

Chile National Day Special

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AMBASSADOR OF CHILE



On Sept. 18, Chile commemorates the 215th anniversary of its independence as a sovereign state. This day is an opportunity to reflect on our history, look to the future and renew

our commitment to the values that guide our foreign policy: a dedication to human rights, sustainable development, respect for democracy and the rule of law and cooperation for peace and prosperity. These are values and principles that Chile proudly shares with Japan.

This month also carries special significance for the diplomatic ties between our nations. On Sept. 25, 1897, Chile and Japan established formal relations by signing the Treaty of Amity, Commerce and Navigation.

Today, we celebrate a relationship that began through trade and navigation and has since grown into a robust alliance founded on shared values and a common vision for the future.

The year 2025 has been especially meaningful for Chile-Japan relations. At the Osaka Expo, the inauguration of the Chile Pavilion, which showcases our creativity, diversity and commitment to sustainability, was a major highlight. With a design that bridges tradition and innovation, the Chile Pavilion welcomes authorities, international delegations and the general public to enjoy Chilean products and activities. It has received more than 1.6 million visitors so far.

As a testimony to our friendship, H.E. President Gabriel Boric visited Japan in May. In Tokyo, he held a fruitful meeting with Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba. On May 12, Boric inaugurated the Chilean National Day at the expo, sharing Chile's vision for a more inclusive future. He also

met with Japanese business leaders to further strengthen economic ties.

Chile-Japan maritime cooperation also stood out this year. In June, the Chilean Navy's training ship Esmeralda visited Japan to symbolize our maritime bonds. Chile also participated in the 20th graduation ceremony of cadets at the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force Officer Candidate School, continuing a tradition of naval cooperation.

Energy and science have also been areas of dynamic collaboration. The governor of Chile's Antofagasta region signed a memo-

randum of understanding with the University of Tokyo to expand cooperation in education and research. In August, Chile's Minister of Energy Diego Pardow traveled to Osaka and Tokyo to advance joint efforts in renewable energy — an essential tool in the fight against climate change.

On the parliamentary front, members of both Chile's Senate and Chamber of Deputies visited Japan, including parliamentarians of the Japan-Chile Parliamentary Friendship League. These exchanges reaffirm our shared commitment to dia-

logue and cooperation.

People-to-people ties continue to grow as well. Over 13,000 Chileans visited Japan in the first half of 2025 alone. The working holiday visa program's 200 annual slots filled up by May, reflecting a strong interest in cultural exchange.

As we celebrate Chile's National Day, we do so with deep gratitude toward Japan. This year of milestones shows the strength of our partnership and our path toward peace, prosperity and sustainable development.



Mountains are reflected in a lake in Torres del Paine National Park in southern Patagonia.
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to the People of
the Republic of Chile
on the Anniversary of
Their Independence

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