

Extensive information:

## Project Monkeys In Chile



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Note: Annually the text of this extensive information will be developed and will be kept up with regularly in cooperation with this project. Because there can be made some changes or because there will be some changes be necessary because of certain and unexpected results, etc., it could be that this text not every time will compare in practise at this project.

This version was updated in June 2009.

# 1. Monkey introduction

## 1.1 Habitat

### Woolly monkeys:

Woolly monkeys live in equatorial tropical forests. Humid, primary flooded, and non-flooded forest, up to 3000 m (9843ft) in Colombia.

### Spider monkeys:

Spider monkeys live in evergreen rainforests, semi deciduous and mangrove forests. They almost never come to the ground.

### Squirrel monkeys:

Squirrel monkeys live in parts of primary and secondary forests and in cultivated areas, usually along rivers and streams.

### Capuchins monkeys:

Primary and secondary rain forest to semideciduous lowland and montane up to 2700m (8859ft)

### Howler monkeys:

Howler monkeys are found high in the rainforest trees.

### Tamarin:

Primary and secondary forest, swamps and inundated areas up to 610m (2001ft)

Tamarins prefer swamp forests.

### Common marmoset:

Common marmosets are found in tropical rainforests.

Scrub, swamp, tree plantations. The core area of each home range has a higher density of trees with exudate productions. A home range needs 50 gum trees to support this species.

## 1.2 Description

### Woolly monkeys:

The most distinctive feature of this animal is its extremely prehensile, very flexible tail, which acts like a fifth hand (it can actually grasp objects). The body is covered with a dense, woolly, pale grey-brown coat. The legs and arms are quite long. The head is round and large, and the face is hairless.

### Spider monkeys:

Disproportionately long, spindly limbs inspired the spider monkey's common name. Their deftly prehensile tails, which may measure up to 89 cm, have highly flexible hairless tips complete with skin grooves similar to fingerprints; this adaptation to the spider monkey's strictly arboreal lifestyle grants the monkeys a fifth hand of sorts. Adults reach an average body length of 50 cm and a weight of 6.4 kilograms.

Their arms are very small, but yet very long. With legs that are on the shorter end, the monkey walks with its arms practically dragging on the ground. However, they are one of the very few kinds of monkeys that don't rely on their arms to help them walk. They just stand and walk on 2 feet. If some trouble occurs as far as balance goes they just grab onto their tale to help them. Their hands resemble their arms, being long and narrow. Another feature to the monkey that makes it recognizable is that its nostrils are very far apart.

#### Squirrel monkeys:

The squirrel monkey's tail is not prehensile but it is used in balancing as the animal jumps through the trees. Their body length is about 32cm with a slightly longer tail 41cm. Males are heavier (750g) than females (500g). Their coat is short, greyish or olive in colour except for its bright yellow legs. Its white face has a peak of dark fur on the forehead and a dark muzzle. Males have larger upper canine teeth than females.



#### Capuchins monkeys:

Like other monkeys in the genus Cebus, White-headed Capuchins are named after the order of Capuchin friars: the cowls worn by these friars closely resemble the monkeys' head coloration. White-headed Capuchins have mostly black fur, with white to yellowish fur around the naked, pinkish face and on the shoulders; and, of course, white throats. A V-shaped area of black fur on the crown of the head is distinctive. The tip of the tail is often held coiled, giving White-headed Capuchins the nickname "ringtail".



Adults may reach a length of 435 millimetres and a weight of 3.9 kilograms. The tail is prehensile, dextrous, and longer than the body, at up to 551 millimetres in length. Males are perceptibly larger than females, becoming heavier in build with age.

#### Howler monkeys:

Male and female Howler monkeys are very different from one another. Only the male Black howler is actually black at all, the female is blonde in colour (this difference known as sexual dimorphism). The sexes differ in weight too: male weighing about 6.7 kg and females about 4.5 kg They have a long prehensile tail, which they use to grasp branches whilst they are feeding and moving through the trees, and also to anchor themselves when sleeping. The hairless underside of the tail is sensitive to touch and enables the tail to feel what it is gripping. Howlers have enlarged throats, due to an extra-large voice box, to see why, read 'Keeping In Touch'.



Howler monkeys are so called because of their amazing howling calls, which can be heard by humans up to 5 km away. The calls are so loud because the monkeys have a special voice box and a pouch in the throat that amplifies the sound a bit like the horn on an old gramophone. Both sexes call but the male's voice is much louder and deeper. The call enables individuals to keep in touch with their group and more importantly lets other groups know where they are.

