IUHPFL Viña del Mar 2015

Orientation
April 26, 2015
Overview

• Introductions
• Chile & Viña del Mar
• Typical day in Viña
• Safety
• Travel planning & logistics
• Excursions
• Money
• Honor Code
On-Site Coordinator

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CHILE & VIÑA DEL MAR
Chile

- Pop. 17,772,871
- Presidenta: Michelle Bachelet
- Extremely diverse
  - Climate, geography & biology
    - Subtropical—Easter Island
    - Atacama Desert
    - Patagonia
    - Antarctica
- One of the most prosperous countries in South America
  - Economic disparity
  - Environmental issues
  - *Sanhattan*: Financial district of Santiago
Chile

• Natural resources
  – Fishing & agriculture (fruits, olives, wine)
  – Mining & minerals (copper)

• Mapuche
  – Native people of central & southern Chile
From Santiago to Viña

• Arturo Merino Benítez
• ~2 hours to Viña
INTRODUCTION TO VIÑA DEL MAR

Plan Viña

Recreo

The clock
Av. España & Calle Álvarez

IUHPF Orientation, 2015
Bienvenidos a Viña

- Chile’s Pacific coast
  - *La ciudad jardín*
  - Tourism
- Pop. 324,836
  - Fourth largest city in Chile
  - Part of greater Valparaíso metro area (3rd largest)
When in Viña del Mar, Chile
When in Viña
Where we'll be living

Recreo neighborhood
Where we’ll be studying

- Iglesia mormona de Recreo
El clima: The weather

• ~San Francisco, CA
• Remember it will be winter!
  – Avg. temps: 50s-60s F (lows in the 40s)
  – July is the rainiest month (~4 in: 107 mm)

• Dress accordingly!
  – Sweaters, jacket, hats scarves
  – JG’s recommendation: Layer it up!
En la casa

- Showering
  - Short(ish) showers!
  - Prendéi el calefón(t)!
    - Gas water heaters
- Probably no central heating
  - Gas/electric estufas or space heaters
    - Usually in common areas not bedrooms
- Bundle up!
- Gas range (matches)
- El “número dos”
  - Most places, yes, you can flush TP
  - If there’s a little wastebasket by the WC, maybe not
En la casa

- Make sure you have an adapter/converter
  - CHILE 220 V.
  - Adapters (~$20-30)
    - Converters
  - Best to buy beforehand
    - Hard to find in Chile
Family life

- Close-knit
- Older ‘children’ may live with parents to later ages than US – College students
- Usually meals eaten together – Lunch not as much anymore; still some families do – ‘Tomar las once’
- Divorced or separated? – Legal since 2004
- Direct but warm – Self-deprecation – Different from other Hispanic countries
- Traditional v. Progressive families
- ‘La empleada’
Celulares

• International prefix: 56 (USA: 01)
  – SKYPE: Cheaper than international calls
• Geographical prefix Valparaíso province: 32
• Mobile network: 8 digits, starting with digits 9, 8, 7, 6 or 5
• Calls from a landline phone to mobile phones have to use the non-
  geographical prefix 09. e.g.: 09 9XXX-XXXX, 09 8XXX-XXXX, 09 7XXX-XXXX, 09 6XXX-XXXX, 09 5XXX-XXXX.
• Calls between mobile phones without the non-geographical prefix. e.g.:
  9XXX-XXXX, 8XXX-XXXX, 7XXX-XXXX, 6XXX-XXXX, 5XXX-XXXX.

• EMERGENCY NUMBERS
  – Ambulance: 131
  – Fire: 132
  – Policie: 133
Skyper no skyping!

• While you’ll can Skype the first week to contact your parents; that shouldn’t be part of your internet hour!
La comida
La comida

• Sandwiches are a big deal!
  – Churrasco, Barros Luco, Chacarero, etc.
  – Avocado, meat, cheese, etc.

• In Viña/Valpo, a lot of seafood but not exclusively
  – Chicken, pork, beef, potatoes, salads, etc.

