Argentina and Chile

The Southern Cone Countries

Note: Argentina, Chile, and Uruguay resemble a sugar cone
Argentine Flag
Argentina

- Area 1,073,500 square miles (1 ½ times size of Alaska)
- Population 44 million  Density 37.3 people per square mile
- Ethnically 96.7% white and mestizo
- 62.5% of population is ethnically Italian
- Religion 92% Roman Catholic  (Italy 75% Catholic)
- 29 provinces and one autonomous city (Buenos Aires)
- Federal system
Map of Argentina
Geography

• https://www.worldatlas.com/webimage/countrys/samerica/argentina/arland.htm
Glacier National Park
Glacier National Park
Tierra del Fuego
Geography of Argentina

• Only 13.1% of land is arable
• Few large rivers outside the northeast
• Los Lagos region (Lake district) in the Andes region near Chile
• Iberá in northeast has more than 60 ponds jointed to marshlands
• 30 national parks
Economy

• Major agricultural producer
  • Citrus fruit, grapes, honey, maize, sorghum, soybeans

• Fish
  • Hake, pollock, squid,

• Fifth largest wine producer

• Natural resources – gas, coal, borate, copper, lead, magnesium

• Industry
  • Food processing, motor vehicles, chemicals and pharmaceuticals

• Services
  • Telecommunications

• Tourism

• Cons
  • High inflation as high as 25%
Presidential Elections

• Ballotage system
• Candidate can win with:
  • 45% of the vote or
  • 40% of the vote if they win 10% more than the next candidate
• If no candidate wins first round
  • Runoff between two top candidate
• Voting compulsory for citizens between 18 and 70 years old
  • 71.3 % average turnout
  • 16 and 17 year olds have the option to vote
• 27 October 2019 Alberto Fernández of Judicialist Party won
  • Peronist party
• Incumbent president Mauricio Macri first not to be re-elected
Government of Argentina

• Two chamber legislature

• Chamber of Deputies
  • 257 seats elected from the 23 provinces and the federal district of Buenos Aires in relation to population
  • 1/3 of seats reserved for women
  • Seats allocated using D’Hont method of proportional representation
    • Party-list of proportional representation devised by Thomas Jefferson

• Senate  72 members  6 year term – 24 elected every two years
  • Elected in three-seat constituencies using closed list system
  • Each party can nominate two candidates (one must be a woman)
  • Party winning most votes gets two seats, the other one seat
Health Care in Argentina

• Government-run public medical facilities accessible to everyone
  • Decentralized, administered at the provincial level

• Formal sector workers must participate in one of 300 labor union-run insurance schemes
  • Operated by trades-oriented labor unions

• Private medical facilities and health insurance also exist
  • 70% of facilities are private

• Ministry of health oversees all 3 sectors
Education

- Shared by national government, provinces, and private institutions
- Free at the initial, primary, secondary, and tertiary levels and in undergraduate university level
- Literacy 98.1% second highest in Latin America
- Initial (kindergarten)
- Primary (1\textsuperscript{st} to 6\textsuperscript{th} or 7\textsuperscript{th} grade) mandatory
- Secondary (years 1 to 3: basic) (years 4\textsuperscript{th} to 6\textsuperscript{th}: specialized)
  - Tertiary (1 to 4 years education or technical), university level (4 to 6 years professional education)
  - Post-graduate Research-oriented and privately funded
History of Argentina

• Prior to Columbus – Argentina sparsely populated with a many diverse cultures divided into three main groups: Basic hunters and gathers w/o pottery Selknam and Yaghan in deep south –

• Advanced hunters and food gatherers -Puelche, Querandi and Serranos in center-east and Tehuelche in the south

• 1502 – Voyage of Amerigo Vespucci

• 1516 and 1526 Juan Diaz de Solis and Sebastian Cabot arrived

• 1536 Pedro de Mendoza small settlement of Buenos Aires – abandoned in 1541

• Late 1500’s further colonization attempts from Paraguay. Spaniards more interested in gold and silver mines in Bolivia and Peru. Argentina part of Viceroyalty of Peru.
History of Argentina (2)

• 1776  Spaniards created Viceroyalty of the Rio de la Platte with Buenos Aires as its capital.
• 1806-1807  Brits invaded.  They were repelled.
• 1810 revolution for independence begins. Battle between the Centralists and the Federalists
• 1816 July 9 Congress of Tucumán formalizes Declaration of Independence (independence day holiday today)
• 1820 – 1861 extended civil war
• 1880-1908 massive wave of European immigration and tremendous economic growth. Argentina was the 7th richest nation in the world
History of Argentina (3)