Tamarin:

As its name would suggest, the lion tamarin is a reddish orange to golden brown in colour. Its hair is longer and darker around the face, forming a mane on top of the head and on the cheeks and throat. Its limbs are slender yet capable with sharp claws, befitting its strictly arboreal life. Although quite long, its tail is not prehensile. The tail and forepaws of this monkey may have a black coloration. Its body may be up to 335 millimetres long and its tail up to 400 millimetres. The male reaches a maximum weight of just 700 grams in the wild though higher weights can be found in captivity. Females typically weighs closer to 550 grams.

Common marmoset:

The common marmoset coat colour and appearance is black and grey fur with black fur over head and neck, prominent white ear tufts in adults and juveniles. Infants lack ear tufts and have grey fur over head and neck. Tail has alternating wide dark bands and pale narrow bands.

An adult reaches a maximum weight of body size of 300-500 grams and their length (without tail) about 14-19 centimetres. Their lifespan is about 12 years and they are mature by 18 months.



### 1.3 Diet

#### Woolly Monkeys:

This monkey feeds mainly on fruit and leaves. It lives in large groups which split up while feeding. Fruit 67.5%, leaves 14.4%, seeds 7.1%, gums 6.2%, flowers 3.1%, animal prey including mammals. There are 225 plants species in the diet. They reportedly eat as much as 32% of their body weight in a day.

#### Spider monkeys:

A spider monkey's diet consists of about 90% fruits and nuts. They many times can live for long periods of time on only one or two different kinds of fruits and nuts. They eat the fruits of many big forest trees, and because it swallows fruits whole, the seeds are eventually passed out as free fertilizer. Most of the feeding happens between dawn and 10 o'clock in the morning. After the morning feeding the adults rest while the young play. Throughout the rest of the day they may feed infrequently until around 10 at night. If their food is low they can resort to eating insects, bark or rotting forest, and honey. The spider monkey has a unique way of getting food because there is a lead female responsible for feeding. If she can't find enough food for the entire group they split into smaller ones to find food easier. Spider monkeys travel in groups between four and nine. Each group is closely associated with its territory. They are very picky about their space. If they are in a big group, they will spread out while eating.



#### Squirrel monkeys:

Squirrel monkeys feed on fruits, insects, leaves and seeds. When these squirrel monkeys capture a 20mm (0.8in) caterpillar, they remove the spines, head and internal organs before eating the body.

#### Capuchins monkeys:

The diet of capuchins monkeys consist of fruits, nuts, seeds, butts, insects, spiders and bird eggs. Animal prey, including snails (32%) and social insects (22%).

#### Howler monkeys:

Howler monkeys feed mainly on leaves (76%), fruits (24%), flowers and buds.



#### Tamarin:

Tamarins are feeding on fruits, insects and small lizards, gums, buds. In a 1970's study, large grasshoppers made up 65% or more of the stomach contents. Females eat exudates during gestation and lactation for calcium.

#### Common marmoset:

The common marmoset relies on a diet of tree exudates (gums and saps), small animal prey, and fruits. Marmosets gain access to exudates from a variety of tree species by gnawing holes in the tree bark. The specialized dentition of the common marmoset acts as a tool facilitating access to gums and saps. Examples of animal prey include: grasshoppers, cicadas, crickets, and cockroaches. Fruit sources range in size from small to large and tend to be sweet and soft.

## 1.4 Behaviour and social life

### Woolly Monkeys:

During the day it methodically makes its way from one tree to the next, making frequent use of its prehensile tail, in search of trees with a more plentiful supply of food. When eating it sits, or hangs by its tail to grasp food out of reach of its hands. It rarely descends to the ground, and when it walks it assumes an upright position.

### Spider Monkeys:

Forming loose groups of 15-25 individuals. During the day, spider monkey groups break up into smaller subgroups of 2-8 individuals. The size of subgroups and the degree to which they will avoid each other during the day is determined by food competition and the risk of predation. Also less common in primates, females rather than males disperse at puberty to join new groups. Males tend to stick together for their whole life. Hence males in a group are more likely to be related and have closer bonds than females. The strongest social bonds are formed between females and young offspring.



Spider monkeys are diurnal and spend the night in carefully selected sleeping in trees. Groups are thought to be directed by a lead female who is responsible for planning an efficient route for the day's feeding activities. Grooming is not as important to social interaction, due perhaps to a lack of thumbs.

