

Overseas Travel

Risk Assessment: Student Mobility_Chile

The purpose of this Risk Assessment is to ensure that members of the University community are unlikely to be exposed to unacceptable risks which could affect their health, safety or security when travelling abroad on behalf of the University.

This form should be completed by the individual wishing to travel prior to making any firm arrangements to travel, and must be completed in discussion with the relevant line manager or supervisor, allowing sufficient time in advance of travelling for any issues to be addressed.

Before completing this form you should ensure that you (and your manager/supervisor) are familiar with the contents of the Health and Safety and Insurance webpages on travelling abroad.

When completed and approved this risk assessment and its associated itinerary should be carried by the traveller(s) and a copy retained by the Department. Queries on the completion of this assessment should be directed to HealthSafetyHelpdesk@warwick.ac.uk.

Please consider when completing this form how the country you intend to visit is managing the Covid-19 outbreak. In particular, it may be helpful to consider access to local medical facilities, how local transport is being managed and any local guidelines and social behaviours you may need to adopt

Department:	Student Mobility, Student Opportunity
Location(s) to be visited:	CHILE
Purpose of journey:	Student Mobility
Name and role of traveller(s):	List held with Student Mobility, and on SITS
Name of line manager or supervisor:	Maria Fox (Head of Student Mobility)
Dates of proposed travel:	Academic Year 2026 – 2027
Information taken from:	https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/chile
Living In Country Guidance	https://www.gov.uk/world/living-in-chile

[Sign-up for FCDO travel advice email alerts](#) and follow FCDO travel advice on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)

Hints and Tips from previous Student Mobility participants	
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Hazard/Consideration	Risk (High / Medium / Low)	Mitigating Actions (please add to or amend as appropriate)	Comments / Actions
Coronavirus			Countries may restrict travel or bring in rules at short notice. Check with your travel company or airline for changes. If you test positive for COVID-19 while in Chile, you may need to stay where you are until you test negative. You may also need to seek treatment there. Visit TravelHealthPro (from the UK's National Travel Health Network and Centre) for general COVID-19 advice for travellers. Follow the advice of the Chilean government (in Spanish) and your local authority. You should also read the Chile travel advice. If you would like to be aware of any covid-19 restrictions, please check the Chilean government website dedicated to this subject. Further information If you need urgent consular assistance, you can contact the British Embassy on +56223704100, pressing one for English and then follow the instructions.
Money			The currency in CHILE is the Chilean Peso CAD/CA\$ ATMs are widely available.

			Credit cards are accepted in most large shops and hotels. Dollar travellers' cheques are more widely accepted than travellers' cheques in other currencies. It is possible to transfer money from the UK to Chile through Western Union.
Visa Applications			Visa requirements You must ensure you have the correct visa. If you are studying, you will be provided with details directly from our partner university. If you intend to work, you must have the correct visa to enable you to work in the country otherwise you may be denied entry to the country. It is your responsibility to arrange the correct visa. This information is for people travelling on a full 'British citizen' passport from the UK. It is based on the UK government's understanding of Chile's current rules for the most common types of travel. The authorities in Chile set and enforce entry rules. If you're not sure how these requirements apply to you, contact the Chilean Embassy in the UK. Passport validity requirements Your passport should have an 'expiry date' after the day you plan to leave Chile. Check with your travel provider that your passport and other travel documents meet requirements. Renew your passport if you need to. You will be denied entry if you do not have a valid travel document or try to use a passport that has been reported lost or stolen. Dual nationals When returning to the UK, British citizens must carry a valid British passport or certificate of entitlement. See Dual citizenship. British-Chilean dual nationals British-Chilean dual nationals must enter and leave Chile using their Chilean passport. Chilean entry and exit requirements for dual nationals may change without notice. For further information check with the Chilean Embassy in the UK.

Visa requirements

You can visit Chile for up to 90 days without a visa.

The Chilean immigration authorities will give you a tourist card ('tarjeta de turismo'), an A5-sized white form. Keep it safe and give it to immigration when you leave the country. If you lose it, Chilean police investigations (PDI) allows you to [request a copy online](#) (choose 'Duplicado de tarjeta de turismo'). You can also go to the nearest PDI office.

To stay longer (to work or study, for business travel or for other reasons), you must [meet the Chilean Government's entry requirements](#).

