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USA -Chile: Otterbein University, Universidad San Sebastian, November 27-December 22, 2005

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USA - Chile



Otterbein College
Universidad San
Sebastián

November 27-December 22, 2005

Archives F 3065 .U72 2005

USA - Chile

CHILE & ARGENTINA: An Immersion Adventure

November 27 - December 22, 2005

SPAN 390 (5 credits)

This is a 25-day adventure, 40 degrees South of the Equator, in one of the most spectacular and beautiful areas of the continent. We will explore the capital, Santiago, and will travel to Valdivia (X Region) to participate in workshops specially designed for Spanish students from Otterbein by the Universidad of San Sebastian. We will take a ferry to explore the island of Chiloe and its culture. Then we will go 'to tango' and sightseeing to San Carlos de Bariloche, Argentina!

From the Andes mountains to the lakes of Valdivia and to the Pacific ocean, we will explore the fascinating geography of the Southern Cone and we will examine the history and present day institutions of these countries. The workshops will deal with history, culture, language, cuisine and theater and will be directed by faculty of Universidad San Sebastian.

Students (undergraduate or graduate) will receive credit through the Department of Foreign Languages. The cost is \$2711.00 *(subject to change/cost based on 15 students) and it includes tuition, airfare, transportation within Chile and to Argentina, room and board for 25 days.

The Program Director is Dr. Carmen Galarce, Professor of Spanish in the Department of Foreign Languages, native of Chile and a regional expert. To learn more and reserve your space, please contact Dr. Galarce at 614/823-1798 or by Email: Cgalarce@otterbein.edu, before July 15, 2005.



SPAN 390: Chile & Argentina

Welcome to our adventure South of the Equator!

November 27-December 22, 2005

Our task is to experience with every sense the language and the economic, political, social and cultural environment of these nations. All our activities are learning experiences. Let's explore, let's question, let's discuss, let's analyze. Welcome to this incredible journey!

PARTICIPANTS:

Beers, Karen Lynn
Billman,Carolynn Elizabeth
Combes, Emily Elizabet
Douds, Krysta Lynn
Ebbinghaus, Shannon Lynn
Greene, Lynette Marie
Kiefer, Michelle C.
Lorenz, Emily Ann
Magas, Terry Dill
Moore, Kyle Jacob
Murray, Kimberly Ann
Phillippi, Katy Elizabeth
Scarborough, Jennifer Lynn
Walker, Colleen Elizabeth
Langley, Karen

Dr. Carmen J. Galarce, Dept. of Foreign Languages , Otterbein College (Director)
Prof. Natacha Galarce Godoy, Universidad San Sebastian, Valdivia, Chile (Co-director)



"The world is a great book...they who never stir from home read only a page" St. Augustine

Listado de alumnos Otterbein College y los respectivos alumnos o profesores que los alojaran.

Nº	ALUMNO Extranjero	HOSPEDADO POR	DIRECCIÓN	TELÉFONO	E-MAIL
1	Beers Karen	Tatiana Lavados	Pasaje Junkel N°59 Población Beneficencia	09-6166453	folionet@hotmail.com
2	Billman Carolynn	Claudia Pino	Reina Sofia pasaje 6 N°3585	210316	cuatika@hotmail.com
3	Combes Emily	Francisca Andrea Sepúlveda	Circuvalación Sur N°4205 depto.305	207085/ 09-0513698	panshitaxxx@hotmail.com
5	Douds, Krysta	Johanna Sandoval Fuentes	Juan Francisco Adriazola 4299, Villa Pdo. Montt 5	259897	johanna_21_24@hotmail.com
6	Ebbinghaus, Shannon	Raúl Pérez Torres	Pasaje 2 #13, Villa Calle - Calleaje 2 #13, Villa Ca	249119	raulgunuss@hotmail.com
7	Greene, Lynette	Pilar Olave Arias	Luis Rudloff 1647, Villa Las Asturias.	349089/09-0892708	pilarolave@123mail.com
8	Kiefer, Michelle	Natalia Alejandra Fuentes	Ancud N°344 El Bosque	218026	locately2@hotmail.com
9	Langley, Karen	Natacha Galarce			ngalarce@telsur.cl
10	Lorenz, Emily	María Victoria Alves	Baquadano N°914	219951	vicky_cielito@hotmail.com
11	Magas, Terry	Sylvia Rodas Vargas	Oviedo N° 251	227778/08-5310760	asrdoa@yahoo.es srodas@uss.cl
12	Moore, Kyle	Pamela Ávila Faverio	Aníbal Pinto N° 1999	246622/09-6421258	pfaverio81@hotmail.com
13	Murray, Kimberly	Bernardita Mora Inzuza	Beauchef N° 810	207019	bernyimi@hotmail.com
14	Phillipi, Katy	Yovanka Ovando	Los Abedules N° 326	278373	yovando@uss.cl
15	Scarrough, Jennifer	Natacha Galarce			ngalarce@telsur.cl
16	Walker, Colleen	Yoselyn Acuña	Bombero Classing N°155, Las Animas	340433	yokito27@hotmail.com

SPANISH 390: CHILE/ARGENTINA

(*Noviembre –Diciembre 2005*)
OTTERBEIN COLLEGE

Programa de Actividades en la Universidad San Sebastian, Valdivia

Martes 29 de noviembre

9:00 a 9:30: Bienvenida y presentación de la Universidad a cargo de la Prorectora señora Yovanka Ovando Fuentealba.

9:30 a 10:30: Desayuno de bienvenida con la señora Prorectora Yovanka Ovando Fuentealba, con la directora de Pedagogía Básica señora Teresa Oyarzún, con la directora de inglés señora Carmen Paz Soto, con la coordinadora académica de inglés señora Sylvia Rodas, con la docente y Coordinadora del Programa en el extranjero Natacha Galarce y con los alumnos que van alojar a los estudiantes en sus casas.

10:30 a 11:00: Paseo por el Campus Valdivia de la Universidad San Sebastián para conocer sus dependencias.

11:10 a 12:30: Clases, Historia de Contemporánea de Chile, profesora Carmen Paz Soto Caro, directora de la Carrera de Pedagogía en Historia y Ciencias Sociales.

Almuerzo en las respectivas casas donde estén alojados.

Miércoles 30 de noviembre

9:30 a 10:50: Clases de Historia Contemporánea de Chile, profesora Carmen Paz Soto.

11:10 a 12:30: Taller de teatro a cargo de la profesora Natacha Galarce.

12:40 a 14:00: Taller de conversación con alumnos del Programa Especial de Inglés (abierto a otras carreras de la universidad como por ej. Odontología). Los alumnos se organizaran en grupos.

Jueves 1 de diciembre

9.30 a 10.50: Clases de cocina chilena valdiviana, a cargo de la prof. Sylvia Rodas.

11.10 a 12.30: Clase: "Políticas educacionales chilenas II" a cargo de la prof. Teresa Oyarzún directora de la carrera de Pedagogía Básica y Parvularia.

12:40 a 14:00: Taller de conversación con alumnos de pedagogía en Inglés y Pedagogía en Educación Básica Mención Inglés.

Almuerzo en las casas en las cuales se estén alojando.

Viernes 2 de diciembre

Viaje a Pucon para visitar volcanes, hacer rafting o bañarse en las termas.
Hotel Malalhue telefono 56- 45.- 443130

Lunes 5 de diciembre

9:00 a 10:30: Recorrido por Chile en Imágenes, profesora Claudia Guarda, docente de Geografía de Chile en la carrera Pedagogía en Historia y Ciencias Sociales.

11:00 a 18:00: Tour fluvial al Santuario de la Naturaleza y al fuerte San Luis de Alba.

18:00: Alumnos vuelven a sus casas.

Martes 6 de diciembre

9.30 a 10:50: Clases de pastelería chilena, prof. Sylvia Rodas.

11:10 a 12:30: Taller de actuación con la profesora Natacha Galarce.

12:40 a 14:00: Taller de conversación con alumnos de Pedagogía en Inglés y Pedagogía Básica mención inglés.

Almuerzo en las casas donde estén alojando.

Miércoles 7 de diciembre

9:00 a 10:50: Historia de Valdivia, profesora Lorena Liewald docente de la carrera de Pedagogía en Historia y Ciencias Sociales.

11:10 a 12:30: Taller de conversación en español a cargo del profesor Alfredo Rangel.

12:30 a 14:00: Taller de conversación con los alumnos del Programa Especial de Inglés.

Almuerzo en las casas donde estén alojados.

Jueves 8-9-10 y 11 de diciembre

En **Argentina**, recorriendo la zona de Bariloche. Hotel Sunset.telefono 02944-425137

Lunes 12 de diciembre

8:00: Salida desde la sede en dirección a Villarrica y Pucón. Trekking al volcán Villarrica, acompañados de los profesores Alfredo Rangel de la carrera Pedagogía en Inglés y Claudia Guarda de Pedagogía en Historia.
Regreso a Valdivia 18:00 hrs.

Martes 13 de diciembre

9:30 a 10:50: Cocina chilena, profesora Sylvia Rodas.

11:10 a 12:30 Taller de teatro profesora Natacha Galarce.

12:40 a 14:00: Taller de conversación con los profesores de Pedagogía en Inglés.

Almuerzo en las respectivas casas donde están alojados.

Miércoles 14 de diciembre

8:30 a 9:50: Historia de Valdivia, profesora Lorena Liewald.

11:10 a 12:30: Taller de Actuación con la profesora Natacha Galarce.

12:30 a 14:00: Taller de conversación con alumnos de la carrera de Pedagogía en Inglés.

Almuerzo en las respectivas casas donde estén alojados.

Jueves 15 de diciembre

9:30 a 10:50: Taller de cocina chilena a cargo de la prof. Sylvia Rodas.

11:10 a 12:30: Taller de cine chileno a cargo del profesor Boris Vidal.

12:30 a 14:00: Taller de conversación con la planta docente de Pedagogía en Inglés.

Viernes 16 y Sabado 17 de diciembre

Viaje a la isla de Chiloe. Hosteria Castro.
Telefono 56-65-632301

Lunes 19 de diciembre

9:30 a 10:30: Alumnos del Otterbein College presenta su ciudad y su establecimiento educacional a la comunidad Sebastiana.

11:10 a 12:30: Cierre del curso Historia de Chile Contemporáneo.

12:40-14:00: Último taller de conversación con los alumnos de Pedagogía en Inglés y Pedagogía Básica, mención inglés.

20:00: Cena de despedida: los estudiantes de Otterbein invitan al equipo de profesores que participó en el Programa y a la Prorrectora de la Universidad San Sebastian a una cena informal para agradecerles la colaboración en el programa.

Martes 20 de diciembre

9:00 a 9:30: Evaluación del programa.

10:00 a 10:30: Acto de despedida, discurso de prorrectoría.

Regreso a Santiago y viaje a Viña del Mar

Miercoles 21 de diciembre

Valparaiso y Viña del Mar: la playa

Cena final de despedida con la Coordinadora del programa

Hotel Alcazar (Viña del Mar) telefono 56-32-47800

Jueves 22 de diciembre

Santiago: viaje a Los Dominicos.

Aeropuerto.

