

# ROAD SCHOLAR

*Adventures in Lifelong Learning*

## Documenting the Past: The Easter Island Archaeology Project

### Second Packet

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# ROAD SCHOLAR

Dear Road Scholar,

We hope you are as excited as we are to be only months away from your Rapa Nui Road Scholar program. Today's mailing is your second packet of preparatory materials designed to briefly profile the country you will be visiting. We have provided basic information on the history of the country, currency/exchange information, and some helpful packing tips. Remember, any additional preparations you make for this great journey can only enhance your experience, broaden your knowledge base and inevitably contribute to everyone's learning adventure.

Your choice in destinations is excellent; both Palau and Yap have a rich history and culture. The lush landscapes and breathtaking ocean scenes are sure to make a lasting impression.

Thank you in advance for allowing us to encourage your journey of lifelong learning.

Koutau (thank you!)

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Andrew A. Lockwood".

Andrew A. Lockwood  
PII Road Scholar Director





## **RAPA NUI PROFILE**

### **GEOGRAPHY**

Rapa Nui, one of the most remote inhabited islands in the world, is located just south of the Tropic of Capricorn, 2,300 miles west of South America, 2,515 miles from Tahiti, 4,300 miles south east of Hawaii, 3,700 miles from Antarctica, and 1,260 miles from the closest inhabited island, tiny Pitcairn Island, of the Mutiny on the Bounty fame. Easter Island is triangular in shape, 64 square miles in size, with its longest stretch of 13.6 miles being along the south coast and its widest point being 6.8 miles.

Rapa Nui was formed by three separate volcanoes, of different ages, which coalesced into a single land mass. Poike formed the eastern end of the island approximately five million years ago; Rano Kau, in the southwest corner erupted one million years ago; and Maunga Terevaka, the island's highest point at approximately 1,660 feet, located in the northern corner of the island, is 300,000 years old. It was Maunga Terevaka that filled in and joined the other two volcanoes to create the basis of the island, which rises from the ocean floor, at a depth of approximately 11,400 feet, on the South East Pacific Plateau.

The volcanic activity means that the island has no high center, but consists of approximately 80 cones of various sizes. The terrain ranges from gently rolling, grass-covered hills to rugged lava fields. There are numerous volcanic tubes, forming an extensive system of caves, most of which are still unexplored. There is no evidence of any volcanic activity since human habitation.

While most of the Pacific Islands are protected by coral reefs, and have good deep water harbors, the coastline of Rapa Nui is mainly rocky, with high, black cliffs, which rise over 900 feet above sea level. Without the protective coral reefs the coastline has been battered by large waves for thousands of years. On the northern coast there are two lovely beaches but no deep-water harbor is available.

### **PEOPLE**

Rapa Nui's 2002 census showed a resident population of 3,791, an increase of 36.87%, 1021 people, over the 1992 figure. Today, the population is estimated at approximately 4,700. Approximately a third of this figure is temporary residents, primarily public servants and their families who are employed in the armed forces and various public institutions. The majority of the rest are descendants of native Polynesians, with a few Europeans and North Americans mixed in. Several hundred Rapanui live off the island, mainly in other parts of Chile and Tahiti, but also in North America and Europe.

As in most of Polynesia, kinship groupings are the basis of society; islanders tend to live in compounds on family land. Since the 1982 census, there has been a 100% increase in the number of houses on the island, from 530 to 1,065, due largely to Chilean government subsidized housing programs. The town of Hanga Roa is the only population center. The interior of the island is used for ranching and the periphery, which includes most of the archeologically important sites, has been declared a national park.

The official language is Spanish, but most islanders speak Rapanui at home. The native language of Rapa Nui (called Rapanui) is a Polynesian language that is a cousin to Tahitian, Hawaiian, Marquesan and Maori. Native people on the island still commonly speak Rapanui; however, almost everyone is also fluent in Spanish because that is the language of the Chilean government business and commerce. There is a strong local movement supporting language and culture preservation. Rapanui is now taught in school and its preservation and use is strongly encouraged. Many Rapa Nui families include people who speak different languages, it is impressive to hear conversations going on where English, Spanish, Rapanui, French and Tahitian may all be recognizable.

Rapanui have Chilean citizenship. Most Islanders over the age of 15 years have visited the Chilean mainland and some have lived there while attending school and university. Locally, there is a certain amount of sensitivity about the distinction between "Chileans" and Rapanui, those with family on the island, and those whose roots lie elsewhere in Chile. Roman Catholicism is the prevailing religion, although the Seventh Day Apostles and Mormons have small congregations.

## **ECONOMY**

The Easter Island province is extremely costly for Chile. It pays more in wages for local services and projects, on a per capita basis, than in any other part of the country. As there are no taxes, the island sends back little to the mainland. There is only one bank on the island, the government's Banco del Estado, and they deal only in pesos and US dollars.

The size of the available workforce is small, with all persons over the age of 30 years involved in some form of productive activity. The most constant sources of employment are through the Chilean public service and tourism sectors. Some work in both areas. Public projects of various sorts come up and the entire work force may be absorbed. Persons brought from Chile for this purpose do domestic service and work in shops. The rates of pay in public employment are fixed officially in Chile. In 1992, a worker in a government job might expect 60,000 pesos per month (about \$4), while someone employed privately, possibly in construction or tourism, might ask for 140,000 pesos (about \$9.33). Local labor will typically balance income against the cost of living, which is at least 50% more on the island than it is in Santiago. That coupled with occasional labor shortages and the availability of adequate subsistence through gardens and fishing, means that the cost of labor is highly variable.

