands for the snow covered Andes, and the red stands for the blood of the revolutionaries who died fighting for independence. The huemul (mountain deer) and the Andean condor are Chile's national animals.



Economy

Chile has a free market economy. It is most known for its high level of foreign trade and stable financial institutions, which granted it the strongest bond rating in Latin America. One third of Chilean GDP is the exportation of goods and services, and 60% of that is commodities. Being the main copper exporter of the world, 20% of government revenue comes from its exportation. Chile was able to weather the global financial crisis reasonably well and had an average growth of around 5% from 2003 to 2013. However, recent growth has slowed to around 2.5%, mostly because of the drop in global copper prices. The drop in copper prices have also caused more inflation and a depreciating currency.

Throughout the 2000s, Chile has continued integrating into the global free market economy and western society. For example, in 2004, Chile signed a free trade agreement with the U.S. Chile has also signed 22 trade agreements with 60 countries, such as those within the EU, Mercosur, China, India, South Korea, and Latin America. Chile is also the first South American country to join the OECD and to sign the TPP.

One of the most important recent developments in Chile is the new set of taxes being imposed by Michelle Bachelet to fight against inequality through better access to education and healthcare. Most of these taxes will be the increase of corporate taxes to OECD averages.

Chile has large sums of sovereign wealth funds in foreign banks averaging to around \$22.4 billion, which were key for the stimulus packages utilised to stabilize their economy during the global financial crisis.

Economic Indicators

- GDP (official exchange rate): \$240.2 billion (2015 est.)
- GDP (purchasing power parity): \$422.4 billion (2015 est.)
- GDP real growth rate: 2.1% (2015 est.)
- GDP per capita (PPP): \$23,500 (2015 est.)
- Labor force: 8.68 million (2015 est.)

Culture

Like other parts of Latin America, Chile has a mix of local and Spanish cultures. However, due to the fact that it remained under Spanish or Spanish military control for longer than other Latin American countries, and due to its geographical isolation, its culture is particularly more Spanish than other Latin American countries. However, there are still some remnants of indigenous cultures in isolated corners of the country. The Mapuche are the most visible, though there are several much smaller indigenous groups throughout Chile as well.

Throughout the last century, there have been many immigrants to Chile from Europe and Asia. Though it has not fundamentally changed Chilean culture, it has left a significant impact in certain areas.

Though each region of Chile, largely the north and the south, has their own traditions, the Huasos of central Chile are generally seen as a symbol of their culture as a whole. Their folk dancing and folklore are more or less spread throughout all of Chile and even incorporated into other regions' traditions.

Media

Print

El Mercurio

<http://diario.elmercurio.com/2016/07/13/portada/index.htm>



A center-right newspaper and magazine chain throughout Chile. They have several local affiliates and variations of their newspapers and magazines throughout the country. They are usually considered the largest in Chile and are the oldest in the country.

La Tercera

<http://www.latercera.com/>

A centrist magazine and newspaper chain throughout Chile. It started as just a newspaper out of Santiago, but now it is in close competition with El Mercurio. They now have several local affiliates and magazines throughout the country.

América Economía

<http://www.americaeconomia.com/>

A business-oriented magazine. It is fairly international in its news coverage as well as focusing on Latin America. Comparable to The Economist.

Gestion

<http://www.revistagestion.cl/>

Another business-oriented magazine. However, this magazine is more strictly focused on Chile.

Cosas

<http://cosas.com/>

A Chilean magazine focused on international fashion and popular culture. Similar to Life Magazine.

Television

Without cable there are plenty of local TV stations that one can watch, such as Television Nacional, which shows everything from daily news to entertainment, and Megavisión which shows movies and TV shows.

However, if you wish to watch international and U.S. channels as well, then you will have to purchase cable. Cable should be around \$36 a month with which you will be able to watch everything from ESPN to CNN and many channels from Europe as well.

Holidays

Day	Date	Holiday
Friday	January 01	New Year's Day
Friday	March 25	Good Friday
Sunday	May 01	Labor Day
Sunday	May 08	Mother's Day
Saturday	May 21	Navy Day
Sunday	June 19	Father's Day
Wednesday	June 29	Saint Peter and Saint Paul
Saturday	July 16	Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Monday	August 15	Assumption Day
Sunday	September 18	Independence Day of Chile
Monday	September 19	Army Day
Wednesday	October 12	Race Day
Monday	October 31	Reformation Day
Tuesday	November 01	All Saints Day
Thursday	December 08	Immaculate Conception Day
Sunday	December 25	Christmas Day

It is customary for both the government and private businesses to take the entire week off between Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. Similarly, most government offices and private businesses close between Christmas and New Year's Day.

Many government offices close in mid-December and do not reopen until after the Festival of the Three Kings in early January.

Famous Chileans

Artists

- Miguel Venegas
- Claudio Bravo
- Carlos Sotomayor

Politicians

- Salvador Allende (Democratically elected President overthrown by foreign coup) Michele Bachelet.
- Bernardo O'Higgins (Founder of Chile).
- Jose Miguel Insulza (Secretary General of the Organization of American States).

Sports

- Alexis Sanchez (Soccer)
- Arturo Vidal (Soccer)
- Arturo Godoy (Boxing)
- Luis Ayala (Tennis)
- Claudio Bravo (Soccer)
- Manuel Pellegrini (Soccer: player and coach)

Film and Television Personalities

- Cote de Pablo (NCIS)
- Pedro Pascal (Game of Thrones, Narcos, The Mentalist, and Graceland)

Literary Icons

- Pablo Neruda
- Gabriela Mistral
- Vicente Huidobro

Cuisine

Chile's cuisine is reflective of the local ingredients, though it is heavily influenced by the Spanish. This can be seen in the amount of Spanish dishes that are still served in Chile without any changes to their recipe, such as paella. However, since the 1800s, there has been an influx of German and Italian immigrants who influenced certain regions with their cuisine, while the British brought the tradition of tea breaks. Chile is renowned for its wine and/or pisco that accompany most lunches and dinners.

Some of their famous dishes and drinks are:



Arrollado de huaso:
pork rolls



Bistec a lo pobre
(poor man's steak): steak
with onions, fries, and eggs



Cazuela de vacuno:
beef Stew



Charquican:
a dish consisting of llama or beef
along with potato, corn, onion,
peas, and a pumpkin puree



Churrasco:
grilled beef



Cola de mono:
a drink consisting of
aguardiente, milk, sugar,
coffee, and cloves. Similar to
a White Russian



Humitas:
similar to tamales



Mote con huesillo: a sweet
summertime drink made from
cooked wheat, peaches, and
cinnamon



Pastel de choclo:
a sweet cornbread cake



Porotos granados:
a stew made out of cranberry
beans, corn, squash,
potatoes, onion, cumin,
basil, and oregano



Sopaipilla:
a fried, sweet bread usually
covered in powdered sugar.



Pisco:
a grape brandy



Curanto:
fish, clams, mussels, barnacles, meat, potatoes,
milcao (potato pancake), and chapaleles (potato
dumpling) covered in rhubarb leaves. It is either
prepared in a pot or by an ancient pressure-cook-
ing technique in which it is put into a large hole
covered by wet sacks, dirt, and grass

Travel to Chile



WHEN TO TRAVEL

The central region and both northern regions are year-round destinations. No matter when you go, the weather should cooperate and you shouldn't have any weather-related problem. June through August is a good time to go the the mountains in these regions if you wish to ski, and April is a good month for the vineyards.

However, if you wish to visit southern Chile, you need to take heavy rains and cold into account. Therefore, it is best to visit Southern Chile during the months of October to March. Throughout the rest of the year, southern Chile's rains can ruin roads and snow can make some areas inaccessible.

HOW TO TRAVEL

Travel by Air

Many airlines offer flights to Chile, and it is highly likely that you will enter the country through the Comodoro Arturo Merino Benitez Airport in Santiago de Chile. This airport is modern and efficient. It should not only provide you with a hassle-free experience, but offer you many amenities as well. There are some smaller airports throughout the country which you can reach from Santiago or on international flights from a few nearby countries.

Traveling by Car

You will need an international driving permit, but driving in Chile should be similar to driving in North America and most of Europe. That being said, there are two things to keep in mind. First of all, though most of Chile's roads are paved and in good condition, it is still recommended that if you rent or bring a car it should have 4X4 drive. This is because weather conditions can sometimes make some roads more challenging, and if you plan to visit any of the natural sights, such as nature reserves or natural parks, you may have to navigate unpaved dirt roads. You will also want to keep in mind that between June and August the weather can shut down some of the Andean border crossings and other more remote parts of the country.

International Bus Lines

Unlike other Latin American countries, there are many bus lines that allow online booking in Chile such as Tur-Bus, Pullman, Condor Bus, Buses Cruz del Sur, Jac, Eme Bus, Via Bariloche, (Argentina), Andesmar (Argentina), El Rápido Internacional (Argentina), and Pluma Internacional (Brasil). There are many other companies, both national and international, that provide both touristic and transportation services that don't have online booking.

Inter/Intra-City Travel

Santiago and Valparaíso both have efficient metro systems, however, most cities function on taxis and private or public buses. All major cities have well run public buses, but taxis are still the main way that most tourists get around. That being said, these taxis are different from the ones that people are used to in North America and Europe. They call these taxis “colectivos,” which means that they usually pick up as many people as possible along the way, though you can ask them not to which sometimes may mean that you will have to pay a little extra. If you don't have a car, the best method for getting from city to city is the private bus system. Many of the same private bus companies that will take you to Chile from other countries will also take you around the country. (See: International Bus Lines)

Ports



You can find several modern ports throughout Chile. Two of the most frequented are Valparaíso and Antofagasta. These ports do accept cruise ships, but all of Chile's ports are usually just used for shipping. Most of Chile's ports can handle large-sized shipping, though the larger the city that the port is in, usually the more capable the port is. Besides cruise ships, the only other time when people usually use the ports for their own transportation is when they are going to visit some of Chile's island territories, such as Easter Island.

Tourist Marinas

Chile has one of the most ambitious nautical tourism programs in the world. The Chilean Economic Development Agency created the Chilean Patagonia Nautical Tourism Program a few years ago to facilitate tourists wishing to sail. Though there may not be many marinas designed specifically for tourists, at most ports you can find the nautical tourism section by way of signs. Especially in medium or small ports, you can find entire sections where you can rent boats, if you have a license, or have Chilean sailors sail you around the shore or to nearby islands.

Basic Travel Info



Phones

All Chilean cell phones have eight digits, and if you are calling them from a landline you should add in 09 at the beginning of the number. The country code is 56.

If you wish to use your cellphone in Chile, you must make sure that your service provider and phone are able to accept a Chilean sim card - or your service provider provides an international plan.

There are providers in Chile, Entel, and Movistar. Both of them work on a caller-pays format, and calls to landlines from cellphones are very expensive.

Two important phone numbers are: 133 (police) and 131 (ambulance).

Internet

4G has reached many parts of Chile, and internet is easily accessible through cellphones. However, if you wish to access the internet from a computer, there are many cyber cafes and public WiFi centers in the cities.

Mail

DHL, Fedex, and UPS all have several offices throughout Chile.

However, the Chilean National Postal Service is also very reliable. Whether you are mailing or shipping domestically or internationally, you can fully expect your package to be well processed on the Chilean side.

Time Zone

Most of Chile is in the UTC-3:00 time zone, though some key areas, such as Easter Island, are in the UTC-5:00 time zone.

Chile formerly observed Daylight Savings Time, but the Chilean government abolished this practice in 2015.

Documents and Formalities

It is fairly easy to enter Chile from most North American and European countries. The list of documentation that you need to enter is: a passport valid for the duration of your stay, and one blank page for a stamp.

All recreational, touristic, and business trips are visa-free for 90 days, after which an extension can be granted after paying a fee at the Chilean Immigration office.

There are no vaccinations required or recommended for travelling to Chile.

Government Customs

Firearms and animals must be declared. A declaration of money and valuables must be made on arrival. Canned meats and dairy products are prohibited imports, as well as medication without accompanying prescriptions.

Vat

Foreigners are stuck with paying the VAT (IVA) tax in Chile. However, there is an exemption for hotels. The process to get this exemption can be a bit tricky. The first step is to show the clerk your foreign passport with your entrance stamp. After that you should ask him to make your rate exempt from IVA. Finally, make sure to tell him that you want to pay your bill in dollars even if you are paying with your credit card. Paying in pesos or another foreign currency may cause you to not receive your exemption.

Working Hours

General office hours are Monday through Friday 8:30am-6pm.

Banks are open from 9am-2pm.

Lunch is usually an hour.

It is normal, and many times it is expected, for workers to stay at work after they are supposed to go home. Even if they have nothing to do, many will stay longer in order to maintain good standing with the boss, as opposed to looking inefficient as they would in many North American and European companies.

Gratuity

Tipping is usually done at 10%-15%, but it is not necessary everywhere. Most importantly, you must tip in pesos everywhere except for a hotel and, no matter what, do not tip in foreign coins. Even if you give someone \$30 worth of coins, no exchange houses accept foreign coins, so the person won't be able to do anything with it.

No tip is needed in taxis.

Tips are included in restaurants at 10%, but more is always appreciated.

Everywhere else, a tip is expected - even grocery stores where bagmen work for tips. However, in Chile, no matter who receives the tip, it is all usually evenly split up amongst the workers of that shift. The only way to give someone a personal tip is in an envelope.

Safety

Most visitors to Chile don't experience any problems with safety. Chile is considered the second

safest country in all of Latin America after Uruguay. Additionally, the Patagonia region of Chile and Argentina has one of the lowest crime rates of the hemisphere.

