

Travel Information for ICCV 2015 Participants

Welcome to Santiago de Chile. Please find below some useful travel information for ICCV participants.

- Transportation
- Tourist Attractions
- Restaurants
- Nightlife
- Safety

TRANSPORTATION

From/to the airport: Santiago International Airport (SCL) is located approximately 20 Kms. west of downtown Santiago and 26 Kms. west of the conference hotels and venue ([Centroparque](#)). There are three main options to get to the city from the airport:

- 1. Airport Taxi:** We highly recommend that you take a taxi to get to your hotel as this is by far the most convenient, fastest (25-40 min depending on traffic) and reasonably priced (USD 30-35) option. In addition to [Uber](#), there are three main taxi companies that operate at the airport: [Taxioficial](#), [Transvip](#) and [Transfer Delfos](#). These companies have counters **after you exit customs and before you exit into the main airport lobby**. They have a flat rate of USD 30-35 depending on your destination and you can pay by credit card, so you will not need to worry about getting Chilean pesos at the airport. You can also reserve and/or pay the taxi ahead of time using the website of these companies. While these companies also have counters after you exit into the main lobby, it is easier to book the taxi inside as it is less crowded. **In the main lobby, many unofficial taxi drivers may approach you. We do not recommend that you take an unofficial taxi as they may take advantage of unknowing foreigners and charge you a much higher fare.**
- 2. Airport Vans:** [Taxioficial](#), [Transvip](#) and [Transfer Delfos](#) also offer a shuttle service (shared taxi). The main advantage of a shuttle over a taxi is that it is cheaper (around USD 10). However, depending on the final destination of other passengers, it will take you an additional 30-40 min to get to your hotel.
- 3. Airport Buses + Metro:** If your budget is extremely limited and you have plenty of time to spare, you can take an airport bus followed by the metro to get to the conference venue and hotels. This is by far the cheapest option (USD 2-3 for the bus and USD 1 for the metro). However, this is the least recommended option

because it will take you about 2 hours, some of the connections between the bus and the metro are located in slightly isolated places, and the metro could be extremely crowded during rush hours (7-9 AM and 6-8 PM). Anyhow, if you choose this option, the bus companies are [Centro Puerto](#) and [TurBus](#), and are located in Level 1 right outside the airport terminal. You should connect from the bus to Metro Line 1 in the direction of Las Condes. The connection in Pajaritos metro station is easy and will save you time during rush hours, but the station is somewhat isolated, so you should avoid making the connection at night. On the other hand, the connection in Los Heroes metro station is centrally located in downtown Santiago, but it is a bit more complicated.

In Santiago: Santiago has a wide range of fairly frequent and inexpensive public transportation options, as detailed below. Please see [here](#) for more detailed information.

1. **The Santiago Metro System** is one of the most modern in Latin America. It is fairly inexpensive (less than 1 dollar per trip) and it is 7th in frequency worldwide, but the service ends at 11 PM and it can be very crowded during rush hour (7-9 AM and 6-8 PM). The Metro and Bus systems are integrated. That is, if you buy the “Bip Card”, which you can buy in any metro station for about 2 dollars, you can use it to transfer from the metro to the bus system without having to pay again. Alternatively, if you intend to ride the metro only, you can buy metro tickets directly without having to buy the Bip Card. The conference venue and hotels are located about 10-15 min walking distance from **Manquehue Metro Station in Line 1** and most city attractions are located near a metro station in Line 1 or 5: for downtown attractions use Universidad de Chile (L1) or Plaza de Armas (L5) metro stations, for the bohemian district Barrio Bellavista use Baquedano metro station (L1), for the Providencia district use Pedro de Valdivia metro station (L1), and for the main business district use Tobalaba or El Golf metro stations (L1).
2. **The Transantiago Bus System**, while integrated with the metro system, is a little bit more complex to use as there are many buses going to many places. So, we do not recommend it unless you are going off the beaten path. You can check the bus routes in the [Transantiago website](#) (unfortunately the information is only in Spanish).
3. **Taxis** are a great option as they are available everywhere and run until late at night. Prices are also very reasonable (roughly 1 dollar per kilometer). One problem is that most taxi drivers will speak a very basic level of English, so be prepared to deal with some communication issues. In general, taxis are safe in Chile, you can catch a taxi in the streets without problems. There are stories about some taxi drivers taking longer routes to charge more money to tourists. While these stories are unfortunately true, it is also true that they are the

exception and not the general rule. Popular apps to call taxis are [Uber](#), [EasyTaxi](#), and [SaferTaxi](#).