Traditional plantations of taro, sweet potato, sugar cane, yams, bananas and gourds continue to be cultivated, along with the more recent crop introductions such as tomatoes, onions, maize, grapes, figs, melons, beans, pineapples and various fruit trees. Primary export industries in the past have included horsemeat, pineapples and crayfish, but these are not constant due to the high cost of airfreight and its unreliability. A recent initiative is to produce small quantities of jams and jellies, a current brand name being "Tuhi Turi" after the only kneeling moai on the slopes of Rano Raraku.

Most industry is on an individual basis, producing good quality copies of the famous artifacts. If given enough time, skilled Rapa Nui carvers can reproduce any of the works of their ancestors,

now held in museums around the world, from photographs and drawings. Carvings are in the island's soft volcanic stone or local timber, "miro tahiti" being the most favored, although others are used. There are miniature replicas of the large moai, for which the island is best known, as well as traditional designs, with imaginative carvings based on local themes. Many artists work in oils and other media. There are small textile printing operations manufacturing T-shirts, pareaus, and other products intended mainly for visitors but also used by locals.

Most people pin their hopes on tourism for the island's development. Tourism averages 40,000 – 45,000 visitors annually, mainly from South America. All local commerce, including hotel and tourism operations, is in Rapa Nui hands. Local businesses are required to have a local partner. While outsiders may be shop managers or assistants, those who control the businesses are Rapa Nui. The definition of a "Rapa Nui" for the purposes of holding land title is that at least one parent was born on Rapa Nui or descended from someone who was. There is land "sales" between Rapa Nui, although these are officially registered as transfers, the settlement being a matter between the Rapa Nui in the deal. No non-Rapa Nui can purchase land and leasing is very difficult.

## **HISTORY**

As a very tiny bit of land in an immense expanse of water, Rapa Nui raises archaeological, cultural and historical issues totally disproportionate to its size. In the early 1950's Norwegian explorer Thor Heyerdahl set off on a voyage across the Pacific on his raft, Kon Tiki, in an effort to prove his theory that Rapa Nui had originally been settled by advanced societies of Indians from the South American coast. Since then, extensive archaeological, ethnographic, and linguistic research, along with radio carbon data and more recently DNA studies, indicate that Rapa Nui was settled around AD 380 - 400, by people from Eastern Polynesia, most probably the Marquesas. The patterns of navigation and settlement of the Pacific are central to many anthropological and linguistic arguments, and Rapa Nui is key to the discussions as the last possible stopping place for east bound sailors on a voyage towards South America and the first available land for those traveling westward towards Polynesia.

Rapa Nui, like other Polynesian areas, originally had no written language and relied on the oral tradition to transmit the history and culture. Unfortunately there is little archaeological evidence for the first several hundred years of occupation and many conflicting stories, some of which are completely contradictory. The scrap of information as to the island's past come from one of three sources:

- Serious archaeological work performed in this century
- Recreations of possible ancient techniques, such as the recent NOVA experiment concerning how the moai were moved and raised
- Disjointed recollections of early European explorers.

Conventional opinion now holds that the people of Rapa Nui remained in total isolation for at least 1200 years until the arrival of the first Europeans. This isolation fostered conditions which allowed development of a complex culture, a new language, their famous stonework, as well as the only writing system known in all of Polynesia and the Americas and described by Dr. Steven Roger Fischer as "one of the world's most fascinating writing systems."

The earliest dated stone structures, located at Tahai and Vinapu, are estimated to have been constructed in the 6<sup>th</sup> century AD. The ancient Rapa Nui people began their building with low “ahu” (temple complexes). These evolved over the centuries to much larger compounds that were assembled with carefully fitted stone facades, which some have compared with the heavier Inca walls. In the development of the ancient culture, there seems to have been a point, sometime in the 7th or 8th centuries, when the population increased and settled in the coastal areas. At this time there was an embellishment of the usual Eastern Polynesian temple design, indicating that people began to erect small figures made of local materials.

Archaeological evidence indicates that the moai and ahu were in use as early as AD 700, but the great majority were carved and erected between AD 1000 and 1500. Depending upon the size of the moai, it took between 50 and 150 people to drag it across the countryside on sleds and rollers made from the island’s trees. While many of the statues were toppled during the clan wars of the 1600 and 1700s, other statues fell over and cracked while being transported across the island, and still others were knocked over by earthquakes and giant tidal waves. Recent research has shown that some of the sites, particularly the most important with great ahu platforms, were periodically ritually dismantled and reassembled with even larger moai. Current research indicates that there are 887 moai on Rapa Nui, some still buried in ahu and under eroded soil, with the last ones having radiocarbon dates of around 1350 AD.

In Rapa Nui oral tradition, a gap exists between the arrival of Hotu Matua and the division of islanders into Long Ear and Short Ear groups. One explanation is that Long Ear immigrants may have come from Polynesia, where some groups practiced the custom of ear lobe elongation, but it’s not impossible that arrivals from pre-Columbian Peru brought the custom. At some time – though conflict between the two groups resulted in the near extermination of the Long Ears – perhaps only a single survivor remained. The reasons for this warfare appear to have been demographic and ecological in nature.