However, one should always be wary of one's surroundings and be careful. The smaller the city that you are in, the less likely anything will happen. However, like in large cities in most countries, the large cities in Chile do have problems with pickpocketing and occasional mugging.

Victims of crime should contact their embassy and call the local emergency services. Again, 133 is for the police department, 132 is for the fire department, and 131 is for an ambulance.

U.S. Embassy Contact Information

U.S. Embassy Santiago

Avenida Andres Bello 2800,
Las Condes, Santiago, Chile
Telephone: +(56) (2) 2330-3000
Emergency After-Hours Telephone +(56)(2) 2330-3000
Fax: +(56)(2) 2330-3000
Email: santiagoamcit@state.gov



Cost of Basic Services

Utilities (Monthly):

Basic (electricity, water, heating, garbage) for a 915 square-foot apartment: from \$68.11 to \$160.81, with the average being \$110.22.

Telecommunications:

Two example plans are:

VTR Mega 2 plan: \$29/month for 2MB/s, unlimited.

Movistar Small plan: \$40/month for between 1-4MB/s

1 minute of Prepaid Mobile with no discounts or plans: \$0.18.

Chilean Residency and Citizenship

Gaining Legal Residency

One of the things that makes Chile's residency process unique is that it is one of the few Latin American countries that doesn't require the applicant to have a minimum financial investment to get permanent residency.

To apply for permanent residency, you need to have lived in Chile for two years and be in Chile for at least 180 days each year.

To apply, you have to go to the Immigration Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs two months before your visa expires, or anytime at a Chilean embassy in your country. There you will have to present the following documentation:

- Certification from the International Police in Chile showing no criminal history.
- A medical report.
- A statement about why you want to live in Chile.
- Proof you can financially support yourself (bank statements or proof of income).
- Certificate of your entries and exits from Chile.

- Two color passport photographs with your passport number on them.
- Copies of all your passport pages and both sides of your Chilean ID card, if you have one.

If you are applying from outside of Chile, it is best to consult the embassy or consulate about the documents needed, since it can differ on a case-by-case basis when you are not applying directly at the immigration office in Chile.

Gaining Citizenship

Chile does accept dual nationality, so you will not have to revoke your other citizenship to become a Chilean citizen. After having Chilean residency for five years, you qualify to apply for citizenship. However, the process usually takes about two years. You will have to:

- Have your own residency visa.
- Have no criminal record (smaller offenses won't affect your application depending on the offense).
- Have proof of income through employment or a pension.
- Have a completed Solicitud de Carta de Nacionalización form.
- Have a letter saying why you want to become a Chilean citizen.
- Have a police report.
- Have a detailed list of your travels in and out of Chile.
- Two color passport pictures with your passport number on them.
- Have a photocopy of your passport, both sides of your ID card, and your permanent residency card.

Chilean Consulate and Embassy Information

City	Consulate Information
Washington D.C. (Embassy)	1732 Massachusetts Avenue NW Washington DC 20036 U.S. Tel.: (202) 785.1746 International Tel.: +1.202.785.1746
Houston (Consulate)	1300 Post Oak Blvd, Suite 1130 Houston, TX 77056 U.S. Tel.: (713) 621.5853 International Tel.: +1.713.621.5853
Chicago (Consulate)	1415 N. Dayton St., 2nd floor Chicago, IL 60642 U.S. Tel.: (312) 654.8780 International Tel.: +1.312.654.8780
Los Angeles (Consulate)	6100 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1240 Los Angeles, CA 90048 U.S. Tel.: (323) 933.3697 International Tel.: +1.323.933.3697
Miami (Consulate)	800 Brickell Avenue, Suite 1200 Miami, FL 33131 U.S. Tel.: (305) 373.8623 International Tel.: +1.305.373.8623
New York (Consulate)	866 United Nations Plaza, Suite 601 New York, NY 10017 U.S. Tel.: (212) 980.3366 International Tel.: +1.212.980.3366
San Francisco (Consulate)	870 Market Street, Suite 1058 San Francisco, CA 94102 U.S. Tel.: (415) 982.7665 International Tel.: +1.415.982.7665

Medical and Healthcare

Healthcare quality differs depending on the region that you are in, but you can expect U.S. standards in the major cities, especially Santiago. There is public healthcare in Chile, but it is only available to residents and citizens so it is highly recommended that you consult with your provider to see if they will cover you in Chile - or you can purchase one of Chile's private healthcare programs. The Chilean life expectancy is 78, which matches that of the U.S. and only lags behind a few western European countries, Canada, and Japan. A major difference between Chilean doctors and many in North America is that there are very few General Practitioners in Chile. Instead, people simply go see specialists without a referral from a GP. Pharmacies (Farmacia) can be easily found around Chile and are well stocked with modern medicines and natural medicines. Plus, no additional vaccinations are needed or recommended for travel to Chile.

Services	Name	Location within Santiago	Phone Number
General Medicine	ACUÑA, Guillermo MD gacunal@gmail.com	Clinica Las Condes Lo Fontecilla 441	610-8076 207-0530
General Medicine	ALFARO, Eduardo MD (Family Doctor) (Home visit) ealf@adsl.tic.cl	El Rodeo 13.052 Lo Barnechea (La Dehesa)	216-1445 241-8477
General Medicine	CAVEDES, Iván	Clinica Alemana	210-1101/1102
General Medicine	ESPINOZA, Ricardo MD	Clinica Las Condes	610-8076 610-4601
General Surgery	BUCKEL, Erwin MD	Clinica Las Condes	610-8751
General Surgery	BURDILES, Patricio MD	Clinica Las Condes	610-8751
General Surgery	CARVAJAL, Carlos MD	Clinica Las Condes	610-8762
Allergy	CABRERA, Raúl, MD	Clinica Alemana	210-1062
Allergy	SALINAS, Jessica	Clinica Las Condes	610-8000
Cardiology	ABUFHELE, Alejandro MD	Clinica Alemana	210-1051
Cardiology	ASENJO, René MD	Clinica Alemana	210-1051
Cardiology	BERNAL, Sergio MD	Clinica Las Condes	610-8505
Cardiac Surgeon	BAEZA, Cristian MD	Clinica Las Conde	610-8499
Cardiac Surgeon	HOWARD, Michael MD	Clinica Alemana	210-1051
Cardiac Surgeon	URIBE, Pedro MD	Clinica Las Condes	610-8499
Dentist	DR ARRIBETA, Matias (Periodontist)	Clinica Estoril Av. Paul Harris 10.349, of 101	215-3590
Dentist	DR CHARAD, Jaime A.	San Sebastián 2947 Camino Central 2225 La Dehesa	387-9600 381-9600
Orthodontist	CHARAD, Jaime	Clinica San Sebastian Camin Central 2225, La Dehesa	381-9611
Orthodontist	DR PRUZZO, Caterina	Av. Las Condes 10373 of 58	243-0721 243-0722
Dermatology	CABRERA, Raúl MD	Clinica Alemana	210-1062
Dermatology	LOBOS, Pedro MD	Clinica Las Condes	610-8661
Endocrinology	BECKER, Pedro MD	Clinica Las Condes	610-8000
Endocrinology	KUZMANIC, Andreas MD (Diabetes)	Clinica Las Condes	610-8000
Ear, Nose and Throat	ABIUSO V., José MD	Clinica Alemana	210-1071
Ear, Nose and Throat	CABEZA, Luis MD	Clinica Las Condes	610-8545
Gastroenterology	BRAHM, Javier MD	Clinica Las Condes	610-8749
Gastroenterology	FERREIRO, Mario MD	Clinica Las Condes	610-8751
Hematology	DUHALDE, Mauricio MD	Clinica Las Condes	610-8614
Hematology	REGONESI, Carlos MD	Clinica Las Condes	610-8614
Immunology	TOCHE, Paula MD	Clinica Las Condes	610-8614
Immunology	SALINAS, Jessica MD	Clinica Las Condes	610-8614
Infectology	ACUÑA, Guillermo MD	Clinica Las Condes	610-8076
Infectology	ESPINOZA, Ricardo MD	Clinica Las Condes	610-8076
Neurology	BARAHONA, Jorge MD	Clinica Alemana	210-1061
Neurology	BEHRENS, Maria Isabel MD	Clinica Alemana	210-1061
Obstetricians - Gynecology	BUHLER, Simon MD	Clinica Alemana	210-1092/3
Obstetricians - Gynecology	FABRES, Cecilia MD	Clinica Las Condes	610-8057
Oncology	CERECEDA, Luis MD	Clinica Las Condes	610-8614
Oncology	REGONESI, Carlos MD	Clinica Las Condes	610-8614 243-0245
Ophthalmology	CHARLIN, Raimundo MD	Clinica Las Condes	610-8262
Ophthalmology	EGGERS, Andrés MD	Clinica Alemana	210-1080

Education



Chile is renowned for its educational system and is the host of many acclaimed study abroad programs. In fact, Santiago was named as the 44th best city in the world for college students.

Top Chilean Universities

Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile



Considered one of the best, if not the best, university of Chile, the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile was founded in the late 1800s and is a Catholic college. It responds directly to the pontiff and his counsel. It is internationally recognized throughout the world and has a significant international student population. It offers undergraduate, graduate, and PhD programs.

Contact: Main Desk: (56) (2) 354 2000/4000
Address: Avda. Libertador Bernardo O'Higgins
340 - Santiago - Chile

Universidad de Chile



The best or second best college in Chile, depending on who you ask. It is a public university but has international recognition across the world and houses many international students. It was founded in 1842 and is the oldest educational institution in Chile.

Contact: (56) (2) 978 2000
Address: Av. Libertador Bernardo
O'Higgins 1058, Santiago de Chile

UNIVERSIDAD DE CHILE

Universidad de Concepción



Established in 1920, Universidad de Concepción (University of Concepción) is a private higher education institution located in the small city of Concepción (population range of 250,000-499,999 inhabitants), Bio Bio. Officially accredited by the Consejo Nacional de Educación, Chile, Universidad de Concepción (UdeC) offers courses and programs leading to higher education degrees such as bachelor degrees and doctorate degrees in several areas of study. This institution has a selective admission policy based on entrance examinations.

Contact: (56) 41 220 4000

Address: Concepción, Bío Bío Region, Chile

Preschool-High School

International School Nido De Aguilas (Nido)



**International School
Nido de Aguilas**

Address: Av. El Rodeo 14200. Lo Barnechea, Santiago, Chile

Tel: (562) 339-8108

Premier international school offering K-12 education in English, with a combined American and Chilean curriculum. All classes are taught in English with required Spanish language classes for both native and for non-native Spanish speakers. It offers the North American school calendar and serves both Chileans and the international business and diplomatic community of Santiago. Graduates can earn three diplomas: U.S., Chilean, and International Baccalaureate.

The Grange School



Address: Av. Principe de Gales # 6154. La Reina, Santiago, Chile

Tel: 02-5981500

The Grange School is a private English co-ed school. Instruction is also provided in Spanish. It offers a Lower Prep (Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten, 1st Prep and 2nd Prep), Upper Prep, and Senior School.

Santiago College



Address: Av. Lota #2465 -Providencia, Santiago, Chile

Tel: (56-2)751 38 00

Fundación Educacional Santiago College is a private educational (PK-12) institution founded in 1880. Opened as a boarding school for girls by American Methodist missionaries, this bilingual Chilean school combines the Chilean national curriculum with the International Baccalaureate Programs Primary Years Program (PYP), Middle Years Program (MYP), and Diploma Program. The vast majority of Santiago College students are Chilean nationals.

The International Preparatory School (TIPS)



Address: Pastor Fernandez 16001. Lo Barnechea, Santiago, Chile

Tel: (562) 321-5800

The curriculum is based on the National Curriculum for England and Wales. The school offers education from early childhood through High School in preparation for university. The elementary and middle school grades are accredited by the Chilean Ministry of Education. The high school follows the British system and is recognized by the University of Cambridge as an exam center. Students may take the IGCSE (International General Certificate of Secondary Education) examinations with the possibility of going on to the AS and A-level exams.

Bradford School



Address: Avenida Luis Pasteur 6335. Vitacura, Santiago, Chile

Tel: 56(02)9123140

Bradford was founded in 1954 by three English noblewomen. It is a member of the ABSCH and the LAHC. It is essentially a British school in Chile and follows all of the same curricula and exams.

Craighouse School

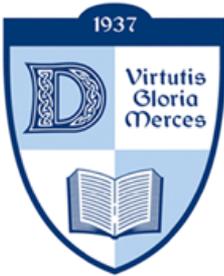


CRAIGHOUSE SCHOOL

Address: El Rodeo 12525. Santiago, Chile
Tel: (562)7560200

Students may enroll in pre-K, Kindergarten, Basic Education, and Secondary Education. In the second and fourth year of High School, students perform a special examination in the German language, which enables them to study in Germany or Austria. It also offers the IB Program.

Dunalastair



Dunalastair

Address: Av. Las Condes 11.931; Camino del Solar S/N - Colina; Peñalolen (Ave. Quilín 8.669. Santiago, Chile
Tel: (562) 495-6600

Three campuses make up this British curriculum-based school. The International Baccalaureate is offered as well as the local examinations of the PSU.

Redland School

REDLAND SCHOOL



Address: Camino el Alba 11.357. Las Condes, Santiago, Chile
Tel: 959 85 00

A British-style school offering IB, Cambridge exam center, and core Christian values. Instruction is in English, with proficiency in Spanish encouraged.

