



WELCOME TO CHILE

IV FALAN Congress 2026

Federation of Latin American and Caribbean Neurosciences

August 31 – September 3, 2026 | Santiago, Chile

DELEGATE WELCOME & PRACTICAL GUIDE

A Warm Welcome

On behalf of the local organizing committee, welcome to Santiago and to the IV FALAN Congress 2026! This guide brings together everything you should know before and during your stay — safety, money, transportation, and venue details. We are thrilled to host nearly 1,000 scientists from across Latin America, the Caribbean, and beyond for four days of science, exchange, and collaboration.

Congress dates	August 31 – September 3, 2026
Main venue	Centro de Extensión Alameda, Universidad Católica
Address	Av. Libertador Bernardo O'Higgins 390, Santiago
Nearest metro	Universidad Católica station (Line 1)
Airport	Arturo Merino Benítez Intl. (SCL), 50 min from venue
Currency	Chilean Peso (CLP)
Emergency numbers	133 Police · 131 Ambulance · 132 Fire

SAFETY IN CHILE

Chile is consistently ranked as one of the safest countries in Latin America. According to the 2025 Global Peace Index, Chile ranks 2nd in the region — just behind Uruguay — and 62nd out of 163 countries worldwide.

That said, as in any major capital, it pays to stay alert — especially in crowded areas, on public transport, and around tourist spots. A few simple habits go a long way toward a safe, worry-free trip.

BE AWARE — A FEW SIMPLE HABITS

- Keep your phone, wallet, and bag in front of you — not in a back pocket or open tote — especially on the street or the metro.
- Avoid displaying expensive electronics or jewelry in public.
- Prefer official transportation (see “Getting Around” below) over street-hailed taxis.
- Keep a photo or photocopy of your passport; leave the original in your hotel safe when possible.
- At night, stick to well-lit, busy streets.

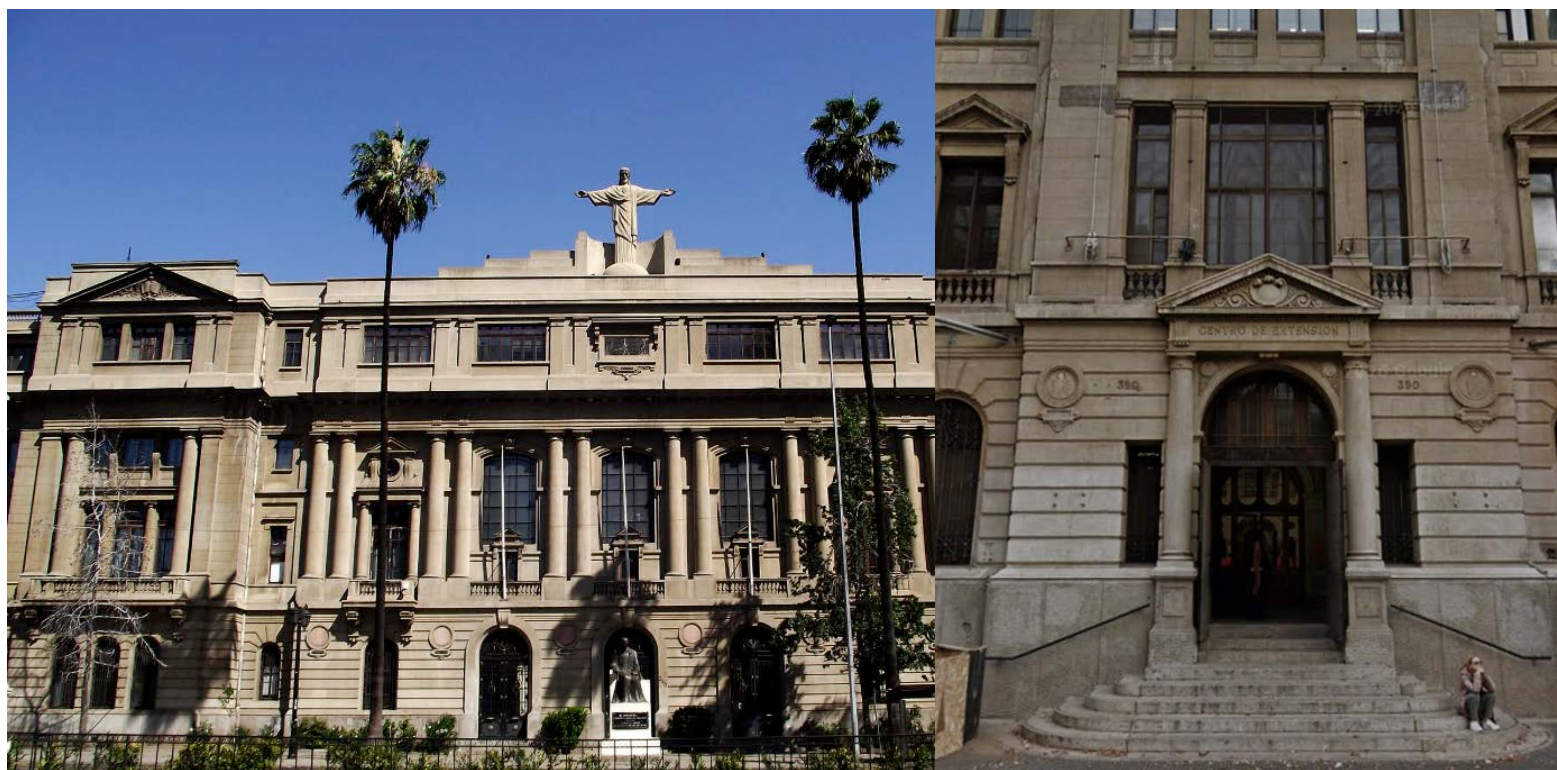
THE VENUE: CENTRO EXTENSION ALAMEDA, UNIVERSIDAD CATOLICA

