



Country Intelligence Brief

Chile

Overall Risk Rating

2.25 - Low

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Ratings Overview

Security

2.25 - Low

Civil Unrest
Crime
Kidnapping
Terrorism
Armed Conflict
Security Services

3.25
2.25
1.00
2.25
2.00
2.00

Infrastructure

2.00 - Low

Ground Transport
Cyber
Maritime
Air Travel
Utilities

2.25
3.00
2.00
1.50
2.00

Environment

2.50 - Moderate

Man-Made Hazards
Seismic
Storm Systems
Natural Hazards

2.00
3.50
2.50
2.50

Health and Medical

2.50 - Moderate

Disease and Health Threats
Medical Facilities and Services
Mental Health
Food and Water Safety

2.00
3.00
3.50
1.00

Political

2.00 - Low

Corruption
Government Stability
Rule of Law
Sanctions

2.25
2.25
1.50
1.00

LGBTQ Security

2.00 - Low

LGBTQ Legal Environment
LGBTQ Enforcement
LGBTQ Social Environment

1.00
2.00
2.00

FactBox

Location	Chile
Government Type	Presidential Republic
Population	19,383,705 (2025)
Languages	Official languages: Spanish. Other languages that are considered official or widely spoken: Many Indigenous languages (Aymara, Quechua, Mapudungun, Rapa Nui). Languages that should be used discreetly: None.
International Country Code	+56
Time Zones	UTC-3
Traffic	Drives on the right
Drinking Water	Safe to Drink

Overview

2.25 - Low

Chile is one of the most developed countries in South America.

Crime is not a major concern. However, civil and labor unrest can cause significant disruptions. In addition, small-scale bombings attributed to anarchist groups are reported, although there are no known transnational terrorist organizations operating in the country at this juncture. Corruption is unlikely to have a significant impact on business activity, whilst the rule of law is generally observed.

The country is prone to powerful earthquakes, although the presence of an effective emergency management system is known to mitigate the devastating impact of tremors. Episodes of torrential rain and thunderstorms are common in April and May. In addition, the country is highly susceptible to aberrant weather patterns and the adverse effects of El Niño and La Niña. High-quality healthcare is available in urban centers.

Security

2.25 - Low

The main threat that foreign travelers face in Chile generally stems from petty and opportunistic crime. There is a credible threat of conflict arising from a prevailing land dispute between the government and the Mapuche community, although it is mainly limited to a handful of regions. There are no transnational terrorist organizations in the country, but anarchist groups are known to carry out small-scale bombings targeting government buildings and financial institutions. Episodes of public and labor unrest occur with high frequency in major cities and have the potential to escalate into violence and cause disruptions.

Civil Unrest

● 3.25

Current Situation

Demonstrations linked to socioeconomic and political grievances have continued to occur with moderate frequency in major Chilean cities, particularly in Santiago and Valparaíso. Protest activity can mobilize anywhere from a dozen to several thousand participants, with coordinated labor and student-led protests recording larger turnouts. Demonstrations most frequently take place outside government buildings, near symbolic landmarks, and along major thoroughfares in central Santiago around Plaza Baquedano. While most remain peaceful, they can result in clashes, particularly when Carabineros move to disperse unauthorized demonstrations or road blockages using tear gas and water cannons. These dispersals may result in localized transport disruptions.

In Southern Chile, authorities have reported numerous arson attacks, acts of sabotage, and road blockages in the La Araucanía, Los Ríos, and Biobío regions over the past six months. This is largely attributed to the long-standing conflict between the state and radical Mapuche-affiliated groups, which are typically targeted and infrastructure-focused.

Triggers

- Student-led demonstrations remain among the largest mobilizations nationwide. Demands related to education quality, access, and funding continue to generate periodic protests and campus-adjacent disruptions.
- Labor and pension reform debates, as well as broader cost-of-living concerns, frequently trigger union-backed demonstrations and strikes, particularly in the public sector and transport industries.
- Indigenous land disputes and security operations in southern Chile remain a consistent trigger for retaliatory violence, often with little warning.

- Symbolic or anniversary dates continue to prompt demonstrations. The March 29 “Day of the Young Combatant” and the Sept. 11 anniversary of the 1973 military coup remain the most reliably marked dates, particularly in Santiago and Valparaíso, and carry an elevated risk of vandalism or clashes.

Background

Chile has a deep-rooted protest culture, and demonstrations continue due to the presence of well-organized trade unions. While typically short, sector-specific strikes can disrupt operations at the local or national level. These are most common in the education, transport, and public services sectors. Police maintain a low tolerance for prolonged road closures. While dispersal measures are generally controlled, they can be forceful and increase the risk of disruption.

Unrest in southern Chile represents a distinct threat profile from urban protest activity, with arson attacks continuing despite sustained security deployments.

Crime

2.25

Crime generally poses a low threat in Chile. Criminal activity is most prevalent in urban areas, especially in Santiago, Valparaíso, and Antofagasta, as well as in rural parts of the Araucanía and Bio-Bio regions.

Nonviolent Crime

Nonviolent crime poses a low-to-moderate threat to foreign nationals, expatriates, and local staff and is concentrated in urban areas. Thieves typically target purses, bags, wallets, smartphones, and other electronic devices. Most crime involving foreigners occurs at tourist attractions, shopping centers, public transportation hubs, and areas near hotels. In Valparaíso, increased vigilance is warranted near the port and adjacent tourist areas. Tourists are frequently targeted in Valparaíso and nearby Viña del Mar. Both cities experience a dramatic increase in crime November-February, when tourism is at its highest. Unattended items left on Viña del Mar's popular beaches are frequently stolen.

Scams

Scams pose a low-to-moderate threat to foreign nationals, expatriates, and local staff in Chile. However, official data is unreliable due to underreporting and poor government recordkeeping.