Colegio Internacional SEK-Chile



Address: Los Militares 6640
Los Condes, Santiago, Chile
Tel: (562) 2127116-2114741
Colegio Internacional SEK is an IB World School. It offers the IB Diploma Programme.



Albagli Zaliasnik

Address: Miraflores 130, 25th floor, Santiago.

Telephone: 56-2-2-4456000.

Website: <http://www.english.az.cl/>

Fields of law: corporate, tax, litigation, intellectual, and industrial property.

Alessandri Abogados

Address: El Regidor 66, 10th floor, Las Condes, Santiago.

Telephone: 56-2-2-7876062.

Website: <http://www.alessandrilaw.com/>

Fields of law: corporate, intellectual property, mergers and acquisitions, dispute resolution and arbitration, capital markets, tax, labor law, insurance, foreign investment and international business transaction, natural resources, and environmental.

Barros y Errázuriz

Address: Isidora Goyenechea 2939, 10th Floor, Las Condes, Santiago.

Telephone: 56-2-2-3788900.

Website: <http://www.bye.cl/en/>

Email: contacto@bye.cl

Fields of law: antitrust, capital markets, corporate, dispute resolution, energy, environment, financing, foreign investment, real estate, tax, labor, insurance, telecommunications.

Bofill Mir & Alvarez Jana

Address: Andres Bello 2711, 8th and 9th floor, Torre Costanera, Las Condes, Santiago

Telephone: 56-2-2-7577600

Website: <http://www.bmaj.cl/eng/>

Fields of law: administrative law, environmental, regulated markets, antitrust, banking, bankruptcy, civil and commercial litigation, international arbitration, energy, corporate, labor, mergers and acquisitions, mining, tax, telecommunications.

Carey

Address: Isidora Goyenechea 2800, 43rd Floor, Las Condes, Santiago.

Telephone: 56-2-2-9282200.

Website: <http://www.carey.cl/en/>

Email: carey@carey.cl

Fields of law: antitrust and regulated markets, aviation and maritime law, banking and financial, capital markets, construction, criminal law, energy, environmental law, litigation and arbitration, intellectual property, tax, public law, labor and employment law, immigration, hospitality and gaming, insolvency, bankruptcy, and restructuring.

Cariola Diez Pérez-Cotapos

Address: Andres Bello 2711, 19th floor, Las Condes, Santiago.

Telephone: 56-2-2-3604000.

Website: <http://www.cariola.cl/>

Fields of law: business organization, foreign investment, competition law, taxation, labor and social security system, environmental regulations, intellectual property, visas.

Claro & Cia

Address: Apoquindo 3721, 14th floor, Las Condes, Santiago.

Telephone: 56-2-2-3673000

Website: <http://www.claro.cl/en/index.html>

Email: claro@claro.cl

Fields of law: administrative, antitrust, banking, bankruptcy, business organizations, constitutional, criminal law, data protection, economic regulation, energy and natural resources, real estate, insurance, intellectual property, international trade, labor and employment, litigation and arbitration, mining, project finance, tax, and telecommunications.

CMC Abogados y Consultores

Address: Avenida Kennedy 5600, 5th floor, Vitacura, Santiago.

Telephone: 56-2-2-3790152.

Website: <http://www.cmcabogados.cl/eng/index.html>

Email: contacto@cmcabogados.cl

Fields of law: litigation and criminal defense, extraditions, internal investigations, and immigration.

Fernandois & Cia

Address: Nueva Tajamar 481, Torre Norte, suite 708, Santiago.

Telephone: 56-2-2-2036311.

Website: <http://www.fernandois.cl/english-site/home.html>

Email: abogados@fernandois.cl

Fields of law: Administrative and constitutional litigation, economic regulatory law, corporate and international business law, criminal, and labor law.

Grasty Quintana Majlis & Cia

Address: Magdalena 140, 20th floor, Las Condes, Santiago.

Telephone: 56-2-2-4990460.

Website: <http://gqmc.cl/en/>

Email: gqmc@grasty.cl

Fields of law: Corporate, labor, natural resources, litigation.

Guerrero Olivos

Address: Vitacura 2939, 8th floor, Las Condes, Santiago.

Telephone: 56-2-2-6742900

Website:

http://www.guerrero.cl/prontus_guerrero/site/edic/base/port/inicio.html

Email: abogados@guerrero.cl

Fields of law: Banking and finance, project finance, capital markets, insurance, water law, foreign investment, constitutional law, administrative law, tax law, franchising, litigation, arbitration and dispute resolution, telecommunications, energy and natural resources, mining, environmental law, antitrust, intellectual property, and sanitary law.

Gutiérrez Waugh Jimeno Asenjo

Address: Isidora Goyenechea 3477, 23rd floor, Santiago.

Telephone: 56-2-2-3792000

Website: <http://www.gutierrezabogados.cl/index.php/en/>

Email: recepcion@gutierrezabogados.cl

Fields of law: national and international arbitration, lawsuits, capital markets, antitrust, administrative law, banking, and bankruptcy.

Horvitz & Horvitz

Address: Huerfanos 770, suite 2303, Santiago.

Telephone: 56-2-2-6380485.

Website: <http://www.horvitz.cl/en/index.html>

Fields of law: family law, civil, criminal.

Morales y Besa

Address: Isidora Goyenechea 3477, 19th floor, Las Condes, Santiago.

Telephone: 56-2-2-4727000.

Website: <http://www.moralesybesa.cl/eng/>

Fields of law: mergers and acquisitions, banking, capital markets, antitrust, litigation and arbitration, intellectual property, real estate and construction, energy and natural resources, and environmental.

Palma Abogados

Address: Isidora Goyenechea 3162, 7th floor, Las Condes, Santiago, Chile.

Telephone: 56-2-2-3676500.

Website: <http://www.palma.cl/english-site/index.html>

Fields of law: arbitration, labor law, and litigation.

Tapia Elorza & Cia

Address: Colo Colo 379, Suite 604, Concepción.

Telephone: 56-41-2-851724.

[Website: http://www.tapiaelorza.cl/](http://www.tapiaelorza.cl/)

Email: etapia@tapiaelorza.cl

Fields of law: insurance, banking, commercial, labor, civil, and damages.

Verónica Weissbluth Weinstein

Address: Benjamin 2935, Suite 601, Las Condes, Santiago.

Telephone: 56-2-2-3345693

[Website: http://wmaabogados.cl/index.html](http://wmaabogados.cl/index.html)

Email: vweissbluth@wmaabogados.cl

Fields of law: family law

Pro Bono Services

Fundación Pro Bono

Address: Calle la Concepción 226, Providencia, Santiago.

Telephone: 56-2-2-3815660.

[Website: http://www.probono.cl/english-version/](http://www.probono.cl/english-version/)

Email: probono@probono.cl

Corporación de Asistencia Judicial

Address: Agustinas 1419, Santiago

Telephone: 56-2-29371000

Website: <http://www.cajmetro.cl/>

Fundación de Asistencia Social y Legal de la Familia

Address: San Martín 543, Santiago.

Telephone: 56-2-2-6980603.

[Website: http://www.funlegalfamilia.cl/](http://www.funlegalfamilia.cl/)

Traveling with Children



Societally, Chile is very family oriented and believes in strong familial ties. This culture makes it both family-friendly and accommodating to families with children. Likewise, Chile is filled with child-friendly adventures and safe activities. In Chile, you will find a variety of activities of which you and your children can both partake, including hiking, cycling, horse riding, and rafting or canoeing.

In general, Chile is very child-friendly and you will find a variety of amenities, such as reduced admission rates, helpful locals, and designated parking spaces and grocery lines for expecting mothers. Likewise, baby food and products can be easily found at any market. Regarding public bathrooms, while it is acceptable for a mother to take her young boy into the women's room, it is socially unacceptable for a man to take his daughter into the men's room.

There are no food or water concerns in Chile, however bottled water may be recommended if your child has a sensitive stomach.

Below is a list of the top three regions to travel to with children, as they offer a wide variety of safe, low-intensity activities.

Santiago: The Chilean capital is as modern and accessible as any other major city in the world. Not only does it have beautiful parks, nature reserves, and other eco-adventure parks, but it is also filled with children's museums and other educational classes geared towards children.

Sur Chico: This region is perfect for those children who yearn for some outdoor exploration. Lake towns such as Pucón or Puerto Varas host a variety of kid-friendly activities, such as horseback riding, swimming, farm tours, water sports, and volcano treks.

Norte Chico: In this region you will find an array of seaside adventures suited for children and adults alike. This tranquil, sunny region offers beautiful beaches, swimming, and surf lessons.

Women Travelers

Most female travelers will find no issues while traveling to and throughout Chile, however, as in any part of the world, some precautions should be taken. Given the influx of foreigners, Chile has lessened the traditional machismo culture that you will find in many other parts of Latin America.

In some cases, foreign women may experience verbal street harassment in the form of whistling or catcalling, but these are typically harmless and not a safety concern. It is advised that women ignore both the men and their comments, and in most cases they will stop. Wearing liberal clothing and walking alone may draw more attention to yourself than wearing more conservative dress and walking in groups.

Other additional precautions should be taken to ensure your total safety. Rape and sexual assault against foreigners is very rare in Chile, however women should not walk alone at night or hitchhike and should always remain aware of their surroundings. If you are traveling alone and feel uncomfortable, sit next to or near another woman or a family. Be vigilant about which taxis you take, and avoid taking those with more than one man inside. Typically, you can pay the driver more for them not to pick up another fare.

LGBT+ Travelers



While Chile is traditionally quite conservative and strongly Catholic, it has experienced an increased tolerance of LGBT individuals. Much like the rest of the world, Chile has passed several laws granting protections to these individuals, making it one of the safest regions in the region. In 1999, same-sex activity was decriminalized and, in 2015, same-sex civil unions were legalized. Likewise, LGBT peoples may serve in the military, adopt, and are protected by law from discrimination. There are various human rights groups such as Movil H (Movement for the Integration and Liberation of Homosexuals), which advocate for the protection of LGBT rights. Santiago, much like other major cities, has an active gay scene, which can be found in the Bellavista neighborhood.

Travelers with disabilities

While Chile has modern infrastructure comparable to many U.S. and European cities, travelers with disabilities may find some challenges in traveling the country. While a majority of buildings are not handicap accessible, per recent law, all new buildings must be equipped with proper infrastructure.

Public transportation services in Santiago, such as its state-of-the-art metro line and bus system, are becoming more accessible for disabled persons. Moreover, many national parks throughout the country will offer discounts or even free passes to individuals with disabilities. The U.S. organization “Accessible Journeys” is a great tool and organizes independent trips to Chile for disabled persons. More information can be found online at www.disabilitytravel.com



Where to travel

As noted, Chile's topography is typically split into five sections. Throughout each of these regions, you will find distinct sights and attractions. The following is a list of the most popular travel destinations in Chile, categorized by its five regions.

FAR NORTH (NORTE GRANDE)

This northernmost region of Chile is home to Andean lagoons, sky-scraping volcanoes, salt flats, and perforated coastline, including Chile's highest peak, Ojos del Salado Mountains, and the driest desert in the world. This region hosts raw natural sights that are unique only to this region of the world. Below are the most adventurous and jaw-dropping attractions.

San Pedro de Atacama



Without a doubt, San Pedro de Atacama is Chile's number-one tourist destination, and rightfully so. This Andean adobe oasis is home to some of Chile's most spectacular views and other natural marvels, including the country's largest salt flat, various volcanoes, spanning geyser fields, and out-of-this-world rock formations. In spite of its small size and population (roughly 4,000 inhabitants as of 2013), this tiny mountain town welcomes thousands of tourists a year and has developed appropriate infrastructure. Recent development projects have produced a proliferation of hotels, resorts, restaurants, and internet cafes. Come to the laid-back San Pedro to see stunning adobe architecture and picturesque landscapes.

What to do

Valle de la Luna Excursion

For CH\$8,000-10,000, you can take a guided tour of the Valle de la Luna, Valle de la Muerte, and Tres Marías. This excursion leaves San Pedro de Atacama mid-afternoon and returns in the early evening. Here, you will find amazing rock carvings and sand formations against a backdrop of beautiful colors. Perhaps the most amazing part of this trip is the sunset, which adds an additional layer of color.

El Tatio Geysers

For roughly CH\$18,000-20,000, a tour of el Tatio Geysers is highly recommended. Tours of this destination typically leave early in the morning, around 4am, and return in the early afternoon. Here you can enjoy thermal baths against breathtaking sunrises.

Atacama Inca Tour

On this excursion, you can sand-surf on the sand dunes of the Atacama Desert. For CH\$10,000, you will receive a 20-minute sand boarding class taught by experienced instructors as well as a DVD video clip of your surf. It has tours from 9am-Noon, 3pm-7pm, and a night sand board party tour from 9pm-midnight.

For more information, visit www.sandboardsanpedro.com

Volcano Expeditions

In San Pedro de Atacama, you can enjoy various guided mountain and volcano expeditions. There are various day climbs to Sairecabur (5971 m; CH\$110,000), Lascar (5592 m; CH\$100,000), and Tocco (5604 m; CH\$70,000). You can also do mountain bike rides for CH\$20,000-CH\$35,000.

For more information, visit www.vulcanochile.com

Gustavo Le Paige Museum

The Gustavo Le Paige Museum is one of the most impressive and recommended museums in all of Chile. Given its location in the dry Atacama region, it contains a wide array of ancient artifacts, both natural and man-made. Notably, it contains a detailed description in both English and Spanish, of the region's evolution from ancient times up to Spanish arrival. There are daily guided tours from central San Pedro from CH\$1,800.

