17th OBSERVATIONS COORDINATION GROUP (OCG-17)

LOGISTIC INFORMATION

VALPARAÍSO, CHILE
11 – 14 MAY 2026
A small help guide for a better experience

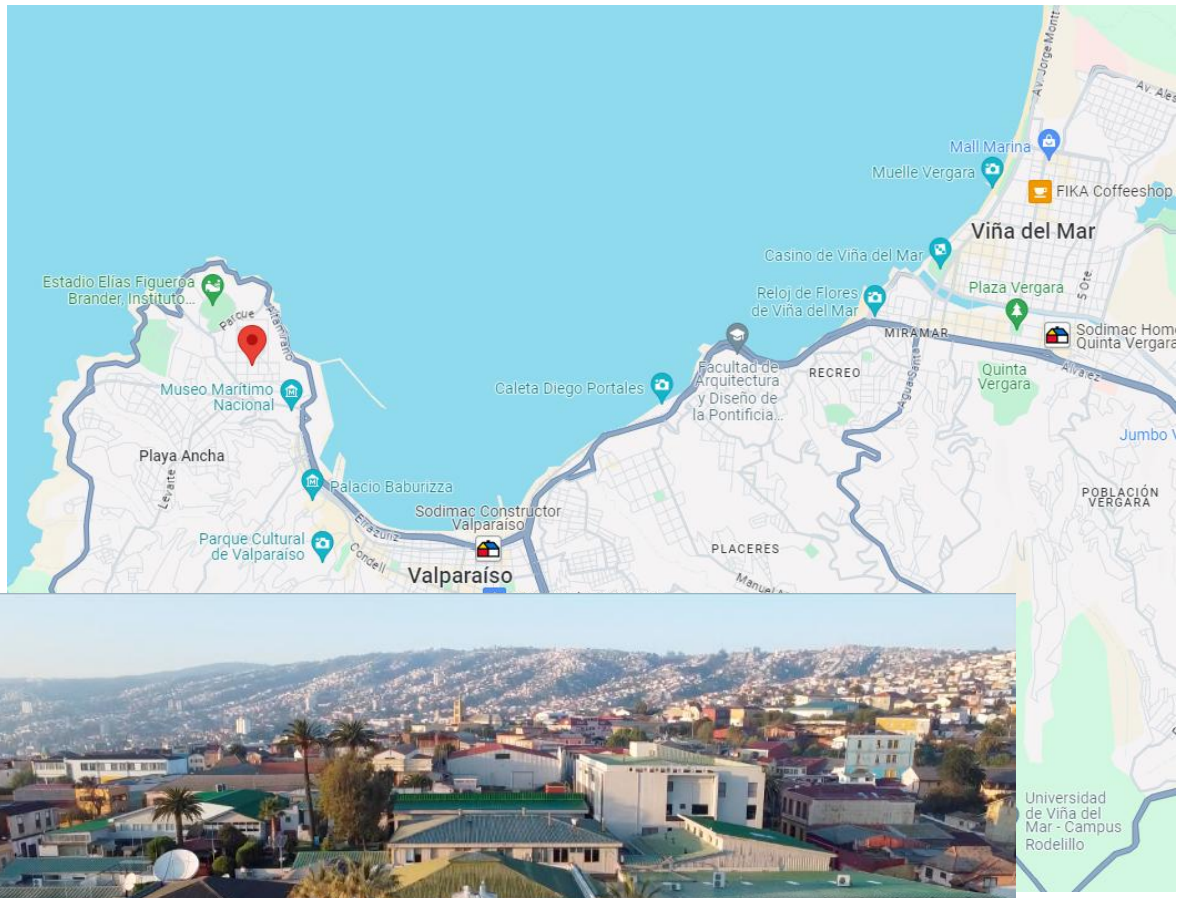
1. DATE:

The meeting will take place between May 11 and 14, 2026. The activities during these days will start at 09:00 and end at 17:30.

2. PLACE

The meeting will take place in the facilities of the “Hydrographic and Oceanographic Service of the Navy” (known as SHOA by its acronym in spanish), placed in Errázuriz Echaurren 254, Playa Ancha, Valparaíso.

Google Maps Link



3. VISA REQUIREMENTS TO ENTER CHILE (STAY UP TO 90 DAYS)

Citizens of several countries must apply for a tourist visa at a Chilean consulate or through the online visa system before traveling. To find out if you need to apply for a visa, please visit the website:

https://www.consulado.gob.cl/

The official platform for Chilean visa applications is managed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Official link:

https://tramites.minrel.gov.cl

Once you have submitted your visa application through the official channels, please provide following information via the link below here

Application number provided by the system
Full name
Passport number
Nationality

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1lvsU_Gb8v3xa25sBJ9JHQIKkwr2DPXTU/edit?gid=31069452#gid=31069452

If you have any issues with this please contact the organizers via these emails,
jcastro@shoa.cl and oceanografia@shoa.cl

4. LANGUAGE

Training will be conducted in English.