Violent Crime

Overall, the threat of violent crime in Chile is very low compared to other South American countries; foreign nationals are rarely targeted by criminals. However, carjacking, express kidnapping, and assault, still pose a threat in the Santiago metropolitan area. Santiago's tourist areas of Paseo Huerfanos, Paseo Ahumada, Santa Lucia, San Cristóbal, Suecia, and Bellavista are common areas for assaults and robberies. Such crimes are particularly prevalent on weekends, late afternoons, and at night. Tension between indigenous groups, government organizations, and business interests in the Araucanía and Bio-Bio regions often produces violent outbursts; nonindigenous landowners and businesspeople are occasionally assaulted.

Gender-related Violence and/or Discrimination

Gender-based violence and/or discrimination pose a low threat to foreign nationals, expatriates, and local staff in Chile; however, there is a high level of domestic violence. Verbal and sexual harassment affect locals more than foreigners and expatriates. Women walking alone are sometimes verbally harassed; the threat of a physical attack is much lower than a verbal one, but assault cannot be ruled out, especially at night and in isolated areas.

Anti-LGBTQ violence does not systemically occur in Chile; same-sex couples are generally accepted in larger cities, but may attract stares in rural and underdeveloped communities.

Organized Crime

Organized crime does not usually affect foreign nationals or expatriates in Chile. Street gangs are present in Santiago and other cities; however, there are few organized crime groups in Chile compared to other South American countries.

Highway Robbery

Highway robbery and banditry pose a low threat in Chile. The threat is highest in urban areas, along intercity highways, and near the Peruvian border, especially in Arica. Criminals may target cargo trucks and private vehicles. These incidents can occur at any hour of the day; however, most robberies take place at night. Radical indigenous groups often hijack and burn trucks associated with the forestry and construction industries in the regions of Araucanía and Bio-Bio.

Kidnapping

 1.00

The threat of kidnapping in Chile is minimal; kidnappers are more likely to target locals. The most common type of abduction in Chile is express kidnapping. This tactic involves the short-term abduction of a victim while they are robbed of their possessions and forced to withdraw money from ATMs. Those in the Santiago metropolitan area face a higher threat of this type of crime. Victims are usually released unharmed and relatively quickly. Kidnapping-for-ransom is rare, both for locals and foreign nationals.

Terrorism

 2.25

Several radical armed groups that claim to defend the indigenous Mapuche homeland operate in southern Chile, especially in the regions of Araucanía and Bio-Bio. These groups include the Organs of Territorial Resistance (Organos de Resistencia Territorial, ORT), which serves as the armed wing of the Arauco-Malleco Coordinator (Coordinadora Arauco-Malleco, CAM). Other armed groups include Weichan Auka Mapu (roughly "Struggle in the Rebellious Territory") and Lavkenche Mapuche Resistance (Resistencia Mapuche Lavkenche, RML). RML has historically been particularly violent, often killing or attempting to kill police officers, though the group has been largely crippled due to arrests of its leadership and is now only sporadically active.

These groups frequently target forestry, construction, agricultural, and utility companies, as well as Roman Catholic and Protestant churches and Christian charity organizations; typical attacks consist of the hijacking and burning of vehicles, arson attacks directed toward facilities, and the detonation of explosive devices.

Small anarchist and leftist groups have also detonated crude explosive and incendiary devices near storefronts of major international companies, banks, and police stations. These devices rarely cause injuries or major damage.

Armed Conflict

 2.00

There is a prevailing concern over low-to-moderate levels of violence, notably in Araucanía and Bio-Bio regions, stemming from an ongoing land dispute between members of the indigenous Mapuche tribe and the Chilean government. The conflict has resulted in some incidents of low-to-moderate violence. Although foreigners are rarely directly affected, it is worth noting that there are no indications that the conflict will be resolved in the immediate- to medium-term.

Security Services

 2.00

The capabilities and responsiveness of security services in Chile are generally good (risk is low). Law-enforcement responsibilities are divided between two national police forces: the Carabineros de Chile, which is composed of the country's uniformed patrol officers, and the Policia de Investigaciones (PDI), which investigates crime. Foreign nationals are more likely to interact with the Carabineros than the PDI. Both organizations are generally among the more professional and well-funded forces in South America, and police in Chile are significantly less likely to demand bribes than elsewhere in the region. Most officers speak only Spanish.

Infrastructure

2.00 - Low

There are no safety concerns over air travel.

Major roads are generally safe, although secondary and mountain roads may be poorly maintained, poorly lit, and may lack guardrails.

In Latin America, Chilean ports have above average efficiency indicators for the region.

There is an unequal electricity supply across the country, although mobile network coverage and Internet connections are stable and reliable.

Cyber-crime is a growing concern, and the lack of a coherent, long-term strategy to address attacks online increases the threat level.

Ground Transport

2.25

Overland travel in Chile is considered safe. The road network is approximately 77,764km (48,320 miles) in length and is generally of good standards throughout the country's more contiguous northern and central regions. However, secondary roads can be narrower and more poorly maintained than major thoroughfares or road networks in urban areas. Mountain roads in Chile can be hazardous, especially as many lack proper guard railing. It is worth noting that the government spends a large amount of money every year to repair damage to the road network resulting from natural hazards.

Self-driving is possible. However, drivers, particularly in urban areas, can be aggressive. Frequent and heavy fog in rural and mountainous areas can pose an extra hazard to drivers.

The rail network in Chile is comprised of passenger and freight lines. Rail service is considered generally safe, although disruptions are common due to severe weather. Santiago's Metro is considered to be one of the most comprehensive in South America. There are ongoing government plans to invest in the railway service as part of efforts to expand the country's public transport system.

Local Buses

Unrated

Intercity buses are available between most major cities. Intercity buses in Chile have a good safety record.

City buses are available in most urban centers. City buses in Chile have a good safety record.