### Squirrel monkeys:

Squirrel monkeys' social relationships are very complex. They live in large groups, subdivided into adult male bands, mother-and-infant bands, and juveniles, except during the mating season. Females often form a special bond with another female. The size of the groups can vary from 20 - 35 up to as many as 200 or more in some areas. They all sleep together at night, then divide up to go and look for food. In the mating season the mature males become very active, put on a lot of weight and seek the company of females.

### Capuchins monkeys:

Forming troops of up to 20 individuals, White-headed Capuchins are polygamous: the sex ratio is unbalanced, with females always outnumbering males. The troop is led by a dominant male and female; hierarchy is determined by lineage to this pair. They are diurnal and arboreal animals; highly active, most of their time is spent searching for food. White-throated Capuchins are characterised as being vociferous; loud calls are used to communicate threat warnings, with softer calls used in intimate discourse. Facial expressions and scent are also important to communication, with urine being a primary "perfume".

Elder males are the principal defenders of territory, with all members of the troop watching for threats (such as large birds, boas, and carnivorous mammals). Grooming pervades social interaction, with the amount of grooming received directly dependent on rank. Females associate closely among themselves, forming "coalitions" against potentially aggressive males.

### Howler monkeys:

Howlers spend almost all of their time in the tree-tops, feeding on various sorts of leaves. They rarely come down to the ground, although in very dry conditions they may come down to find water. They are active during the day (mainly morning and evening) and make their way through the forest canopy in large slow moving groups.

Howlers usually live in social groups of up to 30 animals, although 5-8 in a group is more common. Several females will help to look after a single baby (called allomothering), carrying, grooming and protecting it, and even males will help out too, although young males are not allowed to do so, as they can sometimes harm the baby. In the morning, shortly after dawn, all the monkeys in a group take part in a chorus of howling. They prefer to stay away from other groups, although they do not defend a strict territory.

#### Tamarin:

The Golden Lion Tamarin is diurnal and primarily arboreal, forming small groups of up to fourteen individuals, led by a breeding pair; occasionally two unrelated males may be involved, but only one typically mates with the lead female. The group patrols a consistent territory of around 400,000 square metres; fighting between groups is avoided by scent marking and "ritual encounters". By night, the tamarins sleep in abandoned nesting holes in trees, or in large bromeliads.

The group is cooperative in the rearing of young; however, only the dominant female usually breeds. The males are responsible for the bulk of rearing duties, with the mother nursing and providing transportation for the infant during its first week of life. Resources are shared among the group, as are predator surveillance duties. The young are well cared for until adolescence. Unlike other primates, both males and females leave the group; their rate of survival is low, as less than one quarter successfully integrate into a new group or establish themselves in an unoccupied territory.

#### Common marmoset:

Group size and composition of the common marmoset varies from group to group in the wild. Once formed, groups are stable. An average group size is 8-10 individuals, but some groups may have up to 15 members. Usually groups contain only one breeding pair. They are the highest ranking male and female.

## **1.5    Reproduction**

#### Woolly Monkeys:

The gestation period lasts for about seven months, after which a single offspring is born.

#### Spider monkeys:

Spider monkeys mate year round. The female monkey chooses a male from her group with whom to mate. Both male and female spider monkeys sniff their mates to check their readiness for copulation. This process is known as "anogenital sniffing." On average, only one offspring at a time is produced from each female. The gestation period for spider monkeys ranges from 226 to 232 days.

#### Squirrel monkeys:

Births are carefully timed, occurring during a very short season, corresponding to the time of greatest rainfall. One youngster is born after a gestation of 150 to 170 days and the males take no part in caring for it. The youngster is carried on the mother's back from the first day, clinging on tightly. After about 5 - 10 weeks it starts to leave the mother, explore its surroundings and take some food and by 5 - 10 months it can be almost independent of the mother. Females mature at about 2 years, males 4 years.

#### Capuchins monkeys:

Only one female is in estrous at one time; while no fights break out over her, it is usually only the dominant male who mates with her. The birthing season spans from December to April; gestation lasts for 157 to 167 days, usually resulting in a single birth. There is a minimum period of 19 months between births, although this period is much less if the infant dies.

The grey-faced infants stay close to their mothers, who habitually groom and carry their infants on their backs. Weaning occurs at 12 months with the infants gradually becoming more independent with age; they play among themselves, chasing and wrestling each other. Sexual maturity is reached at 2-3 years, with full adult size reached at 8 years.

Howler monkeys:

Pregnancy lasts roughly 6 months and one young is born, which is carried underneath the mother. The young are weaned at around 1,5 years of age.