The congress will be held at the Centro de Extensión, Universidad Católica — Av. Libertador Bernardo O'Higgins 390 — right on Santiago's main avenue (La Alameda), directly across the street from GAM, the Gabriela Mistral Cultural Center

The venue provides free wifi for all the attendees:

WiFi Network: UC_CentroExtension

WiFi Password:uc.20251



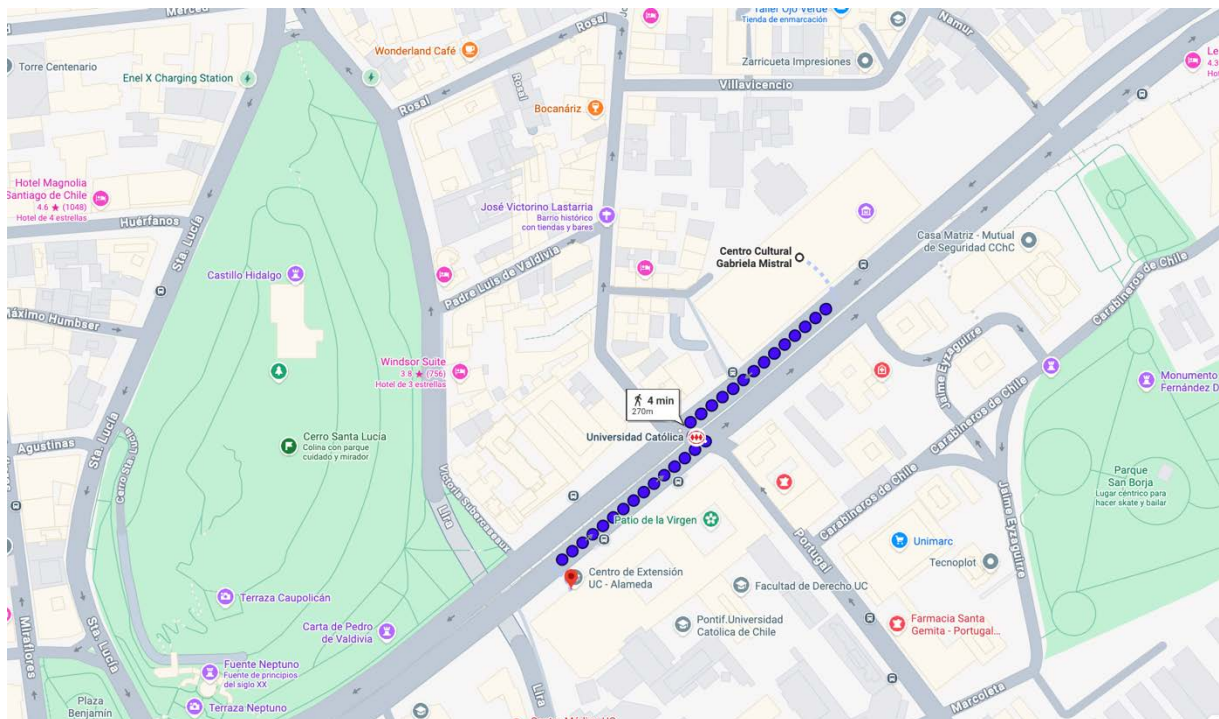
IMPORTANT — THIS IS AN OPEN VENUE

- The Centro de Extensión is a public cultural center, not a closed conference facility — members of the public can walk in and out throughout the day.
- Please don't leave phones, laptops, or bags unattended at your seat, table, or poster station — even for a moment.

