



# Travel Newsletter

Institute  
for Study  
Abroad  
BUTLER UNIVERSITY

## CHILE

Semester 1 2012

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### Important Reminders

#### Documents

Before you get on a plane, make sure you have:

- Your **passport**
- Your **cédula consular/visa**

Remember, you will not be allowed to board your flight and/or clear immigration in Santiago without your passport. If you haven't received your visa, please contact your program advisor.

#### Payments

Make sure you have paid your **program fee** and/or taken care of your financial aid. We can't place you in housing if your program fee isn't paid.

#### Travel notification form

Send us your **travel notification form** if you haven't already done so. We need to know when to expect you in case you don't arrive on time.

### Check In and Boarding Passes

#### Allow plenty of time

Whether you take the group flight or travel independently, you should plan to arrive at the airport three hours before your international flight. This will allow you enough time to check in, get a boarding pass, clear security and make it to your gate.

#### Check in!

You must check in for your flight. Otherwise, the airline can assign your seat to someone else.

#### Checking your baggage

At your domestic airport, find out if your domestic airline has an agreement with your international carrier to check baggage. If so, your domestic airline may be able to check your bags all the way through to Santiago, and you will also receive your international flight boarding pass at your domestic airport.

If your bags can't be checked through to your final destination, you'll have to do the following once you arrive at your international departure airport: Claim your luggage, check in and re-check your luggage with your international airline, and go through security again to re-enter the gate area.

Get to the gate in plenty of time so you don't miss your flight!

## Travel Problems?

If you are delayed and might miss a flight, you'll need to make arrangements to get on the next available flight:

### Students on the group flight

Contact Advantage Travel at **800-788-1980** and let them know about your flight delay or missed connection. Advantage can help get you on a new flight if necessary. Leave a message if no one picks up; Advantage checks messages regularly and will return your call.

### Students traveling independently

Contact your airline (not travel agent!) to make alternate flight plans.

### All students

Call IFSA-Butler at **800-858-0229** to let us know about your new travel plans. We will then inform our Chile staff of any delays on your behalf. We monitor messages on flight days, including evenings and weekends, so leave a detailed message if you do not speak with someone directly.

Leave your name, airline, new flight numbers, departure and arrival times, and the name, phone number and room number of your hotel if necessary.

**Be sure to call IFSA-Butler on our general line at 800-858-0229 to ensure that the correct person gets the message.** Please do not leave a message about travel problems on your program advisor's voicemail or email.

## Baggage Allowances

Check with your domestic and international airlines for baggage allowances. If you try to check luggage that exceeds their limits, you may have to repack or pay an excess baggage fee. Do not overpack!

We do not recommend bringing sporting equipment, such as skis. If you feel you must bring your own, call both your international and domestic carrier for information about packing and excess baggage fees.

Do not lock your luggage. The U.S. Transportation Security Administration (TSA) has asked travelers to keep suitcases unlocked so they can be easily searched. Putting locks on your luggage can result in damaged, lost or delayed bags.

## Security Check

You will have to undergo numerous security checks. Do not joke about having weapons or explosives. Be patient and cooperative with all airport personnel.

You may be required to turn on electronic equipment or remove batteries from electronics. Be sure your electronics are fully charged, and include the power cord or battery in your carry-on.

## Your Carry-On Bag

Be sure to pack:

- Passport (and at least one copy of it)\*
- *Cédula consular*/visa\*
- Plane tickets or e-ticket confirmations\*
- Cash, ATM card, credit cards\*
- This newsletter
- Insurance coverage details\*
- List of contact names, phone and fax numbers, and email for:
  - Parents and relatives
  - Study abroad advisor at your home college
- Camera
- Medications and prescriptions\*
- Spare glasses/contacts
- Toiletries (liquids, gels and/or aerosols must be 3.3 ounces or less and fit comfortably in one clear, re-sealable quart-sized plastic bag)
- Something to read/listen to
- Water (purchased after clearing security)
- Change of clothes in case your luggage is lost

*\* Keep these items and other valuables secure and with you at all times.*

## Host Family Packing

You might want to pack a small gift for your host family. Past students have found that chocolates, professional sports goods, calendars and products from their home regions make good gifts.

