

ICEP CHILE

2011



Daily Report

Matt Cowan
Steph Donohue

DAILY REPORT

July 12, 2011

ICEP Chile arrived on a sunny, Tuesday afternoon and checked in at the CCC Barn. After introductions and questions, the participants said goodbye to their parents and the group headed to their housing on the top floor of the Four Seasons Lodge to drop off their luggage. They played a few icebreakers and group games on the infirmary lawn, followed by a bit of free time before enjoying the CCC cookout dinner together. After, the group played a game with ICEP Peru before creating a group contract, rules, and learning about Leader of the Day (LOD). Chat was held at a fire circle by the CCC lake, and the question was what you look for in a true friend.

July 13, 2011

ICEP Chile kicked the morning off with swim tests after breakfast, followed by a meeting with Jim and Alysa to review program rules and take a group picture. They discussed good packing practices for Chile and proceeded to apply this newfound knowledge to their own luggage. After lunch, the group weighed their bags at the infirmary and headed to the CCC barn to race ICEP Peru in the ICEP Amazing Race: Ring of Fire Challenge. Each group had to pass several obstacles, including Spanish school, a luggage relay, customs, and find a South American animal at camp. The race ended in a tie, and both groups agreed to bring back a snack from their trip for the other group. ICEP Chile began work on their CCRs and enjoyed some free time in and around Four Seasons while the leaders began meeting with the campers one on one. After dinner, the group shared the information they'd gathered about Chile and played Jeopardy. Most group members went to catch the end of Berkshires Best and participate in goodnight circle. Chat was what you are most nervous about, and answers were recorded in the group journal, Rae-Kwon.

July 14, 2011

After breakfast, ICEP prepared bagged lunches for the road and returned to finalize packing; passports and emergency contact cards were distributed. After storing their camp bags in the CCC dining hall basement, the group joined ICEP NZ for a bus ride to JFK. The group arrived early and waited in front of the LAN counter to check in. Once checked in, group was given approximately 20 minutes to do some minor shopping before heading through security. After the group passed through security successfully, each participant was given a granola bar and \$5 to spend on snacks while practicing the rule of 5 campers in public together. The group boarded with no problems and had an uneventful flight to Chile.

July 15, 2011

ICEP arrived in Santiago in the morning. The group purchased visas and passed through customs. Bags were claimed and the Chilean partners Juanma and Susana greeted us by doing the YMCA dance, and then took the group to the bus for the 1.5 hour ride to Viña del Mar. A lovely breakfast awaited ICEP at their housing. The group headed to Valparaiso on the microbus and had lunch at Aqui Si, exchanged some money, went to the Valpo YMCA to use the bathroom, and participants bought some snacks. The group then took a walking tour of the coast, got a bit sea-sprayed at Wolff Castle while attempting a group photo, went to another market to buy more snacks before returning to the housing for dinner, camper conferences, chat,

and bedtime, but not before feeling a small earthquake. The cabin chat question was if you were a crayon color, what would you be and why?

July 16, 2011

The group had had breakfast and headed to the Valpo YMCA to meet the Chilean teens. They listened respectfully to the religious reflection and played group games before heading up to have lunch with the teens. After returning to the housing, the group packed up and helped move mattresses, kitchen supplies, and food to the new housing, a Victorian mansion. The group had a great traditional Chilean dinner, charquican, a vegetable stew with an egg on top. The leader of the day led cabin chat (what is your favorite childhood memory?), and then group made a shower schedule before heading to bed.

July 17, 2011

ICEP woke up early to take a bus trip to the Andes with the Chilean teens, who were already waiting downstairs when ICEP went down for breakfast. The bus stopped to allow people to purchase snacks and use the bathroom, and then hit traffic due to snow. The partners decided to turn back and let the kids off to play in the snow for about an hour. The group had lunch on the bus during the return trip. Some of the Chilean teens stayed back at the house to watch Chile lose to Venezuela in the Copa Americas. The chat question was what is an inner and outer scar?

July 18, 2011

The group started community service work by visiting the Valpo YMCA's foster home, played at a playground with the kids, and then went to an artisan market. The group returned home for dinner and then played sardines. The chat question was what your super power would be?

