

JANUARY 1 – 17, 2025

Chile: Southern Stars, January 2025 Itinerary and Important Announcements

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Meals, meal stipend, tipping

- Most or all breakfasts and group meals in Chile are covered and paid for. However, there are a number of lunches and dinners that you will pay for out of your meal stipend. This stipend *includes* tip money. You must have a protein bar or similar snack with you at all times.
- In Chile, 98% of restaurants, bars, pubs and coffee shops will add 10% to your bill total, which is the expected tip if service was good. If your waiter was excellent, maybe consider something extra. In that case ask to add something extra to your bill, or leave it in cash. Leave 5% as a statement if you think service should improve. Leaving anything lower is bordering on insulting.

Water and toilets

- Do not use tap water for anything in San Pedro de Atacama or Chiu Chiu. Arsenic levels are really high in the north. You can fill water bottles with potable water at most hotels.
- Do not flush toilet paper. Throw it in the trash bin beside your toilet.

Vegetarian/Vegan

- Remember, if you are vegetarian, you need to say that you are “*vegetariano/a*” and “*no como carne ni pescado ni pollo.*” If you are a vegan, “*Soy vegano/vegana.*” and “*No como carne, pescado, pollo ni ningún producto animal.*” If you are allergic to something, “*Tengo una alergia (Ab-LAIR-bee-a) a _____.*” For example: *las nueces de árbol* (nuts), *cacahuete/mani* (peanut), *mariscos* (seafood), *huevos* (eggs). If you’d like to ask about whether a product has an allergen, you can ask, “*¿Contiene (kan-tee-en-neigh) + food name?*” For example, “*¿Contiene nueces de árbol, maní, o aceite de nueces de árbol o aceite de mani?*”

Be prepared and avoid pickpockets

A word of advice from Alli Engle, a Juniata alumna: Chile has very low rates of violent crime but petty theft is not uncommon, especially in tourist areas. Never keep anything in your back pockets and use money belts or cross body purses with zippers when possible. Don't hang your bags on your chairs while out at restaurants, instead put them on your lap or on the floor with your leg between the straps. Don't leave cell phones on top of tables at restaurants. Finally and most importantly, don't take passports out of the hotel! If someone does get robbed, they'll need to file a complaint with the police for insurance purposes.

Date	Starting point & travel	Details of this day/Please read this carefully:
Wednesday, January 1	Depart from Huntingdon at 1 p.m.	<p>Meet at 1:45 at the van and bus parking lot to the north of Ellis Hall with everything you need for the trip, ready to board the bus to JFK airport.</p> <p><u>What to have:</u> passport, flight essentials in your accessible bag (earphones, charger, pillow, jacket)</p> <p>SCE - State College: depart 4:54 PM, AA6065 - Operated by Air Wisconsin as American Eagle PHL - Philadelphia, depart 6:40 PM AA1293 MIA - Miami, depart 10:45 PM, AA 957 (dinner and breakfast served) SCL - Santiago, arrive 9:05 AM.</p> <p>Dinner and breakfast will be served on the flight.</p>
Thursday, January 2	<p>Arrive in Santiago. Travel to Calama and then to San Pedro de Atacama.</p> <p>Hostal Sonchek: Calle Gustavo le Paige 198, San Pedro de Atacama</p> <p>+56 9 42073714</p>	<p>Go through customs. Airport lunch with stipend. Second Flight: Santiago to Calama Depart 12:20 pm - Arrive 2:20</p> <p>Shopping center in Calama: Exchange or take out money, weigh food, buy snacks, shampoo, snacks & beverages needed for the next few days, including tomorrow's brown bag breakfast (stipend) and your Jan 5 lunch.</p> <p>Arrive Hotel Sonchek (7ish) Dinner in San Pedro (stipend)</p> <p>Rooms: Triple (queen and twin), quadruple A (twin, twin, queen); quadruple B (4 bunks); Double A (queen), + 3 faculty rooms</p>
Friday, January 3	<p>San Pedro de Atacama</p> <p>Hostal Sonchek</p>	<p>8:00 a.m.: Be ready to depart the hotel with your day bag. Grab breakfast on your own or bring snack. Wear long pants and closed-toe shoes for the visit to ALMA!</p> <p><u>What to pack:</u> sunscreen, hat, water, coursepack, pen or pencil, a packable snack, a student ID for salt flats entrance, some personal spending money. There may be artisans selling alpaca items in Tocado.</p> <p>Travel south to Lake Chaxa and salt flats. 2 hour stop. South in Tocado village for a rustic programmed lunch and visit to local church. Visit to ALMA Observatory.</p> <p>Return to San Pedro/hotel around 5 p.m. Dinner and evening on your own. (Stipend)</p> <p><i>Microexpertise: Flamingos and the salt flats (Miriam), Mining in the salt flats (Kaitlynn), ALMA (Sean)</i></p>
Saturday, January 4	<p>San Pedro de Atacama</p> <p>Hostal Sonchek</p>	<p>7:00 a.m.: Be ready to depart the hotel with your day bag. Bakery breakfast will be provided.</p> <p><u>What to pack:</u> sunscreen, hat, water, coursepack, pen or pencil, a packable snack, swim suit, towel (in case we cannot make a stop back at the hotel after lunch)</p> <p>Morning travel to Rainbow Valley: petroglyphs, natural rock formations Lunch (sandwich) provided. Likely - brief return to hotel. Afternoon travel to Termas de Puritama: thermal pools, swimming, relaxing Evening return to San Pedro. Dinner and evening on your own. (Stipend)</p> <p><i>Microexpertise: The role of nitrate mining in the Atacama border dispute (Frank); Rainbow Valley (Alexander)</i></p>