Where to stay

Name	Estimated cost per night	Address	Amenities
Hostal Solor	US\$66 per night	Volcan el Tatio #737, Licancabur, San Pedro de Atacama	Free Wi-Fi, Bike Rental, Garden
Hostal Quinta Adela	US\$90 per night	Toconao 624, San Pedro de Atacama	Family Rooms, Garden & Terrace, Airport Shuttle, Free Wi-Fi
Hotel Pascual Andino	US\$185 per night	Gustavo Le Paige 150, San Pedro de Atacama	Complimentary Breakfast, Free Wi-Fi, Free Parking, Garden

Where to stay

Name	Type	Prices	Address	Contact Info
La Casona	South American	CH\$6,000-10,000	Caracoles 196	+56-55-851337
El Toconar	International	CH\$4,000-9,000	Cnr Toconao y Caracoles	www.eltoconar.cl
Algarrobo	Other	CH\$3,500-6,500	South side of Plaza	www.losalgarrobosdechecar.cl

Putre



This quaint Aymara village has experienced a recent interest among foreign explorers. Strategically located near Arica and the Parque Nacional Lauca, it now hosts various hostels and other tourism amenities. Given its colonial history, it maintains ancient colonial architecture surrounded by spanning hills grazed by llamas, sheep, and cattle. Come to Putre and enjoy some of Chile's most spectacular natural sights.

What to do

Parque Nacional Lauca

The Lauca National Park contains stunning snow-capped volcanos, the Salar de Surire Natural Monument, and the Lauca biosphere reserve. Beyond the volcanos, you will find stunning lacustrine features, most notably the Chungará and Cotaco Tani lakes. Tours can typically be booked through hotels or hostels in Putre.

Cali Tours

This tour agency organizes various tours, rentals, and excursions throughout the Putre region. Small guided tours can be taken to surrounding treks and mountain trails. They also rent mountain bikes (CH\$12,000 per day) and cars (CH\$50,000 per day), and sell roundtrip tickets to La Paz, Bolivia; a 6-hour venture costing around CH\$20,000.

Alto Andino Nature Tours

This unique one-on-one guided tour is lead by Alaskan biologist Barbara Knapton. Upon reservation, she will accompany you by car and offer bird watching, wildflower, and natural-history excursions. Tours can be conducted in both English and Spanish. For more information, visit: www.birdingaltoandino.com

where to stay

Name	Estimated cost per night	Address	Amenities
Hotel las Vicuñas	US\$50 per night	Ave Baquedano 80	Three-star hotel, pets allowed, game room, garden and terrace, restaurant, shuttle service, free Wi-Fi
Terrace Lodge	US\$66 per night	Circunvalación N. 25	Central heating and air, free breakfast, close proximity to various restaurants, shuttle service, free Wi-Fi, currency exchange
La Chakana	US\$67 per night	Marca Pampa, s/n	Private rooms, airport shuttle, excursion tours, free Wi-Fi, bicycle rental, garden

where to stay

Name	Type	Prices	Address	Contact Info
Canta Verdi	International	CH\$4,500-6,500	Arturo Perez Canto 339	N/a
Rosamel	Chilean	CH\$3,500	Latorre 400 C	+56-8342-1001
Kuchu Marka	Chilean	CH\$4,000-6,000	Baquedano 351	N/a

Antofagasta



This pacific port city is often overlooked by tourists eager to visit other more popular regions. For this reason, this small-scale metropolis is great for relaxing while living the city life. This port city is of importance to both Chile and also Bolivia, which utilize it for ocean access per trade agreement. Come to Antofagasta if you yearn a path less traveled by.

What to do

Barrio Histórico

This coastal neighborhood is home to beautiful Victorian and Georgian buildings set against the backdrop of the Pacific Ocean. Here you will find old treasures from Antofagasta's past.

La Portada

Just north of the city limits you can find the famous La Portada, also referred to as Heaven's Door. This impressive rock formation is the result of centuries of erosion by wind and sea, creating an arc shape that opens to the Pacific Ocean. Many hotels in Antofagasta have tours available. There is also a popular restaurant that sits with a perfect view of this natural spectacle.

Melbourne Clark Pier

Home to various beaches and a pier, this is a favorite picture-taking spot for tourists and locals alike. Historically, it served as the center of the region's salt trade, and today it boasts one of the best views of the Pacific horizon.

Mano del Desierto

Located in the middle of the Atacama Desert, this statue resembling a giant hand coming up from the sand was constructed as a tribute to the thousands of victims who suffered under Pinochet's regime.

Biblioteca Regional de Antofagasta

Located in Plaza Colon, this modern library is a great place to relax and spend a few minutes or hours reading some Chilean literature.

Where to Stay

Name	Estimated cost per night	Address	Amenities
Alto del Sol Costanera	US\$58 per night	Av. Croatia 786	Handicap accessible, beach access, breakfast, free Wi-Fi, free parking, casino
Panamericana Hotel Antofagasta	US\$89 per night	Balmaceda 2575	Pool, bar, barber/beauty shop, terrace, room service, restaurant (à la carte), free Wi-Fi
Enjoy Antofagasta Hotel del Desierto	US\$101 per night	Av. Angamos 01455	Casino, indoor and outdoor pools, free Wi-Fi, sauna, hammam, massages, 4 restaurants, in-room breakfast

Where to eat

Name	Type	Prices	Address	Contact Info
Café del Sol	Chilean	CH\$3,500-8,000	Esmeraldo 2013	www.cafedelsolchile.com
Picadillo	Other	CH\$4,500-8,300	Avenida Grecia 1000	+56-55-247-503
El Arriero	Steak	CH\$4,500-13,500	Condell 2644	www.arrieroafta.cl/restaurant/

Calama



Often overlooked, this rough and grungy town is actually the economic powerhouse of northern Chile, supplying a large portion of the region's copper supply. This town is a perfect resting point on your stop to San Pedro de Atacama. Tourists will not be welcomed into Calama with open arms.. With that being said, adventurers will find themselves at ease in Calama. You will definitely not find this town in most guide books. Come see for yourself what others are missing.

Where to stay

Name	Estimated cost per night	Address	Amenities
L&S Hotel	US\$40 per night	Vicuña Mackenna 1819	Free Wi-Fi, Restaurant, Free Parking, Spa, Beauty Salon, In-room Breakfast
Hotel Diego de Almagro Calama	US\$70 per night	Avenida la Paz 1675	Outdoor Pool, Cable TV, Free Wi-Fi, Bar, Room Service
DoubleTree by Hilton Calama	US\$89 per night	Balmaceda 2634	Casino, Rooftop Pool, In-room Breakfast, Terrace, Tour Desk, Restaurant

Where to eat

Name	Type	Prices	Address	Contact Info
Fogata Bar	Other	CH\$2,800-6,000	Vicuña Mackenna 1973	+56-99-007-8624
Bocado	International	CH\$4,500-8,000	Ramírez and Abaroa	N/a
Club Croata	Chilean	CH\$5,000-8,500	Abaroa 1869	N/a

Iquique



This North-Chilean beach town is considered one of the country's best beach resorts, filled with a luxurious casino, beautiful coastal boardwalk, and various other activities like paragliding, surfing, and sand-boarding. Come walk through the streets and admire its 19th century Georgian-style architecture, or enjoy its shop's duty-free status. Wedged right between the Andes and the Pacific, this town is a great break from the tedious desert towns of the Norte Grande region.

What to do

Casino Español

Located in the main plaza of Iquique, this Moorish-style building from 1904 is Iquique's most famous attraction. It is a casino, as well as a restaurant and nightclub. Stop in for a drink or bite to eat, and stay for a game of cards or a night of dancing.

Museo Corbeta Esmeralda

Originally captured by Arturo Prat in the early nineteenth century, the sunken Esmeralda lives again in Iquique as a new museum. Come learn the history of the War of the Pacific and experience the great Esmeralda for yourself. Entrance fee for this museum is CH\$3,000.

Playa Cavancha

Perhaps Iquique's most attractive beach, Playa Cavancha is a great beach for swimming, wakeboarding, or other sports. The further south you travel, the rougher and more dangerous the waves get, making Playa Cavancha a perfect spot.

Where to stay

Name	Estimated cost per night	Address	Amenities
Hotel Barros Arana	US\$ 62 per night	Barros Arana 1302	Free Wi-Fi, Restaurant, Room Service, Terrace, Non-Smoking Rooms
Hotel Sunfish	US\$ 105 per night	Amunategui 1990	Free Wi-Fi, Restaurant, Pool, Free Parking
Gavina Sens Iquique	US\$131 per night	Avenida Arturo Prat	Bar and Restaurant, In-room Breakfast, Garden, Room Service, Tour Desk, Free Wi-Fi

Where to eat

Name	Type	\$ Prices	Address	Contact Info
El Wagón	Chilean	CH\$8,500-10,000	Avenida Thompson 85	N/a
El Tercer Ojito	International	CH\$ 7,500-9,000	Lynch 1420	www.eltercerojito.cl
La Mulata	Fusion	CH\$8,000-11,000	Prat 902	www.lamulata.cl

Arica



Located 3 hours north of Iquique, the brown sugar beaches of Arica are warm and sunny all year-round. Its close proximity to the Lauca National Park and Azapa Valley makes it a great place to stay for a night or a week. Beyond its beautiful beaches, Arica has much more to offer.

What to do

Ruta Andina

Through this tour company, you can trek, bike, or travel by 4x4 through the northern villages. This is a great chance to come in contact with the local populations and make rich cultural encounters. More information can be found online at www.rutaandina.com or by calling +56-58-252-676.

Museo de Sitio Colón 10

An entrance fee between CH\$1,000-2,000 will grant you access to 32 excavated Chinchorro mummies that were discovered during the attempted construction of a hotel. Experience some of the oldest known mummies in the world and get a great view of the city from the museum's terrace.

El Morro de Arica

This is a great first activity to do upon your arrival to Arica. Located 110m above the city, this shoulder of rocks gives you a bird's-eye view of the city. Come learn the history of this ledge and its significance to the victory of Chile during the War of the Pacific in the 1880s. The hilltop can be accessed by car or taxi (typically CH\$4,000 round trip).

Where to stay

Name	Estimated cost per night	Address	Amenities
Hotel Americano	US\$55 per night	General Lagos 571	Free Parking, Free Wi-Fi, Continental Breakfast
Panamericana Hotel Arica	US\$89 per night	Avenida Comandante San Martin 599	Restaurant, Bar, Car hire, Airport shuttle, currency exchange, Free Wi-Fi
Hotel Gavina Express	US\$101 per night	Avenida 21 Mayo 425	Breakfast, Free Wi-Fi, Desired location, airport shuttle, Panoramic city views

Where to eat

Name	Type	Prices	Address	Contact Info
Los Aleros de 21	Chilean	CH\$7,000-12,000	Avenida 21 de Mayo 736	+56-58-225-4641
Govinda	Organic	CH\$800	Blanco Encalada 200	+56-8-445-5670
Mata-Rangi	Seafood	CH\$4,000-5,000	Muelle Pesquero	N/a

Near North (Norte Chico)

The near north region is the middle ground between the far northern drylands and the central temperate region. To the west, it touches the Pacific Ocean and to the east, the Andes mountains. Below are the must-see sights in this region.

La Serena



One of Chile's oldest cities, La Serena is home to both beautiful neocolonial architecture and stunning ocean views. During January-February, La Serena experiences a huge influx of Chilean holidaymakers, however it is relatively calm during the rest of the year. Come enjoy its pretty plazas and architecture, or visit surrounding pisco vineyards, quaint villages, or astronomical observatories.

What to do

Museo Histórico Casa Gabriel González Videla

For a small price of CH\$300-600, you should visit the Historic Museum of the House of Gabriel González Videla, Chilean president from 1946-1952. This 18th century mansion is filled with works and artifacts from the late president. For more information, visit www.museohistoricolaserena.cl

Plaza de Armas

The Plaza de Armas is home to some of La Serena's most impressive neoclassical architecture. Here you will find the Iglesia Catedral, constructed in 1844, as well as various museums and art exhibits displaying the La Serena's rich history and culture.

Observatorio Turístico Collawara

This brand new observatory was built for tourism. For the price of CH\$3,500-CH\$4,500, you can experience stellar views of the cosmos from this hilltop observatory. For more information, [Visit : www.collawara.cl](http://www.collawara.cl)

Where to stay

Name	Estimated cost per night	Address	Amenities
Hotel Francisco de Aguirre	US\$67 per night	Cordovez 210	Free Wi-Fi, Restaurant, Tour Desk, Facilities for Disabled Guests, Bar
Hotel Club La Serena	US\$93 per night	Avda del Mar N. 1000	Free Wi-Fi, Shuttle Service, Restaurant, Tour Desk, Tennis Court, Pool, Car Rental, Free Parking
Hotel Costa Real	US\$99 per night	Francisco de Aguirre 170	Outdoor pool, restaurant, breakfast, terrace, bar, free parking, free Wi-Fi,

Where to eat

Name	Type	Prices	Address	Contact Info
El Santo	International/ Brewery	CH\$6,000-9,000	Av del Mar 4000	N/a
Donde el Guatón	Argentine Parrilla	CH\$2,900-8,900	Brasil 750	N/a
Ayawasi	Vegetarian	CH\$4,000-9,000	Pedro Pablo Muñoz 566	N/a

Elqui Valley and Vicuña



The Elqui region, colloquially renamed Elqui Pisco, is not only the center of Chile's pisco production, but also a base for cosmic observation and frequent UFO sightings. Visit Vicuña, the home of famous Chilean poet Gabriela Mistral and be blown away by quaint village life, fresh fruits and vegetables, and its famous solar kitchens. Come experience this mystical region for yourself.