Near Santiago: If you plan to take a trip to some of the local wineries in the Maipo Valley or Casablanca Valley, you can either take a taxi or rent a car. If you plan to visit Valparaiso, Viña del Mar, or other neighboring cities, Santiago is exceptionally well connected through interurban buses, which are safe, reliable, and very frequent. One bus company that is commonly used is [TurBus](#), which is easily accessible via **Universidad de Santiago Metro Station in Line 1**. If you plan to visit the **Wine Country (Colchagua Valley)**, then it is best that you rent a car and drive to Santa Cruz, which is about 3 hours south of Santiago.

Around Chile: Many of the main attractions in Chile ([San Pedro de Atacama](#), [Easter Island](#), [Lake District](#), [Torres del Paine](#), and [Patagonia](#)) will require you to fly. The two main airlines are [LAN](#) and [Skyairline](#), both of which are extremely safe and reliable, with LAN being a more traditional airline, and Sky being a low-cost airline. Overall, traveling in Chile is extremely safe, so feel free to enjoy what Chile has to offer.

Parking: Each hotel has parking available onsite. The conference venue will have limited parking due to our event taking up most of their underground lot. The hotels are within walking distance of the conference venue.

Additional Transportation Information:

- [Wikitravel](#)
- [Santiago Tourist Transportation Guide](#)

WHAT TO VISIT

Tourist Attractions

- [Cerro Santa Lucia](#): Metro Santa Lucia, Line 1
- [Cerro San Cristobal](#): Metro Baquedano, Line 1
- [Plaza de Armas](#): Metro Plaza de Armas, Line 5
- [Catedral Metropolitana de Santiago](#): Metro Plaza de Armas, Line 5
- [Palacio de la Moneda](#): Metro La Moneda, Line 1
- [Pueblito los Dominicos](#): Metro Los Dominicos, Line 1

Museums

- [Museo Bellas Artes](#): Metro Bellas Artes, Line 5
- [La Chascona \(House of Pablo Neruda\)](#): Metro Baquedano, Line 5
- [Violeta Parra Museum](#): Metro Baquedano, Line 5

Wineries in Santiago

- [Viña Cousiño Macul](#): located in Peñalolén, Santiago, 30 min taxi ride from the conference venue, or 6 min taxi ride from Metro Quilín, Line 4
- [Viña Concha y Toro](#): located in Pirque, Santiago, 50 min taxi ride from the conference venue, or 10 min taxi ride from Metro Plaza de Puente Alto, Line 4

Organized Tours and More

- [Information on organized tours](#)
- <http://chile.travel/en/>

RESTAURANT DISTRICTS

- [Restaurants in Mall Parque Arauco](#): located walking distance from conference venue and hotels. This will be by far the most convenient place, with very good restaurants, but you should not go there every night not to miss the Chilean culinary experience.
- [Borde Río](#): located 10 min by taxi. You should definitely go there one night, as there are some great restaurants, many of them outdoors.
- [Plaza Ñuñoa](#): located 25 min driving south west of the conference venue. It has a great variety of restaurants, many of them outdoors.
- [Barrio Lastarria](#): located walking distance from Metro Santa Lucia, Line 1. This is a historical neighborhood, remodeled with many cozy restaurants. A great option when combined with a visit to downtown Santiago.
- [Patio Bellavista](#): located 10 min walking from Baquedano metro station in Line 1 or Metro Bellas Artes metro station in Line 5, or 20 min taxi drive from the conference venue. This is **the place to go** if you plan to go out at night, as there are plenty of bars, clubs, and salsa dancing venues in [Barrio Bellavista](#).

NIGHTLIFE

Chileans go out very late. Dinner would typically be at 8.30-11PM, bars and pubs 11PM-1AM, and clubs 1AM-4AM.

- [Barrio Bellavista](#): located 10 min walking from Baquedano metro station in Line 1 or Metro Bellas Artes metro station in Line 5, or 20 min taxi drive from the conference venue. This is **the place to go** if you plan to go out at night, as there are plenty of bars, clubs, and salsa dancing venues. Just walk along Pío Nono Street.
- [Red2One Bar in W hotel](#): for cocktails with a great view of Santiago at night

SAFETY

Santiago is one of the safest capitals in Latin America, especially the North East side of the city (Providencia, Las Condes, Vitacura) where the conference venue and hotels are located. That said, most common sense safety rules that apply to large metropolises such as New York, San Francisco, Paris, or Tokyo, apply also to Santiago. In general, all the areas near the conference venue are very safe. So our main recommendation is to **be aware of pickpockets**. There have been cases of people stealing bags in areas close to the conference venue, specially bags with cameras and laptop computers. The typical situation is unattended bags in public places, like restaurants. Burglars are very professional, they are typically very well dressed with a tie and a nice suit, so they seem to be regular restaurant customers, but they are waiting for the right moment to steal a bag. We know how important your cameras and computers are, so please do not leave your bags unattended.