Tuesday November 8, 2005

U.S. Department of State
Bureau of Consular Affairs
Washington, DC 20520

Consular Information Sheet

Please click on this link to read important information you should see **before** you travel abroad

This information is current as of today, Tue Nov 08 08:41:54 2005.

Chile

Americans planning travel to *Chile* should read *International Adoption Chile* available on the Department of State web site at <http://travel.state.gov>

August 25, 2005

COUNTRY DESCRIPTION: Chile is a rapidly developing country with a large, educated middle class and a robust free-market economy. Tourist facilities are generally good and are continuously improving. Read the Department of State [Background Notes](#) on Chile for additional information.

ENTRY/EXIT REQUIREMENTS: The U.S. Government will begin to phase in new passport requirements for U.S. citizens traveling in the Western Hemisphere. By December 31, 2007, all U.S. citizens will be expected to depart and enter the United States on a valid passport or other authorized document establishing identity and U.S. citizenship. The Department of State strongly encourages travelers to obtain passports well in advance of any planned travel. Routine passport applications by mail take up to six weeks to be issued. For further information, go to the State Department's Consular website: http://travel.state.gov/travel/cbpmc/cbpmc_2223.html.

United States citizens entering Chile for business or pleasure must have a valid passport and visa. Visas may be obtained at the port of entry upon payment of a reciprocity fee. The visa is valid for multiple entries to Chile and remains valid until the expiration of the passport. U.S. citizens are admitted to Chile for up to 90 days. An extension of stay for an additional 90 days is possible, but requires payment of another fee. Visitors will be issued a Tourist Card upon entry that must be surrendered upon departure. Further information can be obtained by contacting the Consular Section, Embassy of Chile, 1734 Massachusetts Avenue, Washington DC 20036, tel (202) 530-4104, fax (202) 530-4145, or the Embassy of Chile website at www.chile-usa.org. Also see our [Foreign Entry Requirements brochure](#) for more information on Chile and other countries.

For entry and exit requirements pertaining to dual nationality and the prevention of international child abduction, read our information at http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1469.html. For Customs Information see http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1468.html.

SAFETY AND SECURITY: The potential for terrorist activity is low. There has been some politically motivated violence among indigenous communities in southern Chile, none of which has affected Americans. Potential for civil disturbance is low, although demonstrations, sometimes violent, do occur, particularly on the anniversary of the September 11, 1973 coup against the

government of President Salvador Allende.

For the latest security information, Americans traveling abroad should regularly monitor the Department's Internet web site at <http://travel.state.gov> where the current Travel Warnings and Public Announcements, including the Worldwide Caution Public Announcement, can be found.

Up-to-date information on safety and security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll free in the U.S., or for callers outside the U.S. and Canada, a regular toll-line at 1-202-501-4444. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).

The Department of State urges American citizens to take responsibility for their own personal security while traveling overseas. For general information about appropriate measures travelers can take to protect themselves in an overseas environment, see the Department of State's pamphlet A Safe Trip Abroad at http://travel.state.gov/travel/tips/safety/safety_1747.html.

CRIME: Crime rates are low to moderate throughout Chile. There have been few violent crimes committed against Americans. Most crimes against foreigners involve pick pocketing or theft from purses, backpacks, or rental cars. Visitors should be as alert to the possibility of crime in Santiago (especially in the Suecia entertainment district), Valparaiso, and other cities in Chile as they would be in any city in the United States. Tourists using taxis in Santiago should be alert to possible scams involving currency switching. There have been reports of taxi drivers switching 10,000 peso notes given them by passengers for 1,000 peso notes and demanding additional payment, since these notes are similar in appearance. The emergency telephone number for the police ("Carbineros") is 133.

INFORMATION FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME: The loss or theft abroad of a U.S. passport should be reported immediately to the local police and the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate. If you are the victim of a crime while overseas, in addition to reporting to local police, please contact the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate for assistance. The Embassy/Consulate staff can, for example, assist you to find appropriate medical care, contact family members or friends and explain how funds could be transferred. Although the investigation and prosecution of the crime is solely the responsibility of local authorities, consular officers can help you to understand the local criminal justice process and to find an attorney if needed.

See our information on Victims of Crime at http://travel.state.gov/travel/tips/emergencies/emergencies_1748.html.

MEDICAL FACILITIES AND HEALTH INFORMATION: Medical care, though generally good, may not meet U.S. standards, especially in remote areas. Although emergency rooms in some major hospitals accept credit cards, many doctors and hospitals in Chile expect immediate payment in cash. Prescription and over the counter medicines are widely available. Air pollution is a major source of health concern in Santiago. The most severe air pollution occurs during the winter (May through August).

Information on vaccinations and other health precautions, such as safe food and water precautions and insect bite protection, may be obtained from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's hotline for international travelers at 1-877-FYI-TRIP (1-877-394-8747) or via the CDC's Internet site at <http://www.cdc.gov/travel>. For information about outbreaks of infectious diseases abroad consult the World Health Organization's (WHO) website at <http://www.who.int/en>. Further health information for travelers is available at <http://www.who.int/ith>.

MEDICAL INSURANCE: The Department of State strongly urges Americans to consult with their medical insurance company prior to traveling abroad to confirm whether their policy applies

overseas and whether it will cover emergency expenses such as a medical evacuation. Please see our information on medical insurance overseas at http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1470.html.

TRAFFIC SAFETY AND ROAD CONDITIONS: While in a foreign country, U.S. citizens may encounter road conditions that differ significantly from those in the United States. The information below concerning Chile is provided for general reference only, and may not be totally accurate in a particular location or circumstance.

Driving in Chile is on the right-hand side of the road. Several modern toll highways have recently been opened in and around Santiago, dramatically improving transit into and through the city. Major roads are generally in good condition throughout the country. Some secondary roads, however, may be poorly maintained. At night, heavy fog conditions in rural areas have led to multiple vehicle accidents with occasional deaths and injuries. Care should be taken while driving in the mountains because the roads tend to have many tight switchbacks and rarely have guardrails. Chains are often required and should be used on mountain roads during the winter. Many major highways in Chile are toll roads; drivers should carry a sufficient amount of local currency to cover the tolls. The new major highways in and around Santiago generally collect tolls through use of an electronic transmitter issued by the concessionaire and placed on the vehicle. "Day passes" may be purchased separately. Vehicles rented at Santiago airport generally are equipped with the electronic transmitter and the rental car companies charge a surcharge for its use. Some major arteries remain under construction in Santiago and drivers should be alert for detours and delays.

Throughout Chile, but especially in Santiago, care should be exercised when changing lanes or merging because many drivers do not signal lane changes and rarely yield to merging traffic. Buses are especially aggressive in moving between lanes. Speeding is common, including in urban areas. Traffic jams and detours in Santiago and other areas are common. Taxis are plentiful and relatively inexpensive. Drivers should drive with car doors locked at all times, especially in the southern parts of the city and near the airport, as there have been reports of thieves entering cars stopped at traffic lights or moving in slow traffic. In Santiago, certain major arteries switch directions during morning and evening rush hours. Visitors to Santiago should obtain up-to-date information on these changes from their auto rental company or the Chilean Automobile Association (please see below).

Driving under the influence of alcohol in Chile is severely punished, and can result in incarceration if the driver is involved in an accident. Individuals arrested for driving under the influence over a weekend can expect to remain incarcerated until the next business day when they will appear before a judge.

Visitors must have an international driver's permit in order to drive legally in Chile. Although car rental firms may rent to customers with only a U.S. driver's license, the police have detained several persons for lengthy periods for driving without a valid international permit.

Please refer to our Road Safety page for more information at http://travel.state.gov/travel/tips/safety/safety_1179.html. For specific information concerning Chile, driving permits, vehicle inspection, road tax and mandatory insurance, please contact the Chilean Automobile Association, Avenida Andres Bello 1863, Providencia, Santiago, tel. 600-464-4040 or via the internet at www.automovilclub.cl. or the National Tourist Bureau, SENARTUR, located at Avenida Providencia 1550, Santiago tel. (56-2) 731-8419, or via the Internet at www.sernatur.cl. Information about current road conditions throughout Chile can be obtained by calling the police at 139.

AVIATION SAFETY OVERSIGHT: The U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has

assessed the Government of Chile as being in compliance with ICAO international aviation safety standards for oversight of Chile's air carrier operations. For more information, travelers may visit the FAA's Internet web site at www.faa.gov/safety/programs_initiatives/oversight/iasa.

SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES: Chile is an earthquake prone country. Information on Chilean earthquake preparedness is available the Oficina Nacional de Emergencia de Chile (ONEMI) via the Internet at www.onemi.cl (for emergency preparedness guidance in English click on "Guia SIE" on the left side of ONEMI's homepage). General information about natural disaster preparedness is available via the Internet from the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) at www.fema.gov. Information about emergency preparedness is also available on the Embassy website, santiago.state.gov. Please see our information on customs regulations at http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1468.html.

Minefields are found in Chile's northern border with Peru and Bolivia and on the southern border with Argentina in Patagonia. Minefields are generally marked, but markers may have been shifted, become obscured or been vandalized. Travelers should pay attention to markers and follow clearly identified roads and trails when traveling in minefield areas. Border crossings should only be made at authorized locations. Persons visiting wilderness areas in the border regions mentioned above should check with park or other local officials concerning minefields and other potential hazards.

Chile is a popular destination for outdoor and adventure sports. Much of the country is mountain, forest, desert, or glacier. Despite the best efforts of local authorities, assisting persons lost or injured in such areas can be problematic. American citizens have been killed in recent years in mountain climbing and white water rafting accidents, and seriously injured while skiing. Persons planning to travel in isolated and wilderness areas should first learn about local hazards and weather conditions. Information about parks and wilderness areas can be obtained from the Chilean Forestry Service at www.conaf.cl. Information about mountain climbing in Chile can be obtained from the Federacion de Andinismo de Chile at www.feach.cl. Current weather forecasts are available from the Chilean Meteorological Service at www.meteochile.cl. Reports of missing or injured persons should be made immediately to the police so that a search can be mounted or assistance rendered. Socorro Andino (www.socorroandino.cl) is a volunteer organization that provides mountain search and rescue services that supplement police efforts. Persons traveling in isolated areas should always inform park rangers, police, or other local authorities of their itinerary before starting off.

CRIMINAL PENALTIES: While in a foreign country, a U.S. citizen is subject to that country's laws and regulations, which sometimes differ significantly from those in the United States and may not afford the protections available to the individual under U.S. law. Penalties for breaking the law can be more severe than in the United States for similar offenses. Persons violating Chile's laws, even unknowingly, may be expelled, arrested or imprisoned. Penalties for possession, use, or trafficking in illegal drugs in Chile are severe, and convicted offenders can expect long jail sentences and heavy fines. Engaging in illicit sexual conduct with children or using or disseminating child pornography in a foreign country is a crime, prosecutable in the United States. For more information visit http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1467.html.

CHILDREN'S ISSUES: For information on international adoption of children and international parental child abduction, see the Office of Children's Issues website at http://www.travel.state.gov/family/family_1732.html.

