

Chile is located on the southwest coast of South America along the Pacific Ocean, Santiago is our country's capital city, along with its main International Airport and Ride-Chile's Head Quarters. You can also get here by road from neighboring countries such as Perú, Bolivia and Argentina-, or by sea, arriving at one of the many country's seaports.

Please check out the following information on:

- Documents, Visas, Fees and Customs Regulations
- Getting to Chile by Air -Getting to Chile by Land
- Getting to Chile by Sea
- Getting to Ride-Chile's Office
- Health and Phytosanitary Information

Documents, Visas, Fees and Customs Regulations

To enter Chile you need your:

- Passport (All other countries) or your Identity Card (only if you are citizen of Argentina, Perú or Brazil) and
- Visa (if required depending in the country of origin).

Visas

You don't require a Visa if you are citizen of:

- USA
- Canada
- EU
- Australia
- South America

Citizens of other countries will need a tourist visa that can be applied at any Chilean Consulate

in their home country. Please contact you local Chilean Consulate. Visit: <http://chileabroad.gov.cl/en/>

Fees Upon entry, some travelers will have to pay a reciprocity fee (corresponds to the amount Chileans are charged when traveling to the respective country). This will have to be paid upon arrival to the airport in cash. You will have to pay the fee if you are a citizen from:

- United States \$ 131 USD
- Canada \$ 132 USD
- Australia \$ 61 USD
- Mexico \$ 23 USD
- Albania \$ 30 USD

Tourist Card Upon entering the country, you will receive a 90 days tourist permit that can be extended for another 90 days. The document you'll receive is called "Tarjeta de Turismo" (Tourist Card) which is valid for 90 days and has to be presented when leaving the country. If you lose it, you can get a replacement before your departure at:

"Policía Internacional"

General Borgoño 1052
Santiago Centro
[Google Maps](#)

- or at any local police station if you are away from Santiago. If you try to leave without the card, you'll most likely miss your flight or be kept waiting for a long time. The official way to extend your 90 days permit is to apply for an extension at an office of Extranjería. You'll need to take your passport and your tourist card to the "Departamento de Extranjería y Migración" located at:

"Departamento de Extranjería y Migración"

San Antonio 580 2nd Floor
Santiago Centro
[Google Maps](#)

Please visit: <http://www.extranjeria.gov.cl>. The unofficial and easier way to extend your 90 days is by leaving and re-entering the country (can be done even on the same day.) This is a legal

procedure that can be repeated almost forever. The third or fourth time, the border officers might get suspicious and renew your Tourist Card only for 30 days.

Customs Regulations

You legally enter duty-free:

- Unlimited amount of cash
- 400 cigarettes
- 2 1/2 Liters of spirits
- Personal use items
- Vehicles are allowed with a 90 days permit called "Temporary Import Title"

The following items are illegal

- Fresh food such as fruit, vegetables, meat and milk products
- Illegal drugs, and pornography
- Fire arms and explosives
- Plants and pets require a special permit from the health authorities, which needs to be applied and certified in advance by any Chilean Consulate.

Getting to Chile by Air Chile has seven international airports located in:

- Arica
- Iquique
- Antofagasta
- Easter Island
- Santiago
- Puerto Montt
- Punta Arenas

The largest and most important is Santiago's airport, Aeropuerto Comodoro Arturo Merino Benítez (SCL), which offers international connections to North and South America, Europe, Asia

and Australia. Seventeen airlines offer regularly scheduled flights from Santiago's airport, which also boasts a complete infrastructure of shops and restaurants, a Duty Free store and VIP lounges. It is easy to find a hotel nearby. Three airlines also operate domestic flights to the country's main cities, which are serviced by seven international airports and 28 airfields.

Most of our tours will begin in Santiago, from the location of our main office.

From the Aeropuerto Comodoro Arturo Merino Benítez (SCL), you have 4 ways to get to your Hotel/Hostel or our Ride-Chile's office these are ordered from the lower to higher price:

- Bus and Subway (Metro): You need to take the authorized bus that will take you to the Metro (Santiago's subway). Once you get to the subway you can stop at the closest station of your Hotel/Hostel We recommend this option if you are travelling light and in day light from 8.00 to 17.00 hours

- Van: For approximately \$ 7.000 Chilean Pesos (USD \$ 14) per passenger, you can take a shared van that will take you to any point of the urban Santiago. The capacity of this van is 6-8 persons + luggage.

- Cab (Taxi) For approximately \$ 22.000 Chilean Pesos (USD \$ 45) per passenger, you can take a shared van that will take you to central locations of the urban Santiago. The capacity of this van is 2 to 3 persons + luggage. Airport Pickup.

- If you have booked for a Ride-Chile.com Adventure, the airport pickup is included. If you would like us to arrange the pickup please e-mail us your name and flight information four days in advance and wait for our reply.

Getting to Chile by Land

To get to Chile by land means you'll have to cross one of the "pasos" (border passes) between Chile and it's neighboring countries. From Argentina, there are more than 50 border crossings from which to choose. The most popular are:

- Paso de Jama: Calama-Salta Route
- Paso San Francisco: Copiapó-Tucumán Route
- Paso Aguas Negras: La Serena-San Juan
- Paso Los Libertadores: Santiago-Portillo-Mendoza
- Paso Mamuil-Malal: San Martín de Los Andes-Pucón
- Paso Perez Rosales: Lago Nahuel Huapi-Lago Todos los Santos

- Paso Cardenal Antonio Samore: Osorno-Bariloche
- From Peru: The single access point is between Tacna (Peru) and Arica (Chile)
- Paso Concordia in the Arica-Parinacota Region

From Bolivia: There are five “Pasos” (passes)

- Paso Visviri: in the Arica-Parinacota Region
- Paso Chungará: crossing the altiplano thru the international highway that runs between La Paz (Bolivia) and Arica (Chile)
 - Paso Colchane, Cancosa and Abra Oriente de Napa: will connect you to Iquique -Paso Salar de Ollagüe and Portezuelo de Cajón, one of the most popular routes, as it runs through the Salar de Uyuni (Bolivia) and passes through San Pedro de Atacama and the Salar de Atacama salt flat (Chile) will take you to Antofagasta

For more information please visit: <http://www.pasosfronterizos.gov.cl/>

Getting to Chile by Sea Chile's seaports, specially Valparaíso, attract cruise ships from around the world. Remember that Ride-Chile.com also offers a bike & car import service, to handle the sea or air freight of your bike to Chile. Please contact us to assist in importing your vehicle to Chile.