Travelling with children

Chile requires children travelling with only one parent, with a guardian or alone, to have permission from the non-travelling parent or parents. Parents travelling with children for tourism have faced difficulty leaving Chile at the end of their visit when only one parent is present. You must have

- a written notarised authorisation from the non-travelling parent(s)
- an original birth certificate

If you're travelling with children aged 17 and under, check the website of the [Chilean Ministry of Foreign Affairs](#) (website in Spanish) for what documents you need to show.

Travelling with dual national children

Before a dual national child aged 17 or under leaves Chile, you must get authorisation to travel from a Chilean notary ('notaría') if the child is travelling:

- alone
- with only one parent or guardian
- with friends or relatives

If a child was born in Chile, they must have a Chilean passport to leave the country.

Travelling to Rapa Nui (Easter Island)

To [enter Rapa Nui \(Easter Island\)](#) you must:

- complete a [Rapa Nui entry form](#)
- show a return ticket
- show a reservation registered with [SERNATUR, the national tourism service](#) (select region 'Valparaiso' and comuna 'Rapa Nui' to refine your search for accommodation) or an invitation letter from the provincial delegation

			Vaccine requirements For details about medical entry requirements and recommended vaccinations, see TravelHealthPro's Chile guide. Customs rules There are strict rules about goods you can take into or out of Chile. You must declare anything that may be prohibited or subject to tax or duty.
Local knowledge, understanding of customs and conditions		• Experience of travel to, or working in, the region before • Obtain guidance and information from the host organisation • Research via relevant web-sites • Consider dress, behaviours and sensitivities • Local laws, fees or levies.	Local laws and customs Consumption and possession of drugs is illegal and can lead to prison sentences. Consumption of alcoholic beverages is forbidden in streets, roads, squares, promenades and other places of public use. Homosexuality is legal in Chile and is increasingly widely accepted socially, although much of Chilean society is conservative. See our information and advice page for the LGBT community before you travel. Street demonstrations, protests and strikes are common across all of Chile, Santiago in particular. Although most are peaceful, they can turn violent. If protests take place, you should follow the instructions and advice of the local authorities, remain vigilant, monitor developments via official sources and avoid protests and demonstrations areas. Under Chilean law, foreign nationals visiting or living in Chile could be deported for involvement in protests and demonstrations. Driving in Chile Read the guidance on what actions you must complete to drive legally in Chile • Chileatiende - Licencias de conducir (in Spanish) • CONASET - Mejores conductores, mejores ciudadanos (in Spanish) Driving abroad https://www.gov.uk/driving-abroad

			If you are asked for a letter authenticating, certifying or validating your UK driver's licence, you should contact your UK issuing office (e.g. the DVLA) Guidance for travelling by road in Chile see (https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/chile/safety-and-security) If you wish to take your vehicle with you, see (https://www.gov.uk/taking-vehicles-out-of-uk) Driving licence rules in Chile if you live there In Chile, British Nationals on tourist visas can drive using their UK licence for the duration of their stay, up to 90 days. If you become a resident in Chile, you must apply for a Chilean licence. See the Chilean Driving Licences page. (in Spanish) Disabled drivers If you have a UK Blue Badge and live in Chile, you must return it to the original UK issuing authority. In Chile person can be registered in the National Register of Disability and obtain a disability credential which will contain the characteristics of his/her disability and the need (or not) for further re-evaluation; it will also indicate whether he/she has reduced mobility. Read the guidance on how to obtain this credential (in Spanish).
Equality and Diversity LGBTQ information		Unless provided here there is no statement given by the FCDO on Equality and Diversity and LGBTQ information, issues or concerns	Please see the link below which you may find useful: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/lesbian-gay-bisexual-and-transgender-foreign-travel-advice Homosexuality is legal in Chile and is increasingly widely accepted socially, although much of Chilean society is conservative. See our information and advice page for the LGBT community before you travel.
Cultural differences		Awareness of attitudes towards protected characteristics, e.g. disability, sexual orientation, gender reassignment etc.	Local laws and customs Consumption and possession of drugs is illegal and can lead to prison sentences.