## Travel Tips

Below are some tips for staying comfortable during your long flight and once you land:

- Wear loose, layered, comfortable clothes.
- Try to sleep as much as possible on the plane.
- Drink as much water as possible on the plane.
- Avoid drinking alcohol, which will dehydrate you.
- Don't nap when you arrive in Chile! Your body needs to get used to the different time zone. Go out in the sunshine and get as much fresh air as possible.

## Customs Forms

As your plane descends into Chile, you will receive two forms: a tourist card and a joint customs agricultural and livestock service (SAG) form. Fill out both.

Present the tourist card to immigration officials along with your passport and both copies of your *cédula consular*. The immigration official will keep both copies. You will give the SAG form to inspectors as you go through customs. As you are not likely to be carrying anything that needs to be declared (check the signs by the luggage carousel just to be sure), head for the "nothing to declare" line in the customs area.

If you are carrying something that needs to be declared (food, nuts, live plants, etc.), go to the appropriate line. This includes any fruits and vegetables in your bags. If you have any doubt about whether to declare an item, declare it. Declaring something doesn't necessarily mean that SAG officials will take it away, but if it's not declared, you may face high fines. Remove the price tags and the wrappings on new items before you pack them to avoid paying taxes.

## Clearing Immigration

As you come down the escalator, an airport official may ask if this is your first time in Chile. If you reply "yes," he/she will direct you to a line to pay a US\$140 reciprocity fee. **You paid this fee when you applied for your student visa and do not need to pay it again.** If you have your student visa, you can continue directly to the immigration line. Here, you will present your **passport, cédula consular** and **tourist card**. The officials will confirm the purpose of your visit. Tell them you are a student on a study abroad program.

If you don't have your student visa, you will need to pay the \$140 reciprocity fee.

If the official asks for your Chilean address, Santiago students should give the address of our office:

IFSA-Butler Chile  
Avda. Portugal 24  
Santiago  
Telephone: 09-7967-4033

Students going on the Chilean Universities Program in Valparaíso should give the following address:

IFSA-Butler Valparaíso  
Av. Brasil 2950 (PIIE)  
Valparaíso  
Telephone: 09-9236-7986

## Lost Luggage

If your luggage doesn't come out of the carousel, see the airport officials to file a lost luggage claim **before you leave the customs area**. You can give airline officials the address of your orientation hotel (listed under "Arrival Information"). Tell the airport official to call 09-9236-7986 (for Valparaíso students) or 09-7967-4033 (for Santiago students) prior to sending the luggage to either location. If you lose your luggage, let our Chile staff know.

## Arrival Information

### Santiago students

**IFSA-Butler Chile staff will meet students who arrive at the Santiago airport by 9 a.m. on February 22.** From the airport, everyone will travel together to the orientation hotel.

If you arrive in Chile before February 22, you must make your own way to the orientation site. All students must arrive at the orientation site no later than **12 p.m.** on February 22. If you plan on meeting the group at the orientation venue, you must tell your IFSA-Butler program advisor of your plans to do so.

If you need to take a cab to the orientation venue, you can expect to pay no more than 18,000 pesos (approximately \$36). We suggest taking only official airport taxis, such as TransVip or Taxi Oficial, and pay at the booth. Don't try to negotiate a price with the driver.

Hotel Bonaparte  
Mar del Plata 2171  
Providencia  
Phone: 796-6900  
[www.hotelbonaparte.cl](http://www.hotelbonaparte.cl)

## Valparaíso students

Students on the group flight and independent travelers who arrive at the airport by **9:30 a.m.** on **February 22** will be met by IFSA-Butler staff and will travel as a group to the orientation venue in Olmué.

Anyone who arrives before the program start date and stays in Santiago should return to the airport in Santiago no later than **9:30 a.m.** on February 22 to meet up with the group. If you arrive before the program start date and are staying in the Valparaíso area, it is more affordable to make your way to the orientation venue in Olmué rather than return to Santiago.

