Santiago Sightseeing Suggestions

Santiago Stats

Area: 641 km² (247.6 miles²)
Population: 5,145,599
Time Zone: UT-3

Typical daytime temperature (March): 25-28 ºC
Typical nighttime temperature (March): 9-11 ºC

Currency: Chilenean Peso (CLP)
Exchange rates:
1000 CLP= 1.49 EUR
1000 CLP= 1.06 GBP
1000 CLP= 1.58 USD

References:
Wikipedia (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Santiago)
WeatherSpark (https://weatherspark.com/averages/33525/3/Santiago-Santiago-Metropolitan-Region-Chile)



Credit: ESO/H.H.Heyer

Welcome to Santiago

Welcome to Santiago! We hope that this quick guide will give you a brief overview of interesting things to do if you have any time during or after the conference to explore the city. All the places of interest listed in this leaflet are within easy reach of the ESO office in Vitacura, either by walking or by using the metro system. If you require further information, the members of the LOC will be happy to help.

View from San Cristobal.







Places of Interest

Cerro San Cristobal

Cerro San Cristobal is the second highest hill in Santiago after Cerro Renca, rising 300m above the rest of the city (880m above sea level). It is host to the 14m high statue of the Virgen de la Inmaculada Concepción, which overlooks the city and can be seen on the drive from the airport. Other attractions on the hill include Santiago Zoo and several outdoor swimming pools.

There are multiple walking routes to the top of Cerro San Cristobal, lasting from between 45 minutes to several hours, or alternatively you can access the top of the hill via the funicular railway. Access to the park is free if you wish to walk up or down, or the funicular costs between 1500-4000 CLP (single or return journeys available, including stopping at the zoo during the ascent only. Prices vary by day). The closest metro station for the funicular is Baquedano (line 1).

http://www.parquemet.cl/



Places of Interest



Turistik.cl



Misbookings.cl

Barrio Bellavista

At the foot of San Cristobal lies the Bellavista neighbourhood, Santiago's bohemian quarter. The area hosts many bars, cafes, shops, an artisan market, street art, colourful houses, and the house of Pablo Neruda, Chiles Nobel Prize winning poet. The main street is Pio Nono, which is also the road between Baquedano metro station and the funicular at San Cristobal, but Patio Bellavista is also well worth a visit. It is located just off Pio Nono and hosts a wide variety of quiet restaurants.

When walking to Bellavista from the metro station, you will pass the Parque Forestal on the left just before crossing the Mapocho River. The park leads to the Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes (the national museum of fine arts) and the Museo de Arte Contemporáneo (the museum of contemporary arts).

The closest metro station is Baquedano (line 1).

Plaza de Armas

The main square in Santiago is the Plaza de Armas, which was originally the centre around which the city grew up. Around the square you can find Santiago Cathedral, the Post Office building, the original tribunal building, and the Palacio de la Real Audencia de Santiago. On the ground in the square is a bronze 3D map of the original layout of the city when it was founded.

Nearest metro station is Plaza de Armas (line 5, change at Baquedano from line 1).



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Places of Interest



Allchile.com

Palacio de la Moneda

The Palacio de la Moneda is the seat of the president of the Republic of Chile. The building is only open for guided tours booked in advance, but the changing of the guard occurs in the public square outside on odd-numbered days (including Sundays) at 10am. Keep an eye out for the huge flag weighing 200kg!

Nearest metro station is Palacio de la Moneda (line 1).