What to do

Cosmic Observatories

One of this region's most impressive sights is its observatories which catch a glimpse of the cosmos that is seen nowhere else in the world. The Observatorio Cerro Mamalluca is the most popular excursion among tourists. Here you can rent a bilingual tour guide (CH\$2,000-4,500) through the office at Ave. Gabriela Mistral 260 in Vicuña. For a similar experience with less traffic, visit the Observatorio Interamericano Cerro Tololo.

For more information visit www.ctio.noao.edu

Piquera Aba

This quaint, family-run Pisco distillery has been around since 1921. Located at the edge of town, it is easily accessible by taxi or bicycle. Forget the mass-produced pisco that is commonly found and come learn the true art of Pisco production.

For more information visit www.pisquera-aba.cl

Museo Gabriela Mistral

Gabriela Mistral is one of Chile's most prominent literary icons. This museum is dedicated to spreading her work and the story of her growth from a poor adobe village to a Nobel Prize recipient.

For more information, visit www.mgmistral.cl

Cervecería Guayacán

This local brewery offers delicious Guayacan brews as well as tasty pizzas. It is quickly growing as one of the most popular breweries in the region.

For more information visit www.cervezaguayacan.cl

Copiapo



This small mountain town is located at the border between the Norte Grande and Norte Chico regions. Copiapó has always played a strategic significance to Chile's mining industry, and today it survives off of copper extraction. Stop by this small town-less-traveled-by for a relaxing experience at altitude.

What to do

Bahía Inglesa

This beautiful bay has become one of the region's most popular vacation destinations, with its white-sand beaches, crystal-clear water, and sharp rock formations. Bahía Inglesa gets its name from British pirates who took refuge here in the 1600's, and rumor has it that their treasure still remains hidden here.

Parque Nacional Nevado Tres Cruces

At this national park you will find incredible flora and fauna, anthropological and archaeological digs, hiking, trekking, various lagoons, and the Copiapó volcano. There is no bad season, and it is beautiful at all times of the year.

Laguna Verde

Come see one of this region's most spectacular lakes. For more information on its history, tourism, and directions, visit www.lagunaverde.cl

Ojos del Salado Volcano

Many hotels or hostels in Copiapó lead guided tours to the Ojos del Salado, the highest active volcano in the world. Whether you want to climb it, or prefer to stay at its base, this is truly a spectacular sight.

Desierto Florido

In this magical sight, the Chilean desert comes to life via wide-ranging wildflowers. This stunning view is sought out by both foreigners and Chileans alike.

Where to stay

Name	Estimated cost per night	Address	Amenities
Hotel La Casona	US\$65 per night	O'Higgins 150	Restaurant, Bar, Free Wi-Fi, Laundry services, Pets allowed
Hotel Chagall	US\$81 per night	O'Higgins 760	Air-condition, outdoor pool, bar and restaurant, shuttle service, tour desk, handicap accessible, in-room breakfast
Hotel Atacama Suites	US\$105 per night	Colipi 794	In-room breakfast, handicap accessible, snack bar, airport shuttle, tour desk

Where to eat

Name	Type	Prices	Address	Contact Info
Tololo Pampa	Other	CH\$4,000-8,000	Atacama 291	N/a
Legado	International	CH\$7,000-17,000	Atacama 181	N/a
Empanadopolis	Chilean	CH\$450-1,000	Colipi 320	+56-52-216-320

Central Chile (*Zona Central*)

This central, Mediterranean region has historically been the agricultural center of the country. Given this, it contains the majority of Chile's population and the three largest metropolitan centers: Santiago, Valparaíso, and Concepción.

Santiago



The Chilean capital of Santiago de Chile is home to a whopping 40% of the country's population, totaling 5.1 million people. Founded in 1541, Santiago is surrounded by the Andes Mountains, which can be seen from any point in the city. Moreover, it is about an hour from the Pacific Ocean.

This cosmopolitan paradise is ranked as one of Latin America's best, along with Buenos Aires and Panama City. Its modern skyscrapers set against the snow-capped Andes are truly a sight to see. Santiago is an international, sophisticated, and energetic city, and you will not find yourself bored.

By day, enjoy its plethora of museums and galleries, beautiful architecture, and shopping centers. For lunch, try one of its thousands of unique eateries offering an unlimited variety of cuisine. By night, enjoy Santiago's lively nightlife, whether it be enjoying a casual wine bar or brewery, or dancing until the sunrise at a disco or nightclub. Santiago is a very accessible city, and you can easily get around by foot, bus, taxi, or via its brand-new metro line. Moreover, you will find minibuses downtown that will take you to all parts of the country.

This barely breaks the surface of all that Santiago has to offer. With Chile's economy on the rise, Santiago is experiencing a modern-day renaissance, which many travelers have already discovered for themselves.

What to do

Cerro San Cristóbal

This hilltop is part of the Santiago Metropolitan Park and is one of the city's top attractions. Newly renovated, you can make the climb to the top where you will be greeted by the Virgin of the Immaculate Conception and one of the best panoramic views of the city. There are various snack stands and a restaurant at the top. If you're feeling tired from the climb up, a gondola will take you up and down for about CH\$2,000.

For more information visit www.parquemet.cl

Plaza de Armas de Santiago

Since Santiago's founding in 1541, the Plaza de Armas de Santiago has been the city center. Here you will find monuments to Chile's most celebrated heroes, like Simón Bolívar, surrounded by beautiful Chilean palm trees and modern fountains.

Museo de la Memoria y los Derechos Humanos

This Museum, located at Matucana 501, is a great opportunity to learn of the horrors that occurred during Chile's military regime. Built in 2010, this museum is not for the faint at heart, and it exposes in graphic detail the sickening human rights violations that occurred between 1973 and 1990. A visit to this museum is an appropriate tribute to the 40,000 victims of Pinochet's regime. For more information,

Visit www.museodelamemoria.cl or call +56-2-597-9600.

Day at the park

Santiago Metropolitan Park: extending across the San Cristobal hill, Chacarillas and Los Gemelos, this park features two open-air pools, the National Zoo, and the Botanical Garden. It is one of the largest parks in the world and offers an incredible panoramic view of the city.

Parque Bicentenario: located in the Vitacura neighborhood between the Mapocho River and Bicentenario Avenue, this park offers tranquil ponds, beautiful trees, and a designated bike path.

Sculpture Park: This park is a favorite for those yearning for a break from the city hustle. Located in the Providencia neighborhood, in between the Pedro de Valdivia Bridge and Padre Letelier Bridge, this outdoor museum features 30 sculpture exhibits from various Chilean and international artists. During the summer, it often hosts outdoor jazz concerts.

Centro Gabriela Mistral

This modern cultural and performing arts center is a recent addition to Santiago's booming art scene. Dedicated to Chilean poet Gabriela Mistral, the first woman to win the Nobel Prize in Literature, this space hosts concerts, art exhibits, and free tours. For more information, visit www.gam.cl or call +56-2-566-5500.

Where to stay

Name	Estimated cost per night	Address	Amenities
Hotel Boutique Tremo	US\$93 per night	Alberto Reyes 032	Free Wi-Fi, Airport Shuttle, Car hire, Tour desk, Garden, Room Service, Central Location
Solace Santiago	US\$111 per night	Monseñor Sotero Sanz 115	Free Wi-Fi, Bar, In-room breakfast, facilities for disabled guests, Tour desk, Airport shuttle, Restaurant
Plaza el Bosque Nueva Las Condes	US\$114 per night	Manquehue 656	Fitness Center and Pool, Restaurant, Bar, Air Conditioning, Free Parking, Free Wi-Fi, Currency Exchange, Metro-line access
W Santiago	US\$210 per night	Isidora Goyenechea 3000	Rooftop pool and spa, luxury rooms, top technology, pets allowed, various bars and restaurants, currency exchange

Where to eat

Name	Type	Prices	Address	Contact Info
Peumayen	Chilean	CH\$10,500	Constitución 136	www.peumayenchile.cl
Peluquería Francesa	French	CH\$3,300-7,000	Compañía de Jesús 2789	www.boulevardlavaud.cl
Mercado Central	Seafood	n/a	21 de Mayo & San Pablo	www.mercadocentral.cl
Astrid y Gastón	Peruvian	CH\$40,000	Antonio Bellet 201	www.astridygaston.com

Valparaíso



Chilean poet Pablo Neruda said it best, “Valparaíso, how absurd you are...you haven’t combed your hair, you’ve never had time to get dressed, life has always surprised you.” Valparaíso is a beautifully chaotic port town located about an hour’s drive from Santiago de Chile. Visitors are struck by its steep roads and its overall aura of “anything goes.” This weird port is growing rapidly in size and popularity, and it now even competes with that of Santiago. Come see for yourself what so many Chilean artists and writers have attempted to understand.

What to do

La Sebastiana

The house of the late Chilean poet Pablo Neruda, la Sebastiana, is now open for visitation and guided tours. Open on a first-come, first-serve basis, tickets can be purchased for CH\$1,500-5,000. The house includes 1950s furniture, famous artwork, and one of the best views of the harbor. More information can be found online at www.fundacionneruda.org or by calling +56-32-255-6606.

Parque Cultural de Valparaíso

This revived prison now serves as the town’s main cultural center and hosts a variety of art exhibits, live theatre, dance classes, lectures, and more. For more information, visit www.pcdv.ci

Plaza Matriz

This beautiful plaza is home to La Matriz Church, which was built in 1837. Surrounding the plaza, you may find various brothels and liquor stores, proving the longevity of traditional port-town living.

Cemeteries 1 & 2

Traditionally, non-Catholics were not accepted into normal cemeteries, which resulted in the creation of Cemeteries 1 & 2. In the first cemetery, the city’s most prominent figures are laid to rest under tombs that resemble that of mini marble palaces. The second cemetery was where European immigrants were buried.

Archipiélago Juan Fernández

Once a haven for Pacific pirates and warships, this group of islands 667 km (414 miles) off the coast of Valparaíso is now a national park and UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. Of the three main volcanic islands (Robinson Crusoe (Más a Tierra), Alejandro Selkirk, and Santa Clara), the first is the most popular and accessible to tourists. At the time of writing, the archipelago is bouncing back from damage caused by the 2010 earthquake and tsunami. However, it offers exquisite scuba diving and other scenic beauties.

Where to stay

Name	Estimated cost per night	Address	Amenities
Hotel Boutique Casa Vander	US\$75 per night	Paseo Dimalow 135, Cerro Alegre	Breakfast, Balcony, Airport Shuttle, Free Wi-Fi, Terrace
Alto Mirador Hotel Boutique	US\$130 per night	Camila 191, Cerro la Loma	Pool, Hot tub, Terrace, Central Location, Free Wi-Fi, Tour Desk
Hotel Casa Higueras	US\$ 228 per night	Higuera 133	Swimming Pool, Spa, Free Wi-Fi, Fresh Breakfast, Terrace, Room Service, Bar and Restaurant

Where to eat

Name	Type	\$ Prices	Address	Contact Info
Café Vinilo	Chilean	CH\$5,800-8,500	Almirante Montt 448	+56-32-223-0665
Norma's	Chilean	CH\$4,900-6,900	Almirante Montt 391	N/a
Casino Social J Cruz	Chilean	CH\$4,500-9,000	Condell 1466	www.jcruz.cl

Viña del Mar



A stark contrast to the disorder of Valparaíso, Viña del Mar is refreshingly clean and orderly. While many foreigners overlook this town, opting instead for Valparaíso, well-to-be Chileans have been drawn to this “garden city,” as it is commonly referred. While order and tranquility rule the day, chaos and wildness take over the night, as seen in Viña del Mar’s first-rate *carrete* (partying).

What to do

Parque Quinta Vergara

Once belonging to the city’s most prominent family, the Alvarez-Vergara’s, this Venetian neo-Gothic Palace and its surrounding landscape have become one of the city’s most beautiful parks.

Jardín Botánico Nacional

This botanical garden hosts over 3,000 plant species and is located southeast of the city center. Entrance fees cost CH\$1,000-2,000. For more information, visit www.jardin-botanico.cl

Where to stay

Name	Estimated cost per night	Address	Amenities
Panamericana Hotel O'higgins	US\$89 per night	Plaza Vergara	Outdoor pool and terrace, Free Wi-Fi, Restaurant, Tour Desk, Room Service
Gala Hotel	US\$129 per night	Arlegui 273	Bar, Tour Desk, Restaurant, Free Wi-Fi, Pool, Spa and Sauna
Best Western Marina del Rey	US\$150 per night	Ecuador 299	Restaurant, Bar, Spa facilities, Pets allowed, Facilities for disabled guests, Room Service, Free Wi-Fi

Where to eat

Name	Type	\$ Prices	Address	Contact Info
Samoiedo	Sandwiches	CH\$2,500-7,000	Valparaíso 637	+56-32-32-268-1382
Shawerma-Kebab	Other	CH\$1,600-2,500	Ecuador 225	+56-32-233-6835
Panzoni	Italian	CH\$3,000-4,800	Paseo Cousiño 12-B	+56-32-271-4134

Concepción



This Pacific port city is most known for its universities and music scene, and it is of particular importance to the country's economy. Home to an estimated 900,000 people, it was hit hard by the 2010 earthquake and is just now experiencing a turnaround. Come be apart of the rebirth of one of Chile's largest and most important cities.