REGISTRATION / EMBASSY LOCATION: Americans living or traveling in Chile are encouraged to register with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate through the State Department's travel registration website, <https://travelregistration.state.gov>, and to obtain updated information on travel and security within Chile. Americans without Internet access may register directly with the

nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate. By registering, American citizens make it easier for the Embassy or Consulate to contact them in case of emergency. The U.S. Embassy is located Avenida Andres Bello 2800, Santiago, Chile (56) (2) 232-2600; the Embassy website is santiago.state.gov. The Consular Section fax number is (56)(2) 330-3005. The American Citizens Services section is open to the public from 8:30a.m. -11:30a.m., Monday through Friday, except American and Chilean holidays.

* * *

This replaces the Consular Information Sheet dated November 29, 2004, to update sections on Entry and Exit Requirements, Safety and Security, Crime, Information for Victims of Crime, Medical Facilities and Health Information, Medical Insurance, Traffic Safety and Road Conditions, Special Circumstances, and Criminal Penalties.



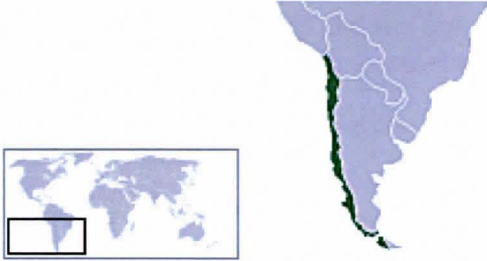


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Chile

The **Republic of Chile** is a country in South America occupying a long coastal strip between the Andes mountains and the Pacific Ocean. It shares borders with Argentina to the east, Bolivia to the northeast and Peru to the north.

República de Chile

 	
(Flag) (Coat of Arms)	
<u>Motto</u> : <i>Por la Razon o la Fuerza</i> (Spanish: "By right or might")	
<u>Anthem</u> : <i>Himno Nacional</i>	
	
<u>Capital</u>	<u>Santiago</u> ¹ <u>33°26' S 70°40' W</u>
<u>Largest city</u>	<u>Santiago</u>
<u>Official languages</u>	<u>Spanish</u>
<u>Government</u>	<u>Democratic republic</u>
• <u>President</u>	<u>Ricardo Lagos</u>
<u>Independence</u>	From <u>Spain</u>
• <u>Initiated</u>	<u>September 18, 1810</u>
• <u>Declared</u>	<u>February 12, 1818</u>
• <u>Recognized</u>	<u>April 25, 1844</u>
<u>Area</u>	
• <u>Total</u>	<u>756,950 km² (38th)</u>
• <u>Water (%)</u>	<u>1.07%²</u>
<u>Population</u>	
• <u>June 2005 est.</u>	<u>16,136,137 (60th)</u>
• <u>2002 census</u>	<u>15,116,435</u>
• <u>Density</u>	<u>21/km² (153rd)</u>
<u>GDP (PPP)</u>	<u>2004 estimate</u>
• <u>Total</u>	<u>\$173,812 million (44th)</u>
• <u>Per capita</u>	<u>\$10,869 (59th)</u>
<u>Currency</u>	<u>Peso (CLP)</u>
<u>Time zone</u>	— (<u>UTC-4</u>)
• <u>Summer (DST)</u>	— (<u>UTC-3</u>)

Internet TLD	<u>.cl</u>
Calling code	+56
¹ The <u>legislative body</u> operates in <u>Valparaíso</u> ² Includes <u>Easter Island</u> and <u>Isla Sala y Gómez</u> ; does not include 1,250,000 km ² of claimed territory in <u>Antarctica</u>	

Origin of the name

There are various theories about the origin of the word *Chile*. According to one theory the Incas of Peru, who had failed to conquer the Araucanians, called the valley of the Aconcagua "Chili" by corruption of the name of a tribal chief ("cacique") called *Tili*, who ruled the area at the time of the Incan conquest. Another theory points to the similarity of the valley of the Aconcagua with that of the Casma in Peru, where there was a town and valley named *Chili*. Other theories say Chile may derive its name from the indigenous Mapuche word *chilli*, which may mean "where the land ends" or "the deepest point of the Earth," or from the Aymara *tchili* meaning "snow"; another meaning attributed to *chilli* is the onomatopoeic *cheele-cheele*—the Mapuche imitation of a bird call. The Spanish conquistadors heard about this name from the Incas and the few survivors of Diego de Almagro's first Spanish expedition south from Peru in 1535-36 called themselves the "men of Chilli."

History - Main article: History of Chile

About 10,000 years ago, migrating Native Americans settled in fertile valleys and along the coast of what is now Chile. The Incas briefly extended their empire into what is now northern Chile, but the area's remoteness and the fierce opposition of the native population prevented extensive settlement.



Pedro de Valdivia

In 1520, while attempting to circumnavigate the earth, the Portuguese Ferdinand Magellan, discovered the southern passage now named after him, the Straits of Magellan. The next Europeans to reach Chile were Diego de Almagro and his band of Spanish conquistadors, who came from Peru in 1535 seeking gold but were turned back by the local population. The Spanish encountered hundreds of thousands of Indians from various cultures in the area that modern Chile now occupies. These cultures supported themselves principally through slash-and-burn agriculture and hunting. The first permanent European settlement, Santiago, was founded in 1541 by Pedro de Valdivia, one of Francisco Pizarro's lieutenants. Although the Spanish did not find the extensive gold and silver they sought, they recognized the agricultural potential of Chile's central valley, and Chile became part of the Viceroyalty of Peru.

Conquest of the land that is today called Chile took place only gradually, and the Europeans suffered repeated setbacks at the hands of the local population. A massive Mapuche insurrection that began in 1553 resulted in Valdivia's death and the destruction of many of the colony's principal settlements. Subsequent major insurrections took place in 1598 and in 1655. Each time the Mapuche and other native groups revolted, the southern border of the colony was driven northward. The abolition of slavery in 1683 defused tensions on the frontier between the colony and the Mapuche land to the south, and permitted increased trade between colonists and Mapuches.

The drive for independence from Spain was precipitated by usurpation of the Spanish throne by Napoleon's brother Joseph, in 1808. A national junta in the name of Ferdinand—heir to the deposed king—was formed on September 18, 1810. The junta proclaimed Chile an autonomous republic within the Spanish monarchy. A movement for total independence soon won a wide following. Spanish attempts to reimpose arbitrary rule during what was called the Reconquista led to a prolonged struggle.



Bernardo O'Higgins

Intermittent warfare continued until 1817, when an army led by Bernardo O'Higgins, Chile's most renowned patriot, and José de San Martín, hero of Argentine independence, crossed the Andes into Chile and defeated the royalists. On February 12, 1818, Chile was proclaimed an independent republic under O'Higgins' leadership. The political revolt brought little social change, however, and 19th century Chilean society preserved the essence of the stratified colonial social structure, which was greatly influenced by family politics and the Roman Catholic Church. The system of presidential absolutism eventually predominated, but wealthy landowners continued to control Chile.

Toward the end of the 19th century, the government in Santiago consolidated its position in the south by ruthlessly suppressing the Mapuche Indians, finally completing the conquest begun more than three centuries earlier. In 1881, the government signed a treaty with Argentina confirming Chilean sovereignty over the Strait of Magellan. As a result of the War of the Pacific with Peru and Bolivia (1879-83), Chile expanded its territory northward by almost one-third, eliminating Bolivia's access to the Pacific, and acquired valuable nitrate deposits, the exploitation of which led to an era of national affluence. The Chilean Civil War in 1891 brought about a redistribution of power between the President and Congress, and Chile established a parliamentary style democracy. However, the Civil War had also been a contest between those who favored the development of local industries and powerful Chilean banking interests, particularly the House of Edwards who had strong ties to foreign investors. Hence the Chilean economy partially degenerated into a system protecting the interests of a ruling oligarchy. By the 1920s, the emerging middle and working classes were powerful enough to elect a reformist president, Arturo Alessandri Palma, whose program was frustrated by a conservative

congress. Alessandri Palma's reformist tendencies were partly tempered later by an admiration for some elements of Mussolini's Italian Corporate State. In the 1920s, Marxist groups with strong popular support arose.

A military coup led by General Luis Altamirano in 1924 set off a period of great political instability that lasted until 1932. The longest lasting of the ten governments between those years was that of General Carlos Ibáñez, who briefly held power in 1925 and then again between 1927 and 1931 in what was a de facto dictatorship, although not really comparable in harshness or corruption to the type of military dictatorship that has often bedeviled the rest of Latin America, and certainly not comparable to the violent and repressive regime of Augusto Pinochet decades later. By relinquishing power to a democratically elected successor, Ibáñez del Campo retained the respect of a large enough segment of the population to remain a viable politician for more than thirty years, in spite of the vague and shifting nature of his ideology. When constitutional rule was restored in 1932, a strong middle-class party, the Radicals, emerged. It became the key force in coalition governments for the next 20 years. During the period of Radical Party dominance (1932-52), the state increased its role in the economy. In 1952, voters returned Ibáñez, now reincarnated as a sort of Chilean Perón, to office for another 6 years. Jorge Alessandri succeeded Ibáñez in 1958, bringing Chilean conservatism back into power democratically for another term.

The 1964 presidential election of Christian Democrat Eduardo Frei Montalva by an absolute majority initiated a period of major reform. Under the slogan "Revolution in Liberty," the Frei administration embarked on far-reaching social and economic programs, particularly in education, housing, and agrarian reform, including rural unionization of agricultural workers. By 1967, however, Frei encountered increasing opposition from leftists, who charged that his reforms were inadequate, and from conservatives, who found them excessive. At the end of his term, Frei had accomplished many noteworthy objectives, but he had not fully achieved his party's ambitious goals.

In 1970, Senator Salvador Allende Gossens, a Marxist physician and member of Chile's Socialist Party, who headed the "Popular Unity" (UP or "Unidad Popular") coalition of the Socialist, Communist, Radical, and Social-Democratic Parties, along with dissident Christian Democrats, the Popular Unitary Action Movement (MAPU), and the Independent Popular Action, won a plurality of votes in a three-way contest. Despite pressure from the government of the United States, the Chilean Congress, keeping with tradition, conducted a runoff vote between the leading candidates, Allende and former president Jorge Alessandri and chose Allende by a vote of 153 to 35. Frei refused to form an alliance with Alessandri to oppose Allende, on the grounds that the Christian Democrats were a workers party and could not make common cause with the oligarchs.

Allende's program included advancement of workers' interests; a thoroughgoing implementation of agrarian reform; the reorganization of the national economy into socialized, mixed, and private sectors; a foreign policy of "international solidarity" and national independence; and a new institutional order (the "people's state" or "poder popular"), including the institution of a unicameral congress. The Popular Unity platform also called for nationalization of foreign (U.S.) ownership of Chile's major copper mines.

An economic depression that began in 1967 peaked in 1970, exacerbated by capital flight, plummeting private investment, and withdrawal of bank deposits by those opposed to Allende's socialist program. Production fell and unemployment rose. Allende adopted measures including price freezes, wage increases, and tax reforms, which had the effect of increasing consumer spending and redistributing income downward. Joint public-private public works projects helped reduce unemployment. Much of the banking sector was nationalized. Many enterprises within the copper,

coal, iron, nitrate, and steel industries were expropriated, nationalized, or subjected to state intervention. Industrial output increased sharply and unemployment fell during the Allende administration's first year.