It is believed that once the island’s natural resources were depleted, famine then cannibalism, set in. Because the island could no longer feed its chiefs, bureaucrats, and priests, who kept the complex society running, the status of the chiefs declined and power was seized by the “matatoa,” a savage class of warriors who terrorized the island. Land was seized from the weak and conquered groups were enslaved. A pattern of chronic warfare disrupted settlement patterns and destroyed crops.

Ever resourceful, the Rapa Nui tried to ameliorate war through elaborate ritual. The moai building obsession was a time of peace, but the Orongo period from roughly the 14<sup>th</sup> century until European contact and settlement from the 18th century onwards, was one of constant battle, with destruction and cannibalism. Chaos resulted and by 1700 the population had declined to between one-quarter and one-tenth of its former number, which has been estimated to have been anywhere from 7,000 to 20,000 people. During the mid 1700’s rival clans began to topple each other’s moai. The last sighting of a standing moai on a platform was by a French vessel in 1832.

It is known that Easter Island’s more than 1200 years of isolation ended on Easter Day in 1722, when the first European landing was made by an expedition of the Dutch East India Company

under Admiral Jacob Roggeveen. According to common European custom, since they landed on Easter Day, Roggeveen named the island, Easter Island. Unfortunately, a misunderstanding led to one Easter Islander being shot on board Roggeveen's boat, followed by an unknown number of welcoming hosts being gunned down on shore, giving the islanders an ominous foretaste of what European contact would bring.

Several European voyages followed but none of expeditions spent much time on the island. A lack of safe anchorage discouraged lengthy stays and Rapa Nui did not have what they wanted. By the time they reached Rapa Nui they were usually suffering from scurvy and were searching for more productive places with good water, food, and wood.

No matter how destructive the internal wars and environmental problems were to the Rapanui and their culture, they pale in insignificance when compared to the devastation finally wrecked by contact with the outside world during the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

About one hundred ships visited the island between the Spanish discovery and 1862, with landings by whalers in the 1820s and 1830s. Most relations with the Rapanui were good. The Rapanui enjoyed the opportunity to trade their artwork and food for European products such as nails, cloth, metal tools and other useful items. However, diseases that the whalers left behind wrecked havoc on the Rapanui, who had no immunity.

Labor shortages in Peru, a British ban on the importation of Chinese workers, and the assistance of an Irish "migration consultant" combined to produce the disastrous black birding raids on Rapa Nui and the other South Pacific Islands. The island's population stood at about 3,500 persons when the first Peruvian slavers rowed ashore on Christmas Eve, 1862, with brightly colored clothes and presents. On a given signal, as the islanders came down to greet them, the slavers attacked, tying up those who surrendered and shooting those who resisted. Back on board their ship, the slavers celebrated Christmas with rum and salted pork before setting sail with the Rapa Nui to the guano mines off shore islands of Peru, where they would work. During subsequent attacks, more than 1,000 Rapa Nui were kidnapped including the king, his son, and the priests, with their ritual knowledge. They were taken to work in the mines, on plantations, and even as private servants.

Next came the missionaries the first of which was Lay Brother Eugene Eyraud who, though of French birth, persuaded the Sacred Hearts Mission in Valparaiso, Chile, to let him lead a mission to Rapa Nui. While many islanders were converted to Christianity, however superficially, over the next few years, the missionaries imported a way of life that uniformly undermined and degraded local customs. Idols were burned and Rapa Nui culture almost ceased to exist.

Chilean ships had called at Rapa Nui from as early as the 1830s, but serious contacts began in 1870. Flushed with pride at winning their "War of the Pacific" with Peru and Bolivia, Chilean patriots urged the acquisition of a colonial possession to validate their claims to nationhood. On the advice of naval officer Captain Policarpo Toro Hurtado, Chile officially annexed the island in 1888.

They believed that it had agricultural possibilities, strategic position as a naval station, potential as a lucrative trading route between South America and Asia, and would bring them the prestige of having overseas possessions.

A deed of Cession and another of Annexation was signed by Chile and the chiefs of the island. In the first treaty, written in both Spanish and a kind of Rapanui, the island became part of the Chilean state. In the second, Chile offered to be a "friend of the land." As Chile had no clear-cut policy for the governing of Rapa Nui, between annexation in 1888 and 1897 when Enrique Merlet bought or leased nearly all of Rapa Nui's land, his wool raising company became the de facto government. Merlet's rule led to the poisoning murder of the last king of the island and the deportation of any opposition. It was also during Merlet's time that the islanders were forcibly herded from their traditional land into Hanga Roa where they remained like prisoners on their own island until 1966.

Early in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the English-Scottish company, Williamson, Balfour & Company, acquired Merlet's Rapa Nui holdings and managed the island through its Compania Explotadora de la Isla de Pascua (CEDIP), under a lease from the Chilean government. In 1953, seeking to maintain control over its territories, Chile revoked the lease of CEDIP and the Chilean Navy took over the entire administration of the island. After the arrival of Thor Heyerdahl, in the early 1950's, there was some relaxation of the rules. In 1956 a contingent of Rapanui school children, along with some guardians, were allowed to go to Chile to study.

Amongst this first group was Alfonso Rapu Haoa, who returned to his home 8 years later, in 1964, as a schoolteacher. As one of the first educated Rapa Nui, he resented the autocratic Naval rule and, upon his election as Mayor, the Chilean authorities called troops to the island. Eventually, the troops withdrew and the island became a fully incorporated part of Chile. The restrictions were removed and free elections were held from 1966. A special "Easter Island Law" was enacted, giving a series of benefits to spur development.