• 1878-1884 conquest of the desert. Indigenous people were considered inferior.
• 1930 military coup d’état of José Félix Uriburu. Start of steady economic decline that pushed the country into underdevelopment.
• 1946 Juan Domingo Peron won election. He nationalized strategic industries and services, improved wages and working conditions, and achieved nearly full employment
• 1947 Eva Peron pushed congress to enact women’s suffrage
• 1950 economy began to decline due to overexpenditure
• 1955 Juan Peron went into exile in Spain
• 1966 Juan Carlos Ongania-led coup d’état created a new military government that sought to rule indefinitely.
• 1969 “Dirty War” part of operation condor conducted by right-wing dictatorships of southern cone
• State terrorism against political dissidents, particularly left wing. 15,000- 30,000 in Argentina alone were victims of state terrorism. Congress was shut down, Supreme Court justices were removed, political parties and trade unions were banned and there were forced disappearances of the guerrilla and other leftists.
• 1979 Guerrillas annihilated
History of Argentina (5)

• 1982 Head of state General Leopoldo Galtieri authorized the invasion of the British Falkland Islands. Argentina was defeated and the military leadership stood down.

• 1983 Raúl Alfonsin won 1983 elections campaigning for prosecution of those responsible for human rights violations but an economic crisis and hyperinflation forced him out. The Supreme Court ruled that prosecution of human rights violators stop. However, parliament overruled this.

• 1989 A Peronist, Carlos Memen won, embracing deregulation and privatization of businesses but

• Economic decline in 1995 forced him out.

• 1999 Fernando de la Rue won and tried to follow Memen’s plan but worsening economic situation forced him out.
History of Argentina (6)

• 2015 Mauricio Macri first democratically elected non-radical or Peronist president since 1916. He adapted austerity measures intended to tackle inflation.

• 2019 Alberto Fernández of the Judicialist Party beat incumbent president Mauricio Macri’s bid for re-election: the first incumbent president in history to be defeated in his reelection bid.
Madres de Plaza de Mayo

• Mothers whose children disappeared during the “Dirty War”
• https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c5-uRpP4JV4
• https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/apr/28/mothers-plaza-de-mayo-argentina-anniversary
• Movie “The Official Story” won best foreign picture
• https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hO6lkRywgyU
Pope Francis

• Born in 1936 in Buenos Aires as Jorge Mario Bergoglio
• Succeeded to the Papacy 13 March 2013
• Marked by humility, concern for the poor, who does not support unbridled capitalism or Marxism
• Helped to restore diplomatic relations between the U.S. and Cuba
• As archbishop of Buenos Aires, he downsized bank accounts of the church
• Noted for his simple lifestyle
• “no frills” Pope
• Lives in Vatican guest house
Tango

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-taUfmQL4-w
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i5Je7NgZSbc
Pucará de Tilcara

- Pre-Inca fortification built by Omaguaca tribe
  - Experts in agriculture, weaving, and pottery
  - Covered 15 acres and housed 2,000 inhabitants
  - Conquered in the 15th century by the Incas
Pucará de Tilcara
Igazu Falls

• On the border between Argentina and Brazil
• Largest waterfall system in the world
Turning trash into Treasure

• https://www.bbc.com/reel/video/p06rnq18/the-argentinian-artist-transforming-trash-into-treasure
Is it safe?

- No State Department warnings for Argentina, just a standard “Exercise normal precautions”
Chile
Chile
Chile

- Area 291,940 square miles (a little larger than Texas)
- Population 17.5 Million
- Per capita income $26,317
- Ethnic mix 88.9% white and mestizo, 9.1% Mapuche
- Government unitary presidential constitutional republic
- Religion 68% Christian, 54% Catholic
- 2,653 miles from north to south but only 217 miles east to west at its widest point (Maine to Florida is 1600 miles)
Geography of Chile

• 17 degrees south to 56 degrees south
• Northern 2/3 lie on top of telluric Nazca Plate
• Highly prone to earthquakes
  • 20th century more than 28 earthquakes with a force greater than 6.9 on the Richter scale (1/3 of the world’s most severe earthquakes)
• https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_earthquakes_in_Chile
• 80% of land made up of mountains of some form
Five Geographic Regions of Chile

• Far North
  • Extremely arid
  • Atacama Desert (some areas receive NO rainfall)
    • Chilean coastal range on west and Andes on the east block moisture
    • Spectacular landscapes

• Near north
  • 0.98 inches of rain during four winter months, little the rest of the year