		• Dress in accordance with local laws/customs • Avoid behaviour that may fall foul of local customs/laws/cultures. • Report and support at Warwick: https://warwick.ac.uk/students/welcome/spring/livingatuniversity/reportandsupport	Consumption of alcoholic beverages is forbidden in streets, roads, squares, promenades and other places of public use. Homosexuality is legal in Chile and is increasingly widely accepted socially, although much of Chilean society is conservative. See our information and advice page for the LGBT community before you travel. Political situation There remains a risk of violent protest in Santiago and other Chilean cities, particularly on Friday afternoons/evenings. Even peaceful protests can become violent. The largest protests usually take place in central Santiago. Police can use tear gas and water cannons against protesters. Other public demonstrations, often led by students or indigenous rights defenders, can occur around Chile. You should avoid all demonstrations. Nationwide protests also often take place on 11 September (anniversary of the military coup), 29 March ('day of the young combatant') and 1 May (Workers' Day). Under Chilean law, foreign nationals visiting or living in Chile could be deported for any involvement or promotion of violent acts that could disturb local social order or the system of government. In the Araucanía Region, especially around Temuco, civil unrest continues including attacks against security forces, property, people, vehicles and industrial equipment by groups of demonstrators. Caution should be exercised when travelling within the Araucanía Region. A state of emergency has been declared in the provinces of Biobío, Arauco, Cautín and Malleco owing to a significant increase in violent incidents. The state of emergency continues until further notice. Over this period, the military have been deployed to assist regional police activity. You should follow the instructions of local authorities. Local travel Landmine accidents mainly affect livestock and local people crossing borders at unauthorised points. Most minefields are near the borders with Peru and Bolivia in the extreme north of Chile (regions XV, I and II) and Argentina in the south (region XII). Although most minefields
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			are clearly marked, some signs and fences are old and damaged, and may be hard to spot. In some cases, minefields are laid right up to the edge of highways. Check with local authorities before travelling to more rural areas, stick to clearly marked roads and observe all warning signs. If travelling to national parks in Chile you are advised that open fires (outside permitted camping areas) are strictly forbidden. Local authorities may revoke tourist permits from anyone caught starting a fire within a Chilean National Park and ask them to leave Chile voluntarily within 72 hours or face deportation. Additionally, if the open fire results in a larger forest fire, there may also be criminal penalties and fines. If you plan to go exploring or mountaineering, notify the local authorities before you set off. For further information on mountaineering, contact the Federación de Andinismo de Chile, Almirante Simpson 77, Santiago, Chile, Telephone: (56 2) 2220888. For any other type of exploring, contact the Chilean Embassy in London, to see if permits are required. There are good rescue facilities in Chile. You may be charged for the service they provide.
Social/Political Unrest or Terrorism:		• Check the FCO website for up-to-date advice. • If the FCO advises against travel to destination(s) on safety/security grounds then seek approval from HoD/Line Manager • Consider not just the country in question but also any territories as identified in FCO pages • Reschedule visit or modify itinerary if at all feasible.	Terrorism Terrorist attacks in Chile can't be ruled out. Attacks, although unlikely, could be indiscriminate, including in places visited by foreigners. UK Counter Terrorism Policing has information and advice on staying safe abroad and what to do in the event of a terrorist attack. Find out how to reduce your risk from terrorism while abroad. There are occasional acts of domestic terrorism by anarchist groups, mostly in Santiago, including the use of small explosive devices. Groups mainly target banks (ATMs) and public transport. Keep bags with you at all times, and report any suspicious behaviour or unattended packages to local authorities. Since early April 2020, there has been an increase in attacks against security forces in the Araucania region, particularly around Ruta 5. You should exercise caution and follow the instructions of local authorities. There is a high threat of terrorist attack globally affecting UK interests and British nationals, including from groups and individuals who view the UK and British nationals as targets. You should remain vigilant at all times.

			Political situation There remains a risk of violent protest in Santiago and other Chilean cities, particularly on Friday afternoons/evenings. Even peaceful protests can become violent. The largest protests usually take place in central Santiago. Police can use tear gas and water cannons against protesters. Other public demonstrations, often led by students or indigenous rights defenders, can occur around Chile. You should avoid all demonstrations. Nationwide protests also often take place on 11 September (anniversary of the military coup), 29 March ('day of the young combatant') and 1 May (Workers' Day). Under Chilean law, foreign nationals visiting or living in Chile could be deported for any involvement or promotion of violent acts that could disturb local social order or the system of government. In the Araucanía Region, especially around Temuco, civil unrest continues including attacks against security forces, property, people, vehicles and industrial equipment by groups of demonstrators. Caution should be exercised when travelling within the Araucanía Region. A state of emergency has been declared in the provinces of Biobío, Arauco, Cautín and Malleco owing to a significant increase in violent incidents. The state of emergency continues until further notice. Over this period, the military have been deployed to assist regional police activity. You should follow the instructions of local authorities.
Personal attack / kidnap: Dangers associated with travelling alone; arriving at night, etc.:		• Precautionary measures should be taken to protect personal safety. • Inform hosts of itinerary. • Be aware of specific local risks. • Travel during daylight hours if possible.	Warwick Business Travel Insurance Details: 24 hour Emergency Medical Assistance Helpline +44 (0)1243 621066 Quote reference NUBT 0105 and policy number 100782764GPA Please note that there is no emergency medical cover if you are a national in the country you need medical attention. Security Assistance If there is a risk to your personal safety please call: 24 hour Security Helpline +44 (0)2077412074 Quote reference NUBT 0105 and policy number 100782764GPA Report and Support: https://reportandsupport.warwick.ac.uk/

