



CHILE

Capital: Santiago

Population: 17.4 Million

Currency: Chilean Peso (CLP)

Language: Spanish, Castilian

Time Zone: EST plus 1 hour

Electricity: 220V/50H

Fun Facts



- Chile is the primary wintertime source of fresh grapes to the US and Canada (over 95%)
- There are over 200 volcanoes in Chile of which 50 are active
- Chile is the second largest producer of salmon in the world
- Chile's coastline is 2,700 miles long though only 110 miles wide

It's a skinny sliver of land that can be traversed from east to west within the span of an 8-hour work day yet stretches nearly 3,000 miles from top to bottom. An enclave hedged by the Pacific Ocean and the Andes Mountain Range, Chile enjoys perhaps the most unique location in South America. Even more remarkable are the diverse landscapes within this sliver of land – beaches with rocky cliffs, nooks of warm sand, islands and coves, undulating solitary desert, modern city life, glacial fjords, towering mountain terrain, natural hot springs, wine vineyards, and vast ocean. If you visit Chile, you will want to spread out and allow yourself time to see the Atacama Desert in the north, the modern and ancient city of Santiago in the center, and the bottom tip of the world in Patagonian territory. Chile is a country of mystery, pride, culture, and adventure. In addition to the scenery, the people, traditions, and flavors of Chile are among some of the most impressive in South America. There is a distinct European influence blended with the indigenous peoples – creating unique opportunities for shopping, music, architecture, and history. But the food and wine here are known to be some of the most colorful and flavorful on the continent. Additionally, its extensive coastline provides seafood unlike any in the world! Going to relax, hike, shop, eat well, sightsee, cruise, and play? Chile might be one of the best spots in South America to do it all.

Santiago

More towards the center of the country, high-rise modernization contrasts starkly with classic architecture. Beautiful cathedrals, historical sites, vibrant night life, local food variety, and constant movement are found in Santiago, Chile. This remarkable city has become a major hub of economic growth, turning it into one of Latin America's most modern metropolitan areas. You could easily fill a few days with all of the landmarks, museums, markets, cathedrals, and places to dine. To get a scope of just how vast and incredible Santiago is, maybe take a funicular up the side of the mountain for day or night time views of the city. The main cathedrals to see, some of the most beautiful in all of South America, are the *Church of San Francisco* and the *Cathedral of Santiago* in the Plaza de Armas. If you want to get in some authentic shopping while in Chile, this is the place to do it. While there are modern shopping hubs throughout the

city, if you want to take something local home with you, check out the Los Dominicos market – that’s the place to find the goods from the heart of Chile. And if you have time, there are wineries just outside the city that showcase some of the most impressive wine in South America.

Patagonia

Descend deeper into Chile, down to the Patagonia region, to the “End of the World” – a place where glaciers calve into the ocean, the Strait of Magellan carries you through a water channel between the whole of South America and its trailing tip of land, Cape Horn, where you are gripped by an almost eerie sensation that you may drop off the map, yet rocky and mountainous scenery keep you safely in the clutches of the world. Thousands of islets, rocky cliffs, and endless waters mingle with exceptional wildlife, forested areas, waterfalls, and activity. Horseback riding, kayaking, hiking and visiting local people are some of the most anticipated ways to see Patagonia. As you sail around, you can catch glimpses of penguins, wild horses, and elephant seals. With the Andes Mountains as a backdrop the view of glaciers, dazzling white and electric blue, dominating the cliffs is a spectacle beyond anything in the world. Most of the territory in the Patagonia is a protected wilderness area, roughly the size of Britain – but with a population that leaves less than one inhabitant per 2km, you’ll have an overwhelming sensation that it’s you, your friends, and the world alone. Patagonia was discovered over 500 years ago and it is just as spectacular today as it was to the very first explorer.

The remoteness of the Chilean Fjords can be overwhelming so it’s good to get into the cities to hobnob with locals and enjoy some of the traditions of Southern Chile. Some of the highlights here are Punta Arenas, Puerto Varas, and Puerto Natales. Puerto Natales sits slightly inland near the northern tip of Patagonia and serves as the gateway to some of the most incredible scenery in Chile – *Torres del Paine National Park*. Glaciers sit mightily along the water, snow capped mountains reflect pristine images in the lakes and strange towering rock formations look like they have been pinched off by a giant hand pulling upward to the sky. Aside from the scenery, pumas, foxes, swans, and guanacos roam freely adding life to the landscape. And just when you think you have seen it all, Puerto Natales offers up a rainforest, unspoiled and mystical in the clouds. Puerto Varas is an unexpected destination in southern Chile – a distinct German influence thrives in the architecture and food while the massive white peaks of Mt. Calbuca and Mt. Tronador watch over the city just beyond the gorgeous Lago Llanquihue. Yet again, another picture of the impressive variety you find in Chile.