• Central Chile
  • Includes three largest metro areas: Santiago, Valparaiso, and Conception
  • Moderate climate
  • Central valley between coastal range and mountains contains richest agricultural land
Atacama Desert
Far North: Atacama Desert

• https://allthatsinteresting.com/atacama-desert
Five Geographic Regions of Chile

• South
  • District of beautiful lakes
  • One of the rainiest areas of the world
  • Pastures well suited for raising cattle (milk, cheese, butter)

• Far South
  • Chilly and wet and houses a combination of fjords, snow-capped mountains and islands
  • Punta Arenas 125,000 people southernmost city
  • Pastures for raising sheep
  • Oil and natural gas extraction
  • Connection between Atlantic and Pacific that avoids rough waters off Cape Horn
Economy of Chile

- **Agriculture**
  - Grapes, apples, pears, onions, wheat, forestry, fishing
  - **Advantages**
    - Opposite season cycle
    - Seven different macro-regions can stagger harvests
  - **Disadvantages**
    - Arable land only 2.62% due to mountainous landscape
- **Salmon** (38.2% of worldwide salmon sales)
- **Wine**
- **Mining** (copper mining capital)
- **Services** (maritime and aeronautical services, tourism)
- **Strong commitment to free trade and trade agreements**
History of Chile

- 16,500 BC stone tools indicate humans inhabited the Monte Verde valley area.
- 8,000 BC indigenous peoples settled in what is now Chile.
- 1520 Ferdinand Magellan discovered the Straits of Magellan and was the first to set foot in modern-day Chile.
- 1535 Diego de Almagro came from Peru seeking gold.
- 1540 conquest of Chile by Pedro de Valdivia one of Francisco Pizarro’s lieutenants, found Santiago in 1541. The Spanish recognized the agricultural potential of Chile’s central valley and added it to the Spanish empire. The Spanish incurred much resistance.
- Chile was cut off and became a very centralized, homogeneous colony. It functioned as a garrison against the British and the Dutch.
History of Chile (2)

• 1578 Sir Francis Drake raided Valparaiso

• 1810 Junta proclaimed Chile an autonomous republic within the Spanish monarchy. The war of independence continued until 1818 when Chile was proclaimed an independent republic. Wealthy landowners remained powerful.

• The Boundary treaty of 1881 proclaimed between Chile and Argentina confirmed Chilean sovereignty over the Strait of Magellan.

• 1879-83 War of the Pacific -with Peru and Bolivia Chile expanded its territory northward by 1/3 and acquired valuable nitrate deposits.
History of Chile (3)

• 1891 Chilean Civil War established Chile as a parliamentary style democracy.

• Early 20th century Chilean economy protected a ruling oligarchy

• In the 20’s middle and working classes elected a reformist president, Arturo Alessandri but a conservative congress frustrated his program.

• 1924 military coup led to 8 years of political instability

• 1932-1952 Radical Party dominance the state increased its role in the economy

• 1964 Christian Democrat Eduardo Frei Montalva initiated a period of major reform in education, housing, and agrarian reform but fell short of his goals
History of Chile (4)

• 1970 Salvador Allende was chosen by plurality. An economic depression in 1972 was exacerbated by capital flight, plummeting private investment and withdrawal of bank deposits. Production fell and unemployment rose. Inflation out of control by 1973.

• 1973 military coup overthrew Allende. General Augusto Pinochet took over the country. Human rights violations by Pinochet including 40,018 killed, tortured or imprisoned.

• 1980 new constitution approved by plebiscite made Pinochet president for an eight year term

• Late 80’s freedom of speech and assembly increased. Market reforms
History of Chile (5)

• 1988 Pinochet denied a second eight-year term in a plebiscite. Christian Democrat Patricio Aylwin was elected and served from 1990-1994
• 1993 Christian democrat Eduardo Frei Ruiz-Tagle elected
• 2000 Socialist Ricardo Lagos elected in a run off election
• 2006 first woman elected socialist Michelle Bachelet Jena
• 2010 Sebastian Piñera of National Renewal party elected, first rightest president since Pinochet left
• February 27, 2010 more than 500 died in an earthquake, the fifth largest ever recorded.
History of Chile (6)

• 2010 August 5 33 trapped minors rescued from a copper and gold mine after being trapped for over two months
• 2017 Piñera re-elected
• 2019 October violent protests about costs of living and inequality. Piñera declared a state of emergency
Presidential Elections

• President is directly elected by an absolute majority of votes for a four-year term
• If no candidate achieves a majority a runoff election is conducted between the two candidates with the most votes.
• Presidential elections take place on the third Sunday of November of the year before the incumbent president’s term ends
• A runoff election, if necessary, takes place on the fourth Sunday following the election
Parliament