During this period of time, substantial social change took place in a very few years. With the 1967 completion of the airport, regularly scheduled air service between mainland Chile and Tahiti, with Rapa Nui as the midway refueling point, was established. Not only was there increased contact with the outside world, but also the flights had an overwhelming impact, as the tourist potential of Easter Island became known. International attention was focused on the island and the Chilean government was forced to make some improvements. During the 1970's and 1980's better water supplies, electricity, a hospital and a school were created.

The Easter Island Law coincided with the coming of the US Air Force and the creation of a base. In August 1985, General Pinochet approved a plan allowing the USA to expand Mataverí Airport with the construction of a runway, longer than the one in Santiago, which would be capable of handling emergency landings of the shuttles involved in the American Space Program. This was the only possible landing site in an extremely large area of the Pacific. The Rapa Nui had no say in this decision and the completion of the runway in 1988 concluded the islanders' transition from stone age to space age.

Today, while Spanish is still the official language, efforts are being made to encourage a revival of the traditional language, Rapa Nui. There is a strong resurgence of old traditions and local dance troupes strive to recreate the ancient dances, songs and costumes. The Rapa Nui are searching for their lost culture. Traditional plants are also being imported and reforestation is taking place.

## **GOVERNMENT**

When Easter Island was officially annexed by Chile in 1888, its government became the government of Chile. The constitution of Chile provides for a popularly elected president and a bicameral congress, with a 46-member senate and a 120-member chamber of deputies, which meets in Valparaiso. Administratively, the country consists of a Metropolitan Region, which includes the capital of Santiago and its surroundings, plus another 12 regions. The regions are subdivided into provinces. For administrative purposes, the Province of Isla de Pascua is in the 5<sup>th</sup> Region of the country, along with the port city of Valparaiso and the resort Vina del Mar. The provinces are further divided into comunas, which are units of the local government. Traditionally, Chilean politics are highly centralized, with nearly all decisions of importance being made in Santiago.

An islander has been governor of the Province of Isla de Pascua, which includes the uninhabited island, Sala y Gomez, since 1984. The first governor was Mr. Sergio Rapu Haoa, an archaeologist and the museum curator. In 1992, Mr. Jacobo Hey Paoa, a former schoolteacher and the island's first lawyer became Governor. Governors under the Chilean system have always been appointed from Santiago and are representatives of the President of Chile. The Municipality of Hanga Roa holds elections every 4 years to elect six counselors, one of whom becomes the Mayor by election.

The legal system is the same as Chile's and is operated on an island basis. There is a Chilean judge at the courthouse and a civil registry department. The Carabineros, a National Police force, have about two dozen men stationed on the island who work as the airport police, do traffic patrols and generally maintain order.

All branches of the four Chilean armed forces are represented on Rapa Nui, with the Navy having the largest staff of 35 persons, including 22 members of the Marine Infantry stationed on the island since 1992 as a demonstration of sovereignty. The Navy has a small patrol boat, Tokerau, intended for marine rescue. There is a small contingent of Air Force personnel, but no aircraft. The Carabineros are the most visible of the armed forces on the island.

## **BUSINESS HOURS**

The post office, government offices, banks, and stores open at 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Many of the shops and offices still close for lunch from about 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Banking hours are weekdays 9-2, with no exceptions. The market and a few shops remain open until 7:00 p.m. Most businesses close at noon on Saturdays and are closed all day Sundays and holidays.

**ELECTRICITY**

To use your U.S.-purchased electric-powered equipment, bring a converter and an adapter. The electrical current in Chile is 220 volts, 50 cycles alternating current (AC). The plug style is two round pins.

**TIME ZONES**

During standard time Chile has the same time as US Eastern DST, during daylight savings time (October to March) Chile runs 2 hours later than US Eastern Time (New York, Miami, Washington DC).

Easter Island is in the same time zone as Standard Mountain Time (USA). However, Chile has imposed an artificial two-hour 'daylight saving time' on the island so that the island time is closer to that of the mainland. This puts Easter Island two hours behind Chilean time. What this means to the visitor to Easter Island is that the time according to clocks and watches has little correlation with what the sun is doing. If your watch tells you it is 7 a.m., it is only 5 a.m. by the sun. This provides for some long evenings.

24-hour time format is used in Chile (*i.e.* 3:00 PM is 15:00) and the European date format used in Chile (day, month, year - *i.e.* November 19, 1997 is 19/11/1997).

**CURRENCY**

Currency: Peso (Ch\$) = 100 centavos. Notes are in denominations of Ch\$10,000, 5000, 1000 and 500. Coins are in denominations of Ch\$100, 50, 10, 5 and 1.

## **PACKING GUIDELINES**

### **GENERAL ADVICE**

The most important advice anyone can give you about packing is to travel light! Airlines now have strict rules on the amount, weight, and size of both carry-on and checked baggage. Plus, less luggage means shorter waits for baggage claim, less to carry around, and easier Customs inspections.

Before you pack, check the condition of your luggage. Airlines can refuse to accept fragile or damaged pieces. If you have to purchase new bags, choose luggage that is lightweight, roomy and easy to carry, yet durable enough to withstand rough treatment. Choose material that will not sag or rip as it moves along the conveyor.