What to do

La Casa del Arte

This art house hosts some of Concepción's most political and socially-minded artwork. Most notably, it is home to the legendary political mural of Mexican artist, Jorge González Camarena. This museum is located on Chacabuco & Paicaví in Barrio Universitario. For more information, call +56-41-41-224-2567

Galería de la Historia

A prideful history exhibit that presents the story of the Concepción and the surrounding region. You will find this historical gallery on Avenida Lamas & Lincoyán. For more information, call +56-41-285-3756.

Parque Ecuador

This small park is a narrow stretch of urban parkland that offers a great view of the city of Concepción. It's located on Avenida Lamas.

Where to stay

Name	Estimated cost per night	Address	Amenities
Hotel el Dorado	US\$57 per night	Barros Arana 348	Free Parking, Restaurant, Bar, In-room Breakfast, Free Wi-Fi
Hotel Alborada	US\$72 per night	Barros Arana 457	Free Parking, In-Room Breakfast, Free Wi-Fi, Airport Shuttle, Tour Desk, Currency Exchange
Hotel el Araucano	US\$56 per night	Caupolicán 521	Gym, Pool, Terrace, Air Conditioning, Free Wi-Fi, Walking Distance, Airport Shuttle, In-room Breakfast

Where to eat

Name	Type	Prices	Address	Contact Info
Deli House	Chilean	CH\$3,500-4,800	Av. Diagonal Pedro Aguirre Cerda 12-34	www.delihouse.cl
Fina Estampa	Peruvian	CH\$4,900-7,500	Angol 298	+56-41-222-1708
Sublime	Other	CH\$4,300-6,900	Freire 1633	+56-41-279-4194

Talca



Founded in 1690, Talca was once one of Chile's most important cities. In 1818 it was the location of the signing of Chile's Declaration of Independence. While not holding the same prominence as it once did, Talca today serves as a base for excursions to surrounding attractions, such as the Altos de Lircay National Reserve and the Maule Valley vineyards.

What to do

Museo O'Higginiano

Known as the Museo O'Higginiano y de Bellas Artes, this is the location of the signing of the Chilean Declaration of Independence in 1818. For more information, visit www.museodetalca.cl

Maule Valley Wineries

One of Chile's most popular wine regions, Maule Valley is responsible for the majority of Chile's wine exports, specifically its full-bodied Cabernet Sauvignon. Various tours can be set up through many hotels and tour agencies in Talca.

Reserva Nacional Altos de Lircay

This national reserve is made up of well maintained paths and breathtaking views. This 121 square kilometer park is made up of mountain slopes, bright blue lagoons, and bountiful deciduous forests. Here you will also find a wide array of Patagonian fauna that is unique only to this region of the world, such as Pudú deer, Patagonian foxes, and Pampa cats. Entrance fees range from CH\$1,000 to CH\$5,000 depending on your age and nationality.

Where to stay

Name	Estimated cost per night	Address	Amenities
Hotel Plaza Cienfuegos	US\$70 per night	1 sur 1026, Esquina 3 Oriente	Free Parking, Tour Desk, Restaurant and Bar, Free Wi-Fi
Ecohotel	US\$80 per night	Avenida Bernardo O'Higgins 1198	Game Room, Terrace, Tour Desk, Restaurant, Free Parking, Free Wi-Fi, Room Service, Facilities for Disabled Guests
Hotel Casino Talca	US\$80 per night	Avenida Circunvalacion Oriente 1055	Casino, Restaurant, Bar, In-room Breakfast, Facilities for Disabled Guests, VIP Room Facilities, Currency Exchange

Where to eat

Name	Type	Prices	Address	Contact Info
Las Viejas Cochinas	Chilean	CH\$4,200-10,000	Rivera Poniente	www.lasviejascochinas.cl
Tierra & Fuego	Steak	CH\$4,800-8,000	10 Oriente 1261	www.tierrafuego.cl
La Buena Carne	Chilean	CH\$3,000-5,500	6 Oriente y 1 Norte	+56-71-2-683-215

The near South (Zona Sur)

Commonly known as the land of lakes, Zona Sur has hundreds of lakes and rivers that are a result of runoff from the Andes. This region is home to a wide array of unique flora and fauna, as well as other natural marvels.

Puerto Montt



Puerto Montt is surrounded by a lush variety of rainforests, lakes, estuaries, islands, and volcanoes. Many consider it one of the most well-known provincial capitals of Chile, less because of the city itself and more because of its excellent location as a base camp to travel to the verdant natural wonders around it. However, Puerto Montt also has a vibrant city life and some of Chile's best restaurants. The seafood in Puerto Montt is particularly good, as it is one of the major fresh salmon producing locations in the world.

What to do

Waterfront Promenade and Yacht Club

Along the authentic waterfront promenade, one can admire several monuments about the local culture and history. Along a stretch of it, you will find the yacht club and marina where all of the fishermen dock and set off to fish from. Nearby you will find the traditional but tourist-friendly fishermen's market. There you can buy raw or cooked seafood, fresh off the fishermen's boats.

Tenglo Island

Tenglo Island is very close to the shore off of Puerto Montt's port. From afar you can see the large cross built on the island, and without much trouble you can find a ferry or fisherman's boat that will take you over. The island is renowned for its curanto al hoyo, a typical Chilean dish. On Tenglo, and the surrounding islands, you can find friendly locals and fishermen's houses built on stilts. Exploring Tenglo's town and shores can be fun, but Tenglo is also a great jumping off point to visit the entire archipelago surrounding it.

The First Jesuit Church of Puerto Montt and The Diego Rivera Cultural Center

Near the central Plaza de Armas, you can find the first Jesuit church to be built in Puerto Montt. It was built in 1872 and the bell tower was added in 1894. It is a rather simple building, with its impressiveness coming from its history and its authentic colonial architecture. Nearby you can find the Diego Rivera Cultural Center, which has both a permanent exhibit and constantly changing exhibits year round.

Where to stay

Name	Estimated cost per night in USD	Address	Amenities
Holiday Inn Express Puerto Montt	US\$93 - \$124 per night	Avenida Costanera s/n, Puerto Montt 0000, Chile	Wheelchair Access, gym, air conditioning, free Wi-Fi, free breakfast, dry cleaning, meeting rooms, free parking, business center with internet access, laundry
Hotel Manquehue Puerto Montt	US\$76 - \$189 per night	Esquina O'Higgins, Puerto Montt 5501642, Chile	Wheelchair access, pool, restaurant, bar, gym, air conditioning, free Wi-Fi, free breakfast, meeting rooms, laundry, banquet room, conference facilities, dry cleaning, business center with internet access
Presidente Suite Puerto Montt	US\$84 - \$108 per night	Av Diego Portales 664, Puerto Montt, Chile (Formerly Hotel & Apart Club Presidente Puerto Montt)	Wheelchair access, pool, restaurant, bar, microwave and refrigerator in room, free Wi-Fi, business center with internet access, free breakfast, laundry service, conference facilities, meeting rooms, free parking, airport transportation, dry cleaning, banquet room

Where to eat

Name	Type	Prices in CH\$	Address	Contact Info
Cotelé	Steakhouse, Chilean	CH\$7500-10,000	Juan Soler Manfredini 1661 Pelluco	www.cotele.cl
Puerto Fritos	Seafood	CH\$2800-6700	Presidente Ibañez 716 Mercado Municipal Presidente Ibañez	NA
Fogón del Leñador	Steakhouse	CH\$6000-9500	Rancagua 246	http://www.fogon.cl/
Chile Picante	Chilean	CH\$8500	Vicente Pérez Rosales 567	www.chilepicanterestoran.cl

Puerto Varas: (Osorno and Calbuco Volcanoes; Lago Llanquihue)

A mix of German and Chilean cultures just like Puerto Montt, Puerto Varas is smaller but much more touristy. Puerto Varas is known for its tourist amenities and great water sports opportunities. Many people use Puerto Varas as a jumping off point to visit the nearby Osorno and Calbuco volcanoes that tower over the horizon. The nearby Llanquihue Lake is another popular destination. Puerto Varas has managed to maintain its small town feel while modernizing its infrastructure and amenities to suit tourists' appetites.



What to do

Puerto Varas

Puerto Varas has a strong European influence that can be noted in its gastronomy and the restaurants in the town. There is a beautiful boardwalk that spans the entire length of the city. From the boardwalk you can see the port and the famous replica boat the “Captain Haase,” which you can sale on.

Next you can go to both the Philippi and Calvario vistas, where you can see a panoramic view of the city and the surrounding nature, including Lake Llanquihue.

To visit Puerto Varas' German heritage, all you have to do is go visit the Church of the Holy Heart, The Kuschel, and the Niklitschek houses and eat some of the local kuchen that's just as authentic as kuchen from small-town Germany.

Osorno

The dormant Osorno volcano and the surrounding nature reserve are truly a majestic sight. They contain some of the oldest trees in the world, along with a vibrant wildlife that includes cougars, Andean foxes, and lesser grisons. The hike can be a bit challenging, so it is recommended that you always go with a guide who can be easily hired in a local town. There is always snow at the top of the mountain and large crevices that are world renowned for their rock/ice climbing opportunities. The unique smells and views of this natural park will engross you to such an extent that many end up camping there for days.

Lake Llanquihue

Lake Llanquihue is situated within the Vicente Perez Rosales national park. On the drive to the park from Puerto Varas, you can see and visit several splendid beaches, smaller lakes, and where the locals frolic during the summer time. Once you arrive at the lake, you can witness some breathtaking panoramic views of the mountain range behind the lake. Witness snowcapped Osorno towering over the whole landscape. The locals compare it to a military sentinel watching over the whole land.

Within this natural park there are several touristic hunting and fishing opportunities as well. The towns around the lake are heavily influenced by German culture. Most of the houses in this area are built in typical German-town style, due to the presence of a large German immigrant community. The full presence of the Germans can be best viewed during the musical weeks, which are part of a festival in February where traditional German musical is played and there are kuchen galore.

Cochamo

If you are looking for a truly authentic and secluded experience, it is recommended that you go to the town of Cochamo. The norm in this town is to relax and let yourself be taken by the locals into their houses and the surrounding landscape. Right outside of the town you can watch sea lions or take a boat ride out to the penguin island nearby.

Calbuco Volcano

Calbuco Volcano used to be hiked and visited as much as Osorno, however, in the past few years it has erupted several times and it is not recommended that you visit it.

Lago Todos Los Santos

The “All Saints Lake” is a bit far from Puerto Varas, 76 km to be exact, but Puerto Varas is still your best option as a basecamp for visiting the area. This is one of the last places in Chile where you can find a significant amount of old-growth forests protected by the natural park surrounding the lake. There is boat transportation to the lake and across it. The wildness and ancient nature of the area is alluring.

Where to stay

Name	Estimated cost per night	Address	Amenities
Hotel Cumbres Puerto Varas	US\$106 - \$256 per night	Av. Imperial 0561, Puerto Varas, Chile	Wheelchair Access, pool, restaurant, spa, bar, gym, free Wi-Fi, free breakfast, dry cleaning, meeting rooms, laundry service, banquet room, conference facilities, free parking, business center with internet access
Hotel Cabana del Lago	US\$90 - \$194 per night	Luis Wellmann 195, Puerto Varas 5550447, Chile (Formerly Cabana del Lago Hotel)	Wheelchair access, pool, restaurant, bar, spa, tennis court, gym, free Wi-Fi, free breakfast, meeting rooms, banquet room, conference facilities, children's activities, free parking, dry cleaning, business center with internet access, laundry service, babysitting
Hotel Patagónico	US\$96 - \$183 per night	Klenner 349, Puerto Varas 5550454, Chile	Wheelchair access, pool, restaurant, bar, spa, hot tub, gym, free Wi-Fi, dry cleaning, meeting rooms, conference facilities, free parking, free breakfast, business center with internet access, laundry service, banquet room

Where to eat

Name	Type	Prices	Address	Contact Info
La Marca	Steakhouse, BBQ, Chilean	CH\$5200-12,900	Santa Rosa 539	http://www.lamarca.cl/
La Jardinera	Pub Food	CH\$7000-8500	Blanco Encalada 1160	http://lajardinera.cl/
La Gringa	American	CH\$3500-790	Imperial 605	http://www.lagringa.cl/

Isla de Chiloé and Gulf of Ancud



The mysterious island of Chiloé is a glimpse into pre-Columbian culture that cannot be seen elsewhere in the world. There has been some Spanish influence, but the locals of this island still remain fiercely independent and keep their own traditions alive. There are 16 UNESCO World Heritage churches on this island, but many locals still believe in a mix between their local religion and Christianity.

What to do

Palafitos and Tejuelas

Much of the local architecture consists of traditional houses built on stilts and roofed with special wooden shingles that are unique to this part of the world.

Churches of Chiloé

They were constructed by Jesuits and Franciscans in the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries. Most of them are built completely out of wood, however, and are a perfect example of the intermixing of the local culture with that of the foreigners. As was mentioned before, 16 have been enshrined as UNESCO World Heritage sights and though they are built from wood, most of their original structure has remained intact over the centuries.

Cuisine

The island is renowned for its cattle and is said to have some of the best meat in all of Latin America. They are also famous for a local dish called curanto, which consists of a stew made of potatoes and seafood.

Nature Reserve

There is also a large nature reserve on the island bearing the same name. There you can hike the trails or get lost off-roading among the lush vegetation and amazing wildlife.

