



Student Guide for the M. Sc. Program in International Agribusiness (IARD)

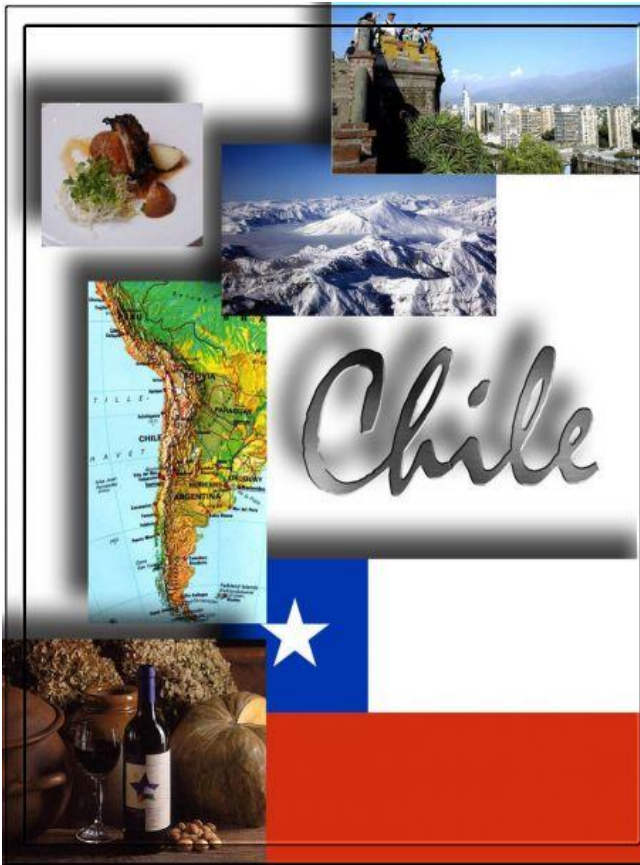
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2. How is Chile?

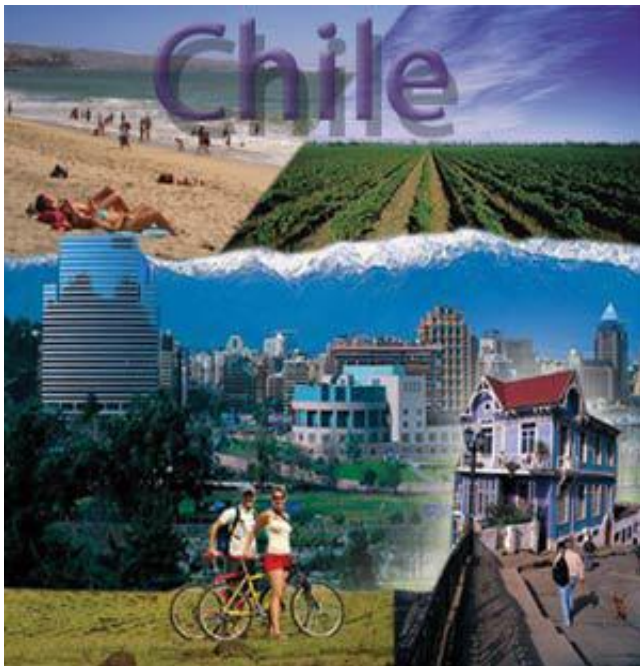


Chile is a “long and thin strip of land”, located in the southern extreme of America, borders with Argentina, Peru and Bolivia.

It possesses a length of 4,200 km approx. Its capital is Santiago de Chile.

Talca is the capital of the VII Region “Región del Maule”. It is located 255 km south of Santiago.

- Boundaries:
 - East : Argentina
 - West : Pacific ocean
 - North: VI Región del Libertador General Bernardo O'Higgins
 - South: VIII Región del Biobío.



According to the “Instituto Nacional de Estadísticas” in Chile, Talca counted with 193,755 inhabitants.

3. Climate



Because Chilean geography is so diverse its climate varies from region to region. Talca presents a Mediterranean climate, with dry season in summer.

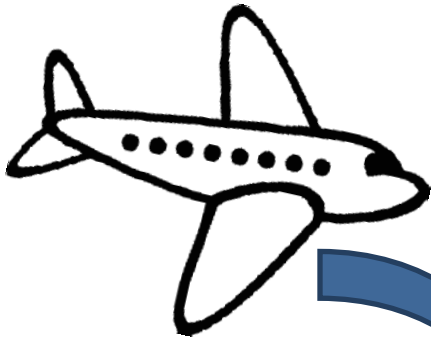
Minimum temperatures are in the order of 12 °C and maximums of 30°C. with rainy winters having from 340 mm to 1200 of rainfall. The temperature in this season reaches the 3°C.