Other reforms undertaken during the early Allende period included redistribution of millions of hectares of land to landless agricultural workers as part of the agrarian reform program, giving the armed forces an overdue pay increase, and providing free milk to children. The Indian Peoples Development Corporation and the Mapuche Vocational Institute were founded to address the needs of Chile's indigenous population.

The nationalization of U.S. and other foreign-owned companies led to increased tensions with the United States. The Nixon administration brought international financial pressure to bear in order to restrict economic credit to Chile. Simultaneously, the CIA funded opposition media, politicians, and organizations, helping to accelerate a campaign of domestic destabilization. Interestingly, a CIA plan to buy the cooperation of Chilean members of Congress failed due to the shortage of sufficiently corruptible representatives. By 1972, the economic progress of Allende's first year had been reversed and the economy was in crisis. Political polarization increased, and large mobilizations of both pro- and anti-government groups became frequent, often leading to clashes.

By early 1973, inflation was out of control. The crippled economy was further battered by prolonged and sometimes simultaneous strikes by physicians, teachers, students, truck owners, copper workers, and the small business class. A military coup supported by the CIA overthrew Allende on September 11, 1973. As the armed forces bombarded the presidential palace (Palacio de La Moneda), Allende reportedly committed suicide. A military government, led by General Augusto Pinochet Ugarte, took over control of the country. The first years of the regime were marked by serious human rights violations. A new Constitution was approved by a highly irregular and undemocratic plebiscite characterized by the absence of registration lists, on September 11, 1980, and General Pinochet became President of the Republic for an 8-year term. In the late 1980s, the regime gradually permitted greater freedom of assembly, speech, and association, to include trade union and limited political activity. The right-wing military government pursued decidedly laissez-faire economic policies. During its nearly 17 years in power, Chile moved away from economic statism toward a largely free market economy that fostered an increase in domestic and foreign private investment, although the copper industry and other important mineral resources were not returned to foreign ownership. In a plebiscite on October 5, 1988, General Pinochet was denied a second 8-year term as president. Chileans elected a new president and the majority of members of a two-chamber congress on December 14, 1989. Christian Democrat Patricio Aylwin, the candidate of a coalition of 16 political parties called the Concertación, received an absolute majority of votes. President Aylwin served from 1990 to 1994.

In December 1993, Christian Democrat Eduardo Frei Ruiz-Tagle, the son of previous president Eduardo Frei Montalva, led the Concertación coalition to victory with an absolute majority of votes. President Frei's administration was inaugurated in March 1994.

A presidential election was held on December 12, 1999, but none of the six candidates obtained a majority, which led to an unprecedented runoff election on January 16, 2000. Ricardo Lagos Escobar of the Socialist Party led the Concertación coalition to a narrow victory, with 51.31% of the votes. He was sworn in March 11, 2000, for a 6-year term.

Politics - Main article: Politics of Chile



Andrés Zaldívar

Chile's Constitution was approved in a tightly controlled national plebiscite in September 1980, under the military government of Augusto Pinochet. It entered into force in March 1981. After Pinochet's defeat in the 1988 plebiscite, the Constitution was amended to ease provisions for future amendments to the Constitution. In 2005 over 50 reforms were approved, which eliminated the remaining undemocratic areas of the text, such as the existence of non-elected Senators (institutional senators, or senators for life) and the inability of the President to remove the Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces. These reforms led the President to controversially declare Chile's transition to democracy as complete.

Chile's bicameral Congress has a 48-seat Senate—38 elected, 9 appointed, 1 for life—and a 120-member Chamber of Deputies. Deputies are elected every 4 years. Senators serve for 8 years with staggered terms. The current Senate is evenly split 24-24 between pro-government and opposition Senators. Nine institutional senators were appointed in 1999, and two "senators for life," former Presidents Pinochet (who resigned in 2002) and Frei. (Chile's Constitution provided that former presidents who have served at least 6 years shall be entitled to a lifetime senate seat.) The last congressional elections were held in December 2001. The current lower house—the Chamber of Deputies—contains 60 members of the governing center-left coalition and 56 from the center-right opposition. Currently 4 Deputies have their voting rights suspended on legal grounds. The Congress is located in the port city of Valparaíso, about 140 kilometers (84 mi.) west of the capital, Santiago.

Chile's congressional elections are governed by a unique binomial system that rewards coalition slates. Each coalition can run two candidates for the two Senate and two lower chamber seats apportioned to each chamber's electoral districts. Typically, the two largest coalitions split the seats in a district. Only if the leading coalition ticket out-polls the second-place coalition by a margin of more than 2-to-1 does the winning coalition gain both seats. In the 2001 congressional elections, the conservative Independent Democratic Union surpassed the Christian Democrats for the first time to become the largest party in the lower house. The Communist Party again failed to gain any seats in the 2001 elections.

The next presidential and congressional elections are set for December 2005. (See Chilean presidential election, 2005.)

Chile's judiciary is independent and includes a court of appeal, a system of military courts, a constitutional tribunal, and the Supreme Court. Chile will complete in mid-2005 a multi-year overhaul of its criminal justice system. The reform has replaced inquisitorial proceedings with an adversarial system more similar to that of the United States.

Regions - Main article: *Regions of Chile*

Chile is divided into 13 regions, each of which is headed by an *intendente*. Every region is further divided into provinces with a *Gobernador Provincial*. Finally each province is divided into various *Comunas* each with its own mayor. Intendentes and gobernadores are appointed by the president, mayors are elected by popular vote.

Each region is designated by a name and a Roman numeral. Numbers are assigned from north to south. In general the Roman numeral is used, rather than the name. The only exception is the region where Santiago is situated, which is designated *RM*, that stands for *Región Metropolitana*, *Metropolitan Region*.

In 2003, President Ricardo Lagos sent a bill to Congress so that lawmakers could discuss Chile's administrative division. In 2005, reforms to the Constitution eliminated the 13-region limit, and allowed for more regions to be created.

In October, 2005 the President will send a bill to Congress calling for the creation of two new regions: one in the north of the country called "Arica-Parinacota Region", encompassing the provinces of Arica and Parinacota which are currently part of the Tarapacá Region; and another in the south, formed by the province of Valdivia, currently part of the Los Lagos Region, called "Los Ríos Region" (The Rivers Region).

These two new regions may change the traditional designation. Following the order of creation, the Los Ríos Region would be the XIV and the Arica-Parinacota Region would be the XV. This situation breaks the north to south order.

Geography - Main article: *Geography of Chile*



Osorno volcano



Map of Chile

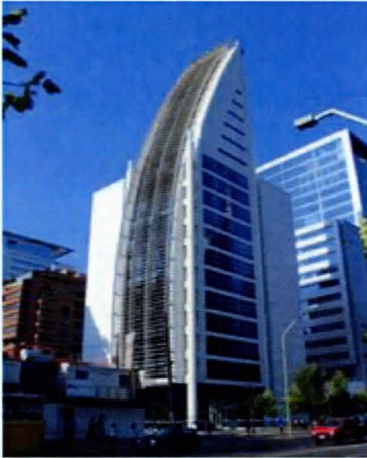
A long and narrow coastal region on the west side of the Andes Mountains, Chile stretches over 4,630 km (2,880 miles) north to south, but only 430 km (265 mi) at its widest point east to west.

The northern Atacama desert contains great mineral wealth, primarily copper and nitrates. The relatively small Central Valley, which includes Santiago, dominates the country in terms of population and agricultural resources. This area also is the historical center from which Chile expanded in the late 19th century, when it integrated the northern and southern regions. Southern Chile is rich in forests and grazing lands and features a string of volcanoes and lakes. The southern coast is a labyrinth of fjords, inlets, canals, twisting peninsulas, and islands. The Andes Mountains are located on the eastern border.

Chile is the longest (N-S) country in the world (over 4,200km), and also claims a large section of Antarctica as part of its territory.

Chile controls Easter Island, the easternmost island of Polynesia, which it incorporated to its territory in 1888, and Robinson Crusoe Island, more than 600 km from the mainland, in the Juan Fernández archipelago.

Economy - *Main article: Economy of Chile*



Building in Apoquindo, Las Condes

After a decade of impressive growth rates, Chile experienced a moderate downturn in 1999 brought on by the global economic slowdown. The economy remained sluggish until 2003, when it began to show clear signs of recovery, achieving 3.3% real GDP growth. The Chilean economy finished 2004 with growth of 6.1%. Most experts expect GDP growth of around 6% in 2005.

Chile has pursued generally sound economic policies for nearly three decades. The 1973-90 military government sold many state-owned companies, and the three democratic governments since 1990 have continued privatization at a slower pace. The government's role in the economy is mostly limited to regulation, although the state continues to operate copper giant Codelco and a few other enterprises. Chile is strongly committed to free trade and has welcomed large amounts of foreign investment. Chile has signed Free Trade agreements (FTAs) with several important economies, including an FTA with the United States, which was signed in 2003 and implemented in January 2004. High domestic savings and investment rates also helped propel Chile's economy to average growth rates of 8% during the 1990s. The privatized national pension system has encouraged domestic investment and contributed to an estimated total domestic savings rate of approximately 21% of GDP in 2003.

Unemployment has hovered in the 8%-10% range in recent years, well above the 5%-6% average for the 1990s. Unemployment remained at 8.8% at the end of 2004 in spite of strong economic growth. Wages have risen faster than inflation as a result of higher productivity, boosting national living standards. The share of Chileans with incomes below the poverty line--defined as twice the cost of satisfying a person's minimal nutritional needs--fell from 46% of the population in 1987 to 18.8% in 2003.

Chile's independent Central bank pursues a policy of maintaining inflation between 2% and 4%. Inflation has not exceeded 5% since 1998. Chile registered inflation of 2.4% in 2004 and is expected to see a 2.5% increase in 2005. Most wage settlements and spending decisions are indexed, reducing inflation's volatility. Under the compulsory private pension system, most formal sector employees pay 10% of their salaries into privately managed funds.

Total foreign direct investment rose to \$7.1 billion in 2004, up from \$2.5 billion in 2003. Both foreign and domestic investment in Chile had declined during the country's period of slower economic growth from 1999-2003, but appear to be recovering strongly. The Chilean Government committed, in early 2002, to undertake a series of microeconomic reforms designed to create new incentives for private investment. The government also has encouraged the use of Chile as an "investment platform" for multinational corporations planning to invest in the region. Chile's welcoming attitude toward foreign direct investment is codified in the country's Foreign Investment Law, which gives foreign investors the same treatment as Chileans. Registration is simple and transparent, and foreign investors are guaranteed access to the official foreign exchange market to repatriate their profits and capital. The U.S.-Chile Free Trade Agreement offers a number of other investor protections.

Foreign Trade

Chile's economy is highly dependent on international trade. In 2004, exports accounted for about 34% of GDP. Chile has traditionally been dependent upon copper exports; the state-owned firm Codelco is the world's largest copper-producing company. Nontraditional exports have grown faster than those of copper and other minerals. In 1975, non-mineral exports made up just over 30% of total exports, whereas now they account for about 60%. The most important non-mineral exports are forestry and wood products, fresh fruit and processed food, fishmeal and seafood, and wine. The trade balance for 2004 showed a historic surplus \$9 billion, considerably higher than 2003. Total exports in 2004 were \$32 billion, a 52.1% increase from \$20.4 billion in 2003. Chile's export markets are fairly balanced among Europe (25.1%), Asia (33.1%), Latin America (15.7%), and North America (19%). The U.S., the largest national market, takes in 17.3% of Chile's exports. Asia has been the fastest-growing export market in recent years.