Tamarin:

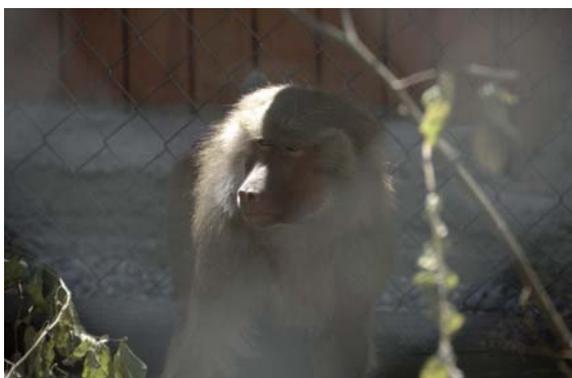
Fully mature at 2-3 years, the Golden Lion Tamarin is able to breed at 18 months of age. The breeding season is from September to March. Gestation lasts for 126 to 130 days, usually ending in twin births; there may be up to two litters annually. The young tamarins are weaned after just 90 days; less than half of infants survive their first year of life.

Common marmoset:

Age at first reproduction: 17-20 months. Gestation last for 144 days. The number of offspring is usually 2. Seasonal births every 6 months and age infant weaned is 2 months.

Reproduction is frequently suppressed in other adult females.

Several sets of offspring remain in the group. The older twins aid in cooperative rearing by assisting in the raising of younger siblings.



## 2. The project

### 2.1 History

The project started in the year 1994 with the arrival of Cristobal, a male woolly monkey of 8 months old. During the year 1996 the project requested the Agricultural and Livestock Service of the Chilean government (SAG), authorization to create a centre to shelter primates seized by the authorities.

In the beginning the idea was to recover the monkeys, to rehabilitate them and, when possible, to return them to their natural habitat. Rapidly the centre realized that it was a fantasy, because the majority of the monkeys entered with severe sequels left by the traffic, when they were hunted or for the life that they have taken in captivity. Some of the monkeys have arrived to the Centre blind, mutilated, with such chronic diseases as hepatic cirrhosis, chronic hepatitis, and cardiac diseases; also the project has monkeys that have been alcoholic, drug addicts, etc. Obviously, they will never return to their habitat. Other primates like Eusebio and Toto (chimpanzees) have had better luck. Eusebio was moved to the Sanctuary for chimpanzees in Zambia, Africa in December 2000 and Toto in September 2003. The 2 nowadays are free in a protected jungle.

From the year 1996 up to the date, the project has received 175 primates of 12 different species. The majority of them have been recovered physically and behaviourally and they will remain mainly in the Centre for the rest of their lives.

Objectives of the project of Primates:

- To rescue primates that are being kept in circuses, houses, and other isolated and depriving captivity conditions, so they can live together with others of their kind;
- To rehabilitate physically and psychologically all the primates confiscated;
- To try to reintroduce to their natural habitat those who can;
- To fight the illegal trade of exotic animals, specially primates;
- To educate present and future generations regarding the care and conservation of primates;
- To make contact with international organizations that share the centre's targets;
- To promote animal wellbeing and the modernization of the laws for animal protection.

### 2.2 Primate rescue and rehabilitation

There are different ways the monkeys arrive to Centre:

- a) Authority S.A.G Confiscation : Circus, Not authorized privates Mini-Zoos,
- b) Voluntary delivered to Centre: Home Pets, Circus, Laboratories.
- c) Other authorities rescued ( accident monkeys , bitten people)
- d) Other Centres in other countries

When a primate arrives to the Centre it can come in very bad physical and psychic conditions, with strap to the neck or to the abdomen, with mutilated and infected teeth, with parasitic diseases, fungi, wounds and with severe behavioural problems. This will take most of the time a long recovering period.

If the monkeys are injured, the majority of the treatments are realized in the Centre, the professionals like vets must come here and bring equipments of examinations as for example portable ultrasound scanner. It is very stressful and dangerous to extract primates to other places considering how difficult it is to manage and handle them, and also that the effect of the anaesthesia lasts approximately 15 minutes.

### Some arrivals:



- Memo, a capuchin monkey who was electrocuted in the towers of high tension in the city of Arica. He was in intensive treatment 2 weeks and spent other 3 months under medical care. Today he is recovered and lives in the Centre.



- Vicky, capuchin female that arrived to the Centre with severe physical problems, among them, the denture in terrible conditions and a fracture in the upper jaw. She was operated by the veterinarians of the Centre and nowadays she is recovered and forms part of a group of 5 other capuchins.



- Yoyi, an adult male spider monkey, that arrived to the Centre derived by a judge from the BuinZoo. He had severe injuries in all the fingers caused by fungi. He was in treatment for 3 months. Nowadays he is doing very well and lives in a group of male spider monkeys.