Santiagochile.com

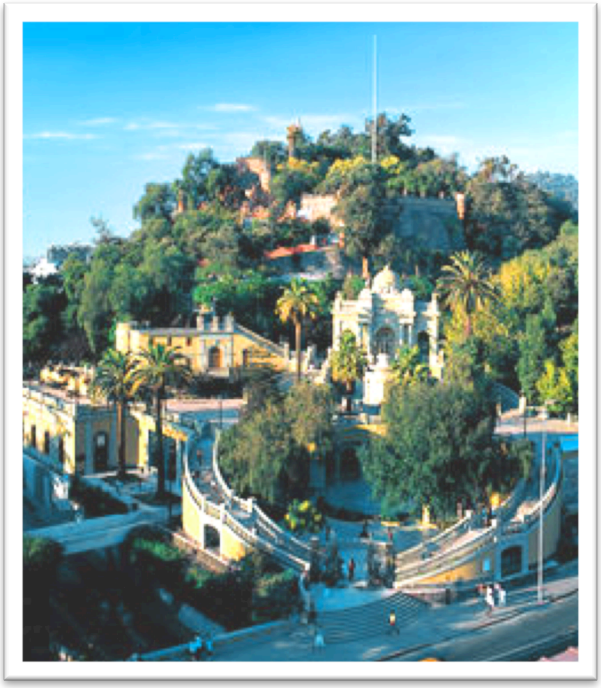
Cerro Santa Lucia

Originally a fort, Santa Lucia is now a park in the city containing stairways, fountains and a church, all set around a small hill. It is a peaceful place to wander around the twisting paths up to the summit, or simply to sit and enjoy the view of the bustling city below you.

Opposite Santa Lucia is a small artisan market, perfect for browsing local handicrafts as souvenirs.

Access is free, but all visitors are asked to register at the main entrance. Nearest metro station is Santa Lucia (line 1).





http://ravenseniors.wikispaces.com/AP+Santa+Lucia+in+Santiago+de+Chile,+Amazon+River,+Jorge+Eliecer+Gaitan





Places of Interest

Los Dominicos Market

At the end of the metro line 1 lies Los Dominicos craft market. There are over 200 small shops selling local handicrafts, such as woodwork, leather, jewellery, handmade clothes, and much more. In many cases, the shop owners also make their goods in the shop, so you can also see them in action.

On Saturdays, there is also a small fruit and vegetable market just outside of the Los Dominicos market, where you can pick up seasonal fresh fruit at good prices compared to the supermarkets.

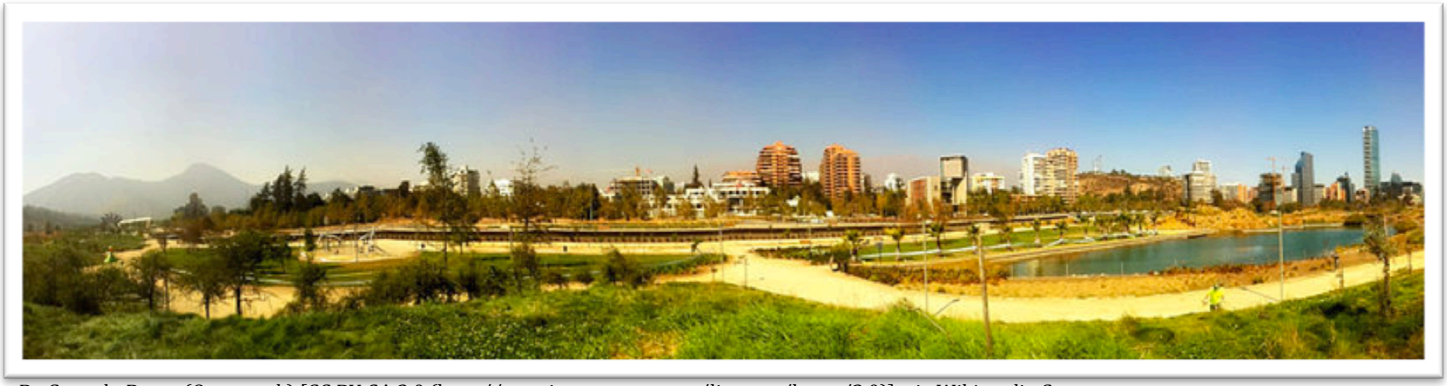
The nearest metro station is Los Dominicos (line 1).

Parque Bicentenario

Just across the road from the ESO office lies Parque Bicentenario, a long park containing several statues, cafes, picnic areas, lounging chairs, and some small ponds which are home to flamingoes and swans.