Chilean imports increased 30% in 2004, to \$23 billion, reflecting a positive change in consumer demand and economic recovery. Capital goods made up about 66% of total imports. The United States represented 14.6% of Chilean imports in 2004. As a bloc, the European Union (EU) in 2004 supplied 16.3% of Chile's imports, while Argentina contributed 16%. Chile unilaterally lowered its across-the-board import tariff--for all countries with which it does not have a trade agreement--to 6% in 2003.

Higher effective tariffs are charged only on imports of wheat, wheat flour, and sugar as a result of a system of import price bands. The price bands were ruled inconsistent with Chile's WTO obligations in 2002 and the government has introduced legislation to modify them. Chile will have to phase out the price bands within 12 years under the terms of the U.S.-Chile FTA.

Successive Chilean governments have actively pursued liberalizing trade agreements. During the 1990s, Chile signed FTAs with Canada, Mexico, and Central America. Chile also concluded preferential trade agreements with Venezuela, Colombia, and Ecuador. An association agreement with Mercosur--Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay--went into effect in October 1996. Chile, a member of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) organization, is seeking to boost commercial ties to Asian markets. Continuing its export-oriented development strategy, Chile completed landmark free trade agreements in 2002 with the European Union and South Korea. After two years of negotiations, the United States and Chile signed an agreement in June 2003. The agreement will lead to completely duty free bilateral trade within 12 years. The U.S.-Chile FTA entered into force January 1, 2004 following approval by the U.S and Chilean congresses. Chile is a strong proponent of pressing ahead on negotiations for a Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA). Chile is currently negotiating trade agreements with China and India, as well as a tri-partite agreement with Singapore and New Zealand.

Finance

Chile's financial sector has grown faster than other areas of the economy over the last few years; a banking reform law approved in 1997 broadened the scope of permissible foreign activity for Chilean banks. The Chilean government implemented a further liberalization of capital markets in 2001. Chileans have enjoyed the recent introduction of new financial tools such as home equity loans, currency futures and options, factoring, leasing, and debit cards. The introduction of these new products has been accompanied by increased use of traditional instruments such as loans and credit cards. Chile's private pension system, with assets worth roughly \$54 billion in late 2004, has provided an important source of investment capital for the capital market. Chile maintains one of the best credit ratings (Standard & Poor's A+) of countries in Latin America. There are three main ways Chilean firms raise funds abroad: bank loans, bond issue, and the selling of stock on U.S. markets through American Depository Receipts (ADR's). Nearly all of the funds raised go to finance investment. The government is paying off its foreign debt. The combined public and private foreign debt was roughly over 50% of GDP at the end of 2004—low by Latin American standards.

Defense - Main article: Military of Chile



Military parade 2003

Chile's Armed Forces are subject to civilian control exercised by the President through the Minister of Defense. Under the 1980 Constitution, the services enjoyed considerable autonomy, and the President could not remove service commanders on his own authority. However, reforms made in 2005 to the Constitution now give the President the right to remove the Commanders in Chief of the Armed Forces.

Army

The commander in chief of the Chilean Army is Maj. Gen. Juan Emilio Cheyre. The Chilean Army is 45,000 strong and is organized with an Army headquarters in Santiago, seven divisions throughout its

territory, an Air Brigade in Rancagua, and a Special Forces Command in Colina. The Chilean Army is one of the most professional armies in the world and has one of the most technologically advanced armies in Latin America. It also operates Leopard I and AMX-30 main battle tanks.

Navy

Adm. Rodolfo Codina Díaz directs the 25,000-person Navy, including 5,000 Marines. Of the fleet of 29 surface vessels, only six are operational major combatants (destroyers and frigates). Those ships are based in Valparaíso. The Navy operates its own aircraft for transport and patrol; there are no Navy fighter or bomber aircraft. The Navy also operates three submarines based in Talcahuano.

Air Force (FACH)

Gen. Osvaldo Sarabia heads a force of 12,500. Air assets are distributed among five air brigades headquartered in Iquique, Antofagasta, Santiago, Puerto Montt, and Punta Arenas. The Air Force also operates an airbase on King George Island, Antarctica. The FACH will begin taking delivery of 10 U.S. F-16 aircraft in 2006.

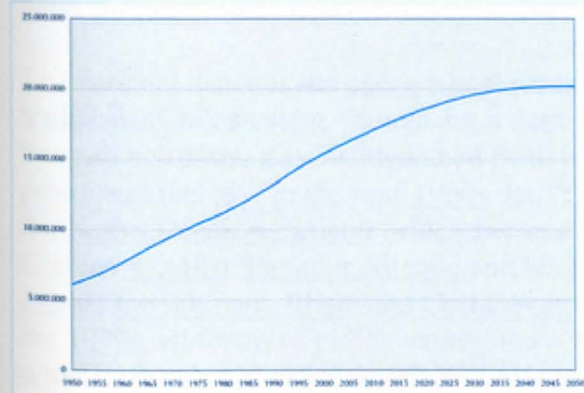
Carabineros

After the military coup in September 1973, the Chilean national police (Carabineros) were incorporated into the Defense Ministry. With the return of democratic government, the police were placed under the operational control of the Interior Ministry but remained under the nominal control of the Defense Ministry. Gen. Alberto Cienfuegos is the head of the national police force of 30,000 men and women who are responsible for law enforcement, traffic management, narcotics suppression, border control, and counter-terrorism throughout Chile.

Foreign relations

Since its return to democracy in 1990, Chile has been an active participant in the international political arena. Chile completed a 2-year non-permanent position on the UN Security Council in January 2005. Chile is an active member of the UN family of agencies and participates in UN peacekeeping activities. Chile hosted the Defense Ministerial of the Americas in 2002 and the APEC summit and related meetings in 2004. Chile hosted the Community of Democracies ministerial in April 2005. An associate member of Mercosur and a full member of APEC, Chile and has been an important actor on international economic issues and hemispheric free trade. The Chilean Government has diplomatic relations with most countries. It settled its territorial disputes with Argentina during the 1990s. Chile and Bolivia severed diplomatic ties in 1978 over Bolivia's desire to reacquire territory it lost to Chile in 1879-83 War of the Pacific. The two countries maintain consular relations.

Demographics - Main article: Demographics of Chile



Population of Chile from 1950, projected up to 2050 (INE)

Unlike some of its South American neighbours, Chile is a relatively homogenous country. Around 95% of Chileans descend from early Spanish colonists, with the overwhelming part also possessing Native American ancestry in varying degrees - thus deeming the population majority as mestizo.

During the colonial period, Spain found it necessary to maintain a continual influx of soldiers to protect its distant American colonies. Spaniards arrived from all regions of Spain, including the Basque country, and many of them ended up settling in Chile. The combination of an economy based on temperate-zone agriculture, Amerindian resistance to Spanish occupation, and a continuous influx of Spaniards from the mid-sixteenth century to the end of the colonial period defined the main body of Chile's mestizo majority population to one where the average Spanish admixture is greater than in neighbouring Andean mestizo populations. People of relatively unmixed Spanish ancestry are not uncommon. Those of unmixed European ancestry are estimated between 5 and 10 percent.

People that self-identify as members of any of the country's many indigenous groups number around 700,000 individuals, or 5% of the country's total population. Of that 700,000, around 80% are Mapuche that reside in the south-central area of the country. Aymara and Quechua-speaking populations live along the northern border with Peru and Bolivia. There are also around 5,000 people of Polynesian ancestry who are indigenous to the Chilean territory of Easter Island (Rapanui) in the Pacific.

Chileans descended from non-Spanish European nationalities are not very numerous, but include a small yet influential number of Irish and English immigrants that arrived in Chile during the Spanish colonial period, and during the 19th century. Government-sponsored immigration from Germany began in 1848, and in time, changed the cultural makeup of the southern provinces of Valdivia, Llanquihue, and Osorno, which still show a strong German influence. Other historically significant immigrant groups include people of Italian (Valparaíso), Croatian (Antofagasta and Punta Arenas), French, and Middle Eastern backgrounds (including the second largest Palestinian colony outside of the Middle East).

In the last decade there has been an influx of Koreans who settled in small sections of Santiago. In recent years, the difficult economic situation in neighbouring Peru and Argentina has resulted in work-related trans-Andean migration to Chile.

Culture - Main article: *Culture of Chile*

Northern Chile was an important center of culture in the medieval and early modern Inca empire, while indigenous Mapuche and other Araucanian cultures developed in the Central and Southern regions. Culture was afterwards dominated by the Spanish during the Colonial and early Republican period. Other European influences, at first chiefly English and French, began in the 19th century and have continued until today, as in other Western societies.

The national dance is the cueca (short for *zamacueca*) and first appeared in 1824. Another form of traditional Chilean song, though not a dance, is the tonada. Arising from music imported by the Spanish colonists, it is distinguished from the cueca by an intermediate melodic section and a more prominent melody. In the mid-1960s native musical forms were revitalized by the Parra family with the Nueva Canción Chilena, which became associated with political activism and reformers like Chilean socialist Salvador Allende and his Popular Unity government. Violeta Parra, Víctor Jara, Los Jaivas, Inti-Illimani, Illapu and Quilapayún are performers of this music. During the military rule in the 1970s, all forms of public expression contrary to the junta were repressed, and protest songs, which were played and circulated in a clandestine manner. In the late 1980s and after the return of

democracy in the 1990s, new musical bands like La Ley, Los Tres and Los Prisioneros, began to appear. (See Music of Chile.)

Chileans call their country *País de Poetas* ("land of poets"). The country has produced two Nobel Literature laureates: Gabriela Mistral and Pablo Neruda. Other major poets include: Pedro Prado, Vicente Huidobro, Pablo de Rokha, Juvencio Valle, Rosamel del Valle, Maximiliano Ilich Prieto, Gonzalo Rojas, Jorge Teillier, Enrique Lihn and Nicanor Parra. The major novelist and short story writer of the 20th century was probably Manuel Rojas, although not as well known outside of the country. Isabel Allende, another novelist, has achieved worldwide success with her stories of magic realism in Latin America, probably reaching a larger audience than any other Chilean prose writer. Jorge Edwards, José Donoso and Roberto Bolaño are also notable novelists.

Local film production in Chile is small, although it has been growing lately. Important filmmakers include: Raúl Ruiz (*Palomita blanca*), Miguel Littin (*El chacal de Nahueltoro*), Silvio Caiozzi (*Julio comienza en julio*), Ricardo Larraín (*La frontera*), Andrés Wood (*Machuca*), Alejandro Jodorowsky and Marcelo Ferrari ("Sub Terra").

National symbols



A red copihue

The national flower is the copihue (*Lapageria rosea*, Chilean bellflower), which grows in the woods of southern Chile.



