

Travel & Logistics

Kellogg School of Management Leadership Expedition

Quick Run-Down of Key Information

When: You should plan to arrive at least one full day before your course, and plan to leave at least one full day after.

Where: Your course starts and ends in Coyhaique in the Aysen region of Chile.

How to Get There: Fly into Balmaceda, Chile (Airport Code BBA) and take a transfer bus to Coyhaique.

Lodging: Hotels, hostels, guesthouses are available in Coyhaique (see below for suggestions) for before and after your course.

Passport/Visa: You must have a valid passport and a tourist card for the duration of your stay in Chile.

Other Details: Money, Food, Language, Traveler's Health Issues (see below).

Welcome to NOLS Patagonia!

Your course will begin and end in the city of Coyhaique, the administrative capital of Coyhaique province and the Region of Aysen. It is the largest town in the area, and provides the best launching spot for remote travel in this part of Patagonia. Please use the information below to help organize your travels to and from your course. Begin your preparations as soon as possible, as it can take several weeks to obtain your passport, inoculations and to make travel plans.

NOLS Professional Training (Lander, WY, USA)	NOLS Patagonia (Coyhaique, CHILE)
Ph: 1-800-710-NOLS x3 – from within the USA	Ph: 011 (56) (67) – 57 30 65 (as dialed from the US)
Ph: 001 (307) 332-2220 – from Chile	Ph: (067) – 57 30 65 (as dialed within Chile)
Fax: (307) 332-8811	Office Mobile: 011 (56-9) – 81 99 5228 (as dialed from the US)
Email: nolspro@nols.edu	Office Mobile: 09 – 81995228 (as dialed from a landline in Chile)
Website: http://www.nols.edu	Office Mobile: 81995228 (as dialed from a mobile in Chile)
	Email: nols_patagonia@nols.edu

You will get more out of your experience if you are familiar with the geography, history, politics, culture and language of Patagonia. As a suggested start to your education, consider reviewing the *Background Notes* on Chile, available from the U.S. State Department web site: <http://www.state.gov/>

How to Get Here

Travel Arrangements

You are responsible for your own travel arrangements (including ground transportation from the airport to Coyhaique). If you use a travel agency to book your flights, please be sure to remind them that you absolutely must be in Coyhaique at least one full day before the starting date of your course. If there are airline schedule changes, you need to be told well in advance. On the far end, please be sure to leave Coyhaique no sooner than a full day after the course. This will allow for flexibility in the unlikely event that the course is delayed due to weather, illness, or other unforeseen circumstances.

We recommend that you use the services of Inspired Journeys. Inspired Journeys is owned and operated by Becky Detimore who has been arranging international travel for NOLS students and staff for many years. Becky understands the unique needs of NOLS students and the intricacies involved with getting students to our far-flung NOLS locations. In a number of instances she has also been able to negotiate fares that are better than available published fares. She can be reached at inspire@stx.rr.com; phone (888) 846-0799, or fax (630) 839-5889

Transportation Options

We recommend **travel by air**. It is the easiest, fastest and potentially most economic way to get to NOLS Patagonia. You should book your flight to carry you to Balmaceda airport (airport code BBA). Flights from North America will land in Santiago to pass through customs and immigration before continuing on. You will need to claim and re-check your luggage following customs (see below for details of Immigration and Customs). To re-check, you must take your baggage to the domestic counter for your air carrier (either Sky Airlines or LAN Chile) The flight from Santiago to Balmaceda usually lasts 3-4 hours with a stop in Puerto Montt.

You will need to take a shuttle van (called a *transfer*) from the Balmaceda airport to the hotel/hostal of your choice (see below). You can purchase your shuttle ticket at the counters near the baggage claim area. Expect to pay ~\$4,000 Chilean pesos.



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If you have the time and wish to see some of Chile prior to your course, you can try to travel overland from Santiago to Coyhaique. There are **buses to Coyhaique** available, but the schedules vary and you may find that a bus runs only once per week. Rates vary by company. The more expensive bus lines offer bingo and snacks while traveling with a minimum of stops. We recommend Turbus and Bus Sur for superior service and quality. The *Estación Central*, the central bus station, is your best bet for a wide selection of bus companies to choose from. You can get to the *Estacion Central* via bus or taxi from the International Airport in Santiago.