Students who plan to meet with the group in Olmué should arrive no later than **12:30 p.m.** on February 22. All students who plan on meeting the group in Olmué for the start of orientation must inform their IFSA-Butler program advisor ahead of time of their plans to do so.

If you take a cab to the orientation venue, the fare will run between 60,000 and 70,000 Chilean pesos (US\$130-\$150) from the airport in Santiago. We suggest you only take official airport taxis, such as Trans-Vip or Taxi Oficial, and pay at the booth. Don't try to negotiate a price directly with the driver.

Hostería El Copihue  
Diego Portales 2203  
Olmué  
Phone: (56-33) 441-544  
[www.copihue.cl](http://www.copihue.cl)

## If You Arrive Early

**IFSA-Butler cannot accommodate early arrivals.** If you arrive before the program start date, you'll need to make hotel or hostel arrangements. If staying in Santiago, past students have found the following hostels comfortable and affordable:

Hostel Bellavista, [www.bellavistahostel.com](http://www.bellavistahostel.com)  
Dardignac 0184  
Providencia

Hostal Providencia, [www.hostalprovidencia.com](http://www.hostalprovidencia.com)  
Vicuña Mackenna 92 A  
Providencia

La Chimba Hostel  
Ernesto Pinto Lagarrigue 262  
Barrio Bellavista

Neither IFSA-Butler nor your host family has luggage storage facilities. You can store your luggage at certain train or bus stations for a small fee.

## Currency

You can exchange currency at the airport. If you arrive late at night or on a weekend, you should definitely exchange your currency at the airport. Banks give a better rate of exchange, but they are not open on weekends, holidays or after 2 p.m. on weekdays. Some post offices have currency exchange windows. They generally give good exchange rates and have few fees.

## Updated Calendar

We've included an updated Chile program calendar in this mailing. Please check to see if any dates have changed. Remember all exam dates are provisional; you should verify exam dates after arriving at your host university before confirming your plane ticket home.

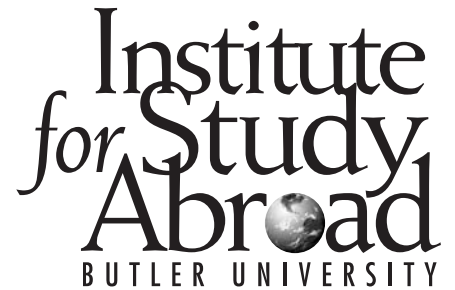


**Questions? Call us at 800-858-0229 or  
visit us online at [www.ifsa-butler.org](http://www.ifsa-butler.org).**



# Program Calendar

## Chile Semester 1 2012



IFSA-Butler arranges optional transatlantic group flights for most programs. Group flights depend on the availability of commercial flights and the number of students attending each university program.

	<b>Chilean Universities Program, Santiago</b>	<b>Chilean Universities Program, Valparaíso</b>
Group Flight Departs	February 21	February 21
Chile Arrival*	February 22	February 22
Program Starts	February 22	February 22
IFSA-Butler Orientation	February 22-25	February 22-25
Move into Housing	February 25	February 25
University Orientation**	February 28-March 2	February 28-March 2
Classes Begin	March 5	March 5
Classes End	June 30	June 30
Last Day of Exams	July 14	July 14
Last Day of Paid Housing	July 15	July 15
Program Ends	July 15	July 15

\* Independent travelers must plan to arrive in Chile no later than the group flight.

\*\* University orientations are administered primarily or in part by IFSA-Butler staff in Chile.

**These dates are correct as of November 7, 2011, but must be regarded as provisional, given the mutability of Chilean university calendars.**

Upon arrival at the host institution, students should check the program end dates for changes before confirming return travel plans. End dates vary from department to department, and students must complete all course obligations prior to departure. In addition, students should not make plans to travel on the final day of exams since there may be exams **on** that day.

Program housing is available only until the date listed as "Last Day of Paid Housing" on the calendar.

**Exams must be taken where and when scheduled.** Under no circumstances may students request that an exam time be changed. In Chile, exams are taken under formal examination conditions, and changes cannot be made for individuals. Students will not receive extra time to complete exams.