- **Summer** : Dec. to Feb. (19 °C-30 °C max.)
- **Winter** : Jun. to Aug. (-2 °C- 11°C max.)

smoggy and rainy



4. How to get to Talca?



TALCA

- After a long flight to Chile, the most probably is that you will arrive to Santiago.
- Talca is three hours from the capital by bus.
- Depending on your time of arrival, you will have to decide if continue your travel to Talca immediately or wait until next day.
- We recommend you to arrive at Talca by 20:00 hrs. because this will allow you to find everything open and ask for any advice if necessary.
- From the Airport exists the possibility to take a bus to the Bus Station (Terminal de Buses) for the companies Tur-Bus and Pullman del Sur (Terminal Alameda).
- The price for this trip is approximately \$1,700 CL (2.72 €).

- Once at the Bus Station, it's enough to ask in any of the companies mentioned before for a ticket to Talca (terminal).
- Normally buses to Talca depart every half-hour. The trip lasts about 3 hours and the price of the ticket depends on the company.
- As reference [Turbus](#) charges around \$5,500 CL (8.20 €) depending on the type of seat, [Pullman del Sur](#) is a little cheaper and offers a good price/quality ratio.





- Another, less common way of getting to Talca is by train with the State Railway Company (EFE - Empresa de los Ferrocarriles del Estado).
- If you choose this mean, you must take into consideration that the frequency is lower than the one offered by buses.
- The trip lasts approximately 2hr and 30 min. The ticket prices vary between \$5,000 CL (8.00 €) and \$10,000 CL (16.00 €) depending on the chosen service.
- **For buses and trains you have the possibility of buying the tickets online and obtain some discount.**
- Once in Talca at the Bus Station or at Train Station you will find Taxis that can drive you to your destination.

5. The first night

In this section you will find information about Hostels and Hotels, in case you need to a place to stay.

| Name | Address | Phone |
|--|--|-----------|
| Hostal del Puente | 1 Sur 407 | 71-220930 |
| Hostal del Rio | 1 Sur 411 | 71-225448 |
| Hostal Antu Kuyen | 3 Oriente 961 | 71-232766 |
| Hostal San Cristóbal | 5 Oriente esquina 1 Norte 2 dpto. 3 | 71-236416 |
| Hostal Lonconao | 6 Norte 777 | 71-231995 |
| Hotel Villa Antillanca | Camino a San Clemente km. 2.3 | 71-260765 |
| Hotel Cordillera | 2 Sur 1360 | 71-221817 |
| Hotel Marcos Gamero | 1 Oriente 1070 | 71-223100 |
| Hotel Terrabella* | 1 Sur 641 | 71-226555 |
| Hotel Amalfi* | 2 Sur 1265 | 71-239292 |

It is recommended to first call the requested hotel in order to check the availability of rooms . The telephone code for Chile is 056 and for Talca 71.

** This hotels do not have an official web site, for more information is recommended to call in advance.*

6. About Talca

The city of Talca offers a wide variety of tourist services, as being a major hub for culture and higher education in the region.

Some of the main cultural attractions are: the Museum “O'Higginiano y de Bellas Artes” and the “Villa Cultural HUILQUILEMU”, both declared historical national monuments.

In the Maule Valley, an attraction that has awakened great interest lately is the "Ruta del Vino Valle del Maule", integrated by 11 vineyards, around which there are colonial constructions and typical towns.



Plaza de Armas



7. How to get to the University



- To get from Talca city center to the University, you can take the public transport (buses o micros) the tickets are sold inside the bus.
- Bus routes No. 2 and 5, headed “North”, take you to the University .
- The buses advertise if they go to the Universidad de Talca.
- To go to the Agronomy Faculty, we recommend that you get off the bus at the first stop of the University.
- Here! you will find a map that helps you get your bearings during the first days in Talca



8. About the University



A bit of history:

University of Talca is a Chilean university located in the cities of Talca, Curicó, and Santiago.

It is a derivative university, one of the most important universities of the southern-central region of Chile, and it's part of the Chilean Traditional Universities.

“U Talca” was founded in 1981, upon the fusion of the seats in Talca of the Universidad de Chile and the Universidad Técnica del Estado.

There are three campuses, distributed in the cities of Talca, Curicó, and Santiago. The main campus is the *Campus Lircay*, located in northern Talca.



