

Equipment List

Patagonia Sea Kayaking

Careful equipment selection is essential for your overall health and comfort. Your thoroughness in this process will have a very direct impact on you and your expedition as a whole. Before selecting what to bring, buy, or borrow from a friend, it is important that you go over the equipment list carefully. Students often find they have spent unnecessary money for new gear that is unsuitable for the conditions we will encounter.

If you already own two items and are undecided which item would meet a particular equipment need, consider bringing both items to Patagonia. Prior to departure from the NOLS base, you and your instructors will work together to determine the best strategy. In advance of the course, NOLS Admissions in Lander may also be able to answer some of your equipment questions and to help you determine whether a particular item will be suitable.

If you are purchasing new items for your NOLS course, we suggest that you begin by visiting your local shops, (see the list of NOLS preferred retailers at <http://www.nols.edu/about/partnerships/retailers/>), and looking through mail order catalogues (Mt. Equipment Co-op, Eastern Mountain Sports, REI, etc.) and outdoor magazines (*Sea Kayaker*, *Canoe and Kayak*, *Outside*) for an approximate gauge of price range and varieties available. A quick internet search or magazine advertisements should point you towards a local shop. You may also consider mail order for your gear, however we do not recommend purchasing footwear in this manner. NOLS has an online store (<http://www.nols.edu/store>) if you wish to purchase items like wind pants, mugs, caps, etc. prior to your arrival. **There will be no opportunity to obtain equipment marked “Not Available from NOLS” on the following list once you arrive at NOLS Patagonia.**

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Admissions Office, NOLS, 284 Lincoln Street, Lander, WY 82520 or phone 800-710-NOLS, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. mountain time, Monday through Friday.

Equipment Rental Deposit and Bill Payment

All members of the expedition have been charged an equipment rental deposit (not included in the tuition). This deposit amount is based on an estimated rental charge for the course. Your actual charge will vary according to how many items you obtain from NOLS, and will be totaled at the end of the course. If you are due a refund from the deposit, it will be sent to your home by mail from the Lander Headquarters. No refunds will be given in Patagonia. If your total exceeds the deposit, the balance will be billed to your home. The deposit is intended to cover the cost of use, cleaning and normal wear and tear of the equipment. **Loss and damage costs will be charged to the individual or group depending on the situation.**

Luggage Storage and Transport

NOLS Patagonia has storage space: Items not needed for the expedition should fit in a moderate sized bag, which you may store at our headquarters at your own risk. During the course, NOLS will transport expedition gear to and from meeting points at your own risk.

Please study this section carefully. It cannot be emphasized too strongly that your choice of personal gear could be crucial to the success of the expedition. The availability of each item is indicated as follows:

Purchase Only - Indicates that the item is available from NOLS for **PURCHASE ONLY**.

Not Available from NOLS – Indicates the item is **NOT AVAILABLE** from NOLS. You must bring these with you.

Rental - Indicates you can rent the item from NOLS Patagonia.

Prices are projected for current courses at NOLS. Purchase price listed is for new gear; used gear will be discounted proportionally according to amount of wear.

ALL PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND AVAILABILITY



Clothing

The use of clothing systems to stay healthy and comfortable in adverse conditions is a fundamental aspect of the NOLS curriculum. Your primary tool is judgment, not technology. People climbed mountains and kayaked on oceans long before Gore-Tex or Polarguard existed. The new fabrics and materials simply increase the level of comfort and performance. Select for function and durability and remember you will be wearing these clothes for your entire course so choose something you'll be happy wearing. Minimizing weight is a high priority on an extended expedition. Whenever possible, choose equipment that fills multiple needs and potentially enables another item to be left behind. If you are purchasing equipment, scrutinize product information and select the lightest possible combinations offering **reliable** quality and durability.

Upper Body

Choose a combination of 3 to 4 layers from the following options: You will need garments that can be comfortably layered. A variety of weights and insulating values works well to mix and match, as conditions will vary. Most instructors will recommend a system of one long-sleeve light weight base layer, then 2½ to 3½ insulating layers that can be intermixed or worn together, in addition to wind or rain shell layers. A few thoughts on materials: **Cotton does not go into the field!** Synthetics are highly recommended because they are lightweight and dry quickly; wool is also an option. Note that some items are considered a half-layer. **Example System 1:** One lightweight short or long-sleeve, One mid-weight long-sleeve, One expedition-weight long sleeve, one fleece vest, and one fleece jacket or insulated jacket. **Example System 2:** One lightweight long sleeve, one mid-weight long-sleeve, one expedition-weight long-sleeve, one fleece jacket or insulated jacket.