• Wide variety of foods
  – Immigration
  – Spain, Italy, Germany
  – Middle east
  – Geographical diversity

• Asados
La comida: Some terms & dishes

– Completo
– Choclo
– Palta
– Chirimoya
– Cazuela
– Empanadas (de pino)
– Mora

– Manjar
– Congrio
– Caldillo
– Paila marina
– Pastel de choclo
– Kuchen
**Trivia**: Chile eats more ice cream than the rest of Latin America.
The Honors Program – Viña del Mar

- Our blog (for parents)
  - https://iuhpflvinadelmar2015.wordpress.com/

- Students can also have a blog

- The Facebook group is for student use, pre-departure
A typical day in Viña

So what will we be doing?
Weekdays

7:30/8:00am – wake up, breakfast at home
9:00 - 1:05 – classes (grammar, culture, linguistics, literature); break & grupos de apoyo
1:00 - 3:30 – lunch with host families (travel)
3:30 – 5:30 or 6:30 – afternoon activities (dance, choir, sports, community work, surprise!)
Weekdays

**Mondays:** Classes and theatre/sports

**Tuesdays:** Classes and choir/dance

**Wednesdays:** Classes and surprise activity with instructors around Viña

**Thursdays:** Classes, lunch at the church, community work

**Fridays:** Classes and travel for excursions
Afternoons & Evenings

• Free time in the city with other students
  – groups of 3+
  – Host family members over 25
• Homework
• Spend time with host family
• Dinner with host family
Weekends

• Spend time with host family
• Socialize with other students
• Optional local activities with instructors
• Personal ‘down time’ for reflection, rest, and Internet correspondence (1hr/week)
• Inform instructors of plans
• Students may only go out in the evenings with host parents
Public Transportation

Colectivo

Micro(bus)

Getting around Viña
Colectivos and Micros

- *Colectivos* and *micros* will be your primary source of transportation to school each day
- Colectivos are like taxis with a fixed route
- Micros are essentially city buses
- If you live in Recreo, you’ll probably take the colectivos or walk
- Expect about 15-20 mins. of commute to class
Other considerations

• Colectivos are shared transportation- like a taxi, but with a fixed route. Your ideas of personal space may be challenged.

• Public transportation in Viña is safe and efficient, but always be mindful of your belongings.

• Each week, you will receive a travel allowance to cover the cost of public transportation to and from school.
Safety in Viña

• Earthquakes & Tsunamis
  – Chile is in a zone prone to earthquakes
  – Chilean building codes are strict, especially recently
  – Recreo is built on sturdy, rocky ground
  – Procedure: In the case of a large earthquake we’ll have meeting places; students given instructions on-site
  – Tsunamis are not common, but are not unheard of
  – Chile is part of an international alert system w/ sirens
  – Procedure: seek higher ground
Earthquakes

• What to do
  – Stay indoors and stand under something sturdy
  – If you are not with your host family, contact them ASAP to let them know you are safe
  – If you are not with the instructors, contact us ASAP

• What NOT to do
  – Run outside- you are more likely to be hurt by falling debris
TRAVEL PLANNING AND LOGISTICS
Departure Day: Tuesday, June 9th

- Flight departs ORD (Chicago O’Hare) at 4:55 pm
- **ARRIVE AT THE AIRPORT AT 2:00 pm**
- **MEETING POINT → Delta ticket counter**
  Megan and Jordan will be waiting there
  (Alysa and Julie will meet us in Atlanta)
- Once *everyone* has checked their bags and received their boarding passes, we will go through security as a group

*If you are delayed for any reason (beyond 15 mins) CALL MEGAN OR JORDAN.*
Pre-departure Day Tips

• Pack well in advance (don’t wait until the last minute!) and weigh your suitcase before leaving home. You don’t want to have to repack or pay fees at the counter!

• Be mindful of what you pack in your checked luggage v. your carry-on

• Do NOT lock your bags

• Try to get some rest the night before!

• Eat a good lunch at home and bring snacks. Our next meal will be dinner in the Atlanta airport.

• Bring entertainment for the long plane ride. Cards, books, magazines, etc. (In Spanish! Check FB for reading suggestions!)
Packing: luggage

Luggage restrictions: (check w/ Delta)

1 checked bag → <50 lbs / 62 in (l+w+h)

*Overweight fees → $75 = 51-70 lbs / $200 = 71-100 lbs

*Extra bag → 2nd bag = $75 (<50lbs/62in)

1 carry-on bag → <45 linear inches (l+w+h)

1 carry-on personal item → purse/small bag

• *Recommendations
  – 1 suitcase (checked)
  – 1 backpack (carry-on, everyday bag)
## What to pack

### Checked Bag
- EXTRA MEDICATIONS
- Clothes (be prepared for cool, rainy weather. Think layers!)
- COMFORTABLE SHOES
- Slippers/Warm socks
- Toiletries
- Converters/Adapters
- Extra batteries
- School supplies (including MANUALS)
- Gift for host family