Please limit your luggage to one suitcase and a small backpack to use as a carry-on bag. Most of the carry-on baggage restrictions do not apply to purses, coats, camera equipment, or briefcases.

Baggage restrictions may vary from flight to flight depending on the design and passenger load of each plane, but a good rule of thumb is a total of two bags per person (one check-in luggage and one carry-on). The flight attendant has the final say as to whether your bags can be taken on board as carry-on luggage or whether the baggage must be checked as cargo. These rules have been made with your safety and comfort in mind. Check with the airline or your travel coordinator for detailed information on baggage regulations and fees.

Your carry-on must have a secure closure for theft prevention and not be an open bag. We recommend a backpack, rather than a shoulder bag, so that your hands are free during field trips. While traveling, your carry-on should be used for medicine, a change of clothing, basic toiletries, a jacket, camera equipment, film, reading material, and a folding umbrella. On field trips, you will use your backpack for rain gear, a water bottle, camera equipment and snacks. The generous amount of rain in some areas is what makes them so green and appealing, but it also means that you should never be too far from your poncho or small, easily carried, collapsible umbrella. A light poncho, rather than a raincoat, is the recommended wet weather garment. It will cover you and your backpack in a heavy downpour, and will drape to your feet like a tent, when seated. It will also allow for better air circulation in warm and humid weather.

Choosing a wardrobe of basics will help you deal with space limitations. Select clothes that will coordinate around one or two colors.

Prepare a kit of miniature toiletries in small plastic bottles to save space and weight. Don't fill bottles to the top if you are flying because the pressure may cause the contents to expand. These should all be packed in a heavy plastic bag in case of leakage. If you are bringing these in your carry-on baggage, please remember the 3 oz limit in a clear quart-size bag. Visit [www.tsa.gov](http://www.tsa.gov) for more information.

When deciding what to take with you, anticipate articles that you may want to purchase at your destination. And, always include a collapsible nylon tote bag that will fit easily into your luggage to accommodate new purchases and other articles that seem to expand upon repacking.

Pack tightly. Packing loosely wastes precious space and causes clothes to wrinkle.

Shoes should be packed in shoe mittens or an old pair of socks to protect other clothes from being soiled. You may also want to stuff your shoes with underwear and socks so that they won't be crushed during your flight.

Dresses, shirts and blouses can be packed in plastic dry cleaner bags to limit wrinkling. Roll pajamas, nightgowns, sweaters and other casual wear to fit into small spaces where possible, but don't cram your suitcase full. If you have to force your luggage to close, remove a few items to prevent broken hinges or zippers along the way.

Always carry your travel documents, medication, jewelry, traveler's checks, keys and other valuables in your hand luggage. Items such as these should NEVER be packed in luggage that you plan to check.

### **CLOTHING AND PACKING SUGGESTIONS**

The following list should be used as a guide only. Dress in Rapa Nui and throughout Polynesia is informal. A secret to lightweight packing is to take tops (shirts, blouses) and bottoms (skirts, shorts, slacks), which can be combined and layered. Whites tend to get soiled and black is hot, so consider other colors. You will have no problem getting your clothes laundered during this program. We recommend cotton or poly/cotton clothing for breathability. Wash and wear (quick drying) fabric is easier to care for. Old socks and trousers or jeans that you do not mind discarding, if necessary, after the trip are recommended for rainy days. **You must have hiking boots or walking shoes with good, deep treads for safety. Sneakers with fairly smooth soles will not do! We do not want any accidents.** Remember, you will be carrying your own luggage at times so pack light! *"WHEN IN DOUBT, LEAVE IT OUT!..."*

#### **Everyone**

- Passport
- \$131.00 USD Cash  
(Chile Entrance Tax)
- Windproof jacket
- Sweatshirt or light sweater
- 1 pair of rubber thongs/flip-flops
- 1 lightweight breathable rain poncho providing full-body coverage
- 1 pair good walking or hiking shoes (suitable for rain & mud)
- 1 pair casual shoes for city wear
- Small Backpack for field trips
- medical insurance card
- prescription medicines
- Mosquito repellent
- Anti-itch crème for bug bites
- Imodium AD or other anti-diarrhea pills
- sunscreen
- sun hat or visor
- sunglasses
- Ziploc bags to protect your camera and film from the humidity, and currency in your money belt from humidity and sweat
- folding umbrella and/or rain poncho
- Handi-wipes (disposable towelettes)
- Reusable water bottle\***
- handkerchief or towel to wipe perspiration
- personal items (soap, shampoo, toothbrush and paste, medications, etc.) in small, airtight plastic containers
- lightweight daypack or fold-up/expandable tote bag
- bathing suit

**\* We recommend that you bring along a small water bottle that you can refill throughout the program. (You will appreciate having this during field trips.)** It is very important that you consume enough water daily. It is very easy to get dehydrated in the South Pacific and we recommend drinking at least 1 ½ your usual daily water consumption.