5. LUNCH

Lunch will be paid for by each participant, and coffee breaks will be provided by SHOA on each day of the meeting.

There are several restaurants offering lunch service in the vicinity of SHOA and the port district, including options for various dietary restrictions.

6. LODGING

There are plenty of hotels, apart hotels and departments that can be easily find by the use of applications like Booking, Trivago, Airbnb, etc.

Although Valparaíso is closer to the place of the meeting, it is a Port City, so it could be more dangerous, especially by night; so it is recomended to book hotels in Viña del Mar, which is a Touristic City. The travel time between Viña and Valparaiso is about 30 minutes (by car) as long as there is no heavy traffic.

Some options in Viña del Mar are:

Name	Location	Phone	Mail	Type room	Cost
Mare Nostrum	4 Norte 646	+56961908684	recepcionmarenostrum@bienestararmada.cl	Single	$ 56.000
				Double	$ 68.300
Pullman	Av. San Martin 667	+56323817102	Ventas.pullmansanmartin@accor.com	Single	$ 110.000
Diego de Almagro	1 Nte. 221	600 2620100	centraldereservas@dahoteles.com	Single	$ 99 USD
				Double	$ 116 USD
Rustika Bed & Breakfast	Traslaviña 500	+ 56987545152	Web Page rustikahostel@gmail.com	Single	$50.000
Vista Hermosa Hoteles	Check webpage	Check webpage	Web Page	Single	$33.000
				Double	$56.000

In case of prefer Valparaíso:

Name	Location	Phone	Mail	Type room	Cost
Fortunata Chacana Guest House	Waddington 270	+56322601746	Web Page reservas@fortunatachacana.cl	Single	$ 87.000
Ibis Valparaíso	Av Errazuriz 811		Web Page	Double	$ 45.000
				2 Single	$ 45.000
Loft Waddington	Waddington 290	+56993424989	Web Page	Single	$ 55.000
Hotel Reina Victoria	Sotomayor 190	+56957699348	Web Page reservas@hotelreinavictoriavalparaiso.cl	Double	$ 56 USD
				Double (small room)	$ 43 USD
Hotel Latitud 33 Sur	Pasaje Templeman 183	+56 (32) 2117983	Web Page info@hotellatitud33sur.cl	Double	$ 82.5 USD
				Double	$ 58.6 USD
				Double	$ 44.7 USD
				Double	$ 66.4 USD

At these links, you will find a wide range of hotels to choose from according to your requirements:

https://www.valparaiso-hotels.com/en/
https://www.vina-del-mar-hotels.com/en/

7. TRANSPORTATION

A. From Santiago airport (AMB) to Valparaiso.

There are two alternatives. The first one is a direct transfer or taxi that takes a bit more than 1 hour and costs aproximately USD $100.

In the last years there was growing the illegal transport like pirate taxis and not certificated Ubers. For your safe, take only official airport transport. Learn more in the next link:

- Official transportation: https://www.nuevopudahuel.cl/official-transportation?language=en

Also you can take a bus to one of the bus terminals in Santiago (30-40 minutes), and then take an interurban bus to Viña del Mar or Valparaiso (2 hours). This whole trip will take about 2.5 hours and cost USD $10 for both transportations approximately.

Bus schedule starts at 6:20 a.m. and the last bus leaves at 10:00 p.m. Departure every 15 minutes. There are two bus terminals, Terminal Alameda and Terminal Pajaritos. For your safety we recommend that you choose Terminal Pajaritos, also it is located outside of downtown Santiago, so the travel time is shorter to Valparaiso or Viña del Mar.
If you consider this option, we recommend that you plan your flights trying not to arrive at night and take the afternoon buses, considering the approximate 2 hour trip to Valparaíso. Valparaíso has become an unsafe city in recent years, especially at night. Viña del Mar is safer than Valparaíso, but you should still be careful at night.

There are days where tickets sell out faster (Friday afternoon or Saturday mornings), so if you like you can buy tickets in advance at the following hiperlinks:

- Turbus (This company has the airport shuttle buses as well)
- Flixbus
- Condor

B. During the meeting week

- Uber, Cabify, inDrive and Didi are available and they work properly.
- Local buses operate during the day. Their route can be consulted in applications such as “google maps” or “moovit”. Each trip costs about USD $0.8
- Rent a car is an option for about USD $50 per day.
- Local train call “Metro Valparaiso”. Terminal Station “Puerto” is about 4 km distance to the meeting place.

8. ELECTRICITY

The electricity in Chile is 220 Volts European CEE 7/16 Europlug. And also “L” type Italian CEI 23- 6/VII. Plugs are “C” type.