Where to stay

Name	Estimated cost per night	Address	Amenities
Enjoy Chiloe Hotel de la Isla	US\$98 - \$193 per night	Ruta 5 Sur 2053, Castro, Isla Chiloe, Chile	Wheelchair Access, pool, restaurant, bar, spa, casino, hot tub, gym, air conditioning, free Wi-Fi, free breakfast, dry cleaning, meeting rooms, business center with internet access, laundry service, banquet room, conference facilities, free parking
Hotel Parque Quilquico	US\$177 - \$295 per night	Quilquico Rural s/n, Castro, Isla Chiloe 56, Chile	Beachfront, pool, restaurant, bar, kitchenette, Wi-Fi, free parking, free breakfast, children's activities
Tierra Chiloe	\$524 - \$1,145	San José Playa, Castro Casilla 217, Castro, Isla Chiloe, Chile (Formerly Hotel Refugia)	All inclusive resort: Wheelchair access, restaurant, spa, kitchenette, free Wi-Fi, shuttle bus service, free parking, airport transportation
Centro de Ocio Hotel	\$185 - \$399	Peninsula de Rilán Casilla 151 Castro, Castro, Isla Chiloe 5700000, Chile	Restaurant, bar, hot tub, spa, free Wi-Fi, free breakfast, meeting rooms, laundry service, banquet room, conference facilities, free parking, airport transportation, dry cleaning, business center with internet access

Where to eat

Name	Type	Prices in CH\$	Address	Contact Info
Restaurant Rucalaf Putamen	Seafood, Mediterranean, Chilean, International, Fusion, Gastropub	CH\$2,000-9,000	Km 3,6 de la ruta a Rilán, Castro, Isla Chiloe, Chile	http://rucalafputemun.cl
Pomodoro	Italian	CH\$2,000-15,000	Sotomayor 520, Castro, Isla Chiloe, Chile	56652634141
Mercadito	Chilean, Pacific Rim, seafood, contemporary	Local Market Prices	Pedro Montt 210 Pedro montt 210, Castro, Isla Chiloe	http://www.elmercaditodechiloe.cl

Valdivia



Valdivia is a vibrant town with a youthful vibe thanks to the presence of the Austral University of Chile. The fact that it is a university city brings several amenities for young travelers, such as student priced housing, food, and activities. Valdivia also houses a twist of German culture and Chile's most renowned craft beers and microbreweries.

For a long time it was considered part of the Lake District, even though it is quite different from the other districts of that region in culture, geography, and history. For this reason, Valdivia was made the capital of Chile's newest region (Los Rios) in 2007.

What to do

Cerveceria Kunstmann

Though this is one of Chile's best restaurants/microbreweries, it is also Valdivia's most visited and well-known touristic sight. Located on Teja Island, which is situated in the middle of three rivers, The Kunstmann Brewery offers beautiful views of the surrounding nature, expertly crafted unique beers, and some of the most authentic German food in Chile.

It is suggested that you take the guided tour if you come here, where you will be shown the grounds, taught a deep history of beer, and given a guided sampling of around 10 beers and delicious German cuisine.

Castillo de Corral, Torreón del Barro, Torreón de los Canelos

Outside of the city, Castillo de Corral makes up several colonial military installations with dates ranging from 1645 to 1767. They are the most intact colonial fortifications in the area, though the nearby Niebla and Isla Mancera also contribute to the landscape's colonial and fiercely military heritage.

Inside of Valdivia you can see two separate groupings of military turrets put in place by the Spaniards. One is called Torreón de los Canelos, and the other is called Torreón del Barro. Both are the remnants of Spanish forts that used to be within Valdivia.

Feria Fluvial

This market, named “fluvial” because it is by the river, is a lively and safe bazaar where you can buy anything from fresh fish to artisanal souvenirs. However, many people come here simply to see the so called “Promised Land of the Sea Lions.” This “Promised Land” is an embankment and portion of the Calle-Calle River where dozens of sea lions come every day to feast on the tons of scraps thrown to them by fishmongers and tourists alike.

Museums

Being the home of one of Chile’s most important universities, Valdivia also houses several large museums. Here you can go to a contemporary art museum, a history and anthropology museum, and the RA Philippi Museum of Exploration, Science, and Nature.

Where to stay

Name	Estimated cost per night	Address	Amenities
Hotel Dreams Valdivia	US\$112 - \$217 per night	Carampangue 190, Valdivia 5110260, Chile	Wheelchair access, pool, gym, restaurant, bar/lounge, spa, casino, free Wi-Fi, free parking, airport transportation, free breakfast, dry cleaning, meeting rooms, business center with internet access, laundry service, banquet room, conference facilities, babysitting, children’s activities
Hotel Puerta Del Sur	US\$73 - \$148 per night	Avenida Los Lingues 950, Valdivia 5110479, Chile	Wheelchair Access, pool, restaurant, bar/lounge, spa, air conditioning, Free Wi-Fi, free parking, meeting rooms, business center with internet access, children’ activities, shuttle bus service, laundry service
Hotel Villa del Rio	US\$71 - \$179 per night	Avenida Espana # 1025, Valdivia 5110067, Chile	Pool, restaurant, gym, bar/lounge, spa, hot tub, tennis court, free Wi-Fi, free breakfast, business center with internet access, free parking, conference facilities, children’s activities, dry cleaning, meeting rooms, laundry service

where to eat

Name	Type	Prices in CH\$	Address	Contact Info
La Ultima Frontera	Artisanal Beer and Sandwiches	CH\$2800-4400	Pérez Rosales 787	+56 63 223 5363
Santo Pecado	Spanish, Chilean	CH\$3900-8900	Yungay 745	+56 63 223 9122
Entrelagos	French Restaurant, Tea House	CH\$3100-6400	Pérez Rosales 640	+56 63 221 8333 www.entrelagos.cl

Coñaripe



Coñaripe is a remote resort and ski town. Though there isn't much in the town, there are several world renowned resorts, hot springs, and a national park.

What to do

Parque Nacional Villarrica

Made up of an impressive landscape of lakes and volcanoes, Villarrica is truly a sight to see. There are hikes for all sorts of people, whether you are an experienced hardcore hiker or a beginner. It is especially easy to hike up to the active crater of Villarrica where you can safely see smoke and lava coming out of the crater.

Ski Pucón

This ski resort offers skiing for intermediates and beginners, and is therefore not at the same level as some of the ones to the north that are loved by experienced skiers. However, it has a lovely view, and skiing here means that you will be able to say that you have skied on an active volcano.

Hot Springs

Locals and foreigners alike come to bathe in the local hot springs and natural pools. They supposedly have healing qualities but also provide an incredible place to relax at the foot of the volcanoes and mountains.

Where to stay

Name	Estimated cost per night USD	Address	Amenities
Hotel Elizabeth	US\$55 - \$106 per night	Guido Beck de Remberga 496, Conaripe 5210000, Chile	Wheelchair Access, pet friendly, restaurant, bar/lounge, kitchenette, free internet, free parking, free breakfast
Hotel Chumay	US\$57 - \$69 per night	Las tepas 201, Conaripe, Chile	Rustic Hostel/Boarding House

Where to eat

Name	Type	Prices in CH\$	Address	Contact Info
Bourbon	International	CH\$ 2000-3000	G Beck De Ramberga 541-8, Conaripe, Chile	N/a
La Pica de la Tia	Chilean	CH\$ 2000-3000	Guido Beck de Ramberga 540, Conaripe, Chile	81264877
Hostal Chumay Restaurant	Chilean	CH\$ 2000-3000	Las Tepas 201, Conaripe, Chile	N/a

Osorno



Osorno is not often visited by tourists; many simply pass by it on their way to somewhere else. However, the truth is that Osorno may be just the place you want to visit if you wish to see a lovely mix of iconic German and Chilean architecture. Within Osorno there is a significant amount of colonial architecture that was built in the 1800s, along with six iconic German/Chilean houses that have been made national landmarks. Osorno is the perfect place for you to go if you wish to see the kind of architectural sights and vibrant mix of cultures present in other parts of Chile, but with significantly less tourists wandering around.

What to do

San Mateo Cathedral

Built on the site of the original cathedral from 1577 that was destroyed by the 1960 earthquake, the San Mateo Cathedral is renowned as one of the most impressive modern churches of Chile. Its architecture is a mixture of futuristic styles with hints of colonial influences. Its large central tower looms over much of the city in an almost alien way.

Rotemberg Street and The Jose Guadalupe Posada House of Culture

On this street you can find the six German/Chilean houses that have been named national monuments. Along this street, and within some of the houses, you can find German restaurants and some boutiques exhibiting the German culture. It is the perfect example of how you can find highly beautiful and authentic German architecture and food in Osorno, rather than somewhere like Puerto Varas where you will have to deal with crowds of tourists.

In The Jose Guadalupe Posada House of Culture You can find everything from Chilean mummies to colonial artifacts. The building was built in 1929, but has long since been converted into the local museum. The locals are very proud of the building and the collections therein. Though it is not a huge museum, its collection is relatively free of uninteresting bobbles, and is instead a concentrated assemblage of indigenous and more modern pieces.

Fort Reina Luisa

Near Osorno you can find the Fort Reina Luisa. It was built in the 1790s, shortly after Osorno was recaptured, and served as protection from indigenes for decades to come. However it was partially destroyed by an earthquake in 1835 and then rebuilt throughout 1835-1977. It is another marvelous example of the remnants of Spanish colonial culture left relatively intact within Chile.

Puyehue National Park

Aguas Calientes Hot Springs

One of the main attractions within the national park is the hot springs. They reportedly have cured everything from skin conditions to nervous disorders, but many simply come to wander around the grounds that contain several hiking paths and then relax in the thermal waters.

Ski Antillanca

Though renowned for its skiing opportunities, Antillanca contains some of the best descents for snowboarding. It is a massive ski resort that is essentially a town in and of itself with clubs, bars, restaurants, movie theaters, and more. Most of the descents are on the sides of some dormant volcanoes and create sharp-edged expert tracks.

Entrelagos

Entrelagos is a small town within the nature reserve that, until recently, sat quietly untouched on the shores of Lake Puyehue. Once it was discovered by tourists, it quickly became a center for eco-tourism and small scale boutique lodges, inns, and hotels. Here you can come and relax while witnessing amazing views of Lake Puyehue, its islands, and the surrounding volcanoes. You can also indulge yourself in the local cuisine and drink, which is all made in an artisanal fashion if not in the village directly.

Where to stay

Name	Estimated cost per night	Address	Amenities
Termas Puyehue Wellness & Spa Resort	US\$161 - \$424 per night	Puyehue Ruta 215, Km 76 Osorno, Puyehue 64, Chile	Wheelchair access, pool, restaurant, bar/lounge, spa, tennis court, gym, air conditioning, free Wi-Fi, free parking, children's activities, shuttle bus service, free breakfast, dry cleaning, meeting rooms, laundry service, banquet room, babysitting, business center with internet access
Sonesta Hotel Osorno	US\$105 - \$151 per night	Ejercito 395 Rahue, Osorno 5290000, Chile	Restaurant, gym, casino, air conditioning, free Wi-Fi, free parking, business center with internet access, free breakfast, meeting rooms, laundry service, banquet room, conference facilities
Santuario Patagonia Hotel Boutique	US\$99 - \$167 per night	Pilauco 617, Osorno 5290000, Chile	Restaurant, bar/lounge, air conditioning, free Wi-Fi, free parking, children's activities, free breakfast, airport transportation, laundry service

Where to eat

Name	Type	\$ Prices	Address	Contact Info
Parrilla El Galpon	Steakhouse, Chilean	CH\$3100-6400	Lord Cochrane 816, Osorno, X Región, Chile	+56-64-223-4098
Del Piero Restaurante	Seafood	CH\$3000-4500	Ejército 395, Osorno, X Región, Chile	(56-64)-225-6767
Gallardia	Chilean, Brew Pub, Gastropub	CH\$2000-3000	O'higgins 1236, Osorno 5290000, Chile	(56-64)222-1011

Far South (*Zona Austral*)

This southernmost region is home to all of Chilean Patagonia, including glacier lakes, widespread grasslands, and polar forests. The southern tip is the closest you can come to Antarctica without being on the polar continent.

Magallanes and Punta Arenas



Given its location between frozen waters and skyscraping mountains, Magallanes bestows a sense of isolation. Indeed, the only way to get to Magallanes is by air or sea, or by road through Argentina. Much like the tough and rugged Native Americans who once inhabited this land, local Magallanites are proud pioneers located on the frontier of their country's border. Economic boom from commerce, petroleum, and fisheries has created region-wide prosperity which only further attracts tourists from all parts of the globe.

Its capital Punta Arenas, home to approximately 130,000 inhabitants, is an arctic metropolis located on the Strait of Magellan at the southern tip of South America. In spite of its rough and rugged environment, the locals are surprisingly warm and welcoming to visitors. Its convenient location makes it a great base for traveling to Tierra del Fuego, Torres del Paine, and Argentina.

What to do

Cementerio Municipal

Located at Avenida Bulnes 949, this is perhaps one of South America's most fascinating cemeteries. It can easily be reached from Punta Arenas by foot or taxi. Its typical operating hours are between 7:30am and 8pm.

Museo del Recuerdo

Get a true pioneer experience at this museum, which holds on display a collection of historical farm and industrial machinery, antique maps, and various historical and scientific publications. For more information, visit www.umag.cl

Plaza Muñoz Gamero

This plaza is one of Punta Arenas' most beautiful attractions, home to spectacular mansions, monuments, and cathedrals. There are also various restaurants and taverns located nearby, making it a great afternoon sight-seeing trip.

