

SANTIAGO
EXCHANGE.COM

SANTIAGO GUIDE



Welcome, po!

Quick guide for students in Santiago

Before arriving to Chile

Weather: Santiago has a Mediterranean climate, with hot summers (around 30°C) and cold but dry winters (sometimes below 5°C). It doesn't rain often, but when it does, it can be surprising.

What to bring:

Warm clothing for winter (including a thick jacket and closed shoes)

Light clothing for summer

Power adapter type C or L (voltage 220V)

Sunscreen and sunglasses

From June to August, ski resorts are generally open



Arrival at the airport

(Arturo Merino Benítez Airport)

These are the main options to get to the city:

TRANSPORT	COST	PROS	CONS
TRANSVIP	\$9.000 CLP	Safe, direct, shared with others	May take longer if there are many stops
TAXI OFICIAL	\$25.000 CLP o más	Comfortable, direct, no waiting	Expensive, especially during rush hours
BUS + METRO	\$2.500 CLP	Affordable, good option during daytime	More complicated if carrying a lot of luggage

Santiago Metro

It's the most efficient and safest way to get around. It connects much of the city and is widely used by students.

Official map: <https://www.metro.cl>

Fare: Between \$640 and \$800 CLP depending on the time of day

Bip! Card: You'll need a Bip! card, which can be purchased at metro stations for \$1,550 CLP and recharged based on your usage

Useful apps: Red Movilidad, Moovit, Bus Checker (to check real-time bus arrivals)



Red de Metro

Metro Network

Líneas de Metro

Metro lines

- 1 San Pablo - Los Dominicos
- 2 Hospital El Pino - Vespucio Norte
- 3 Plaza Quilicura - Fernando Castillo Velasco
- 4 Plaza de Puente Alto - Tobalaba
- 4A La Cisterna - Vicuña Mackenna
- 5 Plaza de Maipú - Vicente Valdés
- 6 Cerrillos - Los Leones

Simbología

Symbols

- Estación Station
- Estación Terminal Terminal station
- Proyecto en construcción Project under construction
- Combinación líneas Interchange stations
- Transbordo tren Train transfer
- Transbordo buses interurbanos Transfer to interurban buses
- Bus al aeropuerto Bus to airport
- Intermodal Bus transfer
- Oficina atención al cliente Customer service office
- Línea de tren Train

Contacto

Contact

- metro.cl
- 600 600 92 92
- Metro de Santiago - Chile
- @metrodesantiago
- @metrodesantiago
- App Metro de Santiago Oficial

Santiago Metro Schedules and Fares

TIME SLOT	HOURS	FARE	OPERATION
Peak Hours	07:00 – 09:00 and 18:00 – 20:00	\$800 CLP	Some stations do not open: metro express system (see below)
Regular Hours	09:00 – 18:00	\$720 CLP	All stations open
Off-Peak Hours	06:00 – 07:00 and 20:00 – 23:00	\$640 CLP	All stations open

What is the Metro Express system?

During peak hours, some stations do not open their doors in order to optimize service speed and flow.

Trains are divided by color (Red and Green) and only stop at specific stations. Stations that serve both train types are called common stations.

This system operates on Line 2 and Line 5, from Monday to Friday.

 You can see updated maps and stops at:
<https://www.metro.cl/metro-express>

SIM Card and Communication

To get a mobile line in Chile, you need your RUT (Rol Único Tributario). If you don't have a RUT yet, you can use a temporary eSIM like HolaFly or Airalo for the first few days. Many apps like WhatsApp will work normally.

Money and Shopping

Most places accept credit or debit cards.
You can use apps like MercadoPago or MACH for local payments.

Withdrawing Money from ATMs

In Chile, if you are a foreigner and need to withdraw cash from an ATM, the best option is to use ATMs from Banco del Estado or Scotiabank. According to Wise, they are the only ones that don't charge additional fees for international cards. However, your home bank might charge a fee for the transaction, so check before traveling.

Useful Tips:

Redbanc: When using an ATM, select the option "Extranjeros / Foreign clients."

Withdrawal limit: Most ATMs in Chile allow withdrawals of up to \$200,000 CLP per transaction.

Currency exchange: You might be charged a fee for converting your currency to Chilean pesos.

Bank fees: Even if the ATM doesn't charge a fee, your bank may apply an additional charge.

Supermarkets

Líder (the cheapest)

Jumbo (more variety and quality, but more expensive)

Unimarc and other small local stores

At checkout, they may ask for your RUT; if you don't have one, you can say "no tengo" ("I don't have it") and there will be no problem.