There is also a **ferry** (operated by the company Navimag (<http://www.navimag.com>) that sails from Puerto Montt to Puerto Chacabuco (about an hour bus ride from Coyhaique) once a week.

For other travel options in Chile, there are Sernatur offices (Chilean Government Tourist offices <http://www.sernatur.cl>) located in all major towns and cities. They are a good source for publications and maps. Santiago has two Sernatur offices. One is located at the International Airport and the other is located downtown. If you plan to travel more extensively, a “Lonely Planet” guide for Chile (<http://lonelyplanet.com>) or other travel guide might be useful.

Planning Your Arrival

Course Meeting Time and Location

You will need to be at the **Plaza de las Armas** (central square, near the Ricer Café), in Coyhaique, Chile at **7:00 a.m.** on the day your course is scheduled to begin. Please be at the meeting **on time**, with your **passport** and **tourist card**, and with all personal business completed.

If Delayed

If it becomes evident that you will arrive late to Coyhaique and will not make the course starting time, please contact NOLS Professional Training at the NOLS Headquarters in Wyoming **immediately** at 800-710-NOLS x 3 or (307) 332-2220. If you are in Chile, call the NOLS Patagonia branch directly at (067) 57 30 65. You can also send an email to nols_patagonia@community.nols.edu. Be prepared to give your full name, course code and your whereabouts.

The First Day

We will pick you up at the location and time mentioned above. Please check out of your hostel/hotel before the pick-up time on the first day. Because the first day is busy, we ask that all personal matters (phone calls, letters, email, travel arrangements, etc.) be taken care of before your course begins. Likewise, if you have specific shopping needs that cannot be met by NOLS (see your equipment list), please be sure to take care of them beforehand. There won't be an opportunity to get to town once your course starts. We will bring you to the NOLS *campo*, a farm of several hundred acres located 11 km. from Coyhaique, where we will have brief introductions and a light breakfast. After a brief orientation, you will go straight into your course.

The Last Day

At the end of your course, we will bring you back to the NOLS base, where you will return and clean equipment, and complete post-course formalities. We will provide a Chilean-style barbeque in celebration of your graduation. NOLS will provide transportation from the NOLS base to Coyhaique on the afternoon of the last day of your course. You will need to be prepared to provide your own lodging this evening.

Pre and Post-Course Travel Considerations

Coyhaique is generally a safe town/small city. However, after dark we encourage you to take a cab instead of walking. Consider that you are visitors to Chile and guests of its people and are expected to act appropriately in that role. You are also representatives of your country and of NOLS Patagonia. NOLS has a good reputation in Coyhaique, and we hope you will help us to maintain it.

Customs and Immigration

You are entering Chile as a **tourist, not a student**. You will need a valid passport for the duration of your stay in South America. US citizens can find information on obtaining a passport at <http://www.state.gov/travel>

US citizens visiting Chile for the first time will be charged a **Reciprocity Fee** (currently \$140—cash only) upon entry into Chile. Save the receipt, as it is valid for the life of your passport. Note that this is not your tourist card. Paying this fee makes



you eligible for the tourist card, which is free.

Visa Requirements for North Americans

A visa is not required for U.S. or Canadian citizens to visit Chile. Upon entry, you will be given a tourist card, which is good for 90 days. Be sure to **keep this card** – and any other documents you receive from immigration. Your tourist card must still be valid on the day that you leave Chile, or you will incur substantial fines.

Non-US or non-Canadian citizens should check with the nearest Chilean consulate to see if they require a visa or not. We require that all students who need visas for Chile obtain one prior to their course.

We recommend checking with your airline, too, to confirm what documents are required for entering Chile and to confirm that your travel dates will work. Please contact the Chilean Embassy for details and to get the latest requirements, because they are subject to change: www.chile-usa.org

Lodging

You are responsible for making your own reservations and the cost of lodging for the time before your course starts and after it ends. Your lodging while on your course is provided by NOLS: you will be camping for the duration of the course.