<p>Sunday, January 5</p>	<p>San Pedro de Atacama to Chiu Chiu</p> <p>Sol del Desierto Cruce Ruta 21 CH & B-165, Chiu Chiu +56 9 9546 2023</p>	<p>Breakfast provided. Pack your brown bag lunch (stipend). Have your luggage packed to load onto the bus by 8:30 a.m.</p> <p>Depart 8:45 a.m. for Valley of the Moon: Hiking, natural rock formations, history Eat your packed brown bag lunch on the bus. Bus to Chiu Chiu, Pukara Lasan and petroglyphs. Dinner provided, evening free.</p> <p><i>Microexpertise: Valle de la Luna (Joleyna); Modern copper mining (Matt)</i></p> <p>Room break down: 6 doubles (two beds each) and 1 single (+ 3 faculty rooms)</p>
<p>Monday, January 6</p>		<p>Breakfast at 7 a.m. in hotel</p> <p><u>What to pack:</u> sunscreen, hat, water, coursepack, pen or pencil, a packable snack, copy of passport, some personal spending money, sunglasses.</p> <p>8 a.m. departure for Caspana indigenous Village. Hike. High altitude farming. Lunch provided. Free time in Chiu Chiu with dinner (stipend)</p> <p><i>Microexpertise: Guanacos and vicuas (Prev), Chilean volcanoes (Xandra)</i></p> <p>Meet at hotel at 9 p.m. for an observatory talk and observation; late night stargazing</p>
<p>Tuesday, January 7</p>		<p>Breakfast at hotel at 8 a.m.</p> <p>Adobe workshop 9 a.m.–1 p.m.. Wear clothing that you can get dirty. → Must be out of rooms at start of workshop. One room will be available for showers Eat a large lunch/dinner at Silvia’s (stipend) plus buy a snack for overnight bus ride. (stipend) 1:45 p.m. Have bags packed and ready to go. Depart 3:45 p.m. from Chiu Chiu for Calama bus terminal: Overnight bus from Calama to La Serena</p> <p><i>Microexpertise: Water resources (Frank); Atacama desert clothing dump (Callan); Chilean Families (Joleyna)</i></p> <p>About the bus: When you hand your luggage over they put a numbered sticker on it and give you the tag (like a cloakroom ticket. Don’t lose it – you’ll need it to reclaim your luggage when you reach your destination. All have air conditioning, but be prepared – sometimes they’re quite cold. Some have USB sockets to charge electronics and others even have plugs. They have a toilet downstairs and some - likely ours - give you a breakfast bag in the morning containing a snack and a carton of juice.</p>
<p>Wednesday, January 8</p>	<p>La Serena</p> <p>Host families.</p> <p>Faculty are staying at: Cuatro Esquinas 98, Edificio Clodoveo, Apt. #212, La Serena, Chile</p>	<p>Overnight bus arrives in La Serena around 7 am.</p> <p>Breakfast in Jumbo supermarket (stipend). Please buy any extra snacks you might need to eat while staying with host families (gf bread)</p> <p>Drop laundry off with Eduardo. Have it ready in a bag the night before.</p> <p>This is a free day. You may choose to spend it with your host family if they are available. Sites in La Serena include the beach, the Mistral house, the jardn botnico, restaurants, the lighthouse, and more. Meals are with your host family. (a lunch stipend is provided)</p> <p>Room break down for host families:: (Joleyna /Prev/ Kaitlynn/ Lydia/- two beds, vegetarians, Karina); (Alisyn/Dominique -Margot, unknown number of beds); (Matt/Sean/Frank/Callan- -Diana; 4 individual beds) (Miriam / Xandra /Alexander - two beds, Eliana)</p>