• Two chambers
• Chamber of Deputies (lower house) of 120 deputies serving for four years, two from each of 60 districts directly elected.
• Senate (upper house) 19 districts directly elect 2 each, half each four years
• No limit on terms
• Elections held in conjunction with presidential elections
Health Care

• Provided by the government and by private insurers
• All workers and pensioners except the poorest must pay 7% of income for health insurance
• Public health facilities are free to those over 60, people w/o income or with disabilities and those earning less than minimum wage
• Private insurance participants typically pay 9.2% of their income toward health insurance. About 20% use private insurance
Education

• Pre-school
  • Six levels Kindergarten prerequisite for primary school. Ages 4 – 6 is free

• Primary school mandatory (7 to 14 years)
  • 1st to 8 grades education vouchers covers 93% of students paying schools based on attendance

• Secondary school
  • First two years general
  • Third and fourth years oriented between Scientific-humanist, Technical-professional, and Artistic

• University
  • Common admissions system

• Literacy rate 96.74%
Landscapes of Chile

• https://www.theguardian.com/travel/2017/jan/03/10-best-places-to-visit-southern-chile-santiago-national-parks
Far South: Fjords
Who is this?

- Salvador Allende
Salvador Allende

• Ran unsuccessfully for the presidency in 1952, 1958, and 1964
• In the 1964 campaign the CIA spent $2.6 million to finance the campaign of Allende’s opponent and $3 million in anti-Allende propaganda.
• 1970 won presidency in a close three-way race. He was elected in a run-off by Congress as no candidate achieved a majority (check government of Chile)
• Assuming the presidency, Allende began a program of nationalizing large-scale industries such as copper mining and banking and government administration of the health care system, education system, a program of free milk for children in the schools and shanty towns of Chile, and an expansion of the land seizure and redistribution begun under his predecessor.
Salvador Allende

• In December 55,000 volunteers were sent to the south of the country to teach writing and reading skills and to provide medical attention to a sector of the population which had previously been ignored.

• The rate of inflation fell from 36.1% in 1970 to 22.1% in 1971 while average wages rose 22.3% during 1971. In 1971, Allende raised minimum wages for blue collar workers by 37% - 41%. All estates larger than 80 hectares were expropriated. Enrollment in all types of schools increased. The Allende government encouraged more doctors to practice in rural areas.

• Pensions increased 550% between 1970 and 1972.
Allende

• October, 1972, the first of a wave of strikes by led first by truckers and later by small businessmen.

• Export income fell due to a hard-hit copper industry. Copper’s price fell from $66 per ton in 1970 to $48-$49 in 1971 and 1972. Exports fell 24% with imports rising 26%.

• Allende remained at odds with the Chilean Congress, dominated by the Christian Democratic Party, accused Allende of leading Chile toward a Cuban-style dictatorship.

• Almost immediately after Allende’s election, Nixon directed CIA and the U.S. State Department officials to put pressure on the Allende government.

• 9-11-1973 military moved to oust Allende in a coup d’état supported by the U.S. C.I.A.

• Reportedly committed suicide with an AK-47 given to him by Fidel Castro.
Pinochet

• Promoted to Commander-in-Chief by Allende 23 August 1973
• 11 September 1973 U.S. backing crucial to coup d’état which overthrew the democratically elected socialist regime of Salvador Allende
• Pinochet persecuted leftists, executing 1,200 to 3,200 people, interned as many as 80,000 and tortured tens of thousands
• 1980 plebiscite approved a constitution drafted by a government-appointed commission.
• 1988 plebiscite 56% voted against Pinochet serving another term
• Arrested under an international arrest warrant when visiting London
• 2006 died with 300 criminal charges pending against him for human rights violations
Pinochet

• “Missing” a 1982 film about American journalist Charles Hormon, who disappeared in the bloody aftermath of the Chilean coup of 1973
  
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X1WiQxDAeV4

• “No” 2012 internationally produced film about the plebiscite on continuation of Augusto Pinochet’s regime
  
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lOeiw_BJPas
Current protests

• Current center-right President Sebastian Piñera trying to repeal socialist policies of his predecessor, Michelle Bachelet

Arts and Crafts and Music in Chile

• [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Se92ZrUvr_c](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Se92ZrUvr_c)
• [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uvM6eM3OEcQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uvM6eM3OEcQ)
Chile: Beautiful Country

• https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IJ5_0jWJZJU
Is it safe?

• Level 2  Exercise increased caution
  • Issued October 21, 2019 in response to the recent demonstrations
  • Be particularly careful in Santiago, the capital