Here are some lodging options in Coyhaique. Contact these businesses directly for information on pricing and availability:

<u>Premium:</u>	<u>Mid-priced:</u>	<u>Less Expensive:</u>
Hostería Coyhaique Magallanes 131 Phone: 56-67-231137 Fax: 56-67-233274 E-mail: reservation@hotelcoyhaique.cl Web Site: www.hotelcoyhaique.cl	Hostal Las Araucarias Obispo Vielmo 71 c/Magallanes Phone: 56-67-232707 E-mail: carlosmora.911@hotmail.com	Residencial Monica Eusebio Lillo 664 Phone: (56)(67)234302
Hotel Luis Loyola Arturo Prat 455 Phone/Fax: 56-67-234-200/ or 56-67-234201 E-mail: hoteloyola@patagoniachile.cl Web Site: www.hoteloyola.cl	Hotel Los Ñires Baquedano 315 Phone: 56-67-232261 Fax: 56-67-233372 E-mail: info@doncarlos.cl	Albergue Las Salamandras Camino Aeropuerto Tte.Vidal(km.1.5) Phone: 56-67-211865 E-mail: info@salamandras.cl http://www.salamandras.cl

The following places are other options. If calling from the USA, dial 011-56-67- and then the number indicated:

Name	Address	Phone
Hospedaje Sra Blanca	Simpson #459	232158
Hospedaje Nathy	Simpson #417	231047
Hospedaje María Ester	Lautaro #544	233023
Hospedaje Lautaro	Lautaro #269	238116
Hospedaje Maryo	Lillo #521	231614
Hostal Belisario Jara	Bilbao #662	234150
Hostal Austral	Colon #203	232522
Hotelera San Sebastian	Baquedano #496	233021
Cabañas la Estancia	Colon 166	250193

Other Logistics Details

Luggage

You will be able to store some luggage with NOLS Patagonia while you are in the field. Please keep it to a reasonable amount, as our space is limited, and keep in mind that we cannot guarantee security.

Language

Spanish is the official language of Chile. Although there is some English spoken in Santiago and Puerto Montt, it is rarely



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spoken elsewhere. Learning basic Spanish will make traveling easier and allow greater cultural interaction. We recommend a Spanish-English pocket dictionary/phrase book to use during your travels.

Money Exchange

The currency in Chile is the Chilean peso (CLP). The rate of exchange with the US dollar fluctuates daily. The following link can give you up-to-date exchange rates: <http://www.xe.com/ucc/>. \$50 and \$100 USD bills can be difficult to exchange. We recommend traveling with crisp clean \$20s. Traveler's checks can also be difficult to exchange. You cannot change cash in banks, but in Coyhaique there are "Casas de Cambio" where you can exchange money.

Visa, Master Card, and American Express credit cards are all accepted throughout Chile in many hotels, restaurants and super markets. Cash advance machines (ATMs) are common, very convenient for travelers in Chile, and often offer the best exchange rates. When withdrawing from an ATM it is necessary to select "*Cliente Extranjero*" ("Foreign Client") from the screen prompts.

Make sure you have Chilean pesos before you arrive at the Balmaceda airport. You can easily exchange US dollars or withdraw pesos at the airport in Santiago.

Personal Expenses

Once your course is in the field, there will be little opportunity to spend money. Former students have recommended bringing a small amount of travel money (5,000 – 20,000 pesos in small bills) for the drive to and from your course area. Once your course has begun, there won't be an opportunity for you to change money – make sure you take care of this prior to the start day. Your personal expenses pre- and post course depend entirely on your style of travel. Chile costs about the same as the US for comparable tourist facilities.

During your course - from the morning of the course start date until the afternoon of the final day of the course - NOLS will cover the cost of food, transportation, and instruction, as well as the group equipment indicated on the equipment list. You are responsible for the cost of lodging on the nights before the course start date, and on the last night of the course. **You are responsible for personal medical bills, any evacuation fees if you need to be evacuated from the field, and for bringing personal equipment listed as *not available* on the course equipment list.** Tuition and evacuation insurance is available. Please reference http://www.nols.edu/nolspro/custom_courses/kellogg.shtml for details.

Traveler's Health

Vaccinations

Currently, there are **no vaccinations required by the United States or Chilean governments** for exit or entry if traveling between these countries. Regulations and recommendations can change fairly often, however, so you and/or your physician should check with the US Center for Disease Control website www.cdc.gov for current information. The CDC also has a toll free International Travelers information line, 877-FYI-TRIP (877-394-8747), to request information on diseases specific to international travel. The CDC information is available from their website or via fax.

Even though none are required by the US or Chilean departments of health, **NOLS recommends** that all students traveling to Chile receive certain vaccines. As a series of inoculations can often take months, we suggest you begin early. The following are NOLS' recommendations based on information from the CDC. We request that you consult your personal physician in this regard, as individual requirements may vary. If you are traveling to other parts of South America before or after your course, please be aware that requirements may differ.

