

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

PATAGONIA: CHILE & ARGENTINA

PASSPORT AND VISA INFORMATION

Your passport needs to be valid for **at least six (6) months** after your journey ends, and should have a minimum of two (2) blank visa pages for entry and exit stamps.

Holders of U.S. and Canadian passports are not required to obtain a tourist visa for entry into Chile or Argentina for stays of up to 90 days.

Documentation for Guests Travelling to Easter Island

In order to visit Easter Island, all guests must carry a passport and a mandatory **Rapa Nui Entry Form** (IRN). As a courtesy, A&K Chile will provide you with a completed form (one per guest) prior to your checking in for your flight to Easter Island. Please keep this form with your passport as you need to present it at the airline ticket counter before being permitted to board your flight to Easter Island.

Our partner VisaCentral offers easy, efficient U.S. passport and visa processing. Visit them online at visacentral.com/abercrombiekent or call 844 823 1224 and reference A&K's account number 73001. Service fees apply.

Citizens of other countries should contact the appropriate consular office for entry requirements pertaining to their journey.

COVID-19 COUNTRY ENTRY REQUIREMENTS & TRAVEL ADVISORIES

Chile and Argentina currently have no COVID-19 vaccination or testing requirements for entry for U.S. and Canadian residents. Visit the U.S. Department of State at travel.state.gov or the Government of Canada at travel.gc.ca/travelling/advisories for up-to-date information.

LOCAL HEALTH & SAFETY PROTOCOLS

The Andes extend into the Patagonian regions of Chile and Argentina; however, guests following the standard A&K itinerary need not be concerned about altitude sickness in the Southern Andes.

CASH & CREDIT CARDS

Although the U.S. dollar is accepted as payment at some tourist shops in Chile, most restaurants and taxi drivers require payment in pesos. Major credit cards are widely accepted in urban areas although some merchants may add a surcharge. ATM access is common and the easiest way to obtain cash is by using the ATM's, which operate under the "Redbank" sign.

On Easter Island, some merchants accept major credit cards, but, as it can take months for proprietors to recover the money, it is the least welcome form of payment (and some will even offer a cash discount over credit card purchases). Often, vendors require a very high minimum charge or charge an additional service fee for using a credit card and many smaller vendors do not accept credit cards at all. When buying souvenirs it is best to use cash. There are two ATMs in the Chilean banks in Hanga Roa where you can withdraw Chilean pesos (access may be limited). It is best to exchange a moderate amount of local currency on the mainland prior to your arrival on the island.

In Argentina, the U.S. dollar is accepted by many tourist-oriented businesses and shops. Major credit cards such as Visa or Mastercard are accepted at larger establishments although local merchants may refuse to accept them. ATM access (with payout in pesos) is available in urban areas. If using an ATM, do so during business hours at a location inside a bank, supermarket, or large commercial building.

OF SPECIAL NOTE

In addition to the general safety advice on keeping valuables secure, visitors should be alert and mindful of their surroundings and take extra caution in crowds. Beginning with your arrival at the airport, avoid having items of value visible and safeguard personal items at all times. Don't wear expensive jewellery or watches and only carry with you what you need for the day.

PACKING LIST & BAGGAGE RESTRICTIONS

Baggage Restrictions: For checked baggage on flights within Argentina (Aerolineas Argentina) in Economy Class, each traveller is limited to one (1) piece per person with a maximum weight of 33 pounds (15 kilograms). For carry-on baggage, each traveller is allowed one (1) personal item (such as a purse or laptop) and one (1) piece weighing up to 17 pounds (8 kilograms).

On flights within Chile (LATAM Airlines) in Economy Class, each traveller is limited to one (1) checked bag weighing 50 pounds (23 kilograms), with linear dimensions (height+width+depth) not to exceed 62 inches (158 centimeters). In addition, you may bring one (1) personal item (such as a purse or laptop) and one (1) carry-on weighing up to 17 pounds (8 kilograms), maximum dimensions not to exceed 21 inches (55 centimeters) x 13 inches (35 centimeters) x 9 inches (25 centimeters) (height, depth and width), including the pockets, wheels and handle.

It is recommended that you pack according to the most restrictive baggage allowance for your flights. Any additional or overweight pieces will be charged on check-in and excess baggage fees are the traveller's responsibility. As a preventative measure, it is recommended that all luggage be secured with a TSA approved lock.

Please use the provided A&K luggage tags, even if your bags already have ID tags. This makes it easier for A&K staff to find and manage your luggage for you.

Clothing

Choose versatile, casual clothing that can be layered if the weather (or level of air-conditioning) requires. Temperatures will change as altitudes and time of day change. Smart casual attire is appropriate for evenings. In Buenos Aires, residents are very fashion conscious and it is customary to dress for dinner. Formal clothing is not necessary.

When exploring Patagonia, come well prepared so that the weather does not affect your daily activities. Remember the weather is unpredictable; temperatures fluctuate throughout the day and the winds are strong. Functional, warm, quick-dry fabrics are recommended for Patagonia. The key is to "layer" for cold weather (i.e. on glaciers and in the mountains), or take off "layers" if the day gets warmer or your body temperature rises when hiking.

- Casual slacks
- Walking shorts
- Polo shirts, casual short-sleeve shirts or blouses
- Long sleeve shirts or blouses
- Comfortable walking shoes with low or no heels
- Personal garments
- Sweater or fleece jacket
- Swimwear/cover-up
- Sleepwear

Clothing for Patagonia

- Windproof/waterproof pant
- Pair of waterproof gloves (medium thickness)

- Warm, windproof jacket
- Earmuffs or warm hat (beanie), scarf or buff
- Pair of lightweight, waterproof mountain/trekking boots with sturdy soles/ankle support (well broken-in)
- Socks (moisture wicking and breathable) and at least two pairs of mid-weight warm socks

Other Recommended Items

- Face masks and hand sanitizer
- Sun block and lip balm
- Simple first-aid kit
- Sunglasses
- Prescriptions and medications (in their original bottles and/or packaging)
- Mosquito repellent
- Extra eyeglasses/contact lenses
- Smartphone
- Charging cables for electronics
- Global travel adapter

Optional Items

- Small LED flashlight
- Foldable walking stick
- Lightweight binoculars
- Small waterproof daypack

Laundry service is available at most hotels and dry cleaning is available in larger cities. Check costs and return times before using these services.

TIPPING GUIDELINES

While decisions regarding tipping rest entirely with you, we suggest the following gratuities (noted in U.S. dollars) depending on the type of journey:

| | All Small Group Journeys and Pre/Post Tour Group Extensions | Tailor Made Journeys |
|---|--|---|
| Resident Tour Director or Group Extension Guide | \$15 per person, per day | Not applicable |
| Local Guides | Included | \$15 per person, per day (full day) |
| Drivers | Included | \$10 per person, per day (full day) |
| Airport Transfer Drivers | Included | \$5 per person, per transfer |
| Hotel Porters | Included | \$2 per bag |
| Cruise vessels | Included | \$10-\$15 per person, per day – Gratuities accepted on board the boat and shared among the staff. |
| Lodges in Patagonia | Included | \$10 per person, per day – Gratuities accepted at each property and shared among the staff. |
| Housekeepers | Included | \$2 per person, per night |
| Included Meals | Included | Included |

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| Restaurants or Room Service on Own | 10-15% unless already added | 10-15% unless already added |
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For extra nights or Tailor Made services added to a Small Group Journey, please follow the Tailor Made Journeys guidelines for these days only.