### Men

1 trousers & 2 jeans or equivalent

- 2-3 walking or shorts (no gym shorts)
- 3 aloha or collared sport shirts (for hotels, nice restaurants and villages)\*\*
- 4 t-shirts or golf shirts (for beach days)

### Women

- 1 dress – loose fitting cotton, calf length  
\*\*
- 5-6 cotton blouses or t-shirts or golf shirts
- 2-3 pairs long walking shorts (may be worn in most places. Short shorts – are a no-no!)
- 1 cotton skirt
- socks (nylons are too hot)
- sandals – no heels (unpaved walkways at times)
- 1 t-shirt to wear while snorkeling to prevent sunburn
- 1-2 pants or jeans or equivalent
- 1 pareo/sarong – length of colorful cloth worn as a dress or cover up by ladies in the South Pacific (if desired; may be purchased in the South Pacific)

*\*\*Previous participants have suggested that they prefer to have an outfit that is slightly nicer than their daily wear on excursions and fieldtrips for special evenings or church visits (optional) however there is no need for fancy or formal clothing.*

### Optional

- washcloth
- travel alarm clock
- camera, lots of film, and extra battery
- binoculars
- small first aid kit (including insect repellent, Band-Aids, antibiotic ointment, etc., over-the-counter remedies in original containers only)
- small notebook and pen
- small sewing kit
- plastic bags (one for wet items, one for dirty laundry)
- combination passport/money pouch, (and 2 extra passport photos & photocopy of the front page of your passport)
- soft foam ear plugs
- hand-held fan
- English/Spanish Dictionary

Bring your **Passport and Medical Insurance Card**: make two 8 1/2 X 11 **photocopies of your passport picture/information pages**. Put one copy in your suitcase, and **send one to us with the enclosed Health and Information sheets**. A lost or stolen passport is trouble!

Parents in the Pacific, like parents throughout the world, don't want their children to beg. Candy, balloons, manufactured toys, etc. are foreign to many of these children. Their pleasures are usually simpler, handmade, and within their parents' means. Likewise, gifts and other monetary contributions given to individuals can sometimes create an unnecessary sense of obligation and are

not encouraged. In an effort to preserve their local culture and traditions, we ask that you kindly adhere to this request.

## **MEDICATIONS**

Pack a supply of all medications you take regularly. Make sure your supply will be sufficient to last the entire trip, including any unexpected delays. It is recommended to bring along copies of your prescription and, if you have an unusual prescription, carry a letter from your physician explaining your need for the drug. As an extra precaution, carry the generic names of your medications with you because pharmaceutical companies overseas may use different names from those used in the United States

Medications available by prescription or over-the-counter sale in many countries do not necessarily meet the standards for safety, quality and consistency found at home, and familiar brands may not be available. Thus, the safest course of action is to pack plenty of what you are likely to need.

**To prevent problems if your luggage is lost or misrouted, keep medications in their original containers and pack them in carry-on luggage.**

## **SECURITY TIPS**

Use a luggage strap to avoid accidental openings due to rough handling or cabin pressure and carry the keys in your hand luggage. Remove old claim checks to avoid confusing baggage handlers about your destination.

Identify your luggage both inside and outside with your name, address and telephone number and make sure the outside tag is securely fastened to your luggage. This will help if your luggage is lost or stolen and will save time when you are picking up your bags at the claim area.

The Transportation Security Administration has recommendations for types of locks to secure your luggage. For more information please visit their website at:  
[www.tsa.gov/travelers/airtravel/assistant/locks.shtm](http://www.tsa.gov/travelers/airtravel/assistant/locks.shtm)

A copy of your itinerary with your address and your destination should be included in your luggage in the event you and your bags get temporarily separated. This information will help minimize any delay in retrieving lost luggage.

Check your luggage early to ensure that your bags not only make your originating flight but your connecting flight (if you have one) as well.

Report lost or damaged luggage immediately before you leave the airport. Make sure you have a complete list of the contents of your bags as well as a detailed description of the luggage in question.

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**TEMPERATURES BY MONTH (°F)**

	<u>Jan</u>	<u>Feb</u>	<u>Mar</u>	<u>Apr</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>Jun</u>	<u>Jul</u>	<u>Aug</u>	<u>Sep</u>	<u>Oct</u>	<u>Nov</u>	<u>Dec</u>
<b>Rapa Nui</b>	79/67	81/67	79/68	76/65	76/63	70/61	70/59	70/59	70/59	72/59	74/63	77/65

*\* Please note that occasional high humidity can increase the overall temperature.*

**WEATHER**

Keep in mind that Chile lies south of the equator, and its seasons are the reverses of those in the Northern Hemisphere. Chile's climate is as varied as its terrain, with arid but surprisingly temperate areas in the north, a heartland which enjoys a Mediterranean climate, and the wind, rain and snow-battered lands of Chilean Patagonia and Tierra del Fuego in the south. Summers have little rain and are quite warm while winter months from April to September are mild and moderately wet with changeable weather. Frost and snow occasionally occur inland but are rare on the coast. Daily hours of sunshine on the coast average from two to three in winter to eight or nine in the summer. Inland, where there is less cloud, this increases to three to four in the winter and nine to ten in the summer.

Santiago's climate tends to be sunny throughout most of the year, although the smog creates a hazy atmosphere even on bright days.