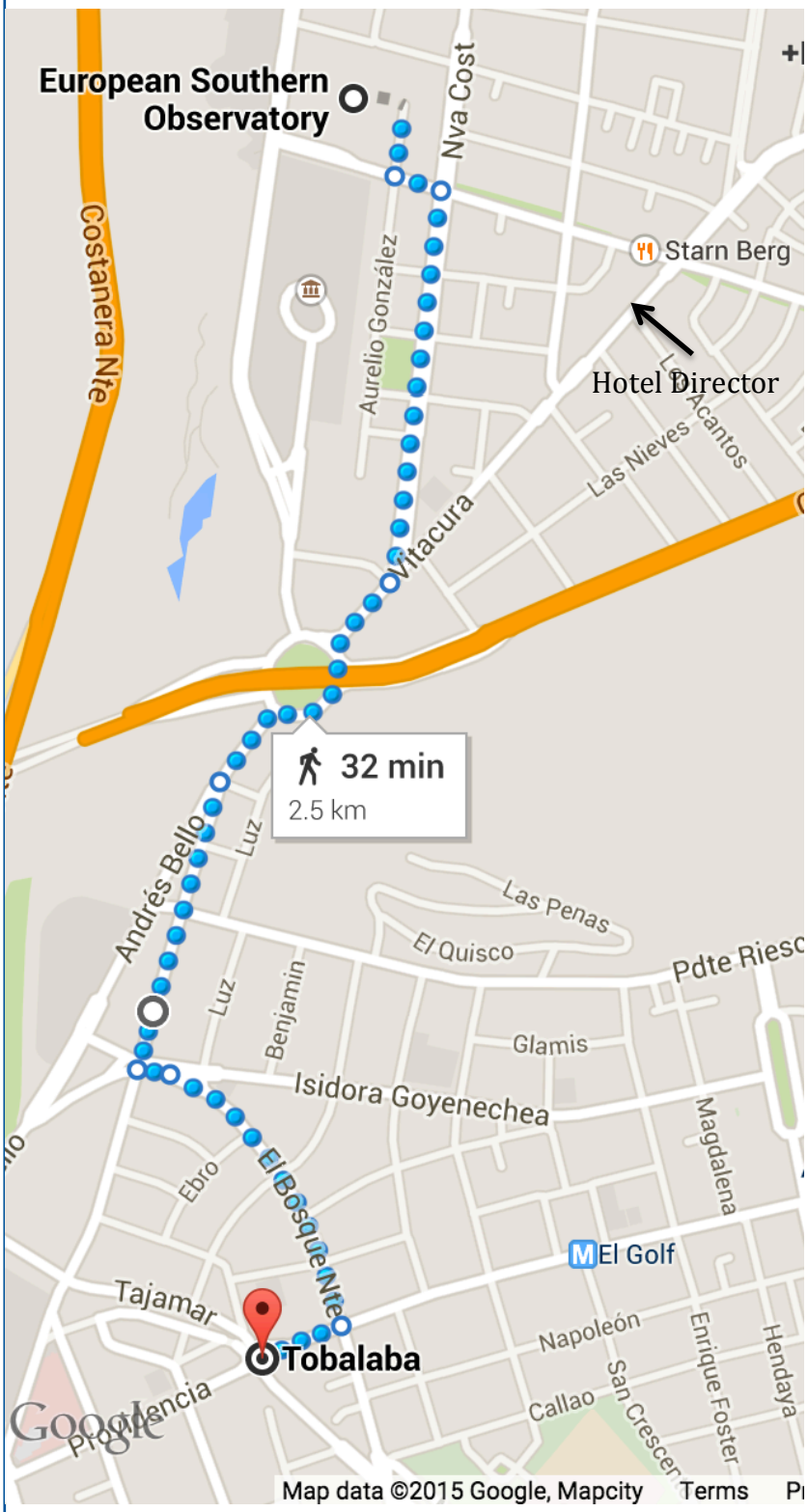
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Santiago Metro System



The closest metro station to ESO is Tobalaba, which is on line 1 and is about 35 minutes walk from the ESO office. The metro system requires a bip! card, which can easily be bought at one of the machines (some newer machines in Tobalaba have instructions in English and Spanish) or from one of the information desks. Journeys cost between 610-740 CLP depending on the time of day, and the bip! card costs 1,500 CLP. You scan the card to access the metro, and transferring to other lines is included in the price.

How to get to Tobalaba



From the ESO office

- Turn left onto Alonso de Cordova
- At the first traffic lights, turn right onto Costanera Norte
- Follow the road right onto Vitacura
- Follow the roundabout until you reach the other half of Vitacura.
    - Due to the location of traffic lights and crossings, it's safer to follow this roundabout in a clockwise direction when walking from the ESO office

- Turn left onto El Bosque Norte (just after the Intercontinental hotel, which has a living wall)
- Turn right on Apoquindo (the next big junction)
- Keep walking until you see the three diamonds logo (below) indicating the Metro station