Wellbeing Services: <https://warwick.ac.uk/services/wss/>

Emergencies

Chile uses the following emergency numbers: ambulance (131), fire (132), police (133) for Carabineros or (134) for PDI (Civil police).

If you need urgent help, contact the [British Embassy in Santiago](#).

In the case of domestic violence, for emergencies you should call the police on 133 or 134. The Chilean Government has a number set up to address domestic violence (149) where you can receive guidance and report incidents. In the case of violence against women, the equivalent number is 1455. More information on violence against women can be found on [the Ministry of Women website](#) (in Spanish). There is also a number for reporting child abuse and receiving information (147).

If you are the victim of a crime, have been arrested, or are affected by a crisis, contact the [British Embassy in Chile](#).

If you have been the victim of a rape or sexual assault in Chile, read the [Chile: information for victims of rape and sexual assault - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#). See also [Victim of rape and sexual assault abroad - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#).

If you are a victim of sexual assault in Chile, you should report it to the closest police station or call the police (133 or 134). In the case of sexual abuse of minors, you can call 147 for information and to report. In Chile, you can approach the government-support network for victims of sexual assault, who provide psychological and legal support. More information is available at the links below:

- [programa de apoyo a víctimas](#) (in Spanish) – Ministerio del Interior 600 818 1000

Aimed at all people who have been victims of violent crime, so that they receive free and specialised psychological, social and legal assistance.

- [atención a víctimas de delitos violentos](#) (in Spanish) – CAJ

An interdisciplinary team composed of lawyers, psychologists and social workers, and the aim of the work is to help the victim and his or her family to repair the effect caused by the experience of a violent crime.

			• fiscalia (in Spanish) - Prosecutor's Office. You may also wish to contact our consular team in Chile for advice or support. If so, please call +56 22 370 4100 and follow the prompts to the Consular Section.
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Crime:		• Awareness of risk of theft or pickpockets • Awareness of local scams or hotspots • Cash and card security/awareness	Crime There have been reports of people being robbed by bogus and unlicensed taxi drivers, including airport taxis. You should use official and/or pre-booked taxis and ask taxi drivers for proof of reservation. There have been incidents involving people being followed from Santiago International Airport to their destinations and then robbed, sometimes at gunpoint. The British Embassy has noted an increase in ‘car-jacking’ and general crime in and around Santiago, especially in affluent areas and cases of armed carjackers targeting high-end vehicles on highways. Be aware of your surroundings in and around the airport, when driving and on arrival at your destination. If being robbed, hand over your cash and valuables without resistance. The local authorities recommend that in the event of a carjacking it is best to raise your hands and exit the car to avoid violence. There have been reports of criminals targeting vehicles entering/exiting private residences, in affluent areas, while the gates are opening/closing. Keep vehicle doors locked and windows closed and wait for the gates to fully close before exiting your vehicle. There have been a number of incidents, mainly in Santiago, where British nationals have been victims of theft of items, including passports, while checking in or checking out in hotel lobbies. Be extremely careful with your possessions when arriving or leaving your place of accommodation. There have been a number of incidents in major cities where those driving rental cars have been victims of crime. The perpetrators puncture the car’s tyres surreptitiously (often while at traffic lights) and then target the vehicle when the occupants notice the flat tyre. Often the victims do not notice the theft is taking place as an accomplice will distract the victim, while another steals valuables from the vehicle. Remain vigilant and keep your valuables secure. Other tactics include the interception of locking cars when drivers remotely activate the lock. Always double check that your car is locked. Pick pocketing and muggings are common in many cities throughout Chile, particularly around affluent or well-known tourist sites including airports, bus stations, ports and popular areas visited by foreigners. Pay particular attention to your belongings in popular foreign cafes and restaurants. In restaurants, never hang your handbag over the chair or leave your mobile phone on the table. There have been numerous reports of stolen passports and other valuable items at bus stations. Please take care of your belongings at all times when boarding a bus.
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There have been reports of violent muggings in areas popular with tourists in Santiago and Valparaíso. The British Embassy is aware of an increase in the use of weapons, such as pistols and knives. These muggings can take place during the day and in plain sight of others. Be vigilant in public, particularly if you are in places popular among tourists or near official buildings. Avoid carrying large amounts of money, your passport (a photocopy is sufficient if needed), wearing valuable watches or jewellery or using your mobile phone while walking on the streets. You should not resist any attempted theft. Avoid putting any valuables in the storage compartments of buses and coaches, especially interregional transport - keep them with you at all times.