### Carry-on
- PASSPORT
- Megan/Jordan contact info.
- Credit/debit card(s)/cash ($USD/Chilean pesos)
- MEDICATIONS (and Rx)
- Liquids only 3 oz. or less in ziploc bag
- Camera
- Toothpaste/toothbrush
- 1 change of clothes
- Books/magazines/music for the plane
EXCURSIONS

• Day Excursions
  – Valparaíso
  – Santiago
  – Pomaire/Isla Negra

• Weekend Excursion
  – Norte Chico
Valparaíso

- 3rd largest metropolitan area in Chile
- Chile’s ‘Cultural Capital’
- UNESCO World Heritage Site
- One of South America’s most important seaports
- Headquarters of Chilean National Congress

- Referenced in many works of literature (Daughter of Fortune by Isabel Allende)
Santiago

- Capital; largest city in Chile
- Located in the central valley; lined by the Andes mountains

- Home to the executive/judicial branches of government, sports stadiums, multinational corporations, museums, parks, churches, monuments, universities, and more.
Pomaire is a small town famous for its traditional pottery (grega) and giant empanadas!

Isla Negra is a coastal area south of Viña del Mar, and home to the Casa de Isla Negra, one of Pablo Neruda’s former homes in Chile, now a museum.
Norte Chico

La Serena is the capital of the Coquimbo region and the 2nd oldest city in Chile. (pop. ~200,000)

Vicuña (pop. ~25,000) is the birthplace of Gabriela Mistral

**COOL, DRY, DESERT CLIMATE**

**Astronomical tourism:** Chile is home to 42% of the world's astronomy infrastructure of telescope!
DEALING WITH MONEY ABROAD

IUHPFL Orientation, 2015
La plata

- Chilean peso
  - ~616 Chilean pesos = 1 US dollar
    - 1,000 pesos = Una luca
  - NOT MONOPOLY MONEY
    - Keep rate in mind
    - Spend accordingly
  - Good rule of thumb
    - 500 to 1
    - Math is easy and you save $$$
Some common prices in Chilean stores

• Cup of coffee CP$300-700 (Nescafé) ($.50-1.14 US)
  – Starbucks Caramel Flan Latté CP$2.550 ($4.19 US)
• Admission to museums CP$1.000-5.000 ($1.62-8.11 US)
• Bus rides (la micro)
  – CP$320-380 Local ($.57-.68 US)
  – CP$460-650 ‘Directo’ (460 to Valparaíso/Reñaca)
    • ($.80-1.25 US)
• Combo meal at McDonalds ~CP$3.500 ($5.67 US)
• .33L Coke/ water (~20 oz): ~CP$525 (H20)-630 ($.93-1.16US)
  – Sin/con gas
• Pair of jeans ~CP$28.500-40.000 ($46.22-64.87 US)
Money tips

• ATMs in Chile
  – Banks & stores have ATMs
  – ATM cabins can be a good hangout for thieves at night: Use with caution
  – *Let your bank know where you’ll be!*
    • Can you use an ATM? Fees?
  – Select ‘extranjeros’ for international withdrawals
  – Fees for ATM use ($3.000-4.000 CP ~ $4.87-6.49 USD)
  – Best to take a larger amount less frequently
Money tips

• Credit cards
  – El rut? You don’t have one—use passport (copy)
  – Some places charge fees to foreigners
• Don’t take out too much!
  – Easy to lose
  – Big bills tough to change in some places and many won’t accept cards
  – Have SOME cash on you
  – Have your bank’s/credit card company’s phone number
Money tips

• Changing money
  – Can get it before through your bank
    • Give it time; Not as common as Mexican pesos and Euros
  – Casa de cambio: But they will charge you!
  – Airports have places, but we’ll be short on time!
    • You may have to be 18
  – Traveler’s cheques may not be the best (poor exchange rates, etc.)
  – ATM fees probably less than Changing Houses

• Keep money in several places
  – Backpack, pocket, shoe, home
Money tips

• Don’t spend it all!
  – Parents, make sure students have some money
  – WE WON’T LEND YOU MONEY

• Parents and students
  – Talk about this before
  – BUDGET
Living with a Viña Family

• 3 expectations of your own son/daughter in your home

• 3 expectations of a foreign student you would host in your home
Tips for Successful Host Family Relationships

• Be aware of family habits & routines
• Be aware of your use of home resources
  – Water, electricity, internet, phone
• Be open & be willing to share your experience
• Ask, ask, ask
• Talk, talk, talk
• Be thoughtful, present, & express gratitude
• Communicate your needs
Honor Code

- Our expectations of students
- U.S. parents’ expectations of students
- Students’ expectations of themselves and each other
Study abroad can change you...

• ¡PREPÁRENSE YA!