Mass Transit

Unrated

Metro systems are available in some major cities in Chile. The country's metro systems are generally efficient and safe.

Taxis

Unrated

Taxis are readily available in most major cities in Chile. Traffic accidents involving taxis are rare, and crime on taxis poses a low threat to travelers. Taxis arranged in advance by upscale hotels or trusted business associates are generally safer than those hailed on the street.

Ridesharing services or vehicles ordered through online apps are available most major cities in Chile. Substantial tensions between traditional taxi services and app-based ride-sharing services occasionally lead to violence or vandalism that pose a threat to patrons of app-based ride-sharing services.

Local-specific taxi systems, *Taxi Colectivos*, are available in cities in Chile and have an average safety record.

Train Travel

● Unrated

Train Safety

Trains in Chile have an average recent safety record. Derailments and rail accidents involving passenger trains occasionally occur.

Reliability and Availability

Chile has a small intercity passenger rail network. Rail travel is available between few major cities and few smaller cities and towns. The passenger rail network in and immediately south of the Santiago Metropolitan Region is significantly more developed than elsewhere in the country.

Vehicles and Roads

● Unrated

Road safety conditions in Chile are generally good. Traffic in Chile drives on the right. Roads in cities are paved and well-maintained. Drivers generally follow traffic laws. Police rigorously enforce traffic laws. Serious traffic accidents are rare. Heavy traffic congestion is rare in major cities. Criminals often steal from moving vehicles. Foreigners planning to drive in Chile must have a valid driver's license. Car rentals are available in most major cities.

International Road Travel

Chile has international border connections with Peru, Bolivia, and Argentina. Connections between Chile and other countries are subject to border controls, and passengers may be required to pass through customs before crossing.

Cyber

● 3.00

Geostrategic Concerns

Chile presents a moderate overall cyber risk, reflecting open internet access, improving law, and stronger state coordination. State-linked espionage threats are not systemic. The main external concern is exposure to Chinese-linked campaigns that target government and telecommunications networks globally; public evidence tying Russian state operations directly to Chile is more scarce.

Chile has strong protection of user rights and digital freedoms, with no routine censorship of political, social, or religious content. Internet services are widely available. Governance is among the stronger models in Latin America; Chile has worked proactively to build institutional resilience through strong government measures, public-private coordination, and cybersecurity measures. It has also implemented data management and protection standards, although the enforcement of this legislation is unclear. Law No. 21,663 created the National Cybersecurity Agency (ANCI), the National Computer Security Incident Response Team (CSIRT Nacional), and a critical-infrastructure regime covering essential services. Mandatory reporting of significant incidents affecting essential service providers began in March 2025.

Cybercrime

Cybercrime is a moderate, financially motivated threat. It has been increasing in recent years, as in many other countries, and is a persistent threat. Ransomware attacks, phishing, and scams are common cybercrimes in Chile. Ransomware has particularly affected government systems and banks. However, it is probable that small and medium-sized enterprises likely face greater vulnerability due to more limited cybersecurity resources, and ransomware attacks on small firms are probably under-reported.

Chilean lawmakers have responded by creating a dedicated cybersecurity agency, the National Cybersecurity Agency (ANCI). Overall, Chile is dealing with growing cyber threats amid increasing digitalization. However, capability is improving through ANCI, CSIRT Nacional, and specialized police capacity, and authorities have taken proactive steps through resource and capacity development, legislation, law enforcement, and public-private coordination to defend against these threats.

Maritime

 2.00

Chile does not have any major maritime threats. Its maritime operations are limited to two main ports due to the mountainous geography of the country.

Air Travel

 1.50

There are no serious risks associated with air travel in Chile. According to the US Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), the country's aviation sector complies with the safety standards of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). No Chilean carriers are included in the list of blacklisted airlines in the European Union (EU).

The main airport is Comodoro Arturo Merino Benitez International Airport (SCL), located approximately 21km (13 miles) southwest of Santiago. The airport is served directly by a handful of major North American and European Airlines, as well as LATAM Airlines, the region's main carrier. It has several amenities, and its security is considered to be adequate.

Severe weather as well as seismic activities, notably volcanic eruptions, can result in disruptions. However, the government has an effective emergency management system, which includes swift implementation of contingency travel plans. Labor strikes can also ground flights, although the frequency is low.

Utilities

 2.00

The near entirety of the Chilean populace has access to electricity, which is mainly derived from hydropower, fossil fuel and natural gas. There has also been a significant shift to renewable sources, notably solar power. However, the country is currently facing inequality in terms of the amount of electricity available in every region due to having two separate power networks, namely the central and northern grids, as well as inadequate transmission capacity. Though plans are underway to address this issue, it remains unclear when such efforts will be completed.

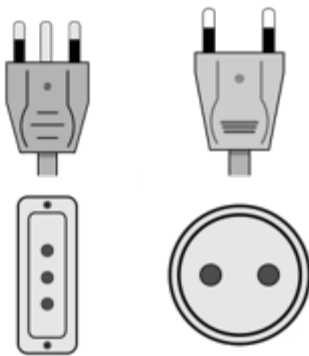
Mobile communications coverage is stable and reliable in cities and municipalities, although blackspots exist in sparsely populated areas. Movistar, Entel and Claro are the leading operators. Internet connections are also reliable in most parts of the country, although the quality is lower in rural areas. In general, Internet speeds are adequate.

Electricity

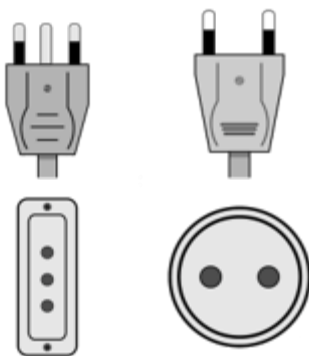
 Unrated

Electricity is supplied in Chile at 220 V, 50 Hz. Chile uses Type C and L plugs.