- Antonio, a male spider monkey that arrived in the year 1997 being 18 months old with severe physical and mental damage. Nowadays he is the leader of a group formed by 5 adult spider monkeys.

## **2.3 Reintroduction**

The possibility for the monkeys to be reintroduced in the wild is unfortunately minimal. It is a matter of discussions in International forums. Most of the time the finally the conclusions are: not good prognosis for reintroduction: you must think in a life absolutely in a different way for primates in captivity: not predators and food, some of them are severely damaged and the possibility of survival is the less.

The project centre had the opportunity to transfer two of the Great Apes living in Chile: Toto and Eusebio, they were transferred to a wild life Orphanage in Zambia (Central Africa) where they can live in a great Chimpanzees community. The first one of them living during 26 years in a Circus and the second one, Eusebio, was precluded in a basement of Santiago's Zoo.

## **2.4 Illegal pet trade**

The chairman of the Centre been fighting against illegal pet trade in different stages for 8 to 10 year: Education with school's communities, Education to the Government authorities about the CITES Convention, and the way to stay in a permanent alert in the frontiers point especially with Bolivia and Peru, press intervention (TV, radio and Newspapers). The way the Centre can say that this fight has been a good point it is checking the number of incomes to Centre year by year, the numbers are fortunately decreasing in time.

## 2.5 Education

But the centre is busy educating present and future generations regarding the care and conservation of primates by an education programme.

They also aim to reduce poaching and deforestation: The project it is a very special place, near 40 miles to the big city Santiago and it has a lot of vegetation amazing for visitors with a lot of trees who looks like a little forest inside of the city, so is a good example for conservation.



### 1. Locals:

Because the local people can have directly affect on this matter, the project hopes to cease the destruction of the forest and the killing and capturing of its animals, by informing and educating them.

### 2. Schools:

The project is also involved in community education on primate and rainforest conservation and protection. They regularly visit primary-, and high schools, colleges and universities. The project hopes to give the next generation of Chilean school children a better understanding of the natural environment, to stop the pet trade and learning about deforestation.

### 3. Tourists:

The centre is not open for the public / tourists. This is to let the primates live in an environment with as less humans as possible. This develops a colony of primates with a successful and a highly social way of life.

### 4. The media:

The centre makes contact with international organizations that share the centre's targets, which enables the project to spread out its message over a wider field. And to promote animal wellbeing and the modernization of the laws for animal protection media which enables the project to spread out its message over a wider field.

## 2.6 Research

The centre is not a scientific centre, rather, a community of people working to better the captive life of the primate community here. Though they do research work like observation the primates. They have been involved in some specifically not interventionist researches: Ethological observations, is a frequent topical aborted by University students; some investigations in DNA from stool's monkeys to detect some viruses presence was the Centre involved with Harvard University – London. A lot of experiences about veterinary medicine has bee practiced by the centre's veterinarians the one who has been published in Student's thesis.

## 2.7 The future

The standard goal for the Centre is to stop the illegal trade. Chile has no wild monkeys so Chile must be free from them in a future.

The other plans are oriented to get the Centre be auto sustainable, after the family, who started this project, finished there permanence in the community.

### 3. Volunteers

By being a volunteer on this project you will support this project's work in two ways:

1. Volunteer donations contribute to the day-to-day costs of running the project. These costs include food, healthcare and the provision of new and updated housing and its enrichment for the monkeys.
2. Volunteer participation in the work of the project is essential, as each volunteer brings unique skills and perspectives to the organization. And volunteers work will be that the keepers have more time to develop new plans and move the Centre forward.

#### 3.1 Period / duration

- Volunteers are welcome all year round.
- You are free to choose your own arrival date.
- The duration of your stay must be 2 weeks or longer.
- Normally maximum stay is 3 months, but longer stays are on request.



#### 3.2 Requirements

There are no specific skills, nor previous animal care experience, required to participate at the project.

However, volunteers must be:

- A minimum of 18 years old;
- Very motivated;
- Be able to work in a team.



#### 3.3 Costs (including and not including)

The costs per person to participate at this project are as specified in the Global Spirits' website.

These costs include:

- Accommodation
- 3 meals a day and beverages (like water, tea or coffee)
- A donation to the project
- Training and supervision
- Administration costs



These costs not include:

- Flight to and from Santiago, Chile
- Passport / visa
- Travel insurance, which is compulsory for all participants and a cancellation insurance
- Personal expenses such as telephone bills, internet, souvenirs, etc.
- Any excursions undertaken by the volunteer

### 3.4 Accommodation



Volunteers will stay in one of the three family houses (depending of which one has enough space at the moment of arrival), so you will get the chance to be part of the family life and routine as well.