Easter Island

And if you love the waters of southern Chile, a flight out to Rapa Nui, also known as Easter Island, will have you surrounded by them. This is the most remote, inhabited island in the world; found deep in the Pacific Ocean, it is home to hundreds of carved statues from volcanic tuff called Moai. It is unclear when the island was originally settled as there was no written history until the missionaries arrived in the 1860s. However, it is believed that the first settlers arrived to a lush tropical paradise between 700 and 1100 AD from Polynesia. Today, the island is a desolate, treeless place whose resources were decimated by overpopulation and obsession with moai building. As you walk around these strange structures, learn of the many theories on the islands’ tumultuous past and why archaeologists think these moais were erected in the first place. Most of them are in different stages of construction and a great many were abandoned when an imperfection was found in the stone. They sit in both neat rows against the skyline and rest at awkward angles against the hills, as if they were plopped randomly from the sky. While you’re there you can check out the paintings in lava tube caves where many of the clans people lived. See Rano Raraku, the quarry where 95% of the moai were carved, Rano Kau Volcano, the ceremonial village of Orongo, and restored Ahu Tongariki where 15 moai stand in a row. Rapa Nui is an open-air museum filled with an unprecedented collection of archeological sites found isolated from the world in its remote location. It is also known for its impressively active ocean – said to be some of the clearest and most exciting waters for diving and a surfer’s dream.

It's the tip of the world – teeming with craggy mountains, mirrored lakes, glaciers, unique wildlife, friendly locals, arid deserts, vineyards, and modern cities. It covers part of Patagonia, one of the greatest points of intrigue in the world. It is scattered with culture, embraced by the Pacific Ocean and the Andes, laden with history, and screaming with adventure. Chile does not allow its size to determine its influence in South America. Though it sits on the bitter edge, it is at the pulsating heart of this great continent and an experience of a lifetime.



VISAS AND PASSPORTS

Visas to Chile are not required for U.S. citizens. If you hold a passport from another country, please check with your local consulate about requirements for travel to Chile. All passengers traveling internationally are required to have a passport. Please carry proper identification (your passport) on you and do not leave it in your suitcase or hotel room. Most countries have laws that require you to carry your passport with you at all times.

RECIPROCITY FEE

There is a Tourist entrance fee to Chile of \$132CA for Canadian citizens which is payable to the immigration official at the airport. Payment for this can now be accepted by credit card, cash, or Travelers Check. Price may differ for citizens of other nations. U.S. citizens are no longer required to pay this fee.

COUNTRY CODES

The country code for Chile is 56. When calling to Chile from overseas, you dial your international access code (011 from the U.S.) followed by the country code, area code, and phone number. Phone numbers in Chile are 7-9 digits in length (including the area code). Dialing from the U.S.: 011 56 ## ##### ##.

CURRENCY AND BUDGETING

The official currency of Chile is the Chilean Peso.

- Banknote denominations: \$1,000, \$2,000, \$5,000, \$10,000, \$20,000
- Coin denominations: \$1, \$5, \$10, \$50, \$100, \$500

For the most current exchange rates, please go to our Web site at www.globusfamily.com/currency

Credit cards are accepted in Chile, and you should have no problems using them in larger shops and restaurants. Visa and MasterCard are most accepted. Smaller shops may ask you to pay in cash or have a minimum amount required to use a credit card. Be prepared to show your passport when making a credit card transaction.

Traveler's Checks are extremely difficult to exchange in Chile. Their use is not recommended.

TO HELP YOU BUDGET:

The following budget guidelines are just approximate values or starting values for meals and are per person. Actual prices will vary widely by restaurant and city within a country but below are some averages as provided by our experienced personnel.

The approximate cost of a soft drink/mineral water/coffee is US\$1.25.

An average lunch for one consisting of a salad or sandwich and a soda or water will cost approximately US\$7.00.

A steak dinner for two at a mid-range restaurant, with desert and a non-alcoholic beverage will cost approximately US\$40.00.

TIPPING

For restaurant services a tip is expected. At some restaurants a service charge, or tip, is already included. If not, a good tip is 10%.

For a taxi, round up the fare as tip. If providing a cash tip, it is recommended to give pesos of \$10 or higher as \$1 and \$5 pesos are not considered much in Chile.

Tip hotel staff \$1,000 pesos for room service or bar service.



ELECTRICAL OUTLETS:

Voltage for outlets is 220V. American voltage is generally 110V. Therefore, a converter may be necessary for your travels. Adapters will be necessary to adapt your plug into the outlet but may not convert the voltage, so both devices are necessary. Chile uses a round, 2-prong plug that looks like



Type C



Type L



TEMPERATURES

Chile has a variety of weather ranging from dry desert in the north (the Atacama) to rainy climate in the south.