University Services:

- **Library:**

Schedule:

- Monday – Thursday 8:30 am to 20:30 hrs.
- Friday 8:30 am to 18:30 hrs.
- Saturday 10:00 am to 14:00 hrs.

- **Library's Services:**

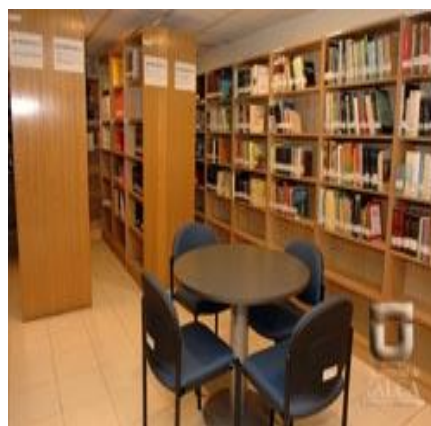
- WIFI connection, air conditioning, working areas, photocopiers, scanners, digital library platform.

Please visit:

<http://biblioteca.usalca.cl>

Collections:

- More than 100.000 volumes
- Access to important national and international networks for documents and other information.
- Access to important national and international data bases.



Internet connection:

After your registration at the Utalca, you will be able to access the Wi-Fi connection from the University. A person of the IT services will help you with the configuration.



Casino (Mensa):

The University has three main cafeterias and some small shops that sell snacks and school supplies (pencils, pens, CDs etc.)

„Casino“ is the biggest cafeteria, here you pay with cash. It has a capacity for 800 people and they offer a great variety of dishes. It opens from 8:30-20:00 hr.



For more information regarding Utalca please visit: <http://www.utralca.cl/link.cgi/#/link.cgi/>

Academic Terms:

- **1° Period of classes:** March 12th to June 15th.
- **2° Period of classes:** June 18th to September 28th
 - Week of September 17th – 21th is free because of National Celebration
- **3° Period of classes:** October 08th to December 14th.
 - After Christmas Holidays, classes continue from January 07th to February 1st.



** As of 2011*

Note: Most of the Lectures in Talca are in Spanish, therefore a B1-spanish level is recommended for a good performance.

Study Program:

| 1° Quarter | 2° Quarter | 3° Quarter | 4° Quarter |
|---|---|--|---|
| Mar 12 th to Jun 15 th | Jun 18 th to Sep 28 th | Oct 08 th to Feb 01 st | Feb 1 st to Sep 30 th |
| Mandatory Lectures | | | |
| Economía de la Empresa Managerial Economics | Administración de Recursos Humanos Human Resources Management | Gestión e Innovación en la Cadena de Alimentación Innovation Management in the Agroindustry and Food Chain | 9 Mandatory Lectures (54 ECTS) |
| Marketing Estratégico en Agronegocios I Strategic Marketing in Agribusiness | Mercados y Comercio Agrícola Mundial** World Agricultural Markets & Trade** | Análisis de Políticas Agrarias** Agricultural Policy Analysis** | |
| Gestión Estratégica Strategic Management | Administración Financiera I Financial Management I | Gestión de la Calidad y Seguridad Alimentaria Quality Management & Food Safety | Master Thesis (30 ECTS) |

*** Lectures taught by Professors from the Uni. Göttingen (on-line or in the classroom)*



Study Program (continue...) :

| 1° Quarter | 2° Quarter | 3° Quarter | 4° Quarter |
|---|--|---|---|
| Mar 12 th - Jun 15 th | Jun 18 th - Sep 28 th | Oct 08 th - Feb 1 st | Feb 1 st - Sep 30 th |
| Methodological Modules | | | |
| Introducción al Análisis Estadístico y Econométrico Introduction to Statistics & Econometrics | Métodos de Análisis Socio-económicos Methods of Socio-Economics Analysis | Econometría Aplicada Applied Econometrics | 1 Methodological lecture (6 ETCS) |
| Optional Modules | | | |
| Teoría de Precios Agrícolas Agricultural Price Theory | Investigación de Mercados Marketing Research | Administración Financiera II Financial Management II | 5 Elective Lectures (30 ETCS) |
| Tecnología en Producción de Fruta y Vino Technologies in Fruit & Wine Production | Monitoreo y Análisis Económico de Proyectos Agrícolas y Políticas de Desarrollo Principles, Monitoring and Methods of Agricultural Projects Development Policies | Formulación y Evaluación de Proyectos para la Agricultura y la Agroindustria Formulation & Project Appraisal for Agriculture & Agroindustry | Total: 15 Modules + Master Thesis (120 ETCS) |
| Desarrollo Económico en América Latina Development Economics in Latin America | Innovación y Extensión Agrícola Agricultural Innovation and Extension | Economía Ambiental y Análisis de Impacto Ambiental de Proyectos Agrícolas Environmental Economy & Impact Analysis of Agricultural Projects | |

9. Accommodation

Usually the accommodation system for students in Talca is through pensions, the great majority of these are family houses that designate a room for rent to students.