Chile's Coat of Arms

The coat of arms depicts the two national animals: the condor (*Vultur gryphus*, a very large bird that lives in the mountains) and the huemul (*Hippocamelus bisulcus*, an endangered white tail deer). It also has the legend *Por la razón o la fuerza* (*By right or might* or *By reason or by force*).

International rankings

Overall

- The Economist: The World in 2005 - Worldwide quality-of-life index, 2005, ranked 31 out of 111 countries (first in Latin America)
- UNDP: Human Development Index 2005, ranked 37 out of 177 countries (second in Latin America after Argentina)

Economy

- Heritage Foundation/The Wall Street Journal: 2005 Index of Economic Freedom, ranked 11 out of 155 countries (first in Latin America)
- IMD International: World Competitiveness Yearbook 2005, ranked 19 out of 60 economies (countries and regions) (first in Latin America)
- Fraser Institute: Economic Freedom of the World: 2005 Annual Report, ranked 20 out of 127 countries (tied with Belgium, Costa Rica and Hungary) (first in Latin America)
- World Economic Forum: Global Competitiveness Report 2005-2006 - Growth Competitiveness Index, ranked 23 out of 117 countries (first in Latin America)
- World Bank: Where is the Wealth of Nations? (2005) - Total wealth per capita, ranked 32 out of 118 countries (fourth in Latin America after Argentina, Uruguay and Brazil)

Other

- Freedom House: Freedom in the World 2005, average score: 1 (Free) (Costa Rica and Uruguay are the only two other Latin American countries with the highest score)
- Brown University: Fifth Annual Global E-Government Study (2005), ranked 13 out of 198 countries (first in Latin America)
- Save the Children: State of the World's Mothers 2005, ranked 17 out of 110 countries (tied with Argentina) (third in Latin America after Costa Rica and Cuba)
- Transparency International: Corruption Perceptions Index 2005, ranked 21 out of 159 countries (tied with Japan) (first in Latin America)
- A.T. Kearney/Foreign Policy Magazine: Globalization Index 2005, ranked 34 out of 62 countries (second in Latin America after Panama)
- World Economic Forum: Global Information Technology Report 2004-2005 - Networked Readiness Index, ranked 35 out of 104 countries (first in Latin America)
- Yale University/Columbia University: 2005 Environmental Sustainability Index, ranked 42 out of 146 countries (ninth in Latin America after Uruguay, Argentina, Brazil, Peru, Paraguay, Costa Rica, Bolivia, Colombia and Panama)
- Reporters without borders: Worldwide press freedom index 2005, ranked 50 out of 167 countries (fifth in Latin America after El Salvador, Costa Rica, Bolivia and Uruguay)

References

- Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs, United States Department of State, April 2005
- Library of Congress country profile
- The (CIA) World Factbook: Chile

The World Factbook



Chile



Introduction Chile

Background: Prior to the coming of the Spanish in the 16th century, northern Chile was under Inca rule while Araucanian Indians inhabited central and southern Chile; the latter were not completely subjugated until the early 1880s. Although Chile declared its independence in 1810, decisive victory over the Spanish was not achieved until 1818. In the War of the Pacific (1879-84), Chile defeated Peru and Bolivia and won its present northern lands. A three-year-old Marxist government of Salvador ALLENDE was overthrown in 1973 by a dictatorial military regime led by Augusto PINOCHET, who ruled until a freely elected president was installed in 1990. Sound economic policies, maintained consistently since the 1980s, have contributed to steady growth and have helped secure the country's commitment to democratic and representative government. Chile has increasingly assumed regional and international leadership roles befitting its status as a stable, democratic nation.

Geography Chile

Location: Southern South America, bordering the South Pacific Ocean, between Argentina and Peru

Geographic coordinates: 30 00 S, 71 00 W

Map references: South America

Area: *total:* 756,950 sq km
land: 748,800 sq km
water: 8,150 sq km
note: includes Easter Island (Isla de Pascua) and Isla Sala y Gomez

Area - comparative: slightly smaller than twice the size of Montana

Land boundaries: *total:* 6,171 km
border countries: Argentina 5,150 km, Bolivia 861 km, Peru 160 km

Coastline: 6,435 km

Maritime claims: *territorial sea:* 12 nm
contiguous zone: 24 nm
exclusive economic zone: 200 nm
continental shelf: 200/350 nm

Climate: temperate; desert in north; Mediterranean in central region; cool and damp in south

Terrain: low coastal mountains; fertile central valley; rugged Andes in east

Elevation extremes: *lowest point:* Pacific Ocean 0 m
highest point: Nevado Ojos del Salado 6,880 m

Natural resources: copper, timber, iron ore, nitrates, precious metals, molybdenum, hydropower

- Land use:** *arable land:* 2.65%
permanent crops: 0.42%
other: 96.93% (2001)
- Irrigated land:** 18,000 sq km (1998 est.)
- Natural hazards:** severe earthquakes; active volcanism; tsunamis
- Environment - current issues:** widespread deforestation and mining threaten natural resources; air pollution from industrial and vehicle emissions; water pollution from raw sewage
- Environment - international agreements:** *party to:* Antarctic-Environmental Protocol, Antarctic-Marine Living Resources, Antarctic Seals, Antarctic Treaty, Biodiversity, Climate Change, Climate Change-Kyoto Protocol, Desertification, Endangered Species, Environmental Modification, Hazardous Wastes, Law of the Sea, Marine Dumping, Ozone Layer Protection, Ship Pollution, Wetlands, Whaling
signed, but not ratified: none of the selected agreements
- Geography - note:** strategic location relative to sea lanes between Atlantic and Pacific Oceans (Strait of Magellan, Beagle Channel, Drake Passage); Atacama Desert is one of world's driest regions

People Chile

- Population:** 15,980,912 (July 2005 est.)
- Age structure:** *0-14 years:* 25.2% (male 2,062,735/female 1,970,913)
15-64 years: 66.7% (male 5,320,870/female 5,342,771)
65 years and over: 8% (male 534,737/female 748,886) (2005 est.)
- Median age:** *total:* 30.07 years
male: 29.17 years
female: 31.05 years (2005 est.)
- Population growth rate:** 0.97% (2005 est.)
- Birth rate:** 15.44 births/1,000 population (2005 est.)
- Death rate:** 5.76 deaths/1,000 population (2005 est.)
- Net migration rate:** 0 migrant(s)/1,000 population (2005 est.)
- Sex ratio:** *at birth:* 1.05 male(s)/female
under 15 years: 1.05 male(s)/female
15-64 years: 1 male(s)/female
65 years and over: 0.71 male(s)/female
total population: 0.98 male(s)/female (2005 est.)
- Infant mortality rate:** *total:* 8.8 deaths/1,000 live births
male: 9.55 deaths/1,000 live births
female: 8.01 deaths/1,000 live births (2005 est.)

Life expectancy at birth: *total population:* 76.58 years
male: 73.3 years
female: 80.03 years (2005 est.)

Total fertility rate: 2.02 children born/woman (2005 est.)

HIV/AIDS - adult prevalence rate: 0.3% (2003 est.)

HIV/AIDS - people living with HIV/AIDS: 26,000 (2003 est.)

HIV/AIDS - deaths: 1,400 (2003 est.)

Nationality: *noun:* Chilean(s)
adjective: Chilean

Ethnic groups: white and white-Amerindian 95%, Amerindian 3%, other 2%

Religions: Roman Catholic 89%, Protestant 11%, Jewish NEGL%

Languages: Spanish

Literacy: *definition:* age 15 and over can read and write
total population: 96.2%
male: 96.4%
female: 96.1% (2003 est.)

Government Chile

Country name: *conventional long form:* Republic of Chile
conventional short form: Chile
local long form: Republica de Chile
local short form: Chile

Government type: republic

Capital: Santiago

Administrative divisions: 13 regions (regiones, singular - region); Aisen del General Carlos Ibanez del Campo, Antofagasta, Araucania, Atacama, Bio-Bio, Coquimbo, Libertador General Bernardo O'Higgins, Los Lagos, Magallanes y de la Antartica Chilena, Maule, Region Metropolitana (Santiago), Tarapaca, Valparaiso
note: the US does not recognize claims to Antarctica

Independence: 18 September 1810 (from Spain)

National holiday: Independence Day, 18 September (1810)

Constitution: 11 September 1980, effective 11 March 1981; amended 30 July 1989, 1993, and 1997

Legal system: based on Code of 1857 derived from Spanish law and subsequent codes influenced by French and Austrian law; judicial review of legislative acts in the Supreme Court; has not accepted compulsory ICJ jurisdiction

note: Chile is in the process of completely overhauling its criminal justice system; a new, US-style adversarial system is being gradually implemented throughout the country with the final stage of implementation in the Santiago metropolitan region expected in June 2005

Suffrage: 18 years of age; universal and compulsory

Executive branch: *chief of state:* President Ricardo LAGOS Escobar (since 11 March 2000); *note* - the president is both the chief of state and head of government

head of government: President Ricardo LAGOS Escobar (since 11 March 2000); *note* - the president is both the chief of state and head of government

cabinet: Cabinet appointed by the president

elections: president elected by popular vote for a six-year term; election last held 12 December 1999, with runoff election held 16 January 2000 (next to be held December 2005)

election results: Ricardo LAGOS Escobar elected president; percent of vote - Ricardo LAGOS Escobar 51.32%, Joaquin LAVIN 48.68%

Legislative branch: bicameral National Congress or Congreso Nacional consists of the Senate or Senado (48 seats, 38 elected by popular vote, 9 designated members, and 1 former president who has served a full six-year term and is senator for life); elected members serve eight-year terms (one-half elected every four years) and the Chamber of Deputies or Camara de Diputados (120 seats; members are elected by popular vote to serve four-year terms)

elections: Senate - last held 16 December 2001 (next to be held December 2005); Chamber of Deputies - last held 16 December 2001 (next to be held December 2005)

election results: Senate - percent of vote by party - NA%; seats by party - CPD 20 (PDC 12, PS 5, PPD 3), APC 16 (UDI 9, RN 7), independents 2; Chamber of Deputies - percent of vote by party - NA%; seats by party - CPD 62 (PDC 24, PPD 21, PS 11, PRSD 6), UDI 35, RN 22, independent 1

Judicial branch: Supreme Court or Corte Suprema (judges are appointed by the president and ratified by the Senate from lists of candidates provided by the court itself; the president of the Supreme Court is elected by the 21-member court); Constitutional Tribunal

Political parties and leaders: Alliance for Chile ("Alianza") or APC (including National Renewal or RN [Sergio DIEZ Urzua] and Independent Democratic Union or UDI [Jovino NOVOA]); Coalition of Parties for Democracy ("Concertacion") or CPD (including Christian Democratic Party or PDC [Adolfo ZALDIVAR Larrain], Socialist Party or PS [Gonzalo MARTNER], Party for Democracy or PPD [Victor BARRUETO], Radical Social Democratic Party or PRSD [Jose Antonio GOMEZ Urrutia]); Communist Party or PC [Guillermo TEILLIER]

Political pressure groups and leaders: revitalized university student federations at all major universities; Roman Catholic Church; United Labor Central or CUT includes trade unionists from the country's five largest labor confederations

