

Welcome to Pucon Kayak Hostel!

We hope you are excited for your upcoming trip to Pucon, where you'll have the chance to explore some of the most beautiful and pristine places in Chile. To help you get the most out of your trip, you'll want to read through our travel and preparation tips included with this packet.

Our location in Pucón boasts the best small-town tourism infrastructure in Chile. That means quality accommodations, efficient tourism resources, hundreds of activities and excursions, excellent travel services, gourmet restaurants, and a significant population of expat residents from all over the world. Pucón is in Chile's 'Rivers and Lakes' district, which is surrounded by mountains, volcanoes, lakes, and glacially-fed rivers. The landscape makes it a mecca for outdoor recreation and Pucón is a popular destination for adventure sport athletes and tourists alike.

We are based in a small rural community just outside of town, on the banks of the Rio Trancura. Pucón Kayak Hostel hosts hundreds of international travelers every season - and we can't wait for you to join our extended global community. Space at our base is abundant indoors and out. The hostel is centered around an open-air quincho that was designed by a master Chilean craftsman and architect, and it is a wonderful place to gather, meet new friends, eat delicious meals, and swap river stories. The campus at Pucón Kayak Hostel also includes a movie dome, treetop shower, soccer field, laundry service, and of course, river access.

About the Owner

David Hughes has an impressive history with youth development programs. A secondary education major David founded a high school for kayakers and led international trips for 15+ years. He's been awarded as Coach of the Year in both wrestling and whitewater kayaking. Athlete accomplishments included 4 world champions, Olympians, and a multitude of youth success stories. David has been an expert panel leader on Youth Development programs for the Whitewater Symposium, is cooperatively teaching a university case study course on Eco-friendly Sustainable business with PKH as the model, and continues to lead student programs both in the US and Chile.

David is delighted to bring to Chile a North American style youth development program that fosters adolescent growth, environmental awareness, and shares the natural wonders and adventures of Chile with students. David believes that with today's ever increasing generation of technology influenced students it's

even more vital to help families teach students how to unplug and be active within Chile's remarkable adventure offerings.

Pre-Trip Preparation.

Read this packet of information and review our checklist of suggested items to pack before your trip. If you're eager for more pictures, videos, and stories, make sure to visit our website and like our Facebook page (if you haven't already). We post about everything from travel tips to skills development and local river beta. We also provide status updates frequently throughout the season from our base in Pucón.

Getting to Pucon.

By Bus – Santiago to Pucon buses depart Santiago at night and arrive to Pucon in the morning. We'll be at the bus station awaiting student arrivals with phone in case of delayed arrivals and to confirm arrivals with parents.

By Plane – Students arriving by plane will schedule flights to Temuco. We recommend arrivals prior to 11 AM in order to have more adventure time on your first day.

Packing for your Trip. First, read through our suggested pack list and if you have a question, please email us.

Music and movies are great to have when traveling, too. The movie dome at our base has a communal hard drive, which guests can use to upload, share, and watch music, videos, movies, and tv shows. So if you have a good media library, we encourage you to bring it and share!

Climate & Geography. Pucon lies on the flanks of the Andes' Rivers and Lakes District. Meaning there are lots of rivers flowing off the slopes and volcanos. The vistas are spectacular. November is still a cold month and can have rain. This is why we plan to utilize our best natural resource to keep the adventures warm and fun. The hot springs make cold days warm and fun days to learn about our whitewater kayaks.

We recommend you plan for the worst and hope for the best weather conditions. Rain or down jackets for warmth are a must. We eat in an outdoor setting around the fire. This family style eating naturally promotes social interactions but can be cold. So, bring your hoody, warm pants, and jacket. We'll provide you with warm gear for the adventures.

Arriving. At Last.

Money. Students will only need money for souvenirs, ice cream, and post trip cantina stops to and from the river. We recommend a small amount of cash to cover spending money costs.

Airport Pickup. Students arriving to Temuco by air should schedule flights to arrive prior to 11 AM.

Who can learn to whitewater kayak?

Do you enjoy playing in the water during the summer heat? How about swimming and exploring? Whitewater kayaking is about having fun and exploring in your own craft. It's super safe and fun for youth to learn in a controlled environment. And the river provides a multitude of learning opportunities including leadership, environmental stewardship, safety, biology and even cultural relationships. If you desire to be active, explore and have fun in the water then you are a likely candidate to love whitewater kayaking.

Gear. Pucon Kayak Hostel provides students with all necessary kayak equipment for the daily adventures. You will need swimming shorts, a towel, and swimming shoes or sandals.

Discounts and Promotions Worth Considering.

Group Discounts.

6 - 10 students: \$500.000 per student

11 - 20 students: \$475.000 per student

21+ students: \$430.000 per student.

Teacher Discounts + Premium Lodging

For every 5 students Pucon Kayak Hostel will give a teacher a free trip. To show our appreciation of teachers we'll even provide the teachers with our premium lodging.

Trip Preparation Checklist.

Forms

- Travel Information
- Liability Waiver
- Authorization for Medical Care
- Insurance Card and Info

Personal Items

- Carry-on Daypack
- Camera – with waterproof case if you have one.
- 2 - 3 Long - sleeved shirts, t-shirts, and pants
- Underwear
- Warm Pajamas
- Toiletries
- Flash Light

Adventure Gear

- Down Jacket (*or equivalent*)
- River Shoes or Sandals
- Water Bottle
- Swimming Attire + Towel
- Fleece under layers. Not a problem if you do not have them.
- Swimming mask if you have one.
- Hiking Shoes.