Plug Types



Types de prises



Internet and Telecommunications

● Unrated

Internet service in Chile is readily available in most public and private accommodations in major urban areas and towns, but may be sporadically available in rural areas. Internet activity is considered private and secure in most areas - see Information Security advice sheet.

Environment

2.50 - Moderate

Changes to climate resulting from the El Nino and La Nina phenomena can have adverse impacts on various economic sectors, notably agriculture and fishing, as well as on human populations. Similarly, torrential downpours and thunderstorms from April to May pose significant hazards to human communities and infrastructure. In addition, there is a credible risk of powerful earthquakes and major tsunamis as well as volcanic eruptions.

Man-Made Hazards

● 2.00

Several minefields laid during Pinochet's rule during the 1970s remain along the northern borders with Peru and Bolivia and the southern border areas with Argentina in Patagonia, posing an outstanding risk to travelers to border regions. Affected areas include Regions XV (Arica and Parinacota), I (Tarapaca), II (Antofagasta) and XII (Magallanes). Minefields are generally marked, but caution is still needed, as some markers can shift or become obscured or vandalized.

Seismic

● 3.50

Chile is particularly prone to earthquakes, as it rests along the highly active "Pacific Ring of Fire" seismic region. Much of the country is vulnerable to tremors, with lower risk in the southern Magallanes region and Chilean Antarctica. Earthquakes are typically low-to-moderate in intensity, although the country has experienced powerful tremors almost every year in the past decade. Similarly, powerful offshore earthquakes can potentially trigger life-threatening tsunamis that pose a considerable threat to coastal communities.

In addition, there is a credible risk of volcanic eruptions, which can result in human casualties, displacements, and travel and service delivery disruptions. Active volcanoes occur along the Andes mountain range in northern, central, and southern Chile.

However, the impact of these natural disasters has generally been reduced due to the country's effective disaster and emergency management regime, including strict building safety codes and a highly structured response command center. However, powerful earthquakes, major tsunamis, and volcanic eruptions can still overwhelm the country's safety measures, resulting in devastation and human casualties.

Storm Systems

 2.50

Torrential downpours and thunderstorms are frequent across the country in April and May. These mid-level meteorological disturbances can trigger floods and landslides in low-lying and hilly/mountainous areas, respectively, as well as trigger evacuations and result in service and travel disruptions. Human casualties are also possible.

Natural Hazards

 2.50

Chile has several climatic sub-types which differ from one region to another. In general, however, the country does have four distinct seasons: summer (December to February), autumn (March to May), winter (June to August) and spring (September to November).

It is worth noting that the El Nino and La Nina phenomena, which occur at various intervals, are known to alter the country's climate significantly. In general, El Nino causes higher temperatures than usual and is known to trigger increased precipitation, notably from Region III through Region VII. La Nina results in colder weather.

Changes to the country's climate typically have adverse effects on various economic sectors, notably the agricultural industry which is highly dependent on rainfall. Marine life, along with the fishing industry, is also highly susceptible. Human populations are also at risk due to more extreme weather episodes and unpredictable weather patterns.

Air Quality

 Unrated

Air Quality

Air pollution routinely exceeds recommended thresholds in urban areas. Individuals with asthma or chronic cardiorespiratory conditions should consult with a healthcare provider and carry necessary medications. On days when air quality is particularly poor, affected individuals should take personal precautions to reduce respiratory stress ([map](#)).

Health and Medical

 2.50 - Moderate

There are no major health-related concerns in the country. High-quality medical care and medicine are also available in major cities, although access in rural areas is more limited. Tap water is safe for consumption unless stated otherwise.

Disease and Health Threats

2.00

- **Altitude Sickness:** Some locations in Chile are above 2,440 meters (8,000 feet). Some people may experience adverse health effects at such altitudes. Ascend gradually to allow acclimatization and remain watchful for signs of altitude sickness or more severe manifestations.
- **Chagas Disease:** Transmitted through the reduviid beetle or contaminated blood products. Rarely through contaminated food products. Reduviid beetles are mostly found in buildings constructed of mud, adobe brick, or thatch. The acute stage generally occurs immediately after being infected. Most individuals do not have symptoms or experience only mild symptoms. Individuals who develop symptoms generally show nonspecific symptoms such as fever, headaches, vomiting, and diarrhea. Most infected individuals will never progress to the chronic stage. However, in up to 30 percent of patients, chronic Chagas disease can cause extensive heart and central nervous system damage, leading to death. Signs of chronic Chagas disease include an enlarged heart, dilated esophagus, and /or dilated colon. The risk in Chile is extremely low. Risk of infection exists in Arica y Parinacota, Antofagasta, Atacama, and Tarapaca regions.
- **Hepatitis A:** Transmitted by contaminated food and water. Hepatitis A does not always cause symptoms. If they occur, symptoms appear two to six weeks after exposure and include fever, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, fatigue, dark urine, loss of appetite, joint pain, and jaundice. Intermediate risk in Chile.
- **Hepatitis B:** Transmitted through infected blood and bodily fluids and effectively prevented with vaccination. An unexpected medical or dental emergency may place the unvaccinated traveler at risk. Practice safe sex and ensure medical procedures, tattoos, or piercings are conducted using sterile equipment. Symptoms include fever, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, fatigue, dark urine, loss of appetite, joint pain, and jaundice. Intermediate risk in Chile.
- **Hepatitis E:** Transmitted by contaminated food and water. Symptoms appear two to eight weeks after exposure and include fever, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, dark urine, joint pain, and jaundice.
- **HIV/AIDS:** Transmitted through infected blood and bodily fluids. Practice safe sex and ensure medical procedures, tattoos, or piercings are conducted using sterile equipment. Within two to four weeks of HIV infection, many people, but not all, experience influenza-like illness, including fever, swollen glands, sore throat, rash, fatigue, muscle and joint pains, and headache. These symptoms, also called acute retroviral syndrome (ARS), can last from days to weeks. Without treatment, the infection can lead to AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome).
- **Rabies:** Transmitted through the saliva of infected wild or domesticated mammals, usually by a bite or scratch. Do not approach unfamiliar animals. Wild animals pose the greatest threat.
- **Traveler's Diarrhea:** Transmitted by contaminated food and water. This is the most common illness in travelers. People who become ill by an infectious agent that causes traveler's diarrhea most often experience nausea, vomiting, fever, bloody stools, and/or the urge to constantly pass stools despite an empty gastrointestinal tract. High risk in Chile.
- **Tuberculosis:** Transmitted through respiratory droplets released by coughing or sneezing. Individuals planning an extended stay should consider obtaining a PPD skin test to reference against future suspected infections. Symptoms commonly include chest pain, a bad cough lasting three weeks or longer, and coughing up blood and/or sputum. Some people also experience chills, weight loss, fever, weakness, night sweats, and loss of appetite. Low risk in Chile.
- **Typhoid Fever:** Transmitted by contaminated milk, water, and food. Raw fish and shellfish from contaminated waters are likely to be infected. Symptoms of typhoid fever usually include fever, abdominal pain or discomfort, chills and body aches, weakness, and loss of appetite.