| Equipment | Rental Price | Purchase Price | Quantity | Comments | Check List |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------|--|------------|
| Base Layer Lightweight and Mid-weight Top(s) | Purchase Only | \$42-\$72 | 1-2 | Required. One of these layers should be lightweight for warm conditions. Other tops (1 or 2) mid-weight serve for layering and warmth. A zippered turtleneck increases warmth, but silk-weight and other very lightweight synthetic or wool tops are considered a half layer. | |
| Short Sleeve Shirt | Not available from NOLS | Not available from NOLS | 1 | Optional. A quick dry t-shirt or button down will be very useful on really hot days. Any short sleeve is considered a half layer. | |
| Sports Bra | Purchase Only | \$43-55 | 1-2 | Recommended. NOLS Patagonia has sports bras from Patagonia and Brooks for sale. | |
| Synthetic Insulated or Fleece Vest | \$6 | Rental | 1 | Optional. This is considered a half layer. Great for cool mornings on the sea. Down is not acceptable. NOLS Patagonia has fleece vests for rent. | |
| Expedition-Weight Top | Purchase Only | \$85-165 | 1 | Recommended. Heavier than med-weight, but lighter than a fleece jacket. Many students find it to be their most versatile layer. NOLS Patagonia has Patagonia R1 Hoody w/NOLS logo and Velocity for sale. | |
| Fleece Jacket | \$9 | Rental | 1 | Optional. Great warmth-to-weight ratio, but bulkier than a synthetic insulated jacket. Look for 300 wt. fleece. | |
| Synthetic Insulated Jacket | Purchase Only | \$160-200 | 1 | Required. A synthetic insulated jacket is lightweight, packs small and makes a good third layer. This jacket should fit over your other layers and under your rain jacket. You will need this or a fleece jacket, but not both. NOLS Patagonia has Mountain Hardwear and Montbell hooded jackets with the NOLS logo for sale. Down is not acceptable. | |
| Wind Shirt | \$10 | Rental | 1 | Recommended. A breathable nylon wind shell with hood. Select for minimal weight, but bear in mind that this layer may take a lot of abuse. Available for sale at the NOLS online store. | |



Upper Body (Continued)

| Equipment | Rental Price | Purchase Price | Quantity | Comments | Check List |
|---------------------------|---------------|----------------|----------|---|------------|
| Rain Jacket | Purchase Only | \$110-\$220 | 1 | Required. A light, durable, and roomy garment. Cagoules and anoraks are acceptable designs, but not ponchos. This garment should be fully waterproof and have a hood. Gore-Tex is a good option. NOLS has Patagonia and Mountain Hardwear jackets for sale. Must fit over all insulating layers. | |
| Heavy Storm Jacket & Bibs | \$12 Each | Rental | 1 | Required. If you bring your own, think “heavy-duty fisherman style”. Peter Storm, Helly Hansen, Grunden’s, or their equivalent, are all acceptable. If you do not already own these, we recommend that you rent from NOLS Patagonia. We stock Helly Hansen storm gear. | |
| Paddling Jacket | \$15-27 | Rental | 1 | Required. A paddling-specific jacket with neoprene closures on the wrists will keep you much drier than a regular rain jacket while paddling. A hood is a great feature for rainy travel days. NOLS Patagonia has Kokatat GoreTex Paddle Jackets with and without hoods for rent. | |

Lower Body

As with upper body layers, synthetic is preferable to wool for its quicker drying time in this wet environment. You will need to have a total of 2-3 insulating lower body layers. Shorts, rain and wind pants would be in addition to this.

