

Travel Tips and Vacation Packing Checklist

Tips:

- Check your passport ~ Is it valid for 6 months AFTER your RETURN date?
- Take photos of your *Passport, license, vaccination card, & credit cards*
- Let your credit card company know you're traveling ~ They freak easily these days
- Check with your cell phone company about international texting/calling ~
 - Load an App for free wifi calling (*Such as Skype, WhatsApp, WeChat, Duo, Viber*)
- Take \$1 bills for tipping ~ ATM Cash or change won't be in USD & there are fees
- Carry meds in your carry-on ~ Don't pack anything valuable you can't lose.....
- Pack light, and then cut that in half
- Take 'costume' jewelry ~ Leave your real stuff at home
- Check the TSA website for a current list of banned and allowable items
 - Carry these 3 things too – Mask(s), Antibacterial Wipes & Hand Sanitizer
- Travel in comfortable shoes that easily slip on and off
- Carry-on an empty water bottle/container (*fill it after you're thru security*)
- Use a luggage tag and/or ribbon to easily identify your luggage
- Pack lightweight earphones for movies on the plane
- Bring a Sarong/Pareo ~ They are incredibly versatile (*Work that Jagger look*)
- Get a neck pillow ... So your don't have baby head the whole way home
- Carry a small/basic first aid kit: aspirin, anti-itch cream and band-aids
- Keep yourself hydrated – or risk missing dinner(s)
- Order a room service sandwich for your return flight ~ Airport food is pricey & lousy

For Your Carry-On Bag:

- Airline tickets or e-ticket confirmation
- Hotel & Transfers reservation confirmations
- Passport/Visas/Driver's License
- Credit Card... Visa or MasterCard are most widely accepted
- RFID Blocking travel wallet
- Photocopies of all of the above, PLUS a photocopy of any prescriptions in the event you need an emergency refill while on vacation
- Mask(s), antibacterial wipes, and hand sanitizer
- Phone numbers for your credit card companies (*in case your cards are lost or stolen*)
- Prescription medicine (*important – keep it in the original bottle*)
- Contraception
- Portable charger/cords for electronics

- Headset for movie/audio book on the plane (*most international flights show movies*)
- Sarong or Pareo (*for the plane, which can get cold – wear it as a shawl*)
- Your swimsuit, sandals and a cover-up, just in case your room is not ready
- And....don't bring valuable jewelry. Everyone is the same barefoot 😊

HER things to pack:

- Khakis (*for casual evenings that may be chillier than days*)
- A sundress
- An evening cocktail dress
- A lightweight sweater/shawl/blazer (*pareos can double as a swimsuit cover-up*)
- 4 casual shirts (*T-shirts, tank tops, short-sleeve button-downs, etc.*)
- 2 pairs shorts
- 2 swimsuits
- A swimsuit cover-up (*again, pareos can double as a shawl in the evenings*)
- Comfortable walking shoes (*you may be walking if you go shopping or sightseeing*)
- Evening shoes/sandals
- Evening purse
- 1 pair flip flops (*for beach or poolside*)
- Extra socks, underwear and bras (*don't forget a strapless one if you've packed a top or dress that needs it*)
- Accessories (*scarves/jewelry to "stretch" your wardrobe*)

HIS things to pack:

- Consider Polyester. It's not just for breakfast anymore and doesn't wrinkle
- 1 pair jeans or khakis
- 1 pair nice slacks
- Light jacket or pullover (*easily tie it around waist or stuff into backpack*)
- 4 casual shirts (*T-shirts or short-sleeve button-downs*)
- 2 walking Shorts
- 2 polo or button-down short-sleeve shirts
- Sports jacket (*if required - some nicer restaurants do require them*)
- Swimsuits
- Comfortable walking shoes or sandals
- Nice shoes – black sneakers can look good
- Flip flops
- Extra socks and underwear

Both hers & his to pack:

- Sunscreen (Reef Safe) and lip balm

- Sunglasses
- Sun hat and/or baseball cap
- Sleepwear
- Paperback books
- Tablet or iPad (*NOTE: you can get a sunburn from the reflection*)
- A canvas beach bag or lightweight day-pack
- A small money belt or fanny pack to hold cash, credit cards, etc.
- Local Guidebook, if you go exploring
- Disposable camera (*avoids having an expensive phone/camera damaged or stolen*)

Basic Toiletries (*use travel-sized containers when possible - carry-on size limited to 3.4oz*)

- Toothpaste / Toothbrushes & Toothbrush Cover
- Deodorant
- Cosmetics / Make-up remover
- Cotton balls and swabs
- Comb / brush/ Hair gel / hair spray
- Emory/Nail file & nail clippers
- Shaving cream & Razors
- Contact lens and re-wetting solution, storage case
- Hair accessories – clips, headbands, etc.
- Buy or pack a small first-aid kit that contains:
 - Band-Aids
 - Aspirin / Antacid
 - Insect repellent / Anti-itch cream
 - Antihistamine
 - Diarrhea medicine
 - Motion sickness medicine
 - Aloe Vera
 - Tampons/pads (*can be difficult to find outside the US*)

Optional Items: (*most resorts provide these*)

- Shampoo, conditioner, body wash/soap
- Body lotion
- Hair dryer
- Shower cap

Convenient Extras (*nice to have, but not necessary*):

- Extra asthma inhaler, pair of glasses/contacts and the like
- Large Ziploc bags (*for wet swimsuits or clothes*)
- Earplugs

- Sewing kit
- Shout Wipes or Tide Stick (instant stain-treatment)
- Anti-bacterial liquid or lotion (hand sanitizer)
- Eye Drops (get the red out)
- 1 pair old sneakers that can get wet or left behind
- 1 pair workout sneakers and 2-3 workout outfits if you plan on getting your sweat on
- Compact umbrella or rain poncho

Additional Know Before You Go:

Very Important – Email yourself – or take a picture with your phone – Share with family/close friends:

- Your airline and hotel confirmation and important phone numbers
- Photocopies of your passport, license, vaccination card, and credit cards (front and back)
- Insurance-policy numbers and pertinent financial info
- Remember to keep your personal info locked in your hotel safe & remove your belongings from the safe when you depart!

Get the 4-1-1 on Luggage:

- Each Airline has their own rules for checked and carry-on luggage – be sure to check your Airline's policies before you start your packing.
- Most airlines charge checked bag fees, sometimes even for your carry-on
- Check your weight limit of bags or pay an extra fee, know before you go
- Check your carry-on size limitations

What to Expect at Security:

- Shoes off
- Electronics out
- Liquids are limited to 3.4oz each and all must fit in a clear quart-sized ziploc-style bag
- No water/beverages – an empty water bottle/container is okay
- Everything out of pockets
- If metal in pockets or on jeans or shirt, you may get pulled aside for the wand or a pat-down