Health Requirements

● Unrated

Yellow Fever: Vaccination Not Required

There are no recommendations or requirements for yellow fever vaccination in Chile. There is no risk of yellow fever.

HIV Testing

No known restrictions.

Health Recommendations

● Unrated

Recommended Immunizations for Travel to Chile

Travelers should ensure that they have routine vaccination courses and boosters. You should visit a healthcare professional at least four to six weeks before the trip. Routine vaccines include measles-mumps-rubella (MMR), diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis, varicella (chickenpox), polio, and the annual flu vaccine. Travelers should consider obtaining COVID-19 vaccination where available, even if the destination country does not require it.

- **Hepatitis A:** Recommended for most individuals unless contraindicated. Two doses, administered at least six months apart, are required for long-lasting protection. It is recommended that all susceptible people traveling for any purpose, frequency, or duration to countries with high or intermediate hepatitis A endemicity be vaccinated or receive immune globulin before departure. A booster is recommended for partially vaccinated travelers.
- **Hepatitis B:** Recommended for most individuals unless contraindicated. Widely used formulations require three doses administered over the course of six to 18 months, depending on the recipient's age and vaccination history. Booster doses after a complete series are usually not required to maintain immunity. If exposed before finalizing the full series, individuals may receive a special booster within 24 hours for short-term protection.
- **Rabies:** Unless contraindicated, the WHO and CDC recommend vaccination for individuals who will be performing occupational or recreational activities that increase the risk for exposure to potentially rabid animals, such as animal handlers, field biologists, cavers, missionaries, veterinarians, and some laboratory workers. It is also recommended for travelers who might have difficulty getting prompt access to safe post-exposure prophylaxis. Chile has not reported any rabies cases, thus most travelers are at low risk. Bats are likely to carry bat rabies.
- **Typhoid Fever:** Recommended for most individuals unless contraindicated, especially those staying with friends or relatives in endemic areas or visiting smaller cities or rural areas. Widely used formulations require between two and four doses, depending on the formulation and the recipient's vaccination history. Booster vaccination is required every two or five years depending on the formulation. The last dose should be taken at least one week before travel.

Medical Facilities and Services

● 3.00

The quality of medical care is comparable to that of other developed countries, although hospitals with modern facilities are mainly concentrated in Santiago and other major cities. Outside of major cities, the quality of healthcare services may vary by region, and access may be limited. Healthcare in remote areas is likely to be limited and of poor quality. Doctors generally are well-trained, although most expect upfront payment in cash. Serious emergencies will almost certainly require travel to a major city and, depending on the severity of the situation, medical evacuation out of the country.

Medications and Pharmacy

 Unrated

Pharmacies across Chile are readily available. Supply of most medicines needed by travelers is high. Prior to travelling confirm the status of your "over the counter" medicines with accredited foreign government offices of Chile in your country. Always carry your prescription medication in its original packaging, along with your doctor's prescription and any other relevant documentation.

Mental Health

 3.50

Mental health service availability is limited and conditions are moderately managed.

Food and Water Safety

 1.00

Drinking water is generally safe in Chile. However, officials still recommend drinking bottled or otherwise purified water whenever possible to reduce the risk of traveler's diarrhea or other gastrointestinal illnesses. Ensure that food is properly handled and prepared. Wash raw produce before eating. Consume only pasteurized milk and dairy products, or use powdered or canned milk and cured cheeses. Consider avoiding street vendors and unregulated food establishments.

Political

2.00 - Low

The current democratic system of government is stable and faces no credible threats. Corruption is not a major concern, whilst the rule of law is generally observed, making Chile a rarity within Latin America. The prospect of sanctions is negligible.

Corruption

 2.25

Chile is considered one of the least corrupt countries in Latin America, with transparent institutions and effective mechanisms to investigate and punish corrupt practices. The country also has several laws, including the Criminal Code and Criminal Corporate Liability Law, which aim to deter public officials from committing active and passive bribery, whilst companies are required to establish an effective compliance system.

However, there are prevailing concerns over a thin divide between the political and economic spheres due to several politicians who also have stakes in various industries. In addition, members of the previous administrations have been involved in corruption scandals. These corruption scandals have reduced the country's credibility for having a transparent government, although relevant authorities have actively investigated the accusations and vowed to re-establish Chile's image as a model for clean governance in the region.

Government Stability

 2.25

Chile has a representative democratic republic, with the president serving as the head of state and government.