Where to stay

Name	Estimated cost per night	Address	Amenities
Hotel Plaza	US\$80 per night	José Nogueira 1116	Pets allowed, Tour desk, Room Service, Free Wi-Fi
Hotel Cabo de Hornos	US\$116 per night	Plaza Muñoz Gamero 1025	Bar, In-room Breakfast, Room Service, Tour Desk, Restaurant, Airport Shuttle, Free Wi-Fi
Hotel Dreams del Estrecho	US\$147 per night	O'Higgins 1235	Indoor Pool, Sauna, Spa, Gym, In-room Breakfast, Facilities for Disabled Guests, Currency Exchange

Where to eat

Name	Type	Prices	Address	Contact Info
La Marmita	Chilean	CH\$6,000-CH\$12,000	Plaza Sampaio 678	www.marmitamaga.cl
La Luna	Other	CH\$4,000-7,000	O'Higgins 1017	www.lalauna.cl
Remezón	Chilean	CH\$5,000-15,000	21 de Mayo 1469	+56-61-224-1029

Puerto Natales



This once remote fishing village in the southern tip of South America has blossomed into a tourist hub for Chilean Patagonia. Located on the shore of Seno Última Esperanza, this town has spectacular views of the southern mountain range. You will find all the amenities you may need here, authentic Chilean eateries, trendy breweries and wine bars, and a plethora of hotels and hostels. Puerto Natales serves as a great rest stop for your Patagonian adventures.

What to do

Ferry Ride Through Chilean Fjords

This three-night voyage throughout the southern fjords leaves Natales and stops in Puerto Éden and Glaciar Pío XI. This excursion has become very popular in recent years, so it is recommended that you book ahead. Tickets can cost anywhere from US\$450 to US\$2,100 depending on your accommodation preference and the time of year. For more information regarding rates and schedules.

Visit www.navimag.com

Pingo Salvaje

This tranquil estancia offers horseback riding and condor watching, as well as petite cabins and campsites.

More information can be found online at www.pingosalvaje.com

Patagom Lila

Located in downtown Puerto Natales, instructor Susanne offers yoga classes in English, German, and Spanish, as well as permaculture courses, yoga vacations, and Thai and singing bowl massages.

For more information, visit www.yogapatagomlila.com

Where to stay

Name	Estimated cost per night	Address	Amenities
We are Patagonia	US\$51 per night	Galvarino 745	Bed and Breakfast, Tour Desk, Shuttle Service, Free Wi-Fi
Hotel Costaustralis	US\$95 per night	Pedro Montt 262	Bar, In-room Breakfast, Facilities for Disabled Guests, Room Service, Tour Desk, Restaurant, Free Wi-Fi, Airport Shuttle
Noi Indigo Patagonia	US\$169 per night	Ladrilleros 105	Hot tub, Spa, Tour Desk, Bar and Restaurant, Bicycle Rental, Room Service

Where to eat

Name	Type	Prices	Address	Contact Info
The Singular Restaurant	Contemporary	CH\$6,000-14,000	Puerto Bories	+56-61-272-2030
Café Kaiken	Chilean	CH\$5,000-7,000	Baquedano 699	+56-8295-2036
Afrigonia	Fusion	CH\$10,000-14,000	Eberhard 343	+56-61-241-2877

Parque Nacional Torres del Paine



Created in 1959, this national park is one of the most visited in Southern Patagonia, encompassing steep mountains, raging rivers, pristine glaciers, and azure lakes and lagoons. Once a large sheep pasture, “Towers of Paine” holds a wide array of delicate flora and fauna which is still recovering from years of overexploitation. At this UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, you will find huemul (an endangered Patagonian deer species), South American condors, and also the Patagonian rhea (ñandú), a large flightless bird resembling an ostrich. Given this region’s unforgivable and irrational weather patterns, it is a good idea to plan several days to make up for any bad weather. This park is incredibly accessible, given its state-of-the-art infrastructure. As a result of this development, there is a variety of hotels and restaurants for those who wish to enjoy a hot meal or take a shower while trekking through the park. For those yearning for more intimacy with nature, you can camp under the stars of the Patagonian sky.

For more information, visit <http://www.parquetorresdelpaine.cl/en/>

What to do

While you could easily spend months exploring Torres del Paine National Park, the following is a condensed list of suggested sights and activities. In most cases, all hotels and hostels offer tour packages and excursions which you can easily sign up for.

The ‘W’ Trail

This multi-day trek includes attractions such as Mirador Las Torres, Valle Francés, and Grey Lake. In total, this hike is approximately 71 km (44 miles). This trek is for both experienced and inexperienced hikers alike.

Laguna Azul

This pristine, blue lagoon is one of Torres del Paine’s most beautiful attractions. If there is no wind, the lagoon gives off a crystal clear reflection of the stunning Patagonian mountains.

Salto Grande

Various tour agencies have day trips to this impressive waterfall. Visitors love to come here for a peaceful and relaxing afternoon.

Lago de Grey

This body of water is supplied by glacier runoff and is the location of various glacier trekking and boating adventures.

Where to stay

Name	Estimated cost per night	Address	Amenities
Ecocamp Patagonia	US\$165 per night	Located 5km (3 miles) from the Amarga Lagoon Ranger Station	Dorm-style dormitories, Private Terrace, Complimentary Breakfast, Tour Desk
Tierra Patagonia	US\$150 per night	Torres del Paine	Included Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner, Open Bar, Uma Spa, Pool, Steam Room,
Pampa Lodge, Quincho & Caballos	US\$293 per night	Lote 1 Rio Serrano	Wi-Fi, Heating, Private Bathrooms, Free Toiletries, Mountain Views, Breakfast, Grocery Deliveries, Tour Desk

Where to eat

Name	Type	\$ Prices	Address	Contact Info
Hosteria Las Torres	Chilean/Patagonian	N/a	Sector Base, Las Torres	www.lastorres.com
Hosteria Pehoé	Chilean/Patagonian	N/a	Sector Lago Pehoé	www.hosteriapehoe.cl
Hosteria Lago Grey	Chilean/Patagonian	N/a	Sector Lago Grey	www.lagogrey.com/en/

Further Noteworthy Regions



Última Esperanza

The southern Province of Última Esperanza, meaning “Last Hope Province,” has experienced a recent wave of development. No longer the remote region it used to be, Última Esperanza is a growing tourist hub. It hosts a plethora of natural beauties like the Southern Patagonian Ice Field.



Tierra del Fuego

Chile’s portions of the “Land of Fire” is perhaps the rawest and most desolate region in the entire country. A stark contrast to Argentina’s bustling Ushuaia, the Chilean side is filled with uninhabited islands and solitary mountain ranges.



Cape Horn

First discovered by European explorer Francisco de Hoces in 1521, the famous Cape Horn has bewildered visitors ever since. Once a strategic transit point, it serves as the only natural gateway between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. There are various cruise lines that offer excursions to Cape Horn, where you can experience its rough icebergs, rocky water, and the famous black cliff for yourself.



Isla Magdalena

Located two hours northeast of Punta Arenas, this island is home to more than 120,000 Magellanic penguins. Take a guided tour and experience this march of the penguins up-close.

Easter Island



Known also as Rapa Nui, Easter Island was acquired during the early years of the Chilean Republic. Located in the deep southeastern Pacific Ocean, nearly 3,700 km (2,299 miles) offshore, this island feels like one of the most isolated regions in the world. Here you will find the world famous moai statues, remnants of ancient Polynesian civilization. In 1995, the island was named a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.

Hanga Roa

Easter Island's only town, Hanga Roa, is the base for all island activities. This impressively small town of barely 3,000 inhabitants is home to various hotels, restaurants, some beaches and surf spots, and a few archaeological sites.

What to do

Museo Antropológico Sebastián Englert

This museum is a great way to get to know the island and its vast history and culture. Inside, it has ancient Polynesian artifacts such as weapons, fishhooks, architecture, and replica Rongo-Rongo tablets which are covered in indecipherable hieroglyphics. For more information, visit www.museorapanui.cl

Caleta Hanga Roa & Ahu Tautira

Ahu Tautira, which overlooks the Caleta Hanga Roa fishing port, will most likely be your first encounter with a moai statue.

Parque Nacional Rapa Nui

This UNESCO World Heritage Site is Easter Island's most popular attraction, and rightfully so. This national park is home to the most impressive Polynesian ruins, such as petroglyph-filled caverns, ahu (ceremonial platforms), and fallen moai idols. The relics in this park are very delicate, and tourists should therefore visit with extreme care. Avoid walking off marked paths, and do not remove or relocate rocks from the structures. For more information, visit www.conaf.cl

Where to stay

Name	Estimated cost per night	Address	Amenities
Cabañas Christophe	US\$100 per night	Policarpo Toro	Cozy cabin accommodations, free Wi-Fi, plasma TVs, complimentary breakfast
Cabañas Tokerau	US\$128 per night	Kahu Mahau s/n	Free Wi-fi, sponsored excursions, full kitchen, bicycle rental, airport shuttle, currency exchange
Hotel Puku Vai	US\$ 180 per night	Hotu matua s/n	Free Wi-Fi, airport shuttle, car hire, restaurant, tour desk, terrace and garden, bar, buffet breakfast

Where to eat

Name	Type	Prices	Address	Contact Info
Te Moana	Chilean	CH\$10,000-21,000	Av Policarpo Toro	+56-32-225-1578
La Taverne du Pêcheur	French	CH\$12,000-25,000	Caleta Hanga Roa s/n	+56-32-210-0619
Tataku Vave	Seafood	CH\$11,000-19,000	Caleta Hanga Piko s/n	+56-32-225-1544

Investing in Chile

Foreign Investment Law

In mid 2015, a new foreign investment law was introduced and came into effect in 2016. This Chilean Act 20.848 replaces the old Decree Law 600 of 1974.

This new law:

Defines foreign direct investment as the transfer to Chile of foreign capital or assets owned by a foreign investor, or an investor controlled by it, for an amount equal to or greater than US\$5 million, or its equivalent in other currencies, executed through freely convertible foreign currency, tangible assets, reinvestment profits, capitalization of loans, technology that is capitalized, or credits associated with a foreign investment made by related companies.

It says that foreign direct investment is also an investment that, within US\$5 million, acquires or grants participation in the assets or capital of a Chilean company, directly or indirectly, granting control of 10% or more of the voting shares or an equivalent percentage of participation in the company's capital.

Its definition of a foreign investor is an individual or legal entity that is neither a resident nor domiciled in Chile who follows the aforementioned laws to transfer capital to Chile.

The foreign investor has to get a foreign investment certificate from the Foreign Investment Promotion Agency. The foreign investor will have to explain the investment in detail to the agency.

A foreign investor will have the following rights after receiving the certificate:

The right to remit abroad the capital and the net earnings, without time limitation as long as all applicable Chilean taxes have been paid.

Access to the formal foreign exchange market in order to liquidate current correspondence to the investment or to acquire the necessary currency to remit the invested capital or the net earnings.

Exemption from VAT on imports of capital goods that comply with the requirements of the Chilean VAT Act.

Access to all rights available to domestic investors without discrimination because of the fact that the investor is foreign.

Negotiations and contracts that were made before the new law will not be affected.

Financial Institutions with Correspondent U.S. Banks

Banco Santander (Chile)

The largest bank group in Chile.

<https://www.santander.cl/>

Banco de Chile

The second-largest bank group of Chile.

www.bancochile.cl

BBVA Chile

Third-largest bank group in Chile.

<https://www.bbva.cl/>

More banks with international accreditation:

Banco de Credito e Inversiones

<http://www.bci.cl/personas/>

Banco del Estado de Chile

www.bancoestado.cl

HSBC (Chile)

<http://www.hsbc.cl>

Banco Paris

<http://www.bancoparis.cl>

Banco Falabella

www.bancofalabella.com.cl

Banco Itau Chile

www.banco.itau.cl

Banco Penta

<http://www.bancopenta.cl>

Banco Ripley

www.bancoripley.cl

Corpbanca

www.corpbanca.cl

Buying Real Estate in Chile

Buying property in Chile is much easier than in some other countries, but will probably be a longer process than in your home country.

1. First of all, you will have to find the property that you would like to buy.
 - There are some online websites with real estate listings, such as : Engel & Volker, portalinmobiliario.com, chile.realigro.com, yapo.cl.
 - If you are going to use a local realtor, realize that they will expect a 2%-3% fee to be paid by you and the seller. Also, realtors here usually deal in small areas, so you will probably have to deal with several of them.
 - Not knowing Spanish may be a major roadblock since there still isn't much real estate here specifically geared towards foreign investors, so it may be prudent to hire a translator.
2. Then you will have to get an RUT (Chilean tax number) for you or the entity that you are using to buy the property.
 - You can get an RUT at any Chilean tax office, however, for an entity, you need to present its articles of incorporation, bylaws, and documentation of the representative legalized by the Chilean consulate and stamped by the Chilean ministry of foreign affairs.
3. Afterwards you will need to do a title search of the property you wish to buy.
 - This title search will usually cost you between \$500 and \$1,000.
 - This is necessary so that you can be sure that there aren't any tax debts with the property, or that there aren't other claimants. Once you see that there are no liens, you can buy the property.
4. If you do not have residency in Chile, you probably won't be allowed to open a bank account and will need to put your funds into an escrow account where it has to be approved by the Bank of Chile, who will ask for documentation on where the money has come from.
 - The bank will charge 1% or less for the money transfer and currency exchange.
 - You will then pay the seller and pay a notary fee of around \$200 to \$400.
 - After this you will go to the Conservador de Bienes Raices to get your name inscribed on the land title and pay a fee of around 0.5% of the buying price.
5. Buying agricultural land is essentially the same process, except that you will have to do the title process twice in order to be sure that you own the water rights as well.

ESCAPE ARTIST

