

10 Useful Chilean Phrases for Your Trip to Chile

Traveling to Chile soon?

You might already know some Spanish, but once you arrive, you'll notice something: Chileans speak... differently.

Don't worry, that's completely normal.

In this guide, I'll show you some common Chilean phrases so you can understand real conversations and feel more confident during your trip.

Let's get started.

1. "¿Cachai?"

- 👉 **Meaning:** Do you understand? / You know?
- 👉 **Example:** "Es súper fácil, ¿cachai?"
- 👉 **When to use it:** In informal conversations, very common among Chileans

2. "Al tiro"

- 👉 **Meaning:** Right away / Immediately
- 👉 **Example:** "Lo hago al tiro"
- 👉 **When to use it:** When you want to say you'll do something quickly

3. "Fome"

- 👉 **Meaning:** Boring
- 👉 **Example:** "La película estuvo fome"
- 👉 **When to use it:** To describe something not interesting or fun

4. "¿Cuánto sale?"

- 👉 **Meaning:** How much does it cost?
- 👉 **Example:** "Hola, ¿cuánto sale esto?"
- 👉 **When to use it:** In shops, markets, or anywhere you want to know the price

5. "Cancelar"

- 👉 **Meaning:** To pay (in Chilean Spanish, especially in stores or restaurants)
- 👉 **Example:** "Quiero cancelar la comida"
- 👉 **When to use it:** When you want to pay for something

6. "Bacán"

- 👉 **Meaning:** Cool / Awesome / Great
- 👉 **Example:** "¡Qué bacán!"
- 👉 **When to use it:** To express that you like something or think it's great

7. “Permiso /Con permiso”

- 👉 **Meaning:** Excuse me
- 👉 **Example:** “Permiso, voy a pasar”
- 👉 **When to use it:** To pass by someone or get their attention politely

8. “¿Dónde queda...?”

- 👉 **Meaning:** Where is...?
- 👉 **Example:** “Disculpa, ¿dónde queda el baño?”
- 👉 **When to use it:** To ask for directions or locations

9. “¿Me puedes ayudar?”

- 👉 **Meaning:** Can you help me?
- 👉 **Example:** “Disculpa, ¿me puedes ayudar?”
- 👉 **When to use it:** When you need help or assistance
- 💡 **Tip:** Chileans are usually friendly and willing to help if you ask politely.

10. “Estoy perdido/a”

- 👉 **Meaning:** I’m lost
- 👉 **Example:** “Disculpa, estoy perdido/a... ¿me puedes ayudar?”
- 👉 **When to use it:** When you don’t know where you are or need directions
- 💡 **Tip:** You can say “perdido” if you’re male and “perdida” if you’re female. Chileans will immediately understand and usually try to help you.

Now you know some of the most common Chilean phrases you’ll hear during your trip cl

At first, it might feel a bit confusing – and that’s completely normal.

Chilean Spanish can be fast and full of local expressions, but with a little practice, you’ll start to understand more than you think.

If you’d like to feel more confident before your trip, I offer Spanish classes focused on real Chilean Spanish – the kind people actually use every day.

Feel free to reach out or visit my website to learn more 😊