July 19, 2011

The group began their first community service project of repainting the interior of the girls foster home. They first cleaned all the walls and moved the furniture to prepare. The partners joined in to help start the painting. The group broke to have lunch up the street at the boys foster home, where they also took some time to hang out and play with the kids before returning to continue painting and then clean up so the foster girls could spend the night there. The group had dinner at home, hung out, and had cabin chat: what was the best advice you've ever received?

July 20, 2011

The group continued the home painting service project at the foster home and had lunch at the boys' house again. On the way home, they stopped by a grocery store to get phone cards and snacks. The chat question was who is the most influential person in your life?

July 21, 2011

The group returned for the last time to finish the project and had lunch again at the boys' foster home. The group returned to housing in the afternoon to get dressed up as Harry Potter characters to go and see the movie and get completos in the evening. The chat question was what is your favorite word?

July 22, 2011

The group slept in a bit and had eggs and palta (avocado) for breakfast for the first time. After, the group took the micro to the Valparaiso boardwalk and took a long stroll along the coast. They stopped for photo opportunities and to see the lobos del mar (sea wolves, aka sea lions) on an old pier. After lunch at Aqui Si, they went back to the house in Vina to have time to prepare, pack, and get dressed up for meeting their homestay families. Juanma brought the bags over and the group rode the micro to the YMCA. The kids were paired up with homestay families (six doubles and a triple), rules were explained and handed out, and participants were sent home with their new Chilean families.

July 23, 2011

The group met in the morning with the Chilean teens at the YMCA. After the bible reading, reflection, and translation by the leaders for the ICEP participants, the group headed to a nearby beach to play group games with the Chilean teens. At one-thirty the group went back to the YMCA to be picked up by their homestay families.

July 24, 2011

ICEP participants spent the day with their homestay families.

July 25, 2011

The group met at the Valpo YMCA at 10:30 am. They took a long walking tour first to see the National Congress building, then to an ascensor that was unfortunately closed. Instead, the group visited two markets, had lunch at Aqui Si, and went for ice cream at Grido in the Plaza Armada. After, they continued touring by going up the Cerro Alegre ascensor and walking around Cerro Alegre and Cerro Concepcion before returning to the YMCA, where the participants were picked up by their homestay families.

July 26, 2011

The group arrived at the Valpo YMCA in the morning, ready to view the new community service site at the YMCA's community center in Cerro Las Canas, where they were given a site tour, and then were set to work on clearing the surrounding hills of garbage and sorting it. After lunch, the group continued the work, and then returned to their homestays.

July 27, 2011

The group again began the day by meeting at the YMCA before heading to the Cerro Las Canas community center for day two. This time, the group began work on insulating and reinforcing the roofs on two local homes, again breaking for lunch in the soup kitchen. The group returned to the YMCA and were picked up by their homestay families.

July 28, 2011

The group returned for the final day at Cerro Las Canas to finish work on the homes they were shoring up. Again, they had lunch in the soup kitchen at the center and when they finished work, returned to the YMCA and were picked up by their homestay families.

July 29, 2011

ICEP hit the road on a bus trip to San Antonio to see the orphanage and played with some incredibly cute babies. The group had lunch at a local shopping center, where they celebrated a participant's birthday camp-style with both CCC and Becket songs. After, the group went to Isla Negra, Pablo Neruda's last home. The group returned to the YMCA to be picked up by their families.

July 30, 2011

The group met and played some games with the Chilean teens at the Valpo YMCA. Participants were picked up at one-thirty and spent the afternoon with their homestay families.

July 31, 2011

The group spent most of the day with their homestay families, returning to the Vina house for dinner. They packed for the Santiago trip, had chat, and went to bed. The chat question was what was your highlight of your homestay visit and what you learned from the service work?

August 1, 2011

The group woke up for breakfast and was miraculously out the door and onto the bus by 10:30 am to head to Santiago with Juanma and Susana. The group arrived at the Casa Grande Hostel at around 1:00pm, checked in, got settled, and then headed out for lunch and a walk to Cerro San Cristobal. The group rode the funicular train up to the top, walked around, and took in the views of the city. On the walk back the group did a little bit of shopping at a plaza, and had dinner at a local restaurant, Estacion Terminal. The chat question was if you could change one character trait about yourself, what would it be?

