

CURRENT SITUATION – CORONAVIRUS COVID 19 IN CHILE

July 2021

- The **high vaccination rate** and the introduction of the “mobility pass” with more freedom of movement for fully vaccinated persons are now leading to **reactivation of national tourism** during the winter holidays. According to news reports, about 800,000 Chileans are expected to travel within the country, good news for the tourism sector.
- The National Tourism Service SERNATUR has also launched a broad campaign at the beginning of the winter holidays. Under the slogan “This winter we have a plan to enjoy traveling through Chile in a safe manner”, the aim is to motivate Chileans to make national trips through the country.
- ACHET, the Chilean association of tourism companies, has demanded that the country’s borders be opened to fully vaccinated people travelling to and from Chile.
- South America’s largest airline, **LATAM Airlines**, is recovering from losses during the pandemic. Latam plans around 880 daily domestic and international flights in July, connecting 116 destinations in 16 countries
- Since July 19th, all municipalities in the metropolitan region are in phase 3 of the 5-stage plan, which means that the quarantine measure on weekends is no longer in place, which also gives a boost to national tourism in particular.

June 2021

- As a pandemic control measure, **quarantine restrictions** have been in effect for the entire metropolitan area of Santiago since June 12. People who have already been fully vaccinated are permitted to travel within Chile with more flexibility.
- **Flights Chile-England:** From 8 June, direct flights can arrive in England from Chile, but they must arrive at dedicated terminals at Heathrow and Birmingham airports.
- **Entering Chile:** According to current information, Chilean entry restrictions will be extended for the time being until **July 14, 2021**. The country’s border is closed to date. More information about the current entry requirements for Chile can be found here: <https://chile.travel/en/traveltochileplan>
- From June 21, those under 20 years old will already be vaccinated with the first dose.
- [WHO validates Sinovac](#) COVID-19 vaccine for emergency use. During the vaccination campaign in Chile, about 90% of the vaccine used was Sinovac, so recognition of this vaccine by the World Health Organisation is great news.

May 2021

- 49.6% of the country's total population has already been fully vaccinated with the first and second doses (as of 19/05/2021). – <https://www.gob.cl/yomevacuno/>.
- **Vaccines in Chile:** Four vaccines are currently used in Chile: CoronaVac from the Chinese laboratory Sinovac, BNT162B2 from Pfizer/BioNTech, AZD1222 from AstraZeneca and since May 2021 Convidecia (Ad5-nCoV) from CanSino. Currently, only one dose of the CanSino vaccine is needed. The Chilean government purchased another 3 million vaccine doses from Sinovac. The government announced that 20 million vaccine doses are to be delivered from China per year for the next 3 years. (Source: soychile.cl)
- Good news is also that from May 10th -20th 2021, **all 30 – 39 years old will already be vaccinated.**
- [President Piñera announces arrival of new batches of vaccines and expansion of the COVID-19 vaccination calendar](#) – Chile Reports
- The number of active cases in the country is gradually decreasing. As a new measure of relief, from May 19th the **curfew will be shortened by one hour** and will now start at 10 pm. The 7-day-a-week quarantine in the municipalities of Viña del Mar, Valparaíso and Iquique has been lifted. They are now in phase 2 of the 5-stage plan, i.e. quarantine is only compulsory on weekends.

April 2021

- The vaccination campaign in Chile continues to make good progress. Currently, 7,777,019 persons in Chile have already been vaccinated with the first dose and 5,574,683 persons with the second dose (as of 19/04/2021) - <https://www.gob.cl/yomevacuno/>. This represents 36.7% of the country's total population who are already fully vaccinated.
- Although a strong second wave of infections in late March initiated new restrictive measures, President Piñera reported that it was mainly unvaccinated younger people who tested positive for covid.
- As a new measure, **Chilean borders were completely closed from 5 April.** Travel abroad from Chile in April is only possible with a special permission if there is an exceptional situation that makes it necessary to leave the country. Entry of non-resident foreigners is not allowed in April. Furthermore, the curfew has been extended by one hour and starts at 9 pm since April.
- About 90 per cent of Chileans have received the Chinese vaccine Sinovac, which, according to a Ministry of Health study, has an efficacy of up to 67% and can prevent between 80-85% hospitalisations and deaths related to covid infection. (<https://youtu.be/kzG7MR2iwD0>)
- [Chile's president predicts strong growth on back of vaccine push](#) - Financial Times. The successful vaccination campaign, with herd immunity expected by the second half of the year, as well as higher world market prices for Chile's main export copper, would boost economic growth again, according to Chile's president. Piñera forecasts Chile's economic growth to rise to 6% this year. (Source: Financial Times).