9. TAP WATER

In Chile, tap water undergoes purification and treatment processes, which makes it safe to drink.

10. CURRENCY

The currency in Chile is the Chilean peso (CLP). There are exchange offices both at the airport and in downtown Valparaíso and Viña del Mar.

Similarly, card payment systems are used in many stores. The most popular cards accepted are Visa, Mastercard and American Express.

Bill : 1.000, 2.000, 5.000, 10.000, 20.000 pesos.
Coins : 10, 50, 100, 500 pesos.

DOLARS (USD) TO CHILEAN PESOS (CLP)*	
1	$ 910
5	$ 4.552
10	$ 9.104
50	$ 45.521

* values calculated on 06/13/2026

11. TIME ZONE

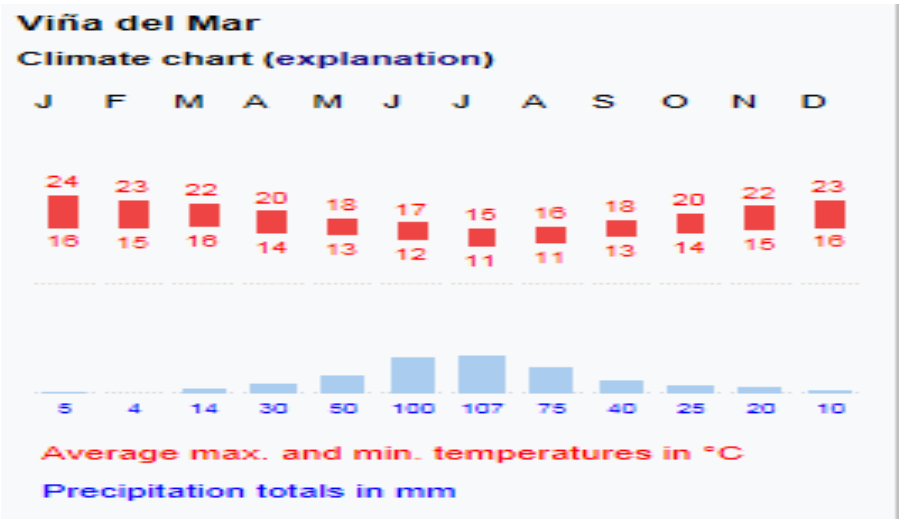
Chile is in the GMT-4 time zone during the winter season. The Magallanes area in the south of the country is in GMT-3 and Rapa Nui (Easter Island) is in GMT-6.

12. WEATHER AND CLIMATE

In Valparaíso, summers are comfortable, arid and clear, and winters are cold and partly cloudy. During the course of the year, the temperature generally varies from 7 °C to 20 °C and rarely drops below 4 °C or rises above 23 °C.

The *cool season* lasts 3.1 months, from June 2 to September 5, and the average daily maximum temperature is less than 16 °C. The coldest month of the year in Valparaíso is July, with an average minimum temperature of 7 °C and a maximum of 15 °C.

The rainy season lasts between 5 to 3 months, from April 15 to September 23, with a moving interval of 31 days of rainfall of at least 13 millimeters. The month with the most rain in Valparaíso is June, with an average of 54 millimeters of rain. In case of rain, we recommend using layers or waterproof ponchos rather than umbrellas, mainly because Playa Ancha is particularly windy.



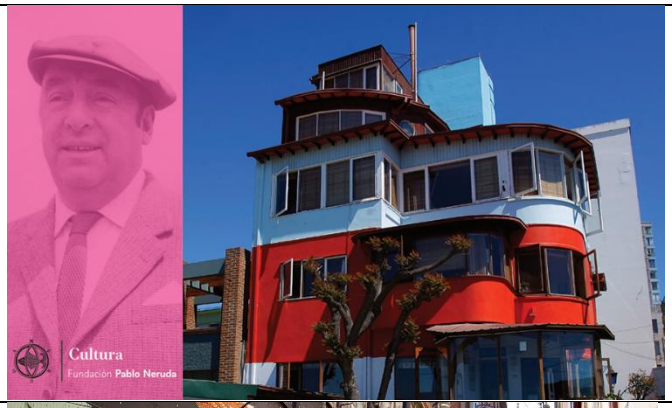
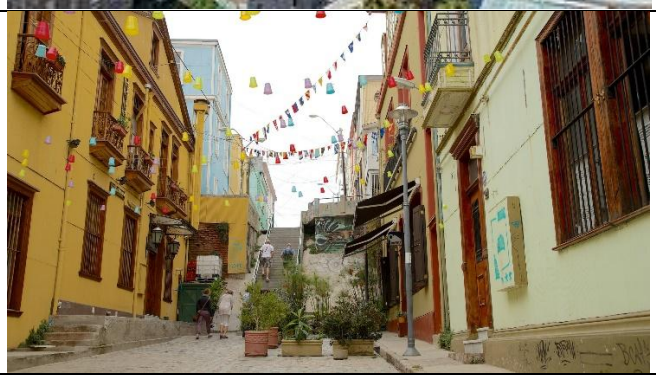
13. TELEPHONY AND INTERNET

If you don't travel with roaming in your phone, we have some prepaid's options.