The prices vary depending with the location and services with which they are equipped.

We advise you to check the link of the University's web site <http://pensiones.otalca.cl/>

The University is located in the northern sector of the city, with this information it might be easier to choose or locate an adequate pension.

Please check the city map here: <http://pensiones.otalca.cl/pdf/talca.jpg>

Note: In general the houses are not prepared for the cold weather. Ask your housekeeper about a heater or stove.

Below you will find some contacts that have been recommended by foreign students:

The following contact is from a house located in downtown:
Name: Sra. Ximena Silva
Mail: xsilvam@hotmail.com
Tel Talca: 90154485
Address: 3 norte 1044 entre 3 y 4 oriente.



This person rents houses near the University:
Name: Sra. Alicia Briones Arenas
Mail: alybriones@hotmail.com
Cel: Talca: 9-6767448
Address: 11 Oriente A N°2869 Talca -Chile

This person rents houses near the University:
Name: Sr. Alejandro Botelli
Tel Talca: 93248513



10. Practical Information

The monetary unit is the Chilean peso (CLP or \$). Its equivalence to dollars should be consulted nearing your date of travel.

- US\$ 1 = CL *520 (five hundred and twenty Chilean pesos)
- €1 = CL *669 (six hundred and sixty nine Chilean pesos)

Foreign currency exchange can be performed freely at banks and exchange houses and it is not necessary any special document.

**As of January, 2012*



Health Insurance:



If you already have an insurance company in Germany it is very important to verify if you can be also covered in Chile.

If so please do not forget to bring your card and information of the hospitals you can contact in case of emergency.

In the case you do not have insurance it will be important to hire one before traveling. One recommendation is to buy an International Insurance. e.g: LVM oder Allianz.



Bank account:



If you have a credit card we recommend you to bring it. The ATMs usually accept any card, but you will have to pay a fee for this transaction.

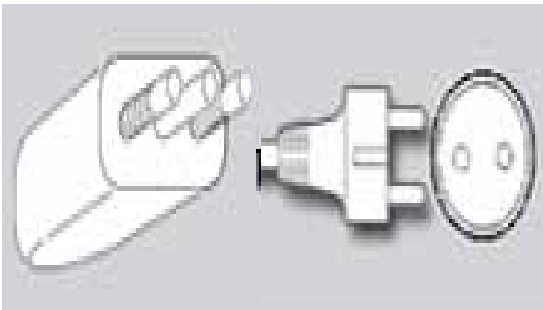
Another option is to open an account by Deutsche Kredit Bank Berlin-DKB, this will allowed you to withdraw money without fee or charge.

For the students that are planning to stay more than 3 months or for those receiving a scholarship it will be better to open a bank account.

The procedure in relatively easy once you have been a enrolled at the University. For more information please contact the program assistant in Talca, Chile.



Commercial Schedules:



- **Banks:** Monday to Friday from 9 to 14h.
- **Money exchange:** Monday to Friday from 9 to 18 h. y Saturdays from 9 to 14h.
- **Commerce:** Big stores and supermarkets open Monday to Sunday from 10 to 22h.

Electrical Current

- The voltage in Chile is 220 volts / 50 Hertz AC.

It is recommended to bring a plug adapter as shown in the picture

Cellular:

- Contracts are minimum for one year.
- The best option is to buy pre-paid cellphones.



Free time:

Even though Talca is not a very big city, it has theaters and cinemas, big stores, supermarkets, gymnasiums, video-stores, bars, restaurants, etc.



Must visit:

To eat traditional dishes at a good price you have to visit the “Viejas Cochinas” located in the bank of the Claro River.



11. Contacts

- **Talca, Chile:**

- Lisbet Yáñez Stegmaier
Assistant for the Master Program.
- Email: lyanez@utalca.cl
- Telephone: (071) 200 219



- **Göttingen, Germany:**

- Thelma Brenes, Dept. of Agricultural Sciences
and Rural Development
- Email: thelma.brenes@agr.uni-goettingen.de
- Telephone: +49 (0) 551 / 39-195 69