| Equipment | Rental Price | Purchase Price | Quantity | Comments | Check List |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|--|------------|
| Long Underwear Bottoms | Purchase Only | \$42-50 | 1-2 pairs | Required. These should be mid-weight, synthetic or wool models. Cotton and cotton blends are not acceptable. Many students have recommended 2 pairs. | |
| Underwear | Purchase Only | \$22-36 | 2-3 | Optional. You will need 2-3 pairs while in the field. You might have one for wearing, one for drying and one for rotation. Synthetic underwear is preferable though women may consider cotton for hygiene purposes. | |
| Hiking Shorts | Not Available from NOLS | Not Available from NOLS | 1 pair | Optional. Nylon shorts with a liner are lightweight and dry quickly. Convertible pants also work great. | |
| Synthetic Insulated or Expedition-Weight Fleece Pants | \$8 | Rental | 1 pair | Required, but optional if using 2 pair of long underwear. These should fit comfortably over a light layer of underwear. A full-length zipper is convenient but possibly uncomfortable in the kayak. NOLS Patagonia rents fleece pants. | |
| Wind Pants | Purchase Only | \$65 | 1 | Recommended, strongly. Trekking pants or breathable, single-layer nylon wind pants (not waterproof) must fit comfortably over long underwear or fleece pants. Patches to reinforce the knees and seat are strongly recommended. The ultra-classic NOLS wind pants are specially made for us and are for sale at NOLS Patagonia and through the online store. | |
| Rain Pants | Purchase Only | \$95-110 | 1 pair | Required. A light, strong roomy pant works best. A full-length zipper is very convenient. NOLS has light, non-zippered rain pants by Patagonia and Mountain Hardwear for sale. | |



| Footwear | | | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|--|------------|
| Equipment | Rental Price | Purchase Price | Quantity | Comments | Check List |
| Socks | Purchase Only | \$14 | 3-4 pairs | Required. Heavy wool or synthetic socks. | |
| Rubber Boots | \$16 | Rent | 1 pair | <p>Required. During the kayaking section, calf to knee-high rubber boots that fit comfortably with two pairs of wool socks will be worn.</p> <p>If you have a shoe size of 12 or larger, we recommend that you look into buying a pair of hard soled neoprene booties to wear as your paddling shoes because big boots can be difficult or uncomfortable to wear inside the kayak. NRS and Chota make a tall, low profile neoprene bootie worth checking out.</p> <p>If you own a pair of boots that meet the above requirements, you can bring those. Extra-tuff and LaCrosse are recommended brands. NOLS has men's sizes 7-13 ExtraTuffs. If your feet are larger than a 12, you must bring your own rubber boots, as we cannot guarantee size availability.</p> | |
| Wool Felt Insoles | Purchase Only | \$5 | 1 pair | Strongly Recommended. These are used to insulate your feet from the cold chill of the sea. NOLS Patagonia has Lacrosse felt insoles for sale. | |
| River Sandals | Not Available from NOLS | Not Available from NOLS | 1 pair | Optional. These should be made of rubber/nylon, and have a secure heel strap - leather sandals and flip-flops are not acceptable. Sandals that allow for wearing a sock are preferable. While sunny warm days might be few or non-existent, these will be useful for allowing your feet to dry out and breathe on a dryer day in camp. | |
| Camp Shoes | Not Available from NOLS | Not Available from NOLS | 1 pair | Required. For wear around NOLS base camp and in town. A very light running shoe or sneaker is recommended. Students and Instructors have suggested CROCS without holes as a good camp shoe, easier to dry and lighter to carry than sneakers. | |

| Sleeping Gear | | | | | |
|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------|--|------------|
| Equipment | Rental Price | Purchase Price | Quantity | Comments | Check List |
| Sleeping Bag | \$50 | Rental | 1 | Required. NOLS Patagonia has the Mountain Hardwear Lamina 0° (-18°C) for rent. If you are bringing your own, it must be synthetic fill (e.g. Polarguard), 0°F to 15°F, with a hood. Down is not acceptable, nor are bags with cotton linings. | |
| Sleeping Pad | Purchase Only | \$45-60 | 1 | Required. Choose either a closed cell foam pad with a 3/8" thickness, or an inflatable. If you are buying an inflatable, choose a lightweight model of the shortest possible length (does not need to be full length as the half pad can make up the difference). Thermarest, Pacific Outdoor, and Bridge Outdoors are reliable brands. NOLS Patagonia has full length and ¾ length pads from Bridge Outdoors for sale. | |



| Sleeping Gear (Continued) | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------|--|------------|
| Equipment | Rental Price | Purchase Price | Quantity | Comments | Check List |
| Half Pad | \$2 | Rental | 1 | Recommended. A half-pad increases insulation, while on snow, and serves as a portable seat for meetings. The foam pad can be a short-cut piece of ensolite, 2-3 ft. long. This option is lighter than a Crazy Creek chair. | |
| Crazy Creek | Not Available from NOLS | Not Available from NOLS | 1 | Optional. Heavier and bulkier than the half pad, but more comfortable and nearly indispensable on the beach. | |
| Compression Stuff Sack | \$5 | Rental | 1-2 | Required. This is to pack your sleeping bag and other clothing layers that you will not need to access during the day. | |
| Sleeping Pad Stuff Sack | Not Available from NOLS | Not Available from NOLS | 1 | Recommended. A nylon sack to protect the environment from your ensolite/Therma-Rest and vice versa. | |