SATELLITE SESSIONS AT GAM

A few congress mornings will include events held at GAM (Centro Cultural Gabriela Mistral), Av. Libertador Bernardo O'Higgins 227 — just a 4 minute walk from the main venue, right across the avenue.

Check the final scientific program for which sessions take place at GAM — those slots will be clearly marked so you know exactly when to make the short walk over.

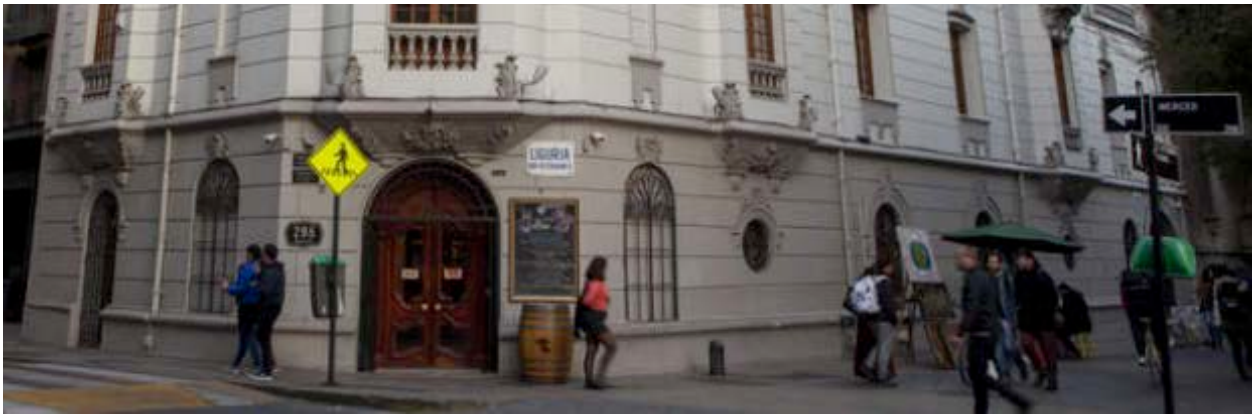


WHERE TO EAT : TOP RESTAURANTS IN SANTIAGO

Santiago's food scene has never been stronger. If you only have time for one splurge, go to Boragó ([LINK](#)) — chef Rodolfo Guzmán's tasting-menu restaurant is the only Chilean spot on Latin America's 50 Best list, built entirely around native and foraged ingredients.

For something more casual, a few local favorites:

- Liguria — a lively, old-school Chilean bistro with three locations across the city; great for a long lunch or dinner with pisco sours. ([LINK](#))



- Tambo — Peruvian cuisine right in Lastarria, known for its ceviche.



- Bocanáriz — one of Chile's best wine bars, also in Lastarria, with tasting flights built around Chilean varietals. ([LINK](#))



A few minutes' walk from the venue is Lastarrias, Santiago's best-known dining and arts neighborhood — a compact area of cobblestone streets full of restaurants, cafés, bookstores, and galleries

JOIN US AT NEUROFEST 2026!

Take advantage of your visit to Chile to experience NeuroFest, the country's largest public neuroscience festival.

On September 4th and 5th, join us for talks, interactive stands from research labs and centers, audiovisual exhibits, and activities for the whole family — a free-entry event designed to bring brain science closer to the community. Register as an attendee [HERE](#).



ARRIVING AT THE AIRPORT

Santiago's Arturo Merino Benítez International Airport (SCL) is about 50 minutes from downtown by car, traffic permitting. Cabify is the official, government-regulated transport provider at the airport, with staffed counters — you can book a shared or private van there on arrival, or in advance through the Cabify app. Uber also operates in Santiago and is a convenient option once you're settled in the city.

Transvip (<https://web.transvip.cl/>) is one of the airport's established operators, offering private and shared van service booked online in advance;

Blacklane (<https://www.blacklane.com/en/countries/chile/santiago/airport-transfer/>) offers a private chauffeur service (English-speaking drivers, fixed price, flight tracking) if you prefer a more premium door-to-door option.

By bus: Centropuerto (<https://www.centropuerto.cl/>) and Turbus (<https://aeropuerto.turbus.cl/>) run frequent, budget-friendly buses from the airport into the Alameda area, where you can pick up Metro Line 1 toward the Universidad Católica station. They depart every 20 minutes, arriving at the Alameda bus terminal near Metro Universidad de Santiago. Buy tickets at the airport counter or online. You can pay with card in the airport.