NOLS Recommendations:

- *Tetanus and diphtheria toxins*: You **must** have a current tetanus immunization for your course.
- *Measles, Mumps and Rubella*: Persons born after 1956 should have a documented history of immunization.
- *Poliovirus vaccine*: Immunization is strongly recommended for adults traveling in South America. Two types of poliovirus vaccine are available, and whether you require a booster or a full primary course will depend on your previous immunizations. Again, check with your doctor.
- *Hepatitis A*: either vaccine (Havix or Twinrix) or Immune Globulin.
- *Typhoid*: Vaccinations are recommended for travelers going off the usual tourist itineraries and/or those traveling for 6 weeks or more.

Vaccinations should be recorded in the official document "International Certificate of Vaccination" available from the U.S.



Public Health Service or its equivalent in other countries, or from your doctor. This is also a good place to record your prescriptions, eyeglass needs, medical problems such as allergies, and any other information of a medical nature. Please record your blood type on the front page of this booklet.

Other Medical Concerns

Chile has adequate public and private health facilities. In all major population centers there are well-equipped hospitals with expert staff. By law, blood at these hospitals is screened for AIDS. (Chile has reported a very low incident rate of AIDS.) Communications and infrastructure enable transfer of patients from regional hospitals to the large Santiago hospitals if the need arises. All our instructors are certified Wilderness First Responders, trained in back-country first aid to deal with emergency medical situations. Remember, however, we will be in remote locales where immediate medical attention is often many days away.

Cholera

A cholera vaccine is not required for travel to or from cholera infected areas. Cholera is best avoided by following basic hygiene practices, and avoiding fresh foods and untreated water, in infected areas. North Americans living and traveling overseas in regions where cholera is present are at a very low risk of contracting the disease if they follow the recommended practices.

Traveler's Diarrhea

Diarrhea is by far the most frequent health problem of travelers to South America. Traveler's diarrhea is caused by a variety of infectious agents and the spectrum of clinical illnesses varies considerably. This illness in travelers, however, is usually not severe, and complete recovery often occurs even in the absence of medical treatment. We do not recommend prophylactic use of non-anti microbial/anti motility agents (Lomotil, Imodium) due to the possible troublesome side effects. Instead of using an antidiarrheal prophylactic, we recommend that you be careful of what you eat and drink. If problems occur, your instructors will be able to recommend treatment, or assist you in getting medical treatment.

Echinococcosis

Echinococcosis or hydatid disease results from being infected with the larvae of the tapeworm echinococcosis Granulosus and is found most commonly in dogs that consume the viscera of infected sheep. Infection results in the formation of cysts in the liver, lungs, kidney and spleen. This condition is also known as cystic hydatid disease and can usually be successfully treated with surgery. However in some cases it can be fatal. Humans are usually exposed to these eggs in one of two ways:

- 1) By directly ingesting food items or drinking water that is contaminated with stool from an infected animal.
- 2) By petting or having other contact with cats and dogs that are infected. These pets may shed the eggs in their stool, and their fur may be contaminated. They may also contaminate other objects, such as harnesses or leashes, which can also spread infection.

Three steps can help prevent echinococcosis and other diseases as well:

- 1) After handling pets, always wash your hands with soap and warm water.
- 2) Do not eat wild fruits or vegetables picked directly from the ground without careful washing or cooking.
- 3) Treat or boil all non-tap water.

Phones

There is cell phone coverage at the NOLS *campo* for students with international roaming on their cell phone plan. Beware: this service is expensive. NOLS does not provide Internet or telephone service to students at the *campo*. Students will have access to their phones only while they are at the *campo* before and after the course.

Telephone Service

To call a landline in Chile from the USA, dial (011) for an international call, (56) for Chile, and the city code with the number. Coyhaique is (67). For cell phones, dial (011) (56) (9) -regardless of the city- and then the cell phone number. Chile has reliable phone service. Calls can be made through ENTEL, an international phone company with call centers in all major population centers. There are smaller call centers as well. Once your course begins, you will not be able to make or receive any phone calls. You can also buy phone cards at www.cloncom.com.



If someone needs to contact you with a **TRUE EMERGENCY** they can contact our International Headquarters in Lander, Wyoming: **800-710-NOLS**. There is no guarantee you will be able to be contacted once the course begins.



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