Apps for Taxis and Private Transportation

APP	SAFETY	PRICE	PROS/CONS
Uber	High	Variable	 Wide availability, well-known app  May have surge pricing during peak hours
Didi	High	Usually lower	 Good prices, promotions  Limited coverage in some areas
Cabify	Very High	Moderate	 Good quality of service  Fewer cars available
InDrive	Depends on the driver	Variable	 You can negotiate the price  Less quality control

Visa Registration in Chile

Who needs to do this?

All foreigners who obtain a stamped visa (temporary, subject to contract, student, etc.), whether inside or outside of Chile, must register it electronically on the website of the National Migration Service (SERMIG).

Steps:

1- Receive your approved visa by email.

2- Go to the website:

👉 <https://tramites.serviciomigraciones.cl>

3- Log in with your ClaveÚnica (if you are in Chile) or your registered email address.

4- Fill out the visa registration form.

Attach:

- Copy of your passport
- Copy of your visa
- Previous ID document (if applicable)

5- Download the registration certificate once it's approved.

! *Note: Visa registration used to be done in person at the International Police, but this changed: everything is digital since 2022.*

Application for Identity Card for Foreigners (RUN)

Once your registration is approved, you can request your ID card at the Civil Registry.

Requirements:

Approved valid visa

Visa registration certificate issued by SERMIG

Passport

Contact phone number and email address

Steps:

Schedule your appointment online at: 🖱️ <https://agenda.registrocivil.cl>

Go to the nearest Civil Registry office with your documents.

They will take your photo and fingerprint.

You will receive your foreigner ID card (RUN) in approximately 1 to 3 weeks.

Important considerations: The ID card is mandatory for signing contracts, opening bank accounts, applying for jobs, among others. If your visa is still being processed (not yet approved), you must wait for approval before requesting your ID. The ID card will have the same validity period as the granted visa.

Complete list of embassies in Santiago, Chile

Embajada / Embassy of the United States

Dirección / Address: Av. Andrés Bello 2800, Las Condes, Santiago

Teléfono / Phone: +56223303000

Correo / Email: santiagoUSA@state.gov

Sitio web / Website: Sitio oficial embajada EE.UU

Embajada / Embassy of Argentina

Dirección / Address: Miraflores 285, Santiago Centro, Santiago

Teléfono / Phone: +56225822500

Correo / Email: embajada@embargentina.cl

Sitio web / Website: <http://www.embargentina.cl>

Embajada / Embassy of Spain

Dirección / Address: Av. Andrés Bello 1895, Providencia, Santiago

Teléfono / Phone: +5622352754 / 755 / 761

Embajada / Embassy of Germany

Dirección / Address: Las Hualtatas 5677, Vitacura, Santiago

Teléfono / Phone: +5624632500

Embajada / Embassy of France

Dirección / Address: Condell 65, Providencia, Santiago

Teléfono / Phone: +5622251030 / +5624708000

Embajada / Embassy of Australia

Dirección / Address: Isidora Goyenechea 3621, Of.12-13, Las Condes, Santiago

Teléfono / Phone: +5625503500 / 600 / 529

Embajada / Embassy of Japan

Dirección / Address: Av. Ricardo Lyon 520, 1° piso, Providencia, Santiago

Teléfono / Phone: +5622321807

Embajada / Embassy of India

Dirección / Address: Alcántara 200, Of. 201, Las Condes, Santiago

Teléfono / Phone: +5622634917

Embajada / Embassy of Brazil

Dirección / Address: Alonso Ovalle 1665, Santiago

Teléfono / Phone: +5626982486

Embajada / Embassy of the United Kingdom

Dirección / Address: Av. El Bosque Norte 0125, Las Condes, Santiago

Teléfono / Phone: +56223704100

Correo / Email: Info.Chile@fcdo.gov.uk

Embajada / Embassy of China

Dirección / Address: Av. Pedro de Valdivia 550, Providencia, Santiago

Teléfono / Phone: +56223339898 / +5622339880

Embajada / Embassy of Canada

Dirección / Address: Nueva Tajamar 481, Torre Norte, Piso 12, Las Condes, Santiago

Teléfono / Phone: +56226523800

Embajada / Embassy of South Korea

Dirección / Address: Alcántara 74, Las Condes, Santiago

Teléfono / Phone: +56227293999

Embajada / Embassy of Mexico

Dirección / Address: Félix de Amesti 128, Las Condes, Santiago

Teléfono / Phone: +56225838400