Thursday, January 9	La Serena	<p>6:50 a.m - Bus pick up. Your luggage stays at the host family.</p> <p><u>What to pack:</u> a breakfast snack (unless you eat very early with your host family), water, sunscreen, bathing suit, towel, sunglasses, a jacket, and shoes for a sandy hike. Please have appropriate cash amount to pay for your laundry dropped off yesterday.</p> <p>Morning at Humboldt Penguin Reserve, boat tour and visit to island Late program lunch at a restaurant. Around 4:30 p.m. bus returns to La Serena. Dinner with host family.</p> <p><i>Microexpertise: whales (Lydia); birds (Prev); otter, sea lion, elephant seal (Callan)</i></p>
Friday, January 10	La Serena	<p>8:30 a.m. - Bus pick up. Your luggage stays at the host family.</p> <p><u>What to pack:</u> water, sunscreen, camera, snack</p> <p>Spend day at Parque Fray Jorge. Lunch provided. Return to host family homes for a late dinner.</p> <p><i>Microexpertise: Chilean rainforest Fray Jorge (Xandra); Solar (if not done in prior, Dominique)</i></p>
Saturday, January 11	La Serena to Pisco Elqui Hotel y Restaurant El Tesoro de Elqui Arturo Prat s/n, Pisco Elqui +56979790833	<p>Breakfast with host family. 7:30 a.m. - Be ready to board the bus with luggage packed.</p> <p><u>What to pack:</u> closed-toe shoes, sunscreen, water, hat, and a snack (very important because we won't have lunch/dinner until quite late).</p> <p>Tour of Cerro Tololo Interamerican Observatory; have your noirlab entry pass ready. Wear close-toed shoes. Stop in Montegrande, Mistral school and memorial Late program lunch in Pisco Elqui. Dinner (stipend) Pool and stars.</p> <p><i>Microexpertise: Cerro Tololo (Alisyn); Gemini (Dominique); design of colonial churches (A)</i></p> <p>Room breakdown: 3, 5, 3 3 (and two faculty rooms) Olivo (double and single); Azucena (1 double and 3 single beds); Flor de Loto (1 double and 1 single bed); Dalia (1 double and 1 single bed); Suspiro & Girasol (faculty)</p>
Sunday, January 12	Pisco Elqui Hotel El Tesoro	<p>Free day in Pisco Elquí.</p> <p>Breakfast at hotel in Pisco Elquí Lunch and dinner with stipend Options: hiking, horseback riding, visit to Doña Josefa pisquería, shopping Evening UFO walk departure at approx. 9 pm</p>
Monday, January 13	Pisco Elqui to Vicuña Hotel Michel Gabriela Mistral 573, Vicuña +56 9 9549 6675	<p>Breakfast at hotel 10:30 a.m. Bus to Vicuña. Have bags packed and ready to depart by 10:15 am.</p> <p>Arrival at Vicuña hotel in early afternoon. Explore the markets in Vicuña - scavenger hunt group activity Lunch/Dinner with stipend.</p> <p>Room breakdown for Vicuña: 1, 2, 2, 3 3, 3 (+two faculty singles)</p> <p><i>Microexpertise: Pisco origins, how it is made (Alexander)</i></p>

<p>Tuesday, January 14</p>	<p>Vicuña Hotel Michel</p>	<p>Breakfast at hotel. 9 a.m. departure for organic farm tour; papayas</p> <p><u>What to pack:</u> water bottle, hat, sunscreen, comfortable shoes, snack Afternoon: Gabriela Mistral Museum, free time in Vicuña Lunch/Dinner with stipend.</p> <p><i>Microexpertise: Astrotourism and the economy (Sean); Astrophotgraphy (Alisyn)</i></p>
<p>Wednesday, January 15</p>	<p>Vicuña to Viña del Mar Marina Dunas condos Las Tortolas 230, Reñaca, 2542570 Viña del Mar, Chile</p>	<p>5:30 am. departure to bus terminal.</p> <p><u>What to pack:</u> bus ride needs; snack</p> <p>Six hour ride to Viña del Mar; Evening free in Viña del Mar. Lunch/Dinner with stipend.</p> <p><i>Microexpertise: immigration to Chile (Kaitlynn) and carabineros (Matt)</i></p> <p>Room breakdown (apartments): Four rooms, 1 queen and two singles per room (+ faculty condo)</p>
<p>Thursday, January 16</p>		<p>Breakfast on your own at condo (stipend - buy evening before); 9:00 am - depart with bags that go in storage van.</p> <p>Tour of Viña del Mar and Valparaíso; visit La Sebastiana (Pablo Neruda house) Lunch (stipend)</p> <p><i>Microexpertise: La Sebastiana (Lydia); street art and murals (Miriam)</i></p> <p>Depart for Santiago airport after a quick <i>Return Flight</i> SCL - Santiago, depart January 16 10:30 PM AA 912</p>
<p>Friday, January 17th</p>		<p>Arrival in the US MIA- Miami, arrive January 17 8:30 AM PHL - Philadelphia, depart 8:30 am, arrive 11:22 am AA 2574 SCE - State College, depart 3:16 pm, arrive 4:20 PM AA 5773 Van to Juniata College, arrival ~6 pm</p>