President Gabriel Boric of the leftist Social Convergence (Convergencia Social) party won the 2021 election, beating right-wing candidate José Antonio Kast in the second round of voting by approximately 12 percentage points. However, Boric's main electoral base is smaller than the outcome of the second round suggests: in the first round, for example, Boric won just under 26 percent of the vote, less than Antonio Kast. Furthermore, his party is relatively small, and largely depends on being part of the Broad Front (Frente Amplio), a coalition of parties that is itself a member of a larger electoral alliance, Approve Dignity (Apruebo Dignidad). Even with these coalitions, parties that support Boric remain a minority in both the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies. Consequentially, Boric faces significant opposition both among the population and in the legislative branch.

Rule of Law

1.50

The principle of equality before the law is highly observed in Chile. Laws are well enforced, with the judiciary assessed to be transparent and objective. Government interference in the judicial process is also rarely reported, and the level of corruption in the judiciary is low. Furthermore, corruption is not a concern in the police force, which is assessed to be an effective law enforcement agency and among the most reliable in Latin America.

However, allegations of high-ranking government officials using their position for personal and familial gains underscore occasional episodes of abuse of authority.

Sanctions

1.00

There are currently no international sanctions imposed on Chile, nor are any expected to be levied in the future for any reason.

Legal

Unrated

Visitors to Chile are subject to local laws, which may not mirror, either in whole or in part, those of their home country. Those deemed to be in violation, even unknowingly, may be fined, detained, imprisoned, or temporarily or permanently expelled depending on the nature of the offense. Home-country consular officers are typically systematically informed of a detention when requested by the detained citizen and are permitted to provide support services to their detained citizens. When there is no treaty in force, notification and access depend on whether the two countries have direct or indirect diplomatic relations. Consular officers cannot interfere with local judicial proceedings, nor provide legal advice or representation at trial, and are unable to pay legal fees or fines with government funds. The status of dual nationals will be determined by local officials, with all attendant ramifications for access and support.

Emergency Contacts

Unrated

Emergency Contacts

Ambulance 131

Fire 132

Police 133

Embassies and Consulates

Unrated

Canadian Embassy

Address Nueva Tajamar 481, Torre Norte, 12th Floor, Las Conde, Santiago

Fax (56-2) 2652 3912

Email stago@international.gc.ca

Telephone +56 (2) 2652-3800

Web Site <https://www.international.gc.ca/country-pays/chile-chili/santiago.aspx>

Regional Delegation of the European Union

Address Av. Apoquindo 2929, piso 15, Las Condes, 7550246 Santiago

Fax +56 224286800
Email delegation-chile@eeas.europa.eu
Web Site https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/chile_es

French Embassy

Address Avenida Condell 65, Casilla 38-D, Providencia. Santiago
Fax (56-2) 2470 8050
Telephone [+56 2 2470 8000](tel:+56224708000)
Email ambassade@france.cl
Web Site <https://cl.ambafrance.org/>

Australian Embassy

Address Isidora Goyenechea 3621, Piso 13, Las Condes, Santiago
Fax (56-2) 2550 3560
Email consular.santiago@dfat.gov.au
Telephone +56 2 2 550 3500
Web Site <https://chile.embassy.gov.au/>

British Embassy

Address Avda. El Bosque Norte 0125, Las Condes, Santiago
Fax (56-2) 2370 4160
Email embsan@britemb.cl
Web Site <https://www.gov.uk/world/organisations/british-embassy-chile>
Opening hours Monday to Thursday: 9:00am to 1:00pm and 2:00pm to 5:30pm Friday: 9:00am to 1:00pm

US Embassy

Address Avenida Andres Bello 2800, Santiago
Fax (56-2) 2330 3710
Email santiagoamcit@state.gov
Web Site <https://cl.usembassy.gov/>
Telephone (56-2) 2330-3000

Austrian Embassy

Address Barros Errazuriz 1968, 3 piso, Santiago de Chile
Fax (56-2) 2204 9382
Email santiago-de-chile-ob@bmeia.gv.at
Web Site <https://www.bmeia.gv.at/oeb-santiago-de-chile>
Telephone (+56/2) 2223 4774

Opening hours Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m., by [appointment](#) only

Spanish Embassy

Address Av. Andrés Bello, 1895 Providencia. Santiago de Chile

Phone +56 2 223 527 54 / 55 / 61

Email emb.santiagodechile@maec.es

Web Site <https://www.exteriores.gob.es/Embajadas/santiagodechile/es/Paginas/index.aspx>

German Embassy

Address Las Hualtatas 5677, Vitacura, Santiago de Chile

Fax +56 2 24 63 25 25

Email info@santiago-de-chile.diplo.de

Web Site <https://santiago.diplo.de/>

Opening hours Monday to Thursday: 07:45 to 17:00 hrs.
Friday: 07:45 to 13:45 hrs.

Entry/Exit

Unrated

Travelers can obtain specific information about visas and other entry-exit requirements at <https://entry-exit.crisis24horizon.com>.

HIV Testing requirement: not required.

Pre-Departure

Unrated

- Travelers should have adequate travel insurance in place to enable rapid medical treatment or emergency extraction from Chile, and should review contingency operations, business continuity and crisis management plans.

- Travelers should provide friends and family with a copy of their travel itinerary, and make a copy of important travel and identification documents.

- Travelers should research the current stability. If the travel dates coincide with planned elections, anniversaries or significant dates, additional measures may need to be taken. The two holidays that are most marked by rallies are 29 March and 11 September.

On Arrival

Unrated

- There have been issues with unauthorized taxi drivers overcharging visitors from Santiago's Nuevo Pudahuel airport. Travelers can now arrange transportation from authorized taxi companies before entering the arrivals area.

- Chile is particularly prone to earthquakes and travelers should confirm the location of evacuation areas, evacuation routes, open spaces, and facilities such as community halls and convenience stores.