August 2, 2011

The group ate breakfast at the hostel and then hit the road for an all day walking tour. They first visited Cerro Santa Lucie, walked around, and then walked to the Plaza de Armas, where they went to the National Cathedral and walked around for a bit. The group then proceeded onto the National Historic Museum. The group had lunch at the Central Market (a fish market) and then proceeded on their walking tour to the Moneda, followed by a short trip to the Santiago Artisanal Market. They returned to the same restaurant for dinner and had chat: if you were a kind of fart, what kind would you be? The group sang Amici and did a miniature goodnight circle before going to bed.

August 3, 2011

The group woke up and had breakfast at the hostel. ICEP took the city bus to the Estadio Nacional, the national soccer stadium, where they were able to go out onto the track to walk around and take pictures of the incredible views of the city. The group returned for about an hour and a half to the artisanal market before returning to the hostel to collect their things and get on the bus back to Vina at 4:30. They had dinner at home, and the group played a group card game, sardines, and then had chat: what soda flavor would you be?

August 4, 2011

This was a scheduled down day for ICEP. The group slept in and had a 10am breakfast. The leaders began mid-program conferences with participants, and during this time group members were allowed to go in groups of five to the local grocery store or just hang out. At 1pm, the group left to head down to Aqui Si for lunch. Initially, the plan was to take the Metro into the city, but due to protests about education reform that became violent and involved tear gas, the plan was altered and the group took a micro that went around the city to avoid going through downtown Valpo. Due to traffic from avoiding the protests, the group sat on the bus and did not arrive at the restaurant until 4:30pm. The group did see some of the protests and tear gas, which the participants found very exciting though. The group was meant to meet with the Chilean teens, but they did not come because of the protests, and instead the group met with Jorge alone to plan for the camp. The group returned in normal time to the house for dinner and more downtime. The chat question was what are three things you could never live without?

August 5, 2011

The group woke up for a 9am breakfast and then promptly helped load the bus with supplies to go to camp. The Chileans arrived a bit later, and the group headed off for a 45 minute bus ride to Olmue, the Valpo YMCAs campground. The group got situated in their cabins, had lunch, and then played group games with the Chilean teens before having a bit more down time. After dinner, the group got dressed up as superheroes for the dance party evening activity. The dance ended at 10:30 so everyone could rest up for the big hike in the morning.

August 6, 2011

The group woke at 7am for 7:30am breakfast. ICEP and the Chileans were transported in shifts to the Minos trail at nearby Campagna National Park. The group began the hike, stopping for a lunch at around 1pm, and taking lots of pictures once they reached the top. The group returned to camp to decompress after the hike, and then participated in the fugata (campfire) before heading to bed.

August 7, 2011

Everyone slept in a bit and had a protein filled breakfast of eggs. The group then did arts and crafts to prepare to give their zero dollar gifts to their Chilean secret santas (amigos secretos) at the revealing ceremony. Everyone played capture the flag, gringos vs. Chileans, and ICEP lost twice before a soccer game started up. After lunch, the group reveal of secret santas took place, followed by a general camp cleanup and down time. ICEP returned to Vina at 4:30, had dinner at the house, and went out to get ice cream at Bravissimo. ICEP returned to the house for chat, what is your favorite camp memory?

August 8, 2011

The group slept in a bit and had a 10am breakfast. ICEP headed to Playa Ancha to see the coast and cliffs, and then walked back to Valpo to have lunch at Aqui Si. After lunch the group went on a harbor tour, did some more shopping at the Port Market, stopped for either ice cream or hot chocolate, rode the Metro back to Vina, and had dinner. Chat was what would you redo in the last few years if you had the option?

August 9, 2011

The group had an earlier PJ breakfast to allow Patti to take Susana to the airport in Santiago, as Susana was leaving for a year of volunteer work in Germany. Due to protests in downtown Valpo again, the group stayed in Vina and switched the schedule around. ICEP went on a walking tour of Parque Quinta Vergarra and stopped by two markets in Vina before returning home to make themselves grilled cheese sandwiches for lunch. At 4pm, the group headed back out to go to the Fonck Museum, only to discover it had closed early to allow the workers to go home and avoid the protests. The LOD decided that the group wanted to go shopping, so Juanma took the group to a seaside market. The group returned home, had dinner, hung out, and had chat: describe the person to your right as a kitchen utensil.