Prepaid phone service in Chile is a contract-free service where you pay before you use, ideal for controlling expenses. The main companies (Entel, Movistar, WOM, Claro, and Virgin Mobile) offer SIM cards for $2-5 USD in supermarkets, pharmacies, and stores, with data plans and packages that include free social media.

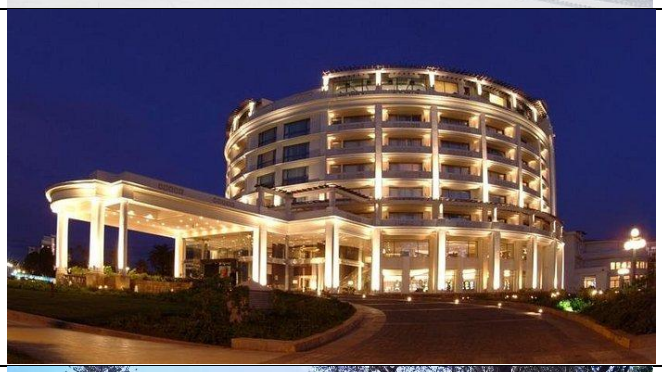
Key Information:
Where to buy: Supermarkets (Líder, Tottus, Jumbo, etc.), pharmacies (Cruz Verde, Salcobrand), and stores (Ripley, Paris, Hites, La Polar, etc.). It is recommended to avoid buying at the airport due to high prices.

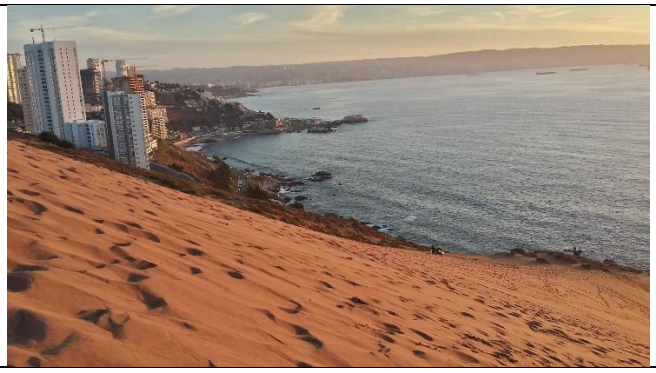
14. TURISTIC ATRACTIONS NEARLY

Casa Museo La Sebastiana		Dirección: Ricardo De Ferrari 692, Valparaíso.
Cerro Concepción		Valparaíso
Paseo Dimalow		Cerro Concepción
Paseo Gervasoni		Cerro Concepción

Paseo Yugoslavo		Cerro Concepción
Ascensor Reina Victoria.		Desde el Paseo Dimalow o desde Av. Elías 122
Museo Marítimo Nacional		Paseo 21 de Mayo #45, Playa Ancha.

Paseo 21 de Mayo		Cerro Artillería
Ascensor El Peral		Miramar Plaza de la Justicia
Palacio Rioja		Quillota 214, Viña del Mar

Reloj de Flores		Alamos 590. Caleta Abarca, Viña del Mar
Casino Viña del Mar		Av. San Martín 199, Viña del Mar
Parque Quinta Vergara		Errázuriz 563-596, Viña del Mar.
Castillo Wulff		Av. Marina 37, Viña del Mar

Dunas de Concón		Av. Concón Reñaca

15. SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS

We have a small safety consideration for a better experience in Chile. In general, Valparaíso and Viña del Mar are fairly quiet cities compared to other cities such as Santiago de Chile. The seasons where more robberies occur are usually in the summer season with visitors and tourists (December to March). It is unlikely that something will happen during your visit, but it is never too much to know what precautions to take.

Tourism schedule

In the mornings there is no major danger of touring Valparaíso or Viña del Mar. When the sun goes down, it is preferable to be as cautious as possible in transportation and in the center of the cities, since this is when the greatest number of robberies and accidents occur.

Whenever possible, prefer to go out with a companion for a walk or to take photographs.

Protect your belongings

Do not carry your cell phone in plain sight, for example in the back pocket of your pants or in your hand meanwhile you're walking.

Do not store valuables in easy-to-open outside pockets of backpacks. This type of theft is often seen on public transportation. Prefer to store them in internal pockets, secret pockets or use the backpack forward.

As with cell phones, do not carry your camera around your neck or in your hand if you are not using it. Rather carry it inside your bag or backpack until you are going to use it.