Book a taxi in advance rather than hailing one from the street, especially late at night. Keep in groups and avoid walking alone late at night.

There have been a few reports of people being given 'spiked' drinks in nightclubs and bars, particularly in the Suecia and Bellavista areas of Santiago. These can leave the victim open to theft or assault.

Leave your passport and other valuables in a safe place and carry a photocopy of the details page of your passport with you at all times.

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Theft or loss of ID documents and other belongings: passport, driving license, bank cards, travel tickets, laptop		• Keep items secure. • Record details of numbers, issue dates, etc. and store separately both with you and at home. • Have emergency contact numbers • Report to police if theft suspected • Minimise amount of cash carried	Keep your passport secure at all times. Unless you are required to carry the original document, keep your passport in a safe location. If your passport is lost, stolen or damaged while you are on a trip overseas, you will need to apply for an emergency travel document so you can get back home. Make sure you have access to enough funds to cover emergencies. Check expiry dates on your credit or debit card(s). Inform your bank of your travel plans. Use a money belt or secure inside pocket. Do not openly display your cash. Do not carry all your cards with you – leave one in a secure location. If your passport or valuables are stolen abroad, report it at once to the local police and get a statement, as you will need one to claim against your insurance. You will need to cancel any bank cards, so take relevant phone numbers. Only emergency medical treatment is covered under the University of Warwick Business and Travel Insurance policy. In the event of an emergency please call: 24 hour Emergency Medical Assistance Helpline +44 (0)1243 621066 Quote reference NUBT 0105 and policy number 100782764GPA

			Please note that there is no emergency medical cover if you are a national in the country you need medical attention. Security Assistance If there is a risk to your personal safety please call: 24 hour Security Helpline +44 (0)2077412074 Quote reference NUBT 0105 and policy number 100782764GPA Emergencies Chile uses the following emergency numbers: ambulance (131), fire (132), police (133) for Carabineros or (134) for PDI (Civil police). If you need urgent help, contact the British Embassy in Santiago.
Travel Preparation		Valid vehicle insurance (you cannot use the Business Travel Insurance policy).	At least 8 weeks before your trip, check the latest country-specific health advice from the National Travel Health Network and Centre (NaTHNaC) on the TravelHealthPro website. Each country-specific page has information on vaccine recommendations, any current health risks or outbreaks, and factsheets with information on staying healthy abroad. Guidance is also available from NHS (Scotland) on the FitForTravel website. General information on travel vaccinations and a travel health checklist is available on the NHS website. You may then wish to contact your health adviser or pharmacy for advice on other preventive measures and managing any pre-existing medical conditions while you're abroad. The legal status and regulation of some medicines prescribed or purchased in the UK can be different in other countries. If you're travelling with prescription or over-the-counter medicine, read this guidance from NaTHNaC on best practice when travelling with medicines. For further information on the legal status of a specific medicine, you'll need to contact the embassy, high commission or consulate of the country or territory you're travelling to. While travel can be enjoyable, it can sometimes be challenging. There are clear links between mental and physical health, so looking after yourself during travel and when abroad is important. Information on travelling with mental health conditions is available in our guidance page. Further information is also available from the National Travel Health Network and Centre (NaTHNaC).