- It is an interesting fact that the country's best raw material, copper, is also useful in combating the spread of the coronavirus. Copper has a proven antimicrobial effect and can significantly reduce dangerous germs such as bacteria, fungi and viruses. (<https://youtu.be/Fycjn--UYaM>)

March 2021

- **Chile as „Vaccination Champion“ in the press worldwide**
(<https://youtu.be/BgjZyXtT7UA>)
 - Chile emerges as global leader in Covid inoculations with ‚pragmatic strategy‘ – The Guardian
 - Chile has become one of the top countries in the world at vaccinating its population against COVID-19 – The Independent
 - Chile donates 40,000 doses of Sinovac vaccine to Ecuador and Paraguay – Reuters
- Currently, 5,011,517 persons in Chile have already been vaccinated with the first dose and 2,136,079 persons with the second dose (as of 16/03/2021) – <https://www.gob.cl/yomevacuno/>. This represents more than 32% of the country's total population that has already been vaccinated once. The goal is to have reached 15 million people vaccinated by mid-2021.
- In Chile, the summer and holiday season is almost over. Last month brought a slight increase in cases of infection. As a precautionary measure, restrictions were intensified on 13 March. Since then, a large part of the country's regions as well as districts in Santiago have been in stage 2 of the government's 5-stage plan. This means that on weekends, movement in these regions is only possible with a licence that can be downloaded from the internet.
- The curfew has been extended by one hour and starts at 10 pm since last Saturday. Restaurants and local shops have to close at 8 pm.

February 2021

- **Chile takes off with vaccinations against the new coronavirus!**
Currently, 2.670.139 persons in Chile have already been vaccinated with the first dose (as of 18/02/2021). This already represents about 14% of the country's total population. On the official website <https://www.gob.cl/yomevacuno/>, the current number of vaccinated people is updated daily.
- According to J.P. Morgen Chase, a global leader in financial services, Chile would be the first emerging country to have collective immunity to covid-19.
- Find more information about the vaccination process in Chile [here](#).

January 2021

- On the **official website** chile.travel/planviajarachile, which is also available in English, you will find detailed information on the requirements for entering Chile, onward travel within the country and additional information in the form of a question-and-answer catalogue.
- Since 4 January, there is a **new vacation authorization** that allows individuals who live in municipalities that are in step 2 of the 5-step-plan to travel once over the summer to other regions that are in stage 2 or higher. This is in effect between 4 January and 31 March 2021. Click [here](#) for more information.
- Since the **beginning of vaccinations in Chile** in December 2020, more than 13,000 people have already received the first vaccination dose from the company Pfizer-BioNTech. The government hopes to vaccinate about 80% of the population (15 million inhabitants) by the end of the first semester.

December 2020

- As of December 31st, those who enter Chile, whether Chileans, resident foreigners or visiting foreigners, must undergo a **mandatory 10-day quarantine**. The quarantine can be lifted with a negative PCR result taken from the seventh day of quarantine onwards.
 - *As a requirement for non-resident foreigners a proof of a negative PCR test taken 72 hours before boarding is obligatory.*
 - *Non-resident foreigners from the United Kingdom or that have been in the United Kingdom during the last 14 days aren't currently permitted to enter Chile.*
- To avoid an increase in the number of infections, the beginning of the curfew was moved forward on 26 December 2020. It starts at 10 pm and ends at 5 am. In addition, the situation in individual regions is regularly reviewed by the government using the 5-step plan. In some cases, a region falls back into quarantine.
- On December 17, the **Atacama region** already enters phase 4, the initial phase of reopening. In this penultimate phase of the 5-step-plan, further restrictions will be lifted. The operation of restaurants, cafés, cinemas, theatres, etc. is permitted, subject to compliance with protocols and a maximum capacity of 50%.
- The town of **Punta Arenas** in Patagonia comes out of quarantine on 17 December after almost 4 months. This is also important news for the nearby town of Puerto Natales, which is considered the main starting point for visiting Torres del Paine National Park.
- On 10 December, as a countermeasure to a possible increase in infection cases, the **metropolitan region** was preventively placed back on the 2nd phase of the government's 5-stage plan. This means that on weekends, movement in this region is only possible with a licence that can be downloaded from the internet. It is still being negotiated whether inter-regional travel from the metropolitan region will also be possible in this phase.

November 2020

- From midnight on Monday, November 23, those who arrive by air to the Arturo Merino Benitez Airport will be able to enter the country. Entry will take place in compliance with health measures to protect the health and security of both tourists and nationals.
- For the time being, entry is only possible via **Santiago International Airport (SCL)**. Land and sea routes will remain closed until health conditions allow their reopening.
- On 5 November, the **curfew was reduced by one hour** and now starts from midnight until 5 am instead of starting at 11 pm.