To help you plan, below are average low and high temperatures for Chile (in °F):

Chile's Hi and Low temps:

Month	Santiago	Easter Island	Puerto Natales	Chilean Fjords Region	Atacama Desert
January	52-82 Avg. 70	69-79 Avg. 75	47-65 Avg. 59	41-59 Avg. 50	41-75 Avg. 64
February	51-82 Avg. 70	70-80 Avg. 76	46-64 Avg. 58	41-56 Avg. 50	41-75 Avg. 64
March	49-78 Avg. 69	70-79 Avg. 75	43-60 Avg. 52	39-54 Avg. 48	39-74 Avg. 63
April	43-70 Avg. 61	68-76 Avg. 72	37-54 Avg. 45	39-49 Avg. 41	36-73 Avg. 61
May	39-63 Avg. 50	65-73 Avg. 70	32-45 Avg. 39	NA	30-72 Avg. 61
June	37-58 Avg. 48	65-72 Avg. 69	28-41 Avg. 35	NA	31-69 Avg. 56
July	35-58 Avg. 47	62-69 Avg. 65	27-39 Avg. 33	NA	30-69 Avg. 56
August	38-60 Avg. 50	61-69 Avg. 65	29-43 Avg. 37	NA	30-70 Avg. 57
September	40-63 Avg. 52	63-70 Avg. 65	33-50 Avg. 42	NA	31-72 Avg. 58
October	44-69 Avg. 56	63-72 Avg. 69	37-56 Avg. 48	36-51 Avg. 44	35-75 Avg. 62
November	47-75 Avg. 61	64-74 Avg. 70	43-61 Avg. 53	38-54 Avg. 48	36-76 Avg. 65
December	50-80 Avg. 70	67-76 Avg. 73	46-64 Avg. 58	40-58 Avg. 50	38-76 Avg. 68

FOOD SPECIALTIES



Pastel de choclo: corn casserole filled with ground beef, onions, chicken, raisins, hardboiled egg, olives, and topped with sugar and butter.

Empanada de pino: a baked pie filled with ground beef, onion, raisins, a piece of boiled egg and a black olive.

Empanada de queso: a deep-fried pastry packet filled with cheese.

A FEW WORDS OF THE LOCAL LANGUAGE



CONVERSATION

¡Hola! Hi!, ¡Buenos Dias! Good morning!, ¡Buenas Noches! Good evening!, **Me llamo** _____. My name is _____, **¿Cómo se llama usted?** What is your name?, **Mucho gusto.** Pleased to meet you., **¿Cómo está usted?** How are you?, **Bien, gracias.** ¿Y usted? Fine, thanks. And you?, **Mas o menos** So-so, **¡Hasta luego!** See you later!, **Adiós.** Good-bye., **Por favor.** Please., **Vivo en** _____ I live in _____, **(Muchas) gracias.** **(Muy amable.)** (Many) thanks. (Very kind.), **De nada.** You're welcome., **Lo siento.** I'm sorry., **¿Me permite?** May I?, **Disculpe.** Excuse me. (To get someone's attention.), **Con permiso.** Excuse me. (For leaving or passing through.), **Perdón.** Excuse me. (For sneezing, arriving late, etc.), **¡Salud!** Gesundheit! (When someone sneezes.) Cheers! (For toasting with drinks.), **¿Me pasa _____ por favor?** Could you please pass me _____?, **Sí.** Yes., **No.** No., **Gracias** Thank you, **No entiendo** I don't understand, **No hablo español** I don't speak Spanish, **¿Habla inglés?** Do you speak English?, **¿Dónde está el baño?** Where is the bathroom?, **Está cerca?** Is it near?, **Está lejos?** Is it far?, **Siga recto.** Go straight ahead., **Gire a la derecha.** Turn right., **Gire a la izquierda.** Turn left., **Nescito esto.** I would like this., **Una mesa para dos, por favor.** A table for two, please., **La carta, por favor.** The menu, please., **La lista de vinos, por favor.** The wine list, please., **primer plato** appetizers, **plato principal** main course, **postre** dessert, **Quisiera algo para beber.** I would like something to drink., **Un vaso de agua, por favor.** A glass of water, please., **Una Cerveza.** Beer, **Una Copa de vino tinto/blanco** Glass of red/white wine, **La cuenta, por favor.** The check, please., **Incluye la propina?** Is the tip included?, **Desayuno** Breakfast., **Comida** lunch, **Cena** dinner, **¡Buen provecho!** Enjoy the meal!, **¡Salud!** To your health!, **Está riquísima!** It's delicious!, **Plato.** plate, **Tenedor.** fork, **Cuchillo.** knife, **Cuchara.** spoon, **Servilleta.** napkin, **Hielo.** ice, **Sal.** salt, **Pimiento.** pepper, **Azúcar.** sugar, **Sopa.** soup, **Ensalada.** salad, **Pan.** bread, **Mantequilla.** butter, **Pollo.** Chicken, **Carne.** Beef, **Cerdo.** Pork, **Quisiera la carne poco cocida.** I like my steak rare., **Quisiera la carne a medio cocer.** I like my steak medium., **Quisiera la carne bien cocida.** I like my steak well done.

Numbers

Cero. Zero, **Uno. 1, Dos. 2, Tres. 3, Cuatro. 4, Cinco. 5, Seis. 6, Siete. 7, Ocho. 8, Nueve. 9, Diez. 10, Once. 11, Doce. 12, Trece 13, Catorce 14, Quince 15, Dieciseis 16, Diecisiete. 17, Dieciocho. 18, Diecinueve. 19, Veinte. 20, Cien. 100, Mil. 1000.**

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