

# 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](https://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

The following are the current COVID-19 screening requirements for entry into Chile and Argentina for U.S. and Canadian residents. Visit the U.S. Department of State at [travel.state.gov](https://travel.state.gov) or the Government of Canada at [travel.gc.ca/travelling/advisories](https://travel.gc.ca/travelling/advisories) for up-to-date information.

#### Chile

- All travellers over the age of 6 must present an original COVID-19 vaccination certificate indicating full vaccination completed no less than 14 days before arrival. The current approved vaccines are Pfizer (Comirnaty), Moderna (Spikevax), AstraZeneca (Vaxzevria) and Janssen/Johnson & Johnson (Ad26.CO2.S). To meet changing requirements, a booster shot is recommended.
- All travellers are required to verify their vaccination status and obtain a Chilean Mobility Pass. To begin this process, visit [mevacuno.gob.cl/](https://mevacuno.gob.cl/) and click on the "create new account" link. You cannot create your account any earlier than 45 days prior to your departure for Chile, however it may take between 2-4 weeks to receive your Chilean Mobility Pass, so plan accordingly.
- All travelers must complete an online health affidavit no earlier than 48 hours prior to their departure for Chile. Legal guardians must also complete a form on behalf of their children. Log into your MeVacuno account and choose "C19-Entrance to Country" from the menu to access the health affidavit. You will need to provide contact information, and your health and travel history. Once completed, you will receive an email receipt of the affidavit which you must print out to present to airline staff prior to boarding your flight to Chile.
- All travellers will receive a daily health survey from the Ministry of Health for 10 days after arrival. The completion of this daily survey is mandatory.
- All travellers arriving into Chile are subject to random COVID-19 testing as follows:

#### **Travellers Arriving by Air**

If selected, travellers will be given a COVID-19 PCR test at the airport receive instructions on how their results will be sent to them. Travellers are required to proceed immediately to their hotel and isolate while awaiting the results (approximately 6-24 hours). Once a negative result is received, guests may resume normal activities. There is no cost for this test.

#### **Travellers Arriving by Land Border**

If selected, travellers will be given a COVID-19 rapid antigen test at the border Travellers are required to remain in a designated area while awaiting the results (approximately 15-30 minutes). Once a negative result is received, guests may resume normal activities. There is no cost for this test.

Any traveller who tests positive to random testing upon arrival in Chile, and may be suspected of carrying the Omicron variant, will be required to complete quarantine at a "residencia sanitaria" or other location determined by the Chilean health authorities. Most of the time, it is the same hotels that have been booked for them in Santiago.

#### Argentina

- All travellers (ages 18 and over) entering Argentina must fulfill both the following conditions:

- Complete an online affidavit within 48 hours prior to your departure to Argentina. To access this form visit [AFFIDAVIT DNM \(migraciones.gob.ar\)](#). Note: You may be required to upload your proof of travel insurance.
- Present proof of travel insurance that includes coverage for emergency medical treatment, evacuation and repatriation.

**Note:** It is recommended that guests carry their original COVID-19 vaccination certificate as proof of vaccination may be required to enter certain establishments.

- **Of Special Note: Iguazu Falls**

Guests crossing the border from Argentina to Brazil (or reverse) to visit Iguazu Falls will need meet all COVID-19 entry and departure requirements for each country.

#### LOCAL HEALTH & SAFETY PROTOCOLS

In accordance with local regulations, face masks must be worn during any indoor or outdoor public activities, and all persons are required to practice physical distancing of at least six feet (two meters). We encourage you to bring your own masks; a supply will be on hand where needed. Note all protocols are subject to change in accordance with relevant guidelines, local regulations and conditions.

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

On flights within Chile and Argentina (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.

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).

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.

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.

#### Safe Travel Essentials

Be sure to bring personal protective equipment (PPE), including face masks, travel-sized hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol, facial tissues and disinfecting wipes or spray.

#### 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
- Sun hat and sunglasses
- Windproof jacket
- Pair of waterproof gloves (medium thickness)
- Pair of lightweight, waterproof mountain/trekking boots with sturdy soles/ankle support (well broken-in)
- Sunscreen (high SPF of 50 or higher)
- Socks (moisture wicking and breathable) and at least two pairs of mid-weight warm socks
- Lip balm
- Ear muffs or warm hat (beanie), scarf or buff

#### Other Recommended Items

- Simple first-aid kit
- 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:

|   | <b>All Small Group Journeys and Pre/Post Tour Group Extensions</b> | <b>Tailor Made Journeys</b>         |
|---|--|-------------------------------------|
| 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  |
| Restaurants or Room Service on Own | 10-15% unless already added | 10-15% unless already added   |

For extra nights or Tailor Made services added to a Small Group Journey, please follow the Tailor Made Journeys guidelines for these days only.