In Transit

Unrated

- Public transport is generally safe, and self driving may be conducted.
- Chile's road network is extensive and is among the better maintained systems in Latin America. However, roads in rural and mountainous areas may still be unpaved and/or in less-than-adequate states.
- Travel south in Patagonia require crossing into Argentine Patagonia before re-entering Chile. Additionally, certain roads can become impassable during the winter months.

At Your Hotel

● Unrated

- There are no extraneous measures that should be undertaken at the hotel, although weather reports provided by local media and government authorities should be monitored, and trusted news sources should be followed on social media. Travelers may prepare an emergency kit of bottled water, non-perishable food items, a battery-powered radio, medications that are taken regularly, and vital travel documents.

In the Street

● Unrated

- Travelers should avoid overt displays of wealth and dress discreetly and appropriately to the environment. Do not display money, jewelry or valuables and keep a low profile.
- Travelers should use only small denominations of the local currency, and keep large amounts of cash and cards in a separate place on your person. Reduce the contents of your wallet or purse contents, particularly cards which may denote affiliations, memberships and accounts. Do not use credit or debit cards unless absolutely necessary and then only at respected, well-known retail and service establishments.
- Travelers should ensure that their mobile phone is carried with sufficient battery life and programmed with appropriate emergency numbers. Travelers should also carry an ID card or passport and emergency medical information.
- Travelers should be aware of their location and surroundings. Avoid high-crime areas and of walking through dimly lit streets after dark. Travelers should know routes and carry a map if necessary, but keep it concealed.
- In crowded situations, travelers should be aware of jostling as this may be a ploy for pick-pockets. Travelers should also be aware of people loitering, and also that attackers may first pass their victim to attack from behind.
- Travelers should ignore verbal 'bait' from passers-by, do not get into an argument and avoid eye contact with strangers.
- Travelers should avoid any demonstrations, protests and rallies, which may attract security forces and law enforcement officers and present a dynamic and volatile environment.
- Travelers should be aware that photographing government buildings or military facilities may result in detention by authorities. Travelers should ask permission before taking pictures of locals, especially women.
- LGBT+ travelers should know that, though the country has made legal advances in recent years on LGBT+ issues, the country remains rather conservative by Latin American standards. Discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity is illegal, but same-sex displays of affection still risk harassment and discriminatory attitudes; outright violence is rare, but also occurs. Rural areas will trend more conservative than urban centers, and LGBT+ events in Chile's cities generally occur in a peaceful fashion.

Culture

Unrated

Standard Hours of Operation

Business: Monday-Friday, 0900-1800

Government: Monday-Friday, 0900-1300 and 1500-1700

Banking: Monday-Friday, 0900-1400

Business attire is generally formal. For men, a conservative business suit is appropriate. For woman, a conservative business suit or dress is appropriate.

Appointments are best scheduled Monday-Friday between 0900-1700. Arriving on time to meetings is expected even though Chilean counterparts may not be punctual. Arriving late for social engagements is a common practice. Informal or personal discussions are common. Scheduled meetings will typically run longer than expected. If a meeting includes dining out, the person who planned the meal will typically pay. Alcohol taken during lunch may be considered inappropriate, but taking alcohol during dinner is considered normal.

Spanish is commonly used for business purposes. Attempts by visitors to use phrases in the native language are well-received and expected. Business cards are widely used and are presented in an informal exchange using one hand. Always use Mr./Ms./Dr. or a local title until the host indicates that using first names is appropriate. Addressing the host according to their official title is seen as a sign of respect. When beginning a meeting, shake hands. When departing, it is important to say goodbye to each individual instead of giving a collective goodbye.

Gestures

● Unrated

Business cards are widely used and can be presented in any manner. One side of the card should be in Spanish and the cards should be handed out at the beginning of the meeting.

Shake hands with everyone when beginning a meeting.

It is common for people in Chile to stand closer than an arm's length to someone when talking to them. Make direct eye contact when talking to someone. When talking to someone, do not make a lot of hand movements.

Avoid using the following gestures or habits, as they are deemed offensive or insulting:

- Holding the neck of a wine bottle with the left hand.
- Placing an upright fist against your head.
- Making a fist and tapping it twice with your other hand.
- Yawning in public.

Religions

● Unrated

Roman Catholic 67%, Evangelical or Protestant 16%, none 12%, Other, including Jehovah's Witnesses and unspecified, 5 %

Ethnicities

● Unrated

White and non-indigenous 89%, Mapuche 9%, Other, including Aymara, other indigenous groups, unspecified 2%

Significant Dates

● Unrated

2025 Significant Dates

Jan. 1 New Year's Day

March 29 Day of the Combative Youth

April 3	Good Friday
April 4	Holy Saturday
May 1	Labor Day
May 21	Navy Day
June 21	National Indigenous Peoples' Day
June 29	Saint Peter's and Saint Paul's Day
July 16	Our Lady of Mount Carmel Day
Aug. 15	Assumption Day
Sept. 11	Reconciliation Day (anniversary of 1973 coup d'état)
Sept. 18	National Independence Day
Sept. 19	Army Day
Oct. 12	Columbus Day
Oct. 31	Day of Evangelical and Protestant Churches
Nov. 1	All Saints' Day
Dec. 8	Feast of the Immaculate Conception
Dec. 25	Christmas Day

Financial

Unrated

Financial systems can differ considerably by jurisdiction. Acceptance of cash, debit, and credit cards also varies across the country. Some locations may only accept cash due to the absence of card-processing machines. Banks or legal money changers typically offer the official exchange rates. While the import and export of both local and foreign currency are authorized, sums should not exceed the amount declared upon arrival.

Currency

Unrated

Currency Name/Code

The official currency of Chile is the Chilean peso (CLP). One Chilean peso is made up of 100 cents (centavos).

