

Preparation & Packing List

Preparation List

This list of items/tasks should be **completed at least one (1) month prior to travel (if not earlier)**. Items like your passport, visa, health insurance, immunizations (if needed), and flights are best obtained earlier in order to avoid high costs and any delays. However, that this is not a comprehensive list, so you may add additional items to the list to suite your personal preferences, interests, and lifestyle.

- Have a passport that is valid for the length of your stay abroad plus three (3) to six (6) additional months
- Set travel dates
- Obtain a visa (if needed) for the duration of your trip
- Book tours and/or cruises (if desired)
- Meet with a physician to get recommended immunizations & medications
- Purchase international health insurance
- Book transportation to your destination
- Book transportation within your destination
- Book hotels and housing
- If desired, get an international phone plan
- Purchase luggage and other needed travel items
- Create an itinerary

In the month prior to travel there are a few things that should be taken care of in order to make your trip as pleasant as possible. Most of these revolve around your travel documents and money. The following items/tasks should be **completed at least one (1) week prior to your departure**. Again, this isn't a comprehensive list, so feel free to add any items you need for your personal travels abroad.

- Make a copy of your passport & visa in case your passport is lost or stolen
- Give a trusted friend or family member at home your itinerary and contact information for your trip
- Make sure your credit cards work abroad (this can be done by calling your credit card company)
- Ask your credit card company what to do in case your credit card is lost or stolen when abroad (many will recommend you give a copy of your credit cards (front and back) to a trusted friend or family member at home (whose phone number you have) or that you maintain a copy of your cards separate from your credit card)

Packing List

The following packing list is just a guide; this isn't a comprehensive list, so you may add additional items to suite your personal preferences, interests, and lifestyle. When packing, remember some items like toiletries and pajamas may not be packed until the morning you depart so leave room in your suitcases for these items.

Essentials:

- Passport with visa(s)
- Yellow fever card (if needed)
- International health insurance card
- Cash
- Credit card(s) and/or debit card(s)
- Medications
- Toilet paper (some restrooms don't provide toilet paper)

Logistics:

- Itinerary
- Flight schedule(s), tour/cruise schedules, & hotel reservations
- Travel alarm clock
- Electricity converter and/or adapter
- Frequent flyer/hotel rewards program numbers

Communication & Emergency Information:

- Emergency money (hidden separate from wallet/purse)
- Photo copy of passport & visa
- Contact information for family/friends at home
- Contacts in destination country (if any)
- Cell phone & phone re-charger

Downtime & Tourist Items:

- Maps and guidebooks
- Camera, battery re-charger, & extra film/memory cards
- Paper and pen for journal/notes
- Computer (if desired)
- e-Reader/tablet (if desired)
- Head phones for flight/entertainment (if desired)
- Water bottle (if desired)

Clothing & Cosmetics:

- Clothes (see Safari the Globe's "Culture & Weather" pages for more information on how to dress)
- Shoes/sandals/boots
- Pajamas
- Glasses/ contacts
- Sunglasses
- Toiletries
- Cosmetics
- Watch/ jewelry
- Hand sanitizer
- Umbrella/rain coat (if needed)
- Feminine products (if needed)
- Nail clipper/file (if needed)
- Goggles & swim suit (if needed)
- Sun screen (if needed)
- Bug spray (if needed)

Don't Leave Home Without:

- Passport
- Wallet/purse
- Keys
- Cell phone
- Luggage, suitcases, & other previously packed items