At 27°9' south latitude, Rapa Nui is in the temperate zone so it is not in the tropics. Therefore, do not expect the same sort of climate as you will find in French Polynesia. Rapa Nui's climate is moderate with an annual average temperature of 72°F. The hottest month is February; the coolest are July and August with temperatures occasionally dropping to a low of around 57°F but it can feel a lot cooler due to the wind-chill factor. The climate is moist and "some" rain falls 200 days a year. March to June are the rainiest months; July to October are the driest and coolest.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### ROAD SCHOLAR POLICIE, PROCEDURES & ADVICE

#### ALL-INCLUSIVE PROGRAM COST

The full Road Scholar program package, with airfare arranged by Road Scholar's designated Travel Coordinator, includes the following:

- round-trip international airfare from/to designated U.S. departure cities (when you purchase the program with airfare arranged by Road Scholar's designated Travel Coordinator);
- instruction by expert lecturers, many affiliated with leading educational institutions;
- educational field trips, often involving special access not generally available to tourists;
- excursions to places of interest;
- cultural events and a variety of other enrichment activities;
- room and board (any meals excluded from the program cost are noted in the catalog);
- group transportation during the program;
- a Group Leader to accompany you through the program;
- modest gratuities for program-related staff;
- the Road Scholar "Travel Assistance & Insurance Plan".

Airport departure taxes and visa fees may also be included in the cost of many programs. There are exceptions where it is more efficient for participants to handle these particulars themselves. You will be advised if/when such taxes and fees are to be billed and how payment should be made.

#### A ROAD SCHOLAR GLOSSARY

Road Scholar combines learning with travel in special ways. We hope this brief glossary of terms will be helpful in understanding Road Scholar's distinctiveness and how we differ from commercial enterprises and other non-profit organizations.

- **Program:** The Road Scholar experience consisting of instruction, field trips, excursions, and enrichment activities as well as included meals, accommodations, and internal transfers. We refer to Road Scholar experiences as "programs" rather than "trips" because the focus is on learning while exploring, not simply sightseeing.
- **Instruction:** May be referred to as lectures, classes, presentations. Instruction consists of sessions in which faculty (professors, teachers, lecturers, specialists, local experts) address the entire Road Scholar group. Sessions may be indoors or out, may be given as background or on-site during field trips, and are typically interactive with time for questions and answers.
- **Field trips:** Group outings in which faculty (or official guides where required by local laws) interpret/explain/illustrate connections between lecture topics and related sites in the field.
- **Excursions:** Group outings to places/sites representing interesting aspects of local history, culture, people, etc. Excursions are considered broadly educational and need not be directly related to lecture topics. They are for general interest and a well-rounded experience.

- **Enrichment activities:** Organized group activities that enrich the program through experiencing enjoyable aspects of the locale, people, and culture. Enrichment activities may include cultural events such as music, dance, theater; folklore presentations; folk dancing/singing; storytelling; recreation; viewing and discussing films/videos; participating in games typical of the country and/or locale; meeting and interacting with local residents. Enrichment activities vary greatly from program to program depending on local resources.

### **CARRYING YOUR BAGGAGE**

Wherever possible, porter service is included in your program cost. However, this may vary from program to program and even from site to site depending on local circumstances, e.g., porters may not be available in some areas; in certain situations the cost could be prohibitively expensive; some motor coaches and other transport have space for only one bag per person. For these reasons, Road Scholar urges you not to bring more baggage than you are capable of carrying comfortably by yourself if needed. The Program Coordinator and/or Travel Coordinator will advise you of any specific baggage limitations or restrictions. We want you to enjoy yourself as much as possible – not be exhausted from carrying heavy bags.

### **CURRENCY AND EXCHANGE**

We recommend that you obtain some local currency before departing and have it with you for any immediate needs upon arrival. Rates and fees vary greatly, but please be aware that purchasing currency from a bank is normally less expensive than from an exchange bureau. To identify banks and other business in your area that sell foreign currency, search the telephone “yellow pages” and/or the Internet under “currency exchange.” If your local bank does not sell foreign currency, there are agencies that sell currency via the Internet. International airports also have currency exchange bureaus. Always compare rates and service charges before buying.

Do not carry large amounts of cash. Other options are traveler’s checks, credits cards, and ATM (bank) cards for obtaining local currency. Depending on arrival times and days, and the program schedule, it may be a day or two before you can get to a bank. Traveler’s checks usually provide the most security but may not be the most convenient. Major credit cards are widely accepted in most major cities, but fees and service charges vary from company to company. Please check with your credit card company if they charge a fee for exchange. The same is true of ATM cards. If you take your ATM card with you, be sure you have a personal identification number (PIN) designed to work overseas. According to many reports, ATMs offer the best exchange rates but service charges may be added. The program staff on site will give you the information they have during orientation, but the best advice is “know before you go.”

Before leaving home, consult a “currency converter” that can tell you the rates of exchange between the U.S. dollar and local currencies around the world. Search the Internet for “currency converters” to find numerous helpful sites. Many major metropolitan newspapers also publish such information.

### **DESIGNATED TRANSFERS**

Airport transfers – from the arrival airport to the first program site at the beginning of the program, and from the final program site to the departure airport at the conclusion of the program – are included in your cost if you purchased the standard Road Scholar program with international flights arranged by our designated Travel Coordinator.

## **EVALUATION PROCEDURES**

Program evaluation is an integral element of our work. To assist in this process, you will have an opportunity to rate various aspects of your experience at each study site. On-site evaluation forms are important to indicate positive aspects of your experience as well as any problems or concerns. They should be completed and left with the Group Leader prior to departure so that s/he can deal with them right away. The Program Coordinator receives and reviews site evaluation forms. After the program, you will receive an evaluation form in the mail from Road Scholar headquarters to rate the program overall. Post-program evaluation forms should be returned directly to Road Scholar.