August 10, 2011

The group went to the Fonck Museum, and headed back to the beach because it was a beautiful day. ICEP then headed to Aqui Si for lunch for the last time. After, the group walked through the Open Air Museum to La Sebastiana, Neruda's Valpo home. The group returned to Vina and the leaders were able to attend disco spinning next door at the Vina YMCA. The chat question was how have your camp experiences changed you?

August 11, 2011

The group got an early start, eating breakfast at 9am and heading directly out to Jorge Williams College, where they picked up 45 pre-K through 1st graders to spend their last service day taking them to the zoo. Each ICEP participant, leader, and partner was responsible for two of the children. Everyone had bag lunches at the zoo, followed by a snack before getting back on the bus to drop the children off. ICEP got dressed up to go out for their final dinner at Africa, a Vina restaurant, where they celebrated Cob's birthday in both Becket and Chimney style, and then went for ice cream at Bravissimo. Chat was what is the place you go to when you need to escape?

August 12, 2011

The group had breakfast and headed to the Valpo YMCA for an empanada cooking class. ICEP made and ate cheese and pino empanadas for lunch, cleaned up, and then headed to the local Lider Express (Walmart) for a power shopping trip to buy cookies, chips, and soda to bring with them to the foster home for the goodbye party with the kids there. Once ICEP arrived at the site, half stayed at the boys' home and half went to the girls home, where they played some games and then had treats with the children, before ICEP met back at the girls home for an impromptu dance party. ICEP returned home for dinner, had an early chat (what is your favorite sound), and broke into small groups to make thank you cards to give to the partners at the BBQ.

August 13, 2011

The group had a 9:30 am breakfast and then helped to move tables over to the Vina YMCA next door to prepare for the farewell BBQ with their homestay families. ICEP headed to the Valpo YMCA for the last time to hang out with the Chilean teens. After the bible reading, games, and goodbyes, ICEP went out for pizza at Tutto Bene. The group went back to the beach because it was a beautiful day, and returned home to get dressed up for the BBQ dinner with their homestay

families and the partners. After the late dinner, the group had chat. The question was what is your highlight of Chile, followed by your favorite memory from Chile?

August 14, 2011

The group slept in until 10, had breakfast, and spent the day packing and cleaning up the Vina house. Some groups went out to the supermarket to buy last minute things to bring home. The bus arrived at 4:30pm to take the group to the Santiago airport with the partners. Chat was done in the airport and the question was what store you'd like to be trapped in overnight. The flight back was uneventful and there were no problems with baggage, security, or customs.

August 15, 2011

ICEP arrived at JFK in the morning, passed through customs and met ICEP Peru to take a bus back to camp, stopping for lunch at McDonalds. The group arrived at Becket, settled in at Gibson Hall, and the leaders began final conferences with participants. The group was able to use the sauna at night, and had chat inside. The question was to pass a complement to the people sitting to your left and right. The group returned to housing and wrote bus notes.

August 16, 2011

The leaders finished conferences with participants in the morning while the rest of the group hung out, explored Becket, cleaned the rooms, and loaded supplies onto the bus. After lunch, the group walked to the CCC barn for the debrief with their families before heading home!

SERVICE PROJECTS

The first service opportunity was at the ACJ Valparaiso YMCA's foster home where over the course of four days participants played with and supervised children, and cleaned and repainted the entire interior of the girls' five bedroom foster home. At the Cerro Las Canas Community Center, participants spent three full days cleaning hillsides, sorting compost and garbage, working in the soup kitchen, and working in two local community homes to repaint, add insulation and reinforce the roofs, and generally enhance the living conditions of the families. The group also chaperoned a pre-K through first grade field trip with the Colegio Jorge Williams school to a zoo, and was directly responsible for the supervision of two children each. For the last service project, the participants returned to the foster home to host a group birthday party for the foster children.

July 18-21	ACJ Valparaiso Foster Home	21 hours
July 26-28	Cerro Las Canas Community Center	17 hours
August 11	Colegio Jorge Williams	4 hours
August 12	ACJ Valparaiso Foster Home	4 hours
Total hours		46 hours