Normally you will share the room with one or more volunteers it depends on the number of volunteers at that moment at the Centre. Sheets and blankets, etc. are provided at the centre. Bathroom, kitchen and other facilities you will share with the family and with the other occupants as well.

All the houses have internet (WiFi), washing machine, tumble dryer, hot water, cable TV, telephone, etc. One of the houses also has a swimming pool, which is also available for volunteers.

The three houses are located in the same town. The main one is where the Centre started and the two others are next door to each other in the second land that the family bought when the monkey population started to increase. The three houses are being used by the family members, but have special space for volunteers.

(In case if the accommodation will be full in the period when you would like to come and participate, the Centre has the opportunity to accommodate you at a local family).

### 3.5 The work

The project offers an opportunity for people to take part in the care of a colony of monkeys. All the work performed here, is directly or indirectly, benefiting the monkeys. The Centre hopes to influence visitors to take a more direct role in the conservation of the Amazon Rainforest, and their local environment too. Additionally, it is hoped volunteers will also gain an awareness of the constraints of captivity for such an intelligent and sensitive being as a primate. In volunteering, you help this work to continue. A 1 month stay can be long enough to start recognizing individual monkeys and understanding some of their social structure.

There is a variety of work at the monkey project at any one time. On arrival you will first get an orientation. After that volunteers will join the centre team in:

- Preparing monkey food;
- Cleaning monkey territory
- Helping with building, repairing and painting monkey's territory structures
- Gardening
- General maintenance of the house and grounds



Volunteers will not work directly with the monkeys. (This means that you will not interact very close with the monkeys or try to put in braces with them). Keepers spend many months learning to recognize not only each individual monkey, but also their personalities and the group dynamics. The keepers aim to keep interference to a discreet and respectful minimum, to encourage the monkeys in their care and territory to be as wild as possible. This approach has assisted the colony with the successful development of a highly social way of life.

Volunteers will work from Monday - Friday from 08.30 am – 18.00 pm and Saturday morning. You will have free time at Saturday afternoon and on Sundays.



### 3.6 The project staff

The project consists of a permanent staff of 5 to 8 people. They are enthusiastic, friendly and enjoy training and working with volunteers from different countries.

The languages spoken at this project are English and Spanish.

## 4. Chile

### 4.1 Geography

The geography of Chile is extremely diverse. Chile, officially the Republic of Chile (Spanish: *República de Chile*, is a country in South America occupying a long and narrow coastal strip wedged between the Andes mountains and the Pacific Ocean. The Pacific forms the country's entire western border, with Peru to the north, Bolivia to the northeast, Argentina to the east.

The capital of Chile is Santiago. A modern city with a shiny face and has one of South America's most dynamic economies. Santiago is also the central point of a region filled with attractive sites and activities. Only 60 km away are the main South American ski centres, and the beautiful beaches of the Pacific are only an hour's drive to the northwest. Just south of Santiago lies the rich and beautiful vineyards of the Maipo Valley, one of the world's most esteemed wine producing regions.

### 4.2 Project Location

The project is situated about 30 minutes drive from Santiago, the capital of Chile. In Santiago there is much to see and do. The coast, for example Vina del Mar ('the garden city') and Valparaiso ('Jewel of the Pacific'), are about 1 hour and 40 minutes from the project. Here you can horseback riding, diving, sky diving, relax at the beautiful beach, etc.

### 4.3 Climate

The climate of Santiago and the project area is Mediterranean, with typical hot summers and mild winters.

#### Spring:

September - November

Temperatures are mild, which contributes to the flourishing green colour of the plants and trees

#### Summer:

December - February

This period it is dry and hot. Temperatures can reach over 30° Celsius and will cool down at night.

#### Autumn:

March – May

Temperatures decrease gradually.

#### Winter:

June – August

There are heavy but short rains. The annual average temperature is 14°C.

It only snows in the mountain range area, specifically at the winter resorts, snowfalls often starting in the second fortnight of June, and lasting until the first fortnight of October.

## 5. Travel information

### 5.1 Flight arrangements

Volunteers have to make their own flight arrangements. We advise you not to reserve your flight before we have confirmed your participation at the project, unless you will plan your participation at the project as a part of a bigger journey.

If you are unable to arrange your flight yourself for any reason, Global Spirit will be able to help. If you would like us to help you, please note this on the booking sheet.