## **EXPENSES ABROAD**

All of your Road Scholar program components are included in the program cost, but you should have sufficient funds available for any purchases you wish to make and for unforeseen events such as accidents or illness, losing luggage or personal effects, etc. As explained elsewhere, the Road Scholar *Travel Assistance and Insurance Plan* operates on a reimbursement basis for covered expenses. Neither the Group Leader nor other program staff is authorized to make cash outlays to participants. In the event of a mishap such as losing luggage or important personal effects, or your needing to pay for a doctor's visit, you will need access to local currency.

To summarize: while all of your Road Scholar program components are included in your program cost, it is your responsibility to pay for all other expenses you may incur during your time abroad. For the most comfortable and enjoyable experience, please plan accordingly.

## **INSURANCE**

The "Welcome to International Road Scholar" brochure included with your enrollment notice explains that your program cost includes the Road Scholar "Travel Assistance and Insurance Plan." The primary purpose of this plan is to provide 24-hour assistance for emergencies. In addition, the plan provides insurance coverage in the event of accidental death or dismemberment. The plan also provides limited, supplemental, medical and baggage insurance. Please read the brochure carefully to understand the scope and limitations of coverage.

Please review your personal insurance policies and this emergency assistance plan to determine whether, together, they provide adequate coverage for your individual needs. Please be aware that the Medicare/Medicaid program does not provide payment for medical services outside the United States.

The Road Scholar "Travel Assistance & Insurance Plan" applies for the program dates published in the catalog or subsequent notices. Independent travel (before, during, or after the published program dates) is not covered by this plan.

Road Scholar also provides an opportunity to purchase optional "Trip Cancellation, Interruption & Travel Delay Insurance"; please note that the "Travel Assistance Plan" does not include trip interruption or cancellation protection. Road Scholar cannot issue refunds to participants for program days missed due to accidents, injuries, illnesses, or other emergencies. Should you have questions about this or other financial matters, please contact Road Scholar directly.

## **NO SMOKING POLICY**

The great majority of participants are non-smokers. Some never smoked at all and many have stopped smoking because of the health hazards involved. Others have respiratory problems made worse by second-hand smoke. While we cannot regulate the habits of residents of other countries, we try to minimize the effects of smoking during Road Scholar programs. We try to insure that smokers and non-smokers are not assigned as roommates; if there is no other option than to assign a non-smoker and smoker as roommates, the smoker is asked to refrain from smoking in the room. Where available, we try to utilize non-smoking areas in restaurants, lounges, etc. For the benefit of everyone, smoking is prohibited in classrooms and other enclosed areas as well as on motor coaches or other conveyances used for group travel and transfers. Group leaders, drivers, and other staff are expected to observe non-smoking areas established during the program.

## **SEAT ROTATION**

We ask that participants rotate seating during transportation for field trips, excursions, and transfers throughout the program.

## **SOME ADVICE ABOUT SHOPPING**

No matter where you are in the world, shopping is an optional free-time activity and not part of the Road Scholar program. For participants who wish to buy souvenirs, handicrafts, or expensive items such as cameras, jewelry, paintings, perfume, rugs, etc., we offer the following advice for your benefit and greater enjoyment of the program.

- Neither the Group Leader nor other Road Scholar program staffs are permitted to lead shopping expeditions. If you have a particular request, a member of the staff may be able to suggest known shops or vendors, but this should never be taken as encouragement to make purchases or endorsement of the value, quality, or authenticity of particular items.
- Neither Road Scholar nor the Program Coordinator organization has partnerships or other relationships with vendors of any kind. We do not request, receive or accept commissions from vendors, nor do we act as guarantors, agents, or expeditors for merchandise to be shipped later. Please do not ask the Group Leader or other staff to assist you in this regard.
- When and if you visit local factories, galleries, handicraft shops, or other establishments as part of the program it is for the educational value involved. You are always free to make – or not make – purchases as you like. Road Scholar groups should never be subjected to a high-pressure “sales pitch” so if you encounter such a situation, please notify Road Scholar.
- If you wish to buy souvenirs or other items, always compare prices first. No one associated with the Road Scholar program can ever guarantee you will get the “best” price.
- In some places, antiques or artifacts of cultural value may not be taken out of the country without inspection by local authorities and payment of substantial export duties. It is possible that such antiques or artifacts could even be confiscated at pre-departure customs inspection. Buy only from reputable, licensed dealers and never on the “black market.”
- Most of all, if you choose to purchase art, handicrafts, or other items, we hope it will be as reminders of a wonderful experience with another country and its people.

## **TIPPING**

Road Scholar recognizes that some participants might like to reward individuals who have provided outstanding service during the program. This is not necessary, as modest gratuities are included in the program cost. If you wish to reward someone for the service they have provided, please do so on a private, individual basis and refrain from “passing the hat” or requesting contributions for a group collection as the practice makes many people uncomfortable. Group Leaders and other program staff are instructed not to request tips for themselves and/or take up collections for other staff, the driver, etc. Please do not ask them to do so. Participating institutions are prohibited from soliciting gifts or donations from their Road Scholar students. If you experience breaches of this policy, please notify Road Scholar headquarters. Outside of scheduled program activities, tipping should be guided by local customs. The custom in the South Pacific is generally no tipping. Hotels may have a Christmas box in which to place leftover change which will be divided among the staff at Christmas. Your Group Leader can further advise you on local practices.