| Head and Hands | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------|--|------------|
| Equipment | Rental Price | Purchase Price | Quantity | Comments | Check List |
| Liner Gloves | Purchase Only | \$12 | 1 pair | Optional. Lightweight polypro liners. Useful on warmer days by themselves. | |
| Insulating Mittens/Gloves | Purchase Only | \$15 | 1 pair | Required. Wool or fleece. NOLS has fleece gloves and mittens for sale. | |
| Neoprene Gloves | Not Available from NOLS | Not Available from NOLS | 1 | Optional. Neoprene gloves could be worn on the sea and in camp for warm-while-wet protection. | |
| Pogies | \$4 | Rental | 1 | Required. An insulating neoprene mitten-like layer that fits over a paddle shaft for cold, wet days on the water. Warmer than neoprene gloves. | |
| Wool/Fleece Hat | Purchase Only | \$15 | 1-2 | Required. A ski hat is fine, perhaps with ear-flaps for added protection. Consider wearing 1 with your Hooded Paddle Jacket and having another for camp. | |
| Balaclava/Neckwarmer | \$4 | Rental | 1 | Recommended. Fleece, polypropylene or wool to provide protection and insulation in combination with your hat. Balaclavas offer great versatility. | |
| Sou'wester Hat | \$3 | Rental | 1 | Required, if your paddling jacket does not have a hood. This hat is waterproof, large-brimmed and has a chin-strap for windy days. Outdoor Research, Kokatat and Helly Hansen all make quality options. NOLS Patagonia has Helly Hansen rubber rain hats for rent. | |
| Sun Hat | Purchase Only | \$12-15 | 1 | Required. Consider a full brim for maximum protection. A typical baseball cap is acceptable; a nylon model will dry more quickly. NOLS Patagonia has hemp and trucker hats with the NOLS logo for sale. | |
| Sunglasses | Purchase Only | \$53-76 | 1 | Required. The drugstore counter varieties are likely unsuitable, so head for your local outdoor store. Please bring a durable case to protect your glasses as well as Chums or another retainer. NOLS Patagonia has Optic Nerve sunglasses for sale. Polarized lenses are nice. | |



| Bags | | | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|----------------|----------|--|------------|
| Equipment | Rental Price | Purchase Price | Quantity | Comments | Check List |
| Boat Bag | \$9 | Rental | 1 | Required. This is a large, but lightweight, Cordura zip duffel that is used for storing all your smaller bags while in camp and traveling to and from the field. We recommend renting one of ours, as this item tends to take a lot of abuse. If you choose to bring your own, make sure it is made of a sturdy fabric, with a strong zipper, and that it will roll up to a small size for storing in your kayak while traveling. | |
| Small Nylon Stuff Sacks | \$1 | Rental | 2-3 | Recommended. Used to organize personal effects and gear in your boat and dry bags. 1L-8L are good sizes. | |
| Kayak Dry Bag | Purchase Only | \$27 -35 | 2-3 | Strongly, Recommended. Small and Medium size (5 -15 L) for packing clothes in the boats. A nylon stuff sack or small zip duffel lined with a plastic bag is an easy alternative that works great. NOLS Patagonia sells logoed Dry bags, 5L, 10L and 15L. | |
| Small Nylon Zip Bag | \$3 | Rental | 1 | Required. A small, durable zip duffel (approx. 10" x 18"), which will be lined with a plastic bag to make a waterproof lap bag while traveling. This bag should be just large enough for an extra layer, hat, snacks, sunscreen and a small camera/binoculars. A similar size dry bag (10L) can work as well or better. | |
| Heavy Duty Trash Bags | Purchase Only | \$1.50 | 3-4 | Required. These are used to waterproof your clothing and sleeping bag. The Chilean stores don't stock strong compactor bags in small or regular sizes. We suggest you to bring some from home in small and medium volumes | |