International organization participation: APEC, BIS, CSN, FAO, G-15, G-77, IADB, IAEA, IBRD, ICAO, ICC, ICCT (signatory), ICFTU, ICRM, IDA, IFAD, IFC, IFRCs, IHO, ILO, IMF, IMO, Interpol, IOC, IOM, ISO, ITU, LAES, LAIA, Mercosur (associate), MIGA, MINUSTAH, NAM, OAS, OPANAL, OPCW, PCA, RG, UN, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNHCR, UNIDO, UNMIK, UNMOGIP, UNTSO, UPU, WCL, WCO, WFTU, WHO, WIPO, WMO, WT_oO, WTO

Diplomatic representation in the US: *chief of mission:* Ambassador Andres BIANCHI
chancery: 1732 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20036
telephone: [1] (202) 785-1746
FAX: [1] (202) 887-5579
consulate(s) general: Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, New York, Philadelphia, San Francisco, and San Juan (Puerto Rico)

Diplomatic representation from the US: *chief of mission:* Ambassador Craig A. KELLY
embassy: Avenida Andres Bello 2800, Las Condes, Santiago
mailing address: APO AA 34033
telephone: [56] (2) 232-2600
FAX: [56] (2) 330-3710

Flag description: two equal horizontal bands of white (top) and red; there is a blue square the same height as the white band at the hoist-side end of the white band; the square bears a white five-pointed star in the center representing a guide to progress and honor; blue symbolizes the sky, white is for the snow-covered Andes, and red stands for the blood spilled to achieve independence; design was influenced by the US flag

Economy **Chile**

Economy - overview: Chile has a market-oriented economy characterized by a high level of foreign trade. During the early 1990s, Chile's reputation as a role model for economic reform was strengthened when the democratic government of Patricio AYLWIN - which took over from the military in 1990 - deepened the economic reform initiated by the military government. Growth in real GDP averaged 8% during 1991-97, but fell to half that level in 1998 because of tight monetary policies implemented to keep the current account deficit in check and because of lower export earnings - the latter a product of the global financial crisis. A severe drought exacerbated the recession in 1999, reducing crop yields and causing hydroelectric shortfalls and electricity rationing, and Chile experienced negative economic growth for the first time in more than 15 years. Despite the effects of the recession, Chile maintained its reputation for strong financial institutions and sound policy that have given it the strongest sovereign bond rating in South America. By the end of 1999, exports and economic activity had begun to recover, and growth rebounded to 4.2% in 2000. Growth fell back to 3.1% in 2001 and 2.1% in 2002, largely due to lackluster global growth and the devaluation of the Argentine peso. Chile's economy began a slow recovery in 2003, growing 3.2% and accelerated to 5.8% in 2004. GDP growth benefited from high copper prices, solid export earnings (particularly forestry, fishing, and mining), and stepped-up foreign direct investment. Unemployment, however, remains stubbornly high. Chile deepened its longstanding commitment to trade liberalization with the signing of a free trade agreement with the US, which took effect on 1 January 2004.

GDP (purchasing power parity):	\$169.1 billion (2004 est.)
GDP - real growth rate:	5.8% (2004 est.)
GDP - per capita:	purchasing power parity - \$10,700 (2004 est.)
GDP - composition by sector:	<i>agriculture: 6.3%</i> <i>industry: 38.2%</i> <i>services: 55.5%</i> (2004 est.)
Labor force:	6.2 million (2004 est.)
Labor force - by occupation:	agriculture 13.6%, industry 23.4%, services 63% (2003)
Unemployment rate:	8.5% (2004 est.)
Population below poverty line:	20.6% (2000)
Household income or consumption by percentage share:	<i>lowest 10%: 1.2%</i> <i>highest 10%: 47%</i> (2000)
Distribution of family income - Gini index:	57.1 (2000)
Inflation rate (consumer prices):	2.4% (2004 est.)
Investment (gross fixed):	23.9% of GDP (2004 est.)
Budget:	<i>revenues: \$21.53 billion</i> <i>expenditures: \$19.95 billion, including capital expenditures of \$3.33 billion</i> (2004 est.)
Public debt:	12.8% of GDP (2004 est.)
Agriculture - products:	grapes, apples, pears, onions, wheat, corn, oats, peaches, garlic, asparagus, beans, beef, poultry, wool; fish; timber
Industries:	copper, other minerals, foodstuffs, fish processing, iron and steel, wood and wood products, transport equipment, cement, textiles
Industrial production growth rate:	7.8% (2004 est.)

Electricity - production: 48.6 billion kWh (2004)

Electricity - production by source: *fossil fuel:* 47%
hydro: 51.5%
nuclear: 0%
other: 1.4% (2001)

Electricity - consumption: 41.8 billion kWh (2002)

Electricity - exports: 0 kWh (2002)

Electricity - imports: 1.813 billion kWh (2002)

Oil - production: 18,500 bbl/day (2003 est.)

Oil - consumption: 240,000 bbl/day (2003 est.)

Oil - exports: 0 bbl/day (2003)

Oil - imports: 221,500 bbl/day (2003 est.)

Oil - proved reserves: 150 million bbl (1 January 2004)

Natural gas - production: 1.18 billion cu m (2002 est.)

Natural gas - consumption: 6.517 billion cu m (2002 est.)

Natural gas - exports: 0 cu m (2002)

Natural gas - imports: 5.337 billion cu m (2002 est.)

Natural gas - proved reserves: 99.05 billion cu m (1 January 2004)

Current account balance: \$2.185 billion (2004 est.)

Exports: \$29.2 billion f.o.b. (2004 est.)

Exports - commodities: copper, fruit, fish products, paper and pulp, chemicals, wine

Exports - partners: US 14%, Japan 11.4%, China 9.9%, South Korea 5.5%, Netherlands 5.1%, Brazil 4.3%, Italy 4.1%, Mexico 4% (2004)

Imports: \$22.53 billion f.o.b. (2004 est.)

Imports - commodities: petroleum and petroleum products, chemicals, electrical and telecommunications

equipment, industrial machinery, vehicles, natural gas

Imports - partners: Argentina 17%, US 14%, Brazil 11.2%, China 7.4% (2004)

Reserves of foreign exchange and gold: \$16.02 billion (2004)

Debt - external: \$44.6 billion (2004 est.)

Economic aid - recipient: ODA, \$0 (2002)

Currency (code): Chilean peso (CLP)

Currency code: CLP

Exchange rates: Chilean pesos per US dollar - 609.37 (2004), 691.43 (2003), 688.94 (2002), 634.94 (2001), 539.59 (2000)

Fiscal year: calendar year

Communications Chile

Telephones - main lines in use: 3.467 million (2002)

Telephones - mobile cellular: 6,445,700 (2002)

Telephone system: *general assessment:* modern system based on extensive microwave radio relay facilities
domestic: extensive microwave radio relay links; domestic satellite system with 3 earth stations
international: country code - 56; satellite earth stations - 2 Intelsat (Atlantic Ocean)

Radio broadcast stations: AM 180 (eight inactive), FM 64, shortwave 17 (one inactive) (1998)

Radios: 5.18 million (1997)

Television broadcast stations: 63 (plus 121 repeaters) (1997)

Televisions: 3.15 million (1997)

Internet country code: .cl

Internet hosts: 202,429 (2003)

Internet Service Providers (ISPs): 7 (2000)

Internet users: 3.575 million (2002)

Transportation Chile

Railways: *total:* 6,585 km
broad gauge: 2,831 km 1.676-m gauge (1,317 km electrified)
narrow gauge: 3,754 km 1.000-m gauge (2004)

Highways: *total:* 79,605 km
paved: 16,080 km (including 407 km of expressways)
unpaved: 63,525 km (2001)

Pipelines: gas 2,583 km; gas/lpg 42 km; liquid petroleum gas 539 km; oil 1,003 km; refined products 757 km (2004)

Ports and harbors: Antofagasta, Arica, Huasco, Iquique, Lirquen, San Antonio, San Vicente, Valparaiso

Merchant marine: *total:* 47 ships (1,000 GRT or over) 725,216 GRT/954,519 DWT
by type: bulk carrier 10, cargo 6, chemical tanker 9, container 1, liquefied gas 3, passenger 3, passenger/cargo 2, petroleum tanker 8, roll on/roll off 1, vehicle carrier 4
registered in other countries: 21 (2005)

Airports: 364 (2004 est.)

Airports - with paved runways: *total:* 71
over 3,047 m: 6
2,438 to 3,047 m: 6
1,524 to 2,437 m: 21
914 to 1,523 m: 23
under 914 m: 15 (2004 est.)

Airports - with unpaved runways: *total:* 293
over 3,047 m: 1
2,438 to 3,047 m: 4
1,524 to 2,437 m: 11
914 to 1,523 m: 60
under 914 m: 217 (2004 est.)

Military Chile

Military branches: Army of the Nation, National Navy (includes naval air, Coast Guard, and Marine Corps), Chilean Air Force, Chilean Carabineros (National Police)

Military service age and obligation: 18 years of age for compulsory military service; all citizens 18-45 are obligated to perform military service; conscript service obligation - 12 months for Army, 24 months for Navy and Air Force (2004)

Manpower available for military service: *males age 18-49: 3,815,761 (2005 est.)*

Manpower fit for military service: *males age 18-49: 3,123,281 (2005 est.)*

Manpower reaching military service age annually: *males: 140,084 (2005 est.)*

Military expenditures - dollar figure: \$3.42 billion (2004)

Military expenditures - percent of GDP: 3.8% (2004)

Transnational Issues **Chile**

Disputes - international: Chile rebuffs Bolivia's reactivated claim to restore the Atacama corridor, ceded to Chile in 1884, offering instead unrestricted but not sovereign maritime access through Chile to Bolivian gas and other commodities; Peru proposes changing its latitudinal maritime boundary with Chile to an equidistance line with a southwestern axis; territorial claim in Antarctica (Chilean Antarctic Territory) partially overlaps Argentine and British claims

Illicit drugs: important transshipment country for cocaine destined for Europe and the US; economic prosperity and increasing trade have made Chile more attractive to traffickers seeking to launder drug profits, especially through the Iquique Free Trade Zone, but a new anti-money-laundering law improves controls; imported precursors passed on to Bolivia; domestic cocaine consumption is rising

This page was last updated on 1 November, 2005

Valdivia, Chile



Valdivia, Chile

Valdivia is a city in southern Chile, founded by Pedro de Valdivia, located at the confluence of the Calle Calle, Valdivia and Cau Cau rivers, some 15 km east of the coastal town and bay of Corral. The city administratively belongs to Los Lagos Region and is the capital of the Valdivia Province. If approved by the Congress, Valdivia could be nominated as capital city of the proposed Los Ríos Region.

Valdivia had 140,000 inhabitants (*valdivianos*) according to the 2002 census. The main economic activities include tourism, paper manufacturing, metallurgy, and beer production. The city is also the home of the Universidad Austral de Chile, founded in 1954.

The city of Valdivia and the island of Chiloé were the two southernmost enclaves of the Spanish Empire and administratively depended directly from the Crown. In the second half of 19th century, Valdivia was the port of entry for German immigrants who were given land and settled in the surrounding areas. The city was also the epicenter (and most damaged city) of the Great Chilean Earthquake of 1960—the most powerful earthquake in recorded history. Debris and destroyed buildings from the earthquake can still be found in the suburban areas—land subsidence improved navigability of the local rivers, while destroying and submerging buildings adjoining the water.

