



Chile Research Guide

ANCESTOR'S BIRTH LOCATION UNKNOWN

FamilySearch Indexed Records: Try searching in the indexed records for the name of your ancestor if they were born before 1900. Try a variety of searches with your ancestor's name, or with parent's names, or just by parent's surnames AND using the option to limit locality by the country "Chile" and the name of the region in Chile. If there are no results, you will have to find more information from home sources or by asking family members.

Contact Family Members: If you do not have even a minimal amount of information AND have no idea of where and when to look, you need to contact family members who might have that information. This could be older aunts, uncles, grandparents, etc.

ANCESTOR'S BIRTH LOCATION AND NAMES OF PARENTS, SPOUSE, OR CHILDREN ARE KNOWN

Civil Registration began in 1885 in Chile. Some of these records are available on microfilm. Please note that the indexes FamilySearch has online go beyond the year 1903 but the actual records filmed and/or digitized only go up to 1903. Catholic Church records are also a good choice as they cover all time periods. If you can find the ancestor in both record types, that is best as you will get more information to advance the pedigree.

FamilySearch Indexed Records: Try searching first in indexed records as explained above.

FamilySearch Browsable Images: If there are no results from your previous search for your ancestor or any siblings, you will have to browse images for the locality. On the **Search** page, click the **South American** portion of the map then select **Chile** from the list of countries. Select a record collection from **Image-Only Historical Records** and browse the collection page-by-page for your ancestor.

FamilySearch Catalog: Not all records for Chile are online, be sure to check the catalog before giving up on finding records. Under **Search** on the home page select **Catalog**. Type **Chile** and click **Search**. A list of available records will appear. Your search can be localized by selecting **Places within Chile** at the top and then choosing the exact locality where your ancestor lived.

Ordering Copies of Civil Registration Records: If you have a RUN (Chilean national identification number) you may order up to 4 certificates online for free. Use this link: <https://www.registrocivil.cl/OficinaInternet/adquirirCertificado.do>.

RESEARCH STRATEGIES

Who to Search For: If you don't know the names of the parents, but you know the name of the spouse and/or the names of some of his children, begin with a marriage search (if they married in the Chile and you know the place). Or begin with a search for the birth/baptism record for one of their children (if you have an approximate birthdate and place).

FamilySearch Wiki: Translation, handwriting help, and descriptions of specific record collections can be found on the FamilySearch Wiki. Under **Search** on the home page select Research Wiki. Type **Chile** into the search bar and press **Enter**. The information on this page will lead you to helpful topics such as **Languages** (under Chile Background) as well as beginning research suggestions.

FamilySearch Community: You can get immediate research and handwriting help from a community of researchers through the FamilySearch Communities. Go to <http://community.familysearch.org/> and click **Groups**. Search for **Latin American Genealogy Research** or **Investigación Genealógica** to find the group for Hispanic genealogical research. While the second group is in Spanish, the members will respond to posts written in English. On the group pages, you can post research questions and upload documents to get translation help.

FINDING A LOCALITY

For help locating a place in Chile, try the following sources:

- Google
- Wikipedia (The Spanish version works the best)
- FamilySearch Wiki article **Chile Gazetteers**.
- Try a keyword search in the FamilySearch Catalog for Chile Gazetteers

IMMIGRANT ANCESTOR WHO WENT TO CHILE

FamilySearch Wiki: See the article **Chile Emigration and Immigration** for a list of websites you can search. They will be in Spanish and German. There are more resources on the FamilySearch Wiki in Spanish in the article **Chile: Inmigración**. The links between the English and Spanish versions of the articles can be found at the bottom of the page.

ONLINE RESOURCES

Chile Genealogy Resource: www.en.geneanet.org/pays/research-genealogy-ancestry-chile

Surname Finder: www.genealogytoday.com/surname/finder/mv?Surname=Chilean

Ordering copies of Civil Registration records: If you have a RUN (Chilean national ID number) you may order up to four certificates online for free. Use this link: www.registrocivil.cl/OficinaInternet/adquirirCertificado.do.