| Miscellaneous Personal Gear | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------|--|------------|
| Important: Keep in mind that small items such as sunscreen, lip balm, bandanas, watch, trash bags may be less expensive and easier to buy at home than in Chile. Coyhaique is a small remote town with limited availability of everything and where all prices tend to increase due to the costs of shipping and taxes. | | | | | |
| Equipment | Rental Price | Purchase Price | Quantity | Comments | Check List |
| Hand Sanitizer | Purchase Only | \$2. | 1 | Recommended. One travel-sized bottle is required for your course. You can choose to bring your own small bottle or purchase it at our base. | |
| Cotton Bandanas | Purchase Only | \$2.50 | 1-2 | Recommended. Useful for all sorts of things. | |
| Headlamp | Purchase Only | \$40 | 1 | Required. Lightweight is preferable. Bring 2 sets of batteries, or more if you use a super bright halogen bulb. Lithium battery headlamps work well in cold weather. If you will be using lithium batteries, 1-2 sets should be sufficient. NOLS Patagonia offers Petzl headlamps for sale. | |
| Extra Bulb for Headlamp | Not Available from NOLS | Not Available from NOLS | 1 | Recommended. Just in case. | |
| Batteries AA, AAA | Purchase Only | \$0.75 each | 2 sets | Recommended. 1 set in addition to the set already in your headlamp. | |
| Notepad or Journal | Purchase Only | \$9 | 1 | Required. Notebooks are required for class notes and are nice to have for personal writing. NOLS Patagonia sells NOLS Expedition Journals.. | |



| Miscellaneous Personal Gear (Continued) | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|---|------------|
| Equipment | Rental Price | Purchase Price | Quantity | Comments | Check List |
| Pens/Pencils | Purchase Only | \$0.50 | Several | Required. Please bring more than one. | |
| Sunscreen | Purchase Only | \$16 | 1 medium tube | Required. SPF 30 at least and should be water repellent. Keep in mind that sunscreen and lip balms are expensive in Chile. | |
| Lip Balm | Purchase Only | \$4.50 | 1-2 | Required. SPF 15 or greater. Carmex is not suitable, as it has no sunscreen. | |
| Toiletry Items | Not Available from NOLS | Not Available from NOLS | | Toothbrush, toothpaste, contact lens solution, comb, tampons, etc. This is an area to minimize weight by bringing only what you need: no more, no less. Remember, you've got to carry it! | |
| Insulated Mug | Purchase Only | \$10 | 1 | Required. Make sure it is unbreakable! It must withstand boiling water, cold and abuse. Insulated NOLS mugs are available at NOLS Patagonia. Your mug should be at least 12 oz. | |
| Spoon | Purchase Only | \$1 | 1 | Required. Must be durable – helps if it fits inside of the bowl. | |
| Bowl (Ideally wth lid) | Purchase Only | \$4 | 1 | Required. We highly recommend that your bowl have a tight lid to carry leftovers on the trail. Tupperware is a good option, as is the Rubbermaid “Flex & Seal” medium-sized bowl. The Chilean market doesn’t offer any model of bowl that is sturdy for a NOLS course. They all seem to crack and break easily. We recommend you to bring your bowl from home. | |
| Water Bottle | Purchase Only | \$12-14 | 2 | Required. 1 L capacity minimum. Wide mouth is convenient. Should be indestructible! Consider bringing an additional 1/2 L bottle instead of a mug. NOLS Patagonia has 16oz. water bottles with the NOLS logo for sale. | |
| Hydration System | Purchase Only | \$42 | 1 | Optional. Water bag with drinking tube that can fit in a backpack. Not required, but many folks have recommended them. Camelbak, Platypus and MSR all make excellent water bag/drinking tube systems. You will also need a 1L water bottle to carry a total of 2L. | |
| Watch | Not Available from NOLS | Not Available from NOLS | 1 | Required. Waterproof, with an alarm. Bring your own watch or buy in your travels before the start of the course. | |
| Lighter | Purchase Only | \$2.50 | 2 | Required. For starting stoves and fires. | |
| Small Waterproof Bags | Not Available from NOLS | Not Available from NOLS | Several | Recommended. For books, passport, papers etc. Nothing bigger than 8" X 12". Classic Freezer Zip-lock (not with sliders) bags or small stuff sacks lined with a plastic bag are good options. | |
| Small Carabiners | Not Available from NOLS | Not Available from NOLS | 1-2 | Optional. They are very useful for clipping things. | |
| Extra Glasses or Contacts | Not Available from NOLS | Not Available from NOLS | | Required. If you wear prescription lenses, bring a spare set. Purchase all contact solution before you arrive. If your natural vision is significantly limited, bring prescription sunglasses. We recommend keeping your glasses safe in your carry-on luggage during your travel to Patagonia. | |