### 5.2 Passport and visa

To visit Chile you will need a valid passport, which must be officially valid, on arrival, for at least six months.

To visit Chile you will not need a visa by all nationals for stays of up to 90 days except the following: nationals of Greece for up to 60 days and nationals of Romania for up to 30 days.

Nationals of Australia, Canada and the USA entering Chile for tourist purposes (like working at this project) will be charged a processing fee payable on arrival and in cash only. For nationals of Australia, the fee is US\$56; for nationals of Canada, the fee is US\$132; and for nationals of the USA, the fee is US\$100.

**Passport and visa requirements are liable to change at short notice. Volunteers are advised to check their entry requirements with their embassy or consulate.**

### 5.3 Insurances

Every volunteer is required to have a travel insurance policy (which covers extra medical costs, accidents and repatriation costs), and cancellation insurance is highly recommended. Without this travel insurance you will not be permitted to work at this project.

Global Spirit can help you arrange travel insurance (for volunteers who live in The Netherlands, Belgium and Germany) and cancellation insurance (for all volunteers). If you would like assistance, please indicate this on the booking sheet. If you already have insurances (or if you are a volunteer living outside The Netherlands, Belgium or Germany) please send a copy of the policy to Global Spirit.

### 5.4 Arrival in Santiago, Chile

You will be responsible for arranging your own transport to Santiago, Chile.

Providing we have received your arrival details, you will be met at the International Airport of Santiago and brought to the project by a member of staff.

## 6. Medical advice

Because volunteers will work with monkeys in Chile and sometimes you will have direct contact with these animals, you will have to take precautions for your own protection and that of the animals.

### 6.1 Advise

As Global Spirit is not a professional medical service, we advise you to go to a local clinic or medical authority in your own country for the appropriate medical advice.

This document is provided for information purposes only.

Do not visit your local clinic or medical authority later than six weeks before departure.

As a participant in this project, you are responsible for yourself. Global Spirit is not held responsible/liable for any unexpected casualties. Our advice is to behave responsibly and always listen to the project staff.

### 6.2 Required vaccinations

There are no vaccinations required at this project

### 6.3 Recommended vaccinations

You are recommended to be vaccinated against:

- D(K)TP
- Hepatitis A (and B if you want to participate for a long time)
- Typhoid
- Rabies

These vaccinations are not required, but are still very important to have. If you don't take them it's on your own responsibility. Global Spirit is not held responsible/liable for any unexpected casualties.

### 6.4 Medical service in Chile

There are good medical services available in Santiago and near the project site. If you should need a doctor, you can go to the hospital, which is just 5 minutes from the project site. An ambulance service is also available if needed. Public's health is a very good option in Chile.

If you need any medication, you can obtain it from a pharmacy, which is also situated close to the project.

## 7. Personal equipment

Some items are provided at the project, such as:

- Pillows
- Bedding (like blankets and sheets)
- Towels

### 7.1 Essential items

Here are some essential items, which you should bring with you:

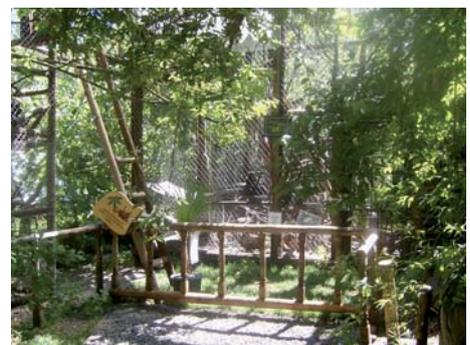
- Valid passport (and visa)
- Clothes for work, like cotton (lightweight) shirts and trousers
- Wet weather clothes
- Clothes for evenings
- Nightwear
- Strong work shoes / hiking boots
- Sandals / Flip flops
- A Hat or cap
- Sunglasses
- Sunscreen (it's recommended to use for at least SPF 15)
- Insect repellent
- First-aid kit with for example plasters, disinfectant, painkillers, etc.
- A camera (and photographic materials)
- Bathing/swimming suit
- A towel
- Toiletries
- A water bottle



### 7.2 Optional items

Here are some optional items, which you may choose to bring with you:

- Binoculars
- A lighter
- A watch
- A torch and spare batteries
- A pocket knife
- An alarm clock
- A notebook and address book
- A day pack
- Working gloves
- Vitamin B (it will be anti mosquito)
- Something against dehydration like ORS (we advise you to drink a lot of water)
- Imodium or other ant-diarrhoea medication
- Books or magazines
- Snacks



## **8. General information**

### **8.1 Food and drinks**

At the project all meals are included.  
Meals will be prepared and eaten in the house of the family.