			Road travel You can drive a car using a UK driving licence, but only for 3 months after arriving in Chile. You must have your passport and proof of your tourist status. You can find more information about this here. If you hire a car, take out adequate insurance coverage including windscreen damage, which can be expensive. Main roads in Chile are surfaced, but you may need a four-wheel drive vehicle in the countryside. Be prepared for a range of driving conditions, from snow and ice to hot sandy deserts. Toll roads are increasingly common. Between June and September, winter weather sometimes temporarily closes the Chile-Argentina border crossing high up in the Andes, including the main Los Libertadores crossing between Santiago and Mendoza.
Exposure to infection: Known endemic illnesses in destination(s)		• Take medical advice and arrange vaccination/inoculation/prophylaxis as appropriate • Consider the following conditions in particular: Cholera, Diphtheria, Hepatitis B, Japanese Encephalitis, Malaria, Meningitis, Poliomyelitis, Tetanus, Tick-borne Encephalitis, Tuberculosis, Typhoid and Yellow Fever.	FOR INFORMATION AND FAQs SEE WARWICK WEBSITE @ https://warwick.ac.uk/coronavirus During the COVID-19 pandemic, it is more important than ever to get travel insurance and check it provides sufficient cover. See the FCO's guidance on foreign travel insurance. Emergencies Chile uses the following emergency numbers: ambulance (131), fire (132), police (133) for Carabineros or (134) for PDI (Civil police). If you need urgent help, contact the British Embassy in Santiago. List of medical facilities/practitioners in Chile Health Before you travel check that: • your destination can provide the healthcare you may need • you have appropriate travel insurance for local treatment or unexpected medical evacuation

			This is particularly important if you have a health condition or are pregnant. At least 8 weeks before your trip, check the latest country-specific health advice from the National Travel Health Network and Centre (NaTHNaC) on the TravelHealthPro website. Each country-specific page has information on vaccine recommendations, any current health risks or outbreaks, and factsheets with information on staying healthy abroad. Guidance is also available from NHS (Scotland) on the FitForTravel website. General information on travel vaccinations and a travel health checklist is available on the NHS website. You may then wish to contact your health adviser or pharmacy for advice on other preventive measures and managing any pre-existing medical conditions while you're abroad. The legal status and regulation of some medicines prescribed or bought in the UK can be different in other countries. If you're travelling with prescription or over-the-counter medicine, read this guidance from NaTHNaC on best practice when travelling with medicines. For further information on the legal status of a specific medicine, you'll need to contact the embassy, high commission or consulate of the country or territory you're travelling to. While travel can be enjoyable, it can sometimes be challenging. There are clear links between mental and physical health, so looking after yourself during travel and when abroad is important. Information on travelling with mental health conditions is available in our guidance page. Further information is also available from the National Travel Health Network and Centre (NaTHNaC).
Pre-existing medical conditions		• Take medical advice. • Carry written details of medical condition, adequate supplies of prescribed medication, details of blood group, etc. • Consider translation of information into local language. • Share with colleagues where appropriate	Medication The legal status and regulation of some medicines prescribed or bought in the UK can be different in other countries. TravelHealthPro explains best practice when travelling with medicines. The NHS has information on whether you can take your medicine abroad. If you are on a prescription for any medication you should ensure you have a supply of it, or are able to obtain it when in Chile. Certain medicines may not be available in Chile (including major brands readily available in the UK), and you may be prohibited from taking them into the country. You should consult your GP before travelling to Chile to find out about any

			alternative medication. Read the guidance if you need to travel with medicines
Health and Local medical facilities		• Hospital proximity and standards. • Access to doctors/dentists. • Payment methods for medical treatment.	Make sure you have adequate travel health insurance and accessible funds to cover the cost of any medical treatment abroad and repatriation. If you have a health condition, or you are pregnant, you may need specialist healthcare abroad. Check whether your destination country can provide the healthcare you may need and ensure you have appropriate travel insurance for unexpected medical evacuation or local treatment. At least 8 weeks before your trip, check the latest country-specific health advice from the National Travel Health Network and Centre (NaTHNaC) on the TravelHealthPro website. Each country-specific page has information on vaccine recommendations, any current health risks or outbreaks, and factsheets with information on staying healthy abroad. Guidance is also available from NHS (Scotland) on the FitForTravel website. General information on travel vaccinations and a travel health checklist is available on the NHS website. You may then wish to contact your health adviser or pharmacy for advice on other preventive measures and managing any pre-existing medical conditions while you're abroad. The legal status and regulation of some medicines prescribed or bought in the UK can be different in other countries. If you're travelling with prescription or over-the-counter medicine, read this guidance from NaTHNaC on best practice when travelling with medicines. For further information on the legal status of a specific medicine, you'll need to contact the embassy, high commission or consulate of the country or territory you're travelling to. While travel can be enjoyable, it can sometimes be challenging. There are clear links between mental and physical health, so looking after yourself during travel and when abroad is important. Information on travelling with mental health conditions is available in our guidance page. Further information is also available from the National Travel Health Network and Centre (NaTHNaC). Before you travel check that: • your destination can provide the healthcare you may need

- you have [appropriate travel insurance](#) for local treatment or unexpected medical evacuation

This is particularly important if you have a health condition or are pregnant.

