

Copper Mining in Chile

- **Chilean Copper Mining Facts**

- In 1911, copper deposits were discovered north of Calama, and quickly exploited by the US Anaconda Copper Mining Company. Chuquicamata grew into the largest open-pit copper mine in the world, producing more than 600,000 tons of copper annually. It was this mine where Che Guevara's political consciousness began to stir, as described in *The Motorcycle Diaries*.
- By the late 1950s, the three principal copper mines in Chile were: [Chuquicamata](#), [El Salvador](#), and [El Teniente](#). Chuquicamata and El Salvador were owned by the [Anaconda Copper Company](#) and El Teniente was owned by the [Kennecott Copper Corporation](#). The [La Exotica](#) mine, an adjunct of [Chuquicamata](#), was added to these big mines in 1966. These large mines were mainly self-contained and self-sustaining settlements with their own cities to house their workers, their own water and electrical plants, their own schools, stores, railways, and even in certain cases their own police forces.
- Mining accounts for 40% of Chilean state revenues.
- Chile's copper mines provide over 30-40% of the world's mine production of recoverable copper.
- Within the Chilean economy, copper accounts for 45% of exports.

- **Chuquicamata Copper Mine**

- <http://www.showcaves.com/english/misc/mines/Chuquicamata.html>

- **San Jose Mine (33 miners rescued in October, 2010)**

- Panoramic view of mine:
 - <http://www.cnn.com/interactive/2010/10/world/pano.chile.mine/>
- Copiapo, Chile:
 - http://maps.google.com/maps?q=copiapo,+chile&rls=com.microsoft:en-us:IE-SearchBox&oe=&um=1&ie=UTF-8&hq=&hnear=Copiap%C3%B3,+Chile&gl=us&ei=SyG-TKecL8Wclge5553gBw&sa=X&oi=geocode_result&ct=title&resnum=1&ved=0CBsQ8gEwAA
- San Jose miners out-of-work:
 - <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-latin-america-11567213>
- Chilean Mine Rescue Scene and “Caravan of Death”
 - http://www.nytimes.com/2010/10/15/world/americas/15copiapo.html?_r=1&ref=chile

- **Atacama desert:**

- <http://ngm.nationalgeographic.com/ngm/0308/feature3/>

- **Motorcycle Diaries**

- Scene 10, Struggle to Survive
- <http://www.movie-locations.com/movies/m/motorcyclediaries.html>

- **Quantum of Solace**

- <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/travel/artsandculture/3209360/Quantum-of-Solace-James-Bond-returns-to-Latin-America.html>