Beverages like water, coffee and tea are included.

If you have special dietary requirements, or if you are a vegetarian, please indicate this on the booking form.

Typical meals in Chile consist mainly of lots of meat, especially beef and chicken, rice and potatoes, fresh fruit and vegetables. (Many of the family members at the project are vegetarians, so vegetarians, vegans and meat eaters are welcome).

The list of typical Chilean food is:

- Pastel de Choclo: corn casserole with meat stuffing
- Empanadas: pastry filled with meat, cheese or mussels
- Cazuela: homemade stew with beef, chicken, corn, rice and potatoes
- Asado: barbecue of beef, pork or chicken
- Reineta, Congrio, Corvina: the most typical fish
- Locos: a rare type of molluscs
- Jaiva: shrimp, crab
- Centolla: king crab with tender meat of reddish colour

### **8.2 Supermarkets and markets**

#### Supermarkets:

Close to the project you can find supermarkets (5 minutes walk), where you can buy pretty much everything in terms of food, snacks, batteries etc.

#### Markets:

Every 8 blocks there are two wonderful markets in Peñaflor (be careful with wines: they are very cheap, very good and very high in alcohol degrees)

### **8.3 Laundry services**

There is a wash machine available at the project, which you may use.

### **8.4 Telephone**

There is a telephone available at the family home, which you may use. If you want to use the phone for international calls, you can buy a calling card (available at the supermarkets and pretty much everywhere in town). Of course it's possible to receive calls as well. Communications in Chile are the international standards and the best in Latin/South America.

If you come from Europe, most mobile phones can't be used because Costa Rica has another network than in Europe, but for sure we advise you to contact your phone company or phone service in your own country before departure.

If you come from North-Central or South America, most mobile phones can be used, but for sure we advise you to contact your phone company or phone service in your own country or please check the local service providers.

## **8.5 Internet access**

Internet is available at the project (at the home of the family).

There are also Internet possibilities available in Peñaflores. For example at Cyber cafés, here it is very cheap.

There are a lot of Internet possibilities in Santiago.

## **8.6 Electricity**

Chile has an electricity voltage of 220 Volts. A 3-legged plug can be used. It would be handy if you bring an adaptor with you, but you can check this in a specialised shop in your own country.

## **8.7 Transport during your stay**

If you want to go somewhere outside of the project side you can take the bus or taxi.

To Santiago, a bus ride it will cost you about 2 USD.

If you would like to go to the coast it will cost you about 40 USD.

## **8.8 Beaches**

There are a lot of beaches in Chile. The coast (Vina del Mar ('the garden city') and Valparaíso ('Jewel of the Pacific')) are about 1 hour and 40 minutes from the project. Here you will find different beaches, for example the Reñaca beach. This is the most popular in the region, with white sand and wonderful waves.

## **8.9 Excursion arrangements**

Chile is ideal for making different trips. You can arrange excursions by yourself or by travel agencies. Here are some examples:

- Visit Santiago
- Visit the coast and its beaches; where you can relax, horseback riding, windsurfing, and diving, etc.
- Visit the Mountain (near 2 hours from the project)

All excursions are at your own expense.

## **8.10 Photo and film materials**

Films for cameras are available and you can buy them in supermarkets and photo shops. There is a photo shop located in Santiago (30 minutes public locomotion) Slide film and videotapes are also available.

## **8.11 Currency**

The monetary unit of Chile is the Chilean Peso. (\$ or CHP), which exists in banknotes of \$1000, \$2000, \$5,000, \$10,000, \$20,000 and coins of \$1, \$5, \$10, \$50, \$100 and \$500.

Cash and traveller checks can be changed in most banks. We advise you to bring traveller cheques (in US Dollars, English Pounds or Euros ) instead of cash, because they are insured most of the time and the exchange rates are usually better.

In commercial and banking areas as well as gas stations, it is easy to find Automatic Teller Machines (Redbanc network) / cash machines honouring cards of all local banks as well as Cirrus cards, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Exchange rates are very good. Instructions are also available in English.

You can find banks in Santiago and there is also a bank about 15 minutes of the project. There are more banks in the next town, about 10 minutes driving.

The banks are open on Monday – Friday from 09:00 am until 14:00 pm (Saturdays and Sundays they are closed)

Exchange offices are open on Monday – Friday from 09:00 am until 14:00 pm and from 15.00 to 18.00 pm.

Never change money in the street, always go to a proper exchange office for safety.

Master Card and VISA are accepted in most shops and big hotels.