Travel and mental health

Read [FCDO guidance on travel and mental health](#). There is also [guidance on TravelHealthPro](#).

Healthcare in Chile

There are good health facilities in Santiago and other major cities, but private clinics and hospitals are expensive. However, medical care can be limited in remote areas. Care in public hospitals is not free of charge, and the facilities have been known to sometimes experience shortages of basic medicines and equipment. If travelling and/or living in Chile, it is highly advisable to obtain medical insurance. If you wish to work in Chile, you will need to choose between public (Fonasa) or private (Isapre) health insurance, which is mandatory even if you already have international insurance. Private hospitals sometimes require payment prior to giving treatment to patients.

For mental health matters, see our [travel and mental health guidance](#) for a list of UK and international organisations that can offer support.

More information about Chile's public health system can be found on the website of the [Ministry of Health](#) (in Spanish).

You may also wish to read our list of medical facilities with [English-speaking staff](#).

[List of medical facilities/practitioners in Chile](#)

Local medical care

The Chilean authorities have confirmed some cases of Dengue fever in Easter Island. You should take steps to [avoid being bitten by mosquitoes](#).

Altitude sickness is a risk in parts of Chile. More information about altitude sickness is available from [TravelHealthPro](#).

			There are good health facilities in Santiago and other major cities, but private clinics and hospitals are expensive. Make sure you have adequate travel health insurance and accessible funds to cover the cost of any medical treatment abroad and repatriation. There is only one hospital on Easter Island and its facilities are limited. Those suffering from serious illnesses or injuries are taken by air ambulance to mainland Chile for treatment. Make sure your travel insurance covers this. If you need emergency medical assistance during your trip, dial 131 and ask for an ambulance. You should contact your insurance/medical assistance company promptly if you are referred to a medical facility for treatment.
Accommodation		• Pre-book accommodation • Stay in recognised accommodation • Familiarise yourself with emergency exits • Security staff and arrangements • Secure storage/safes	Student mobility students hosted at a partner University will be supported with finding accommodation by the partner. Work placements students are required to find their own accommodation with local support. Suitable accommodation can be difficult to identify and secure, it is recommended that you don't leave it too late to find this. We have had students whose placements have been impacted by being unable to secure suitable accommodation.

Transport		• Use only registered taxis • Arrange airport collection where possible • Check safety and road worthiness of any hire vehicle • Avoid driving at night • If possible, share long distance driving • Ensure all internal transfers are booked in advance of travel (where possible).	Driving in Chile Read the guidance on what actions you must complete to drive legally in Chile • Chileatiende - Licencias de conducir (in Spanish) • CONASET - Mejores conductores, mejores ciudadanos (in Spanish) Driving abroad https://www.gov.uk/driving-abroad If you are asked for a letter authenticating, certifying or validating your UK driver's licence, you should contact your UK issuing office (e.g. the DVLA) Guidance for travelling by road in Chile see (https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/chile/safety-and-security) If you wish to take your vehicle with you, see (https://www.gov.uk/taking-vehicles-out-of-uk) Driving licence rules in Chile if you live there In Chile, British Nationals on tourist visas can drive using their UK licence for the duration of their stay, up to 90 days. If you become a resident in Chile, you must apply for a Chilean licence. See the Chilean Driving Licences page. (in Spanish) Disabled drivers If you have a UK Blue Badge and live in Chile, you must return it to the original UK issuing authority. In Chile person can be registered in the National Register of Disability and obtain a disability credential which will contain the characteristics of his/her disability and the need (or not) for further re-evaluation; it will also indicate whether he/she has reduced mobility. Read the guidance on how to obtain this credential (in Spanish).
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Local travel

Landmine accidents mainly affect livestock and local people crossing borders at unauthorised points. Most minefields are near the borders with Peru and Bolivia in the extreme north of Chile (regions XV, I and II) and Argentina in the south (region XII). Although most minefields are clearly marked, some signs and fences are old and damaged, and may be hard to spot. In some cases, minefields are laid right up to the edge of highways. Check with local authorities before travelling to more rural areas, stick to clearly marked roads and observe all warning signs.

If travelling to national parks in Chile you are advised that open fires (outside permitted camping areas) are strictly forbidden. Local authorities may revoke tourist permits from anyone caught starting a fire within a Chilean National Park and ask them to leave Chile voluntarily within 72 hours or face deportation. Additionally, if the open fire results in a larger forest fire, there may also be criminal penalties and fines.