| Optional Items | | | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------|---|------------|
| Equipment | Rental Price | Purchase Price | Quantity | Comments | Check List |
| Fishing Rod, Reel and Tackle | Not Available from NOLS | Not Available from NOLS | 1 | 5 or 6 weight, 4 to 7 piece travel rod highly recommended, extra spool is optional. Past students have suggested a "tough" rod tube for traveling in/out of the field. | |
| Camera and Film | Not Available from NOLS | Not Available from NOLS | 1 | You will want a protective, waterproof container. Keep this light, simple and small, as you will have to carry the extra weight! Dry boxes and dry bags (e.g. Pelican Cases or Sportsbags) are available from most outdoor stores. If you are investing in a new camera or binoculars for this trip, consider those that are water resistant. Because of the likelihood of adverse weather, avid photographers may be interested in bringing a small "point and shoot." | |
| Knife | Not Available from NOLS | Not Available from NOLS | 1 | A small, lightweight, single blade is all you will need. A knife with a locking system is recommended (this will prevent the knife from closing accidentally). Do not carry this item on the plane... | |
| Binoculars | Not Available from NOLS | Not Available from NOLS | 1 | A pair of small, light 7x 20 or 8 x 20 binoculars will enhance your enjoyment of the wildlife. You need a protective, waterproof container for these. | |
| Book | Not Available from NOLS | Not Available from NOLS | 1 | One is fine. When you're done, you can trade with a tent mate. | |
| Coffee | Not Available from NOLS | Not Available from NOLS | | NOLS does not have coffee for sale. If you are attached to a particular brand/type, we suggest you bring it from home. If you choose to bring ground coffee, you may consider a small, Lexan (unbreakable plastic) coffee press. The other less expensive option is to make coffee "cowboy" style, using a bandana to strain the grounds. | |
| Earplugs | Not Available from NOLS | Not Available from NOLS | 1 pair | Earplugs are great for traveling, and great for sharing tents with loud sleepers. | |
| Thermos | Purchase Only | \$20 | 1 | Very Highly recommended! A good quality, 1L, non-breakable thermos to keep water hot for quick drinks and emergencies. | |
| Umbrella | Must Bring | Must Bring | 1 | A big golf one! We know, you think it's a joke, but some people won't go kayaking without one. | |

| Pre- and Post-Course Travel | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| Photos of Family and Friends, Small Map | | | | It's great to have photos of your community back home to share with people you meet. Chileans are very family oriented and will always ask about your family and hometown. | |
| Small Towel, Shampoo, Soap, Deodorant | | | | Only for pre and post-course use. Travel-size. | |



| Pre- and Post-Course Travel (Continued) | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|---|--|
| Insect Repellent | | | | Optional, our course dates are post-mosquito season at the end of the summer. | |
| Energy Bars | | | | Some students in the past have recommended bringing a few of these from home. We have Power Bars available for sale at NOLS Patagonia. Keep in mind the NOLS rations provide snacks/trail food. All food is locally purchased in Chile. | |
| English/Spanish Pocket Dictionary and Phrase Book | | | | Optional, but a small, travel edition can be helpful throughout the course unless you are fluent in Spanish. Plastic bindings are best. | |

Passport: Also bring a photocopy of the identification page. **You need to retain your Tourist Visa that you'll receive upon entering the country.** For more information, see the Travel & Logistics section of your pre-course information packet.

Group Gear

Group gear is distributed among all expedition members. The specific equipment taken on your course will be determined by the anticipated weather and terrain and the number of group members. All of this equipment is provided by NOLS and is included in your tuition; it is NOT a part of your personal rental fee.

- Multi Fuel Stove and Cook Gear
- Sea Kayaks and Paddles and emergency gear
- Chilean Maps and Charts
- Food Bags
- Fuel Bottles
- Repair Kits
- Shovels
- PFDs- Personal Floatation Device

Group Library: Books can range from flora and fauna, technical skills, environmental adequate issues, to Chilean history and politics.

First Aid Kits: Our instructors bring a first aid and drug kit, so no need to bring your own.

The expedition format of the course emphasizes the importance of equipment care: The success of your expedition is highly dependent on the performance of your gear which in turn depends on the care that YOU give it!

Gear maintenance and repair will be ongoing. Normal wear and tear is expected, and most repairs can be successfully executed in the field. However, students will be held financially responsible for the loss of any items and for any damage that is due to mistreatment or neglect. This could be as small as a lost \$6.00 cook spoon or as large as a poorly treated \$700 tent. At the end of the course, a group gear “damage and loss” charge will be calculated and distributed among the appropriate members of the course. Individuals or groups of individuals will be held fully accountable if they alone bear the responsibility for the loss or damage.