Currency Convertibility

Banks or legal money changers may offer the best exchange rates in Chile. Chile forbids foreigners from exiting with local currency in amounts greater than US 10,000 unless declared upon arrival.

Credit Card

Unrated

Major credit cards are widely accepted in shops, restaurants, and hotels.

Taxes and Tipping

Unrated

It is customary to tip hotel personnel, wait staff in restaurants, and taxi drivers 10 percent; there may be a service charge on the bill.

Bank and ATM

● Unrated

ATM Availability

Automated teller machines are widely available in Chile. Always choose a machine located in a secure area, preferably within hotels or other populated, well-lit locations.

Bank Availability

Banking hours are generally Monday-Friday 0900-1400. Cash advances on major credit cards issued by foreign banks are permitted.

LGBTQ Security

2.00 - Low

The security environment in Chile is moderate, as homophobic and transphobic incidents affect local LGBTQ communities even though most foreign visitors do not face systematic targeting. The government does not direct violence against LGBTQ people, though civil-society monitoring by rights groups indicates that cases of discrimination and abuse against LGBTQ people are problematic. Such incidents include physical assaults, threats, and harassment in public spaces and at private gatherings, with transgender women and gender-nonconforming people facing the highest exposure to violence. Public LGBTQ events are both a visibility asset and a focal point for risk. Santiago's Pride march is one of the largest in Latin America, drawing tens of thousands of participants each year, but in June 2024 and again in 2025 groups of hooded men attacked the march, assaulting activists, throwing stones and paint, and damaging floats and vehicles. While these incidents have not deterred mass participation, they illustrate the possibility of targeted attacks on visible LGBTQ gatherings. For inbound travellers, everyday security risks are typically highest in nightlife districts late at night, on public transport, and in lower-income or peripheral neighbourhoods, particularly for couples displaying affection in public or travellers who are visibly gender-nonconforming. Major urban centres such as Santiago and Valparaíso generally offer a more permissive atmosphere than smaller cities or rural areas, but isolated verbal harassment or opportunistic crime remains plausible, especially outside clearly LGBTQ-friendly venues.

LGBTQ Legal Environment

● 1.00

The legal environment in Chile presents a low risk to LGBTQ individuals, with comprehensive protections for sexual orientation and gender identity – including equal marriage and adoption – though political debates around trans-inclusive policies signal potential headwinds. Same-sex sexual activity has been legal since 1999, and a 2012 anti-discrimination law (the so-called Zamudio Law) prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity and, later, gender expression, while also adding hate-crime aggravating circumstances to the criminal code. Chile introduced civil unions in 2015 and legalized equal marriage and joint adoption for same-sex couples in March 2022, placing its family-law framework among the most progressive in Latin America. The 2018 Gender Identity Law allows adults to change their legal name and sex through an administrative procedure without requiring surgery or hormone treatment, and provides a judicial pathway for adolescents, while additional legislation bans discrimination against LGBTQ children and adolescents and restricts non-consensual medical interventions on intersex minors. Regulatory guidance from the Ministry of Health also instructs providers not to offer so-called conversion therapies and to avoid pathologizing sexual orientation or gender identity. Despite this robust framework, recent parliamentary debates on gender-affirming care for minors and efforts to curtail or defund support programmes for trans youth demonstrate that the legal direction is not uniformly progressive, even if most changes so far have strengthened – rather than weakened – formal protections.

LGBTQ Enforcement

● 2.00

The legal enforcement environment in Chile presents a moderate threat to LGBTQ individuals, as authorities have expanded some LGBTQ-inclusive practices while anti-discrimination and hate-crime provisions remain unevenly applied and often fail to deliver effective remedies. International monitoring bodies note that Chilean police and other state institutions have taken steps to promote LGBTQ rights, including diversity initiatives and revised protocols, yet human-rights reporting continues to document crimes involving violence or threats against LGBTQ people. Analyses of the Zamudio Law show a relatively low number of cases and a modest success rate for complainants, with

procedural hurdles, evidentiary burdens and limited sanctions constraining its deterrent effect. Civil-society organizations have long advocated reforms to strengthen the law, but a 2024 effort to pass a “Zamudio 2.0” amendment – which would have increased penalties, expanded damages and explicitly banned conversion practices – was rejected by the Chamber of Deputies, prompting LGBTQ groups to describe the decision as a major setback. Enforcement of hate-crime provisions following anti-LGBTQ attacks, including assaults at Pride marches and repeated vandalism of LGBTQ memorials, has been inconsistent, with slow investigations and limited accountability in many cases. While individual court rulings have vindicated LGBTQ complainants in high-profile disputes, overall enforcement remains reactive and fragmented rather than systematic.

LGBTQ Social Environment

2.00

The social environment in Chile presents a moderate threat to LGBTQ individuals. Urban Chile – especially Santiago, Valparaíso and some tourist hubs – features vibrant LGBTQ nightlife, community organizations and Pride events. Large Pride marches, now among the biggest in the region, have helped normalize LGBTQ visibility and frame equality as a mainstream human-rights issue. At the same time, media and NGO reporting highlight particularly instances of violence and discrimination targeting trans people, as well as online harassment, attacks on Pride events, and inflammatory statements by some politicians and religious authorities. Social attitudes are generally more accepting among younger, urban and higher-income populations than among older, rural or more religious communities, and openness about sexual orientation or gender identity is more easily navigated in established LGBTQ spaces than in workplaces, schools or family settings. For inbound travellers, this translates into a socially livable but polarized environment: same-sex couples and gender-diverse travellers can usually be open in central urban areas and explicitly LGBTQ-friendly venues, but more discrete behaviour is advisable in conservative neighbourhoods or rural regions, and situational awareness around large public events remains important.

Active Alerts

No Alerts

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