

# ESSENTIAL INFORMATION CHILE

## PASSPORT AND VISA INFORMATION

Your passport needs to be valid for **at least six (6) months** after your journey ends, and should have a minimum of one (1) blank visa page for entry and exit stamps.

Holders of U.S. and Canadian passports are not required to obtain a tourist visa for entry into Chile for stays of up to 90 days.

### Documentation for Guests Travelling to Easter Island

In order to visit Easter Island, all guests must carry a passport and a mandatory **Rapa Nui Entry Form** (IRN). As a courtesy, A&K Chile will provide you with a completed form (one per guest) prior to your checking in for your flight to Easter Island. Please keep this form with your passport as you need to present it at the airline ticket counter before being permitted to board your flight to Easter Island.

Our partner VisaCentral offers easy, efficient U.S. passport and visa processing. Visit them online at [visacentral.com/abercrombiekent](https://visacentral.com/abercrombiekent) or call 844 823 1224 and reference A&K's account number 73001. Service fees apply.

Citizens of other countries should contact the appropriate consular office for entry requirements pertaining to their journey.

## LOCAL HEALTH & SAFETY PROTOCOLS

If your journey includes travel to the Atacama Desert or the High Andes regions of Chile, you may experience altitude sickness. Please consult your healthcare provider for suggestions on prevention and treatment.

## CASH & CREDIT CARDS

Although the U.S. dollar is accepted as payment at some tourist shops, most restaurants and taxi drivers require payment in pesos. Major credit cards are widely accepted in urban areas although some merchants may add a surcharge. ATM access is common and the easiest way to obtain cash is by using the ATM's, which operate under the "Redbank" sign.

On Easter Island, some merchants accept major credit cards, but, as it can take months for proprietors to recover the money, it is the least welcome form of payment (and some will even offer a cash discount over credit card purchases). Often, vendors require a very high minimum charge or charge an additional service fee for using a credit card and many smaller vendors do not accept credit cards at all. When buying souvenirs it is best to use cash. There are two ATMs in the Chilean banks in Hanga Roa where you can withdraw Chilean pesos (access may be limited). It is best to exchange a moderate amount of local currency on the mainland prior to your arrival on the island.

## PACKING LIST & BAGGAGE RESTRICTIONS

On flights within Chile in Economy Class, each traveller is limited to one (1) checked bag weighing 50 pounds (23 kilograms), with linear dimensions (height+width+depth) not to exceed 62 inches (158 centimeters). In addition you may bring one (1) personal item (such as a purse or laptop) and one (1) carry-on weighing up to 17 pounds (8 kilograms), maximum dimensions not to exceed 21 inches (55 centimeters) x 13 inches (35 centimeters) x 9 inches (25 centimeters) (height, depth and width), including the pockets, wheels and handle.

Please use the provided A&K luggage tags, even if your bags already have ID tags. This makes it easier for A&K staff to find and manage your luggage for you.

## Clothing

Choose versatile, casual clothing that can be layered if the weather (or level of air-conditioning) requires. Temperatures will change as altitudes and time of day change. Smart casual attire is appropriate for evenings. Formal clothing is not necessary.

If visiting mountainous regions or exploring Patagonia, pack a lightweight parka or windproof jacket (preferably water resistant) and windproof slacks, made of fabric such as Gor-Tex®. Functional, warm, quick-dry fabrics are recommended. Winds can be fierce; pack earmuffs (or a good hat), a scarf and gloves.

- Casual slacks
- Walking shorts
- Polo shirts, casual short-sleeve shirts or blouses
- Long sleeve shirts or blouses
- Comfortable walking shoes with low or no heels
- Lightweight raincoat or windproof jacket
- Waterproof, lightweight, well-broken in hiking boots for trekking activities in Patagonia, Chilean Lake District, and desert regions if applicable; blister patches
- Brimmed hat for sun protection
- Socks
- Sweater or fleece jacket
- Personal garments
- Sleepwear
- Swimwear/cover-up

## Other Recommended Items

- Face masks and hand sanitizer
- Sun block and lip balm
- Simple first-aid kit
- Sunglasses
- Prescriptions and medications (in their original bottles and/or packaging)
- Mosquito repellent
- Extra eyeglasses/contact lenses
- Smartphone
- Charging cables for electronics
- Global travel adapter

## Optional Items

- Small LED flashlight
- Foldable walking stick
- Lightweight binoculars
- Small waterproof daypack

Laundry service is available at most hotels and dry cleaning is available in larger cities. Check costs and return times before using these services.

## TIPPING GUIDELINES

While decisions regarding tipping rest entirely with you, we suggest the following gratuities (noted in U.S. dollars) depending on the type of journey:

	<b>All Small Group Journeys and Pre/Post Tour Group Extensions</b>	<b>Tailor Made Journeys</b>
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Resident Tour Director or Group Extension Guide	\$15 per person, per day	Not applicable
Local Guides	Included	\$15 per person, per day (full day)
Drivers	Included	\$10 per person, per day (full day)
Airport Transfer Drivers	Included	\$5 per person, per transfer
Hotel Porters	Included	\$2 per bag
Cruise vessels	Included	\$10-\$15 per person, per day – Gratuities accepted on board the boat and shared among the staff.
Lodges in Patagonia	Included	\$10 per person, per day – Gratuities accepted at each property and shared among the staff.
Housekeepers	Included	\$2 per person, per night
Included Meals	Included	Included
Restaurants or Room Service on Own	10-15% unless already added	10-15% unless already added

For extra nights or Tailor Made services added to a Small Group Journey, please follow the Tailor Made Journeys guidelines for these days only.