October 2020

- On 19 October, the requirement for a 14-day quarantine on entry into Chile was lifted. Instead, a negative corona test (PCR test) not older than 72 hours must be presented. For the time being, these changes will only affect travellers with Chilean nationality or residence in Chile. The Federation of Tourism Enterprises (Fedetur) is calling for an opening of the borders as soon as possible in order to reactivate international tourism.
- Also on 19 October, 6 districts of the metropolitan area entered Phase 4, and the districts of Til Til, María Pinto, San Pedro, Curacaví, Pirque and Colina are now among the 29 municipalities in the country that are already in this initial phase of reopening. In this penultimate phase of the 5-step-plan, further restrictions will be lifted. The operation of restaurants, cafés, cinemas, theatres, etc. is permitted, subject to compliance with protocols and a maximum capacity of 50%. Fitness centres are also allowed to reopen, provided that precautions are taken.

September 2020

- Since 28 September, the government is allowing **inter-regional travel between regions** that are no longer in quarantine (phase 3-5 of the [5-step plan](#)). This has also led to the reactivation of domestic flights by several airlines such as Sky and LATAM.
- The number of infections continues to decrease in most areas of the country. Only in the Magallanes region there is currently a smaller second wave of new infections. The cities of Punta Arenas, Puerto Natales and Porvenir are again in quarantine (stage 1) until further notice. Reopened national parks in this region have therefore had to close temporarily.
- The government has extended the state of emergency for a further 90 days and, for the time being, the curfew is also maintained throughout the country from 11pm to 5am.
- Since 2 September, **some districts of Santiago are already in step 3** of the 5-step plan launched by the government to contain the spread of coronavirus. Quarantine has been lifted in these districts, only the curfew from 23.00 to 5.00 in the morning remains in place. The districts which are still in step 1 and 2 are still quarantined 5-7 days a week depending on the phase. It is

encouraging that in all districts of Santiago or other areas of the country that are already in step 3, **restaurants, bars or cafes can reopen with some restrictions.**

- **Gradual reopening of some of the country's national parks** from September onwards, including the Alerce Costero National Park in the Los Ríos region, the Torres del Paine National Park in Patagonia as well as the Río Simpson and Coyhaique National Reserves in the Aysén region.

August 2020

- Several European and American **airlines have reactivated their flights to/from Chile** or are gradually increasing their frequencies. We have prepared a list of international flights of major airlines and when flights can be expected to restart.
- The **number of infections has already been decreasing for weeks**, so that several districts of Santiago and other parts of Chile are now also in the second stage and quarantine is only in effect on weekends and public holidays. The Aysén region of Patagonia as well as the lake district in Valdivia and its surroundings have already been in stage 4 for several weeks, so that in these regions tourist activities are possible to a limited extent.
- Regarding national borders, no official date has yet been given when they will be reopened completely. However, **entry into Chile** is currently possible upon proof of Chilean citizenship or residence in Chile. After entry a 14-day quarantine is mandatory. The exit from Chile is possible without restrictions.

July 2020

- The Chilean government introduced a [step-by-step plan](#) in July to control the pandemic depending on the health situation in each individual area. This plan consists of 5 steps: quarantine, transition, preparation, first opening and advanced opening, accompanied by specific restrictions during each stage.

May 2020

- Chile's local health authorities have introduced a number of measures to limit the spread of the virus in the country. For example, compulsory quarantine has been imposed on some districts or cities in the country, including districts in Santiago. From 15 May 10 pm, a complete quarantine is in effect for the city of Santiago and 6 neighbouring districts. If a city or district is under quarantine, it is generally possible to leave your home for certain purposes (doctor's visit, shopping, etc.) by applying online for "salvoconductos" (safe conduct).
- In addition, as of Friday, May 15, all adults over 75 years of age must undergo mandatory quarantine.

April 2020

- Since 17 April, wearing a face mask has also been compulsory in lifts and public places (including supermarkets, pharmacies, hotels, health care facilities).
- The use of public transport within Chile is possible to a limited extent and from April 8, 2020, it is mandatory to use a face mask in all public or private paid transport until further notice.
- All public events with more than 50 people are prohibited until further notice.

March 2020

- Starting on March 18, the borders of the country have been closed, both land, sea and air – for the transit of foreign people. This will not affect the entry and exit of cargo and personnel associated with that activity. Measure will be renewable according to need.
- The National State of Catastrophe announced on March 18, including a daily nationwide curfew from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m., continues to be in effect.
- Restaurants, malls, bars, shops and many hotels are currently closed along the country and currently only supermarkets, drugstores and petrol stations remain open. Schools, kindergardens and universities have been closed since 16th March.
- From Sunday, March 15 to September of this year, cruises are prohibited from calling in all Chilean ports, a measure implemented by DIRECTMAR.