If you plan to go exploring or mountaineering, notify the local authorities before you set off. For further information on mountaineering, contact the Federación de Andinismo de Chile, Almirante Simpson 77, Santiago, Chile, Telephone: (56 2) 2220888. For any other type of exploring, contact the [Chilean Embassy in London](#), to see if permits are required. There are good rescue facilities in Chile. You may be charged for the service they provide.

Road travel

You can drive a car using a UK driving licence, but only for 3 months after arriving in Chile. You must have your passport and proof of your tourist status. You can find more information about this [here](#).

If you hire a car, take out adequate insurance coverage including windscreen damage, which can be expensive.

If you are a resident in Chile, you must get a Chilean driving licence from the nearest 'municipalidad'. You can find further information about the process on the [Chilean Transport Ministry website](#) (in English).

You cannot arrange car insurance if driving in Easter Island. In case of an accident or any damage to your vehicle, you will have to pay for the repairs yourself. Main roads in Chile are surfaced, but you may need a four-wheel drive vehicle in the countryside. Be prepared for a

			range of driving conditions, from snow and ice to hot sandy deserts. Toll roads are increasingly common. Between June and September, winter weather sometimes temporarily closes the Chile-Argentina border crossing high up in the Andes, including the main Los Libertadores crossing between Santiago and Mendoza. Air travel The Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) can't offer advice on the safety of individual airlines, but the International Air Transport Association publishes a list of registered airlines that have been audited and found to meet a number of operational safety standards and recommended practices. This list is not exhaustive and the absence of an airline from this list does not necessarily mean that it is unsafe. A list of recent incidents and accidents can be found on the website of the Aviation Safety network.
Communications		• Consider access to landlines or alternative handsets if mobile phone is lost or stolen. • Back-up chargers or batteries for phones or electronic devices • Access to network or wi-fi	Loss of mobile phones or laptops are not covered on the University Insurance policy
Utilities/Cyber Issues		• Compatibility of equipment • Voltages and safety equipment • Power cuts or interruptions	Plug adapters will be required
Insect and animal bites		• Consider likely insect/animal issues in particular area • Avoid by prevention – repellents, clothing, etc. • Consider use of nets in accommodation • Carry appropriate treatment	
Contaminated water/food		• Avoid food or water which could be contaminated. • Carry water sterilising tablets.	

Minor injuries and ailments		Carry basic First Aid kit.	
Sunburn		- Avoid by prevention – hat, sunglasses, and sunblock. - Carry appropriate treatment.	
Leisure activities		- Ensure you are adequately insured (the University insurance does <u>not</u> provide cover for non-business related activity) - Skiing, white water, bungee jumping, diving. Etc.	The Warwick Business Travel Insurance will not provide cover for non-business (study) related activity. Ensure you take out personal insurance.
Natural disasters		Assessment of the risk of typhoons, earthquake, tsunami, avalanche, etc	Forest fires Chile is frequently affected by severe forest fires. These can be highly destructive and spread rapidly, causing National Park and road closures; this could affect your travel itinerary with short notice. You should monitor local media for updates and follow the advice of local authorities. Avoid the areas they advise are at risk and follow evacuation procedures if instructed to by authorities. For up to date information regarding locations and severity of forest fires, you can check the following websites: ONEMI - Oficina Nacional de Emergencias (Chilean National Emergencies Office) alerts, CONAF and FIRMS (Fire Information for Resource Management System). Earthquakes Serious earthquakes are always a possibility in Chile. You should familiarise yourself with safety procedures in the event of an earthquake or tsunami, and take note of instructions in hotel rooms. Building regulations require new structures to take account of seismic risks. Safety measures are widely known and put into practice by national organisations and the local authorities. Volcanoes A chain of volcanoes erupted in the Puyehue and Los Lagos region (500 miles south of Santiago) in June 2011 and are still active. There is a continuing risk of eruptions in Chaiten in southern Chile, Llama in the Conguillo National Park and Lascar in northern Chile. The

			Copahue Volcano on the Argentina/Chile border also erupts periodically, causing local residents to be evacuated. If you're travelling to these areas, monitor local media reports and follow the advice of the local authorities .
Research or work activities		• Awareness of safe systems of work • Awareness of local safety measures • Remoteness of work sites	Will be covered by the Host Institution
Completed by Department:			Student Mobility, STUDENT OPPORTUNITY
Completed by Study Abroad:			Friday, 06 February 2026
			Frequently Asked Questions (warwick.ac.uk)