GETTING AROUND: BUS AND METRO

Santiago's public transport integrates the metro and buses (called micros) in one fare system. For a short stay, the metro is the fastest option, with buses as a useful complement.

The bip! card

The “tarjeta bip!” is the official payment card for all public transport — tap it on metro turnstiles or buses and the fare is deducted automatically. One payment covers up to two transfers between modes within 2 hours, so you can combine bus and metro without paying twice. Cards can be bought and topped up at any metro station.

Metro

7 lines, 130+ stations, covering the main areas relevant to you. Runs Mon–Fri 5:35–23:40, Sat 6:30–23:45, Sun/holidays 8:00–23:30 — not 24-hour, so plan late evenings accordingly. Fares: ~\$735–895 CLP.

Official site: <https://www.metro.cl>

USEFUL LINKS

- Red Metropolitana de Movilidad (app and route planner): <https://www.red.cl>
- bip! card info: <https://www.tarjetabip.cl>
- Moovit or Google Maps for real-time routes

MONEY & CURRENCY

Chile's currency is the Chilean Peso (CLP). Cards (Visa/Mastercard) are widely accepted at restaurants, shops, and ride-hailing apps across Santiago.

For cash, we recommend withdrawing from bank ATMs (look for [BancoEstado](#), Santander, BCI, and similar) rather than exchanging money on the street. Currency exchange houses in Providencia, downtown Santiago, and at the airport are reliable, regulated options. [CLOSEST TO VENUE](#)

GOOD TO KNOW

Weather & What to Pack: Late August to early September is late winter / early spring in Santiago — expect cool, sometimes rainy days. Daytime highs run around 16–18°C (61–64°F), with mornings and nights closer to 5–8°C (41–46°F). Pack layers: a warm jacket, a scarf, and something waterproof.

Power Plugs & Voltage: Chile runs on 220V, and outlets use plug types C and L (the round two-pin European style, or the three-round-pin Italian style). If your devices are built for 110–120V, bring a voltage-compatible charger or a travel adapter — most laptop and phone chargers handle both automatically, but double-check before you plug in.

Tipping: A 10% tip is standard at sit-down restaurants in Chile — it's often added to the bill as a suggested "propina," which you should accept but can decline if you so choose. For taxis and casual spots, tipping is optional and appreciated but not expected.

Healthcare and Travel Insurance: Chile has a well-developed healthcare system with both public and private healthcare providers. Foreign visitors can access medical care if needed, including emergency services, but medical treatment may involve significant out-of-pocket costs, particularly in private clinics. For this reason, travel medical insurance is strongly recommended for international visitors. Before travelling, check the conditions and coverage limits of your insurance policy and keep the assistance company's contact information readily available.

Earthquakes: Chile is a seismically active country, and earthquakes are a normal part of everyday life. Santiago has strict building standards and well-established emergency procedures, so there is no need for visitors to be alarmed. In the event of an earthquake, remain calm, move away from windows and unsecured objects, and follow the instructions of local authorities or hotel/congress staff. If you are indoors, it is generally safest to stay inside until the shaking stops rather than attempting to leave the building.

Air Quality: Santiago is located in a valley surrounded by mountains, which can occasionally lead to reduced air circulation and periods of poorer air quality, particularly during the winter months. For most visitors this is not a significant concern, but people with respiratory conditions may wish to check the daily air-quality conditions and limit prolonged outdoor activity on days with poor air quality. Air-quality information is available through official Chilean monitoring services.

Drinking Water: Tap water in Santiago is safe to drink and meets Chilean drinking-water standards. Visitors may notice a different taste or mineral content compared with the water in their home country, but bottled water is not generally necessary. Bottled water is widely available if preferred.

If You Have Extra Time: Santiago has plenty to offer: Cerro Santa Lucía, a small hilltop park, is a short walk from the venue; Sky Costanera, South America's tallest observation deck, offers sweeping views of the city and the Andes; and just outside the city, you'll find vineyards open for tours and tastings, as well as ski centers in the nearby mountains. For more views and green space, Cerro San Cristóbal — reachable by funicular or cable car from Bellavista — has a hilltop park, a zoo, and the city's iconic Virgin Mary statue overlooking Santiago and the Andes. Museum-goers can also fit in MAC (Museo de Arte Contemporáneo), the Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, and GAM, all within easy reach of the venue. For the full range of things to see and do around the country, the official Chilean tourism site is a good place to start: chile.travel.

We can't wait to welcome you to Santiago.

The IV FALAN Congress 2026 Organizing Committee