



century. This growth also made the cities in Chile the primary theaters for political debates between conservative and liberal parties. The 1970 election of Salvador Allende gave Chile its first socialist president. On September 11, 1973, the Chilean military, led by General Augusto Pinochet, toppled the Allende government.

During the seventeen years of the Pinochet regime Chile transformed into a market economy. Since the return to democracy in 1990, Chile's political climate has stabilized, and its economic status has improved. In 2003, Chile signed a free trade agreement with the United States.

PLACES OF INTEREST

1 Colon Square is a beautiful plaza located close to the pier. Trees and fountains make this a nice place to stroll and relax.

2 The San Marcos Cathedral was designed by Gustave Eiffel (of Eiffel Tower fame) in the 1800s. The church has a lovely interior but it is the pink and white exterior that makes this one of the most recognizable landmarks in the city. The church had to be rebuilt after the 1888 earthquake.

3 The Customs Building was also designed by Gustave Eiffel. Now serving as an exhibition center, the building is a colorful and interesting representation of post-colonial architecture.

4 The Morro de Arica is a high and steep rock outcropping that dominates the city and the harbor. This was the scene of serious fighting between attacking Chilean forces and the defending Peruvian garrison during The Pacific War of 1880. The site is now a national monument. The view from the top is spectacular.

5 La Lisera and El Laicho are two of Arica's beaches. These are great places to cool down on a warm day with plenty of water sports available.

Beyond Arica

The **Azapa Valley** has an amazing collection of ancient geoglyphs. These are just some of the huge drawings of animals and human forms that are laid out on the ground and are often best seen from the air.

The **San Miguel de Azapa Archaeological & Anthropological**

Museum has a large and impressive exhibit of artifacts from the region's earliest inhabitants dating back 10,000 years. The Chinchorro mummies are believed to be 6-7,000 years old, equal to or perhaps even predating the oldest mummies found in Egypt.

Lauca National Park is located in one of the driest regions on earth yet has the beautiful Chungara Lake. There are numerous volcanoes in the park. The park is home to over 130 species of mammals and birds.

SHORE EXCURSIONS To make the most of your visit to Arica and surrounding areas we suggest you take one of our organized Shore Excursions. For information concerning tour content and pricing, consult your Shore Excursion Brochure, Shore Excursion TV Channel or contact the Shore Excursion Desk. When going ashore, guests are advised to take with them only the items they need and to secure any valuables.

LOCAL CUSTOMS Bargaining: Though prices are fixed in restaurants and stores, bargaining at open-air markets is common.

Tipping: A 10% tip is customary at restaurants, but tipping is not necessary in taxis.

Local Cuisine: Arica and the region are famous for fruits and juices such as Mango, Guayaba and Tumbo. Olives from the Azapa Valley are among the best in the world. Chile has a wide variety of seafood, including abalone, salmon, conger eels, and sea bass. Some favorite local dishes include: Pebre – A spicy salsa made with tomatoes, onions, and peppers. Chileans use it as a condiment for bread, red meat...or any other food. Empanada de pino – Chile's signature empanada is made with ground beef, raisins, olives, and hard-boiled egg. Pastel de choclo – This hearty Chilean casserole is made with corn, chicken, beef, raisins, and hard-boiled eggs.

Local drink: Pisco Sour – This is Chile's national drink, made with pisco, a brandy made from Muscat grapes, egg whites, lemon (mango in Arica) and sugar.

SHOPPING FACILITIES Arica is a duty-free port. 21 de Mayo Street is the city's main shopping area. The Handicrafts Village is located a mile or so from downtown Arica on the way to the Azapa Valley. There are 12 workshops producing and selling a variety of local crafts. At the Maximo Lira Market, about 4 blocks from the pier, outside Arica / Tacna Train Station, shoppers can find handicrafts such as pottery, stone work, textiles and silver.

LOCAL CURRENCY The local currency is the Chilean peso (CL\$). Foreign currency is not widely accepted in Chile. ATM's are usually available, especially in heavily trafficked tourist areas.

POST OFFICE AND TELEPHONE FACILITIES The Post Office and Tourist information Office are both located at Arturo

Prat #305, in front of the pier, a half block from Colon Square.

Dial the following access numbers to use a personal calling card:

AT&T: 800.225.288

MCI: 800.207.300

TRANSPORTATION Taxis are widely available.

USEFUL WORDS AND PHRASES Chileans speak Spanish very quickly with a unique accent and chilenismos (Chilean sayings), creating a distinct Castellano chileno.

“Po” Usually added at the end of a sentence for emphasis, this is slang for por supuesto, meaning “of course.”

¡Chao! Rather than say adios, Chileans part ways in Italian.