History

Valdivia was founded in 1552 by Pedro de Valdivia, as *Santa María la Blanca de Valdivia*. Even though after Pedro de Valdivia's death the border of the Spanish Empire shifted northwards, to the Biobío River, the city of Valdivia remained a Spanish enclave, and along with the island of Chiloé remained the southernmost locations of the Empire. Both enclaves depended directly from the Spanish Crown because of their strategic importance to the Viceroyalty of Peru. Corral, located on the river entrance to Valdivia, became the most fortified bay at the time, with 17 forts.

During Spanish colonial times, Dutch and English corsairs tried unsuccessfully to capture the city. In addition, a Dutch attempt at a local colony was forced to leave after a few months, when huilliche natives broke trade relations with the colonists, causing a serious food shortage.

Even after Chilean Independence War from Spain, Valdivia and Chiloé remained loyal to the Spanish King. Chilean naval forces, commanded by Lord Thomas Cochrane, captured both enclaves and integrated them into Chile (1821). Cochrane attacked the Spanish forts by surprise, avoiding a direct confrontation with the highly-defended forts.

The expansion and economic development of the city were limited in the early 19th century. To jump-start economic development, the Chilean government initiated a highly focused immigration program under Vicente Pérez Rosales, as government agent. Through this program, thousands of Germans settled in the area, incorporating modern technology and know-how to develop agriculture and industry. To make space for the new immigrants, native forests were cut down and natives (mostly Mapuche) were pushed into reservations.

On May 22, 1960, Chile suffered the most powerful earthquake ever registered in modern history, the 9.5 magnitude Great Chilean Earthquake. The earthquake generated devastating tsunamis that affected Japan and Hawaii. A number of Spanish-colonial forts around Valdivia were completely destroyed. Soil subsidence also destroyed buildings, deepened local rivers, and created a new aquatic park north of the city.

Today

Valdivia is recognized for its uniqueness. Due to its architectonic and natural beauty, Valdivia is known as *La Perla del Sur* (*The Pearl of the South*). Spanish and German heritage are harmonically combined and the city proudly exhibits its architecture, historical fortifications and reputed beer industry.

In the last decade Valdivia gained prestige as an important cultural and scientific venue: the Valdivia Film Festival became the most important in Chile, and the Centro de Estudios Científicos moved near the Calle-Calle River.

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Current conditions (as of 11:00 AM)

Today's forecast °F | °C

 64° Feels like: 64° Mostly Cloudy	Today Showsers Hi: 65° Lo: 46°
Barometer: 29.97 in ↓ Dewpoint: 57° Humidity: 77% Visibility: 6 miles	8 AM Few Showers 52°
Wind: 3mph VAR UV Index: 3 Moderate Sunrise: 5:27 AM Sunset: 7:47 PM	12 PM Few Showers 59°
Observed at Temuco. All times shown are local to Valdivia.	6 PM Showers 63°

Weather news

Twisters strike again, storm heads east
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 Military wants the weather on its side



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Five-day forecast (Details)

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Tomorrow Nov. 17	Friday Nov. 18	Saturday Nov. 19	Sunday Nov. 20	Monday Nov. 21
 AM Showers Hi: 65° Lo: 45°	 Partly Cloudy Hi: 63° Lo: 47°	 Partly Cloudy Hi: 66° Lo: 40°	 Partly Cloudy Hi: 70° Lo: 45°	 Partly Cloudy Hi: 70° Lo: 45°

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Chiloé



Chiloé Island



Location of Chiloé in Chile

Chiloé Island (Spanish: "Isla de Chiloé"), also known as **Big Island of Chiloé** ("Isla Grande de Chiloé"), is an island off the Pacific coast of South America, part of Chile. Chiloé Province is a province of Chile that includes Chiloé island, part of the Los Lagos Region.

Geography

Chiloé Island (8,394 km², 3241 sq mi), is the second largest island in Chile (and South America), after the Isla Grande de Tierra del Fuego. It is separated from the Chilean mainland by the Chacao Strait ("Canal de Chacao") to the north, and by the Gulf of Ancud and the Gulf of Corcovado to the east. The Pacific ocean lies to the west, and the Chonos Archipelago lies to the south, across the Gulf of Corcovado. The island is 190 km (118 mi) from north to south, and averages 55-65 km wide (35 to 40 mi). The capital is Castro, on the east side of the island; the largest town (although not by much) is Ancud, at the island's northwest corner, and there are several smaller port towns on the east side of the island, such as Quellón, Dalcahue, and Chonchi.

Chiloé province includes Chiloé Island, the northern third of the Chonos Archipelago, and a section of the Chilean mainland across the Gulf of Corcovado east of Chiloé Island. The area of Chiloé province is 23,446 km² (9058 sq mi). The administrative center of the province is Castro, while the seat of the Roman Catholic bishopric is Ancud. Chiloé province is part of the Los Lagos region (Región de los Lagos), which includes the Chilean lakes region on the mainland north of Chiloé. The administrative center of the region is Puerto Montt.

Chiloé and the Chonos Archipelago are a southern extension of the Chilean coastal range, which runs north and south, parallel to the Pacific coast and the Andes Mountains. The Chilean Central Valley lies between the coastal mountains and the Andes, of which the Gulfs of Ancud and Corcovado form the southern extension. Mountains run north and south along the spine of the island. The east coast is deeply indented, with several natural harbors and numerous smaller islands.

Climate

Chiloé runs from 41° 40' S to about 45° 45' S latitude, and has a humid, cool temperate climate. The western side of the island is rainy and wild, home to the Valdivian temperate rain forests, one of the world's few temperate rain forests. Chiloé National Park (Parque Nacional de Chiloé) is located on the Island's western shore and includes part of the coastal range. The rainforests are made up of evergreen southern beech (*Nothofagus*), and several native conifers, including the magnificent alerce (*Fitzroya cupressoides*).

The eastern shore, in the rain shadow of the interior mountains, is warmer and drier, and home to almost all of Chiloé's population, agriculture, and aquaculture, which includes wheat, potatoes, and Atlantic salmon.

Demographics

The population of the province with its ten municipalities according to the 2002 census was 154,775; of this, 44% lived in rural areas, according to the Instituto Nacional de Estadísticas (INE). Chiloé's people are known as *Chilotes*.

Chiloé's first known inhabitants are the Mapuche, who, together with related peoples, inhabited most of Central Chile before European settlement. Spain established a settlement at Castro in 1567, which later became the seat of a Jesuit mission, and was capital of the province until the founding of Ancud in 1768. Chiloé was separated from the rest of Chile by Mapuche territory, and was the last stronghold of Spanish loyalists in the Chilean war of independence; it was not conquered by Chile until the 1826 military expedition led by Ramon Freire, after a prior expedition led by Lord Cochrane failed. Charles Darwin visited during the summer of 1834–1835, writing about his impressions of southern Chile in his diaries [1]. Whaling, fishing, agriculture, and timber were the mainstays of the island economy. The cathedral in Ancud was totally destroyed and Castro was badly damaged by the Great Chilean Earthquake of 1960, widely considered to be the most powerful ever recorded. In 1982, the provincial capital, after over 200 years, was returned to Castro.

Culture

In part because of its physical isolation from the rest of Chile, Chiloé has a very special architecture and local culture. They have a rich folklore with many mythological animals and spirits (La Pincoya, El Trauco, El Caleuche, etc.). The Spanish, who arrived in the 16th century, and Jesuit missionaries who followed, constructed hundreds of small wooden churches in an attempt to bring God to a pagan land; the result was a mixing of Catholicism and pagan beliefs. These unique buildings have been designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site.



THE LAKE DISTRICT "CROSSING" Argentina to Chile

The Lake District of Chile stretches from Temuco south to Puerto Montt and from the Pacific east to the Andes. Where the Lake District ends, Patagonia begins.

Without a doubt the "Lake District Crossing" is one of South America's most popular surface crossings via a series of motorlaunches and motorcoaches through spectacular scenery - snow-capped mountain peaks, gloriously green forests and azul blue lakes.



LAKE CROSSING SCHEDULES - ARGENTINA TO CHILE

Schedules valid as of February 2002

Days	Valid	Trip	Bariloche	Pto Blest	Peulla	Petrohue	Pto Varas	Pto Montt
Mon to Sat Spring & Summer	16 Sep to 15Apr	1 or 2 day crossing	Dep 0645	Arr 0900 Dep 0915	Arr 1230 lunch (or overnight) Dep 1530	Arr 1730 Dep 1800	Arr 1930 Dep 1940	Arr 2000
Mon to Fri Fall & Winter	16 Apr to 15 Sep	2 days only	Dep 0900	Arr 1130 lunch Dep 1330	Arr 1630 overnight Dep 0830	Arr 1015 Dep 1045	Arr 1230 Dep 1240	Arr 1300

BARILOCHE, ARGENTINA:

With a population under 100,000, Bariloche is a summer and winter resort in the National Park of Nahuel Huapi and facing the lake of the same name. Situated at the foot of Cerro Otto, in view of Cerro Colorado (main ski area) and surrounded by forests, Bariloche is a charming Alpine style town overflowing the shops, boutiques, restaurants, pubs and tea-houses. It is renowned for its chocolate industry.

From Bariloche you can head south along Ruta 40 to Esquel via bus, or fly to Buenos Aires. You can also begin The Ultimate Estancia Explorer in Bariloche.

PEULLA, CHILE:

Wonderful, old, rambling, spacious hotel in tiny village setting as mid-way stop through the lake district crossing, either for lunch only or for overnight. Hikes, waterfalls, plenty of flora and scenery provide the activities of the area.

PUERTO VARAS, CHILE:

Just 20 minutes north of Puerto Montt, Puerto Varas is located on Lake Llanquihue with spectacular views to Osorno Volcano. A bit more sleepy than Puerto Montt, it is a more relaxed alternative for overnighting or as a base to exploring the area.

PUERTO MONTT, CHILE:

Located 620 miles south of Santiago, founded in 1853 on the site of a Mapuche community as part of the German colonization of the area. With a population of 110,000 it is a small but bustling lake-side town. The port of Angelmo with seafood market and handicraft market are interesting. Fishing, river-rafting, hiking, horseback riding can all be arranged in the area.

From Puerto Montt there are numerous ways to explore the Chilean side of Patagonia - just visit the Ladatco's Inland Fjords.



CHILE

Travel Tips

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Entry Requirements

To enter Chile you need a valid passport and tourist visa. Note: legal requirements can sometimes be complex in Chile, particularly for non-Spanish speakers. Whenever you fill out any form in Chile, make sure you get a copy of what you have completed. In every case, be sure to take all legally-issued documents with you when applying for visas, permits or other official certificates.



Currency

Local currency is the Chilean Peso. As of this writing, the exchange was about 451 pesos per 1USD.

Tipping

A 10 percent tip is required at restaurants.

Business

Businesses typically open at 8am. Shops close at noon until 3 or 4pm, then reopen until 8 or 9pm. Banks are open only in the mornings.



Time Zones

There is only one time zone in Chile.

Language

Spanish is the national language.



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VALDIVIA

