

Cruise control:
How to prepare
before you set sail



Packing isn't the most fun part of preparing for any holiday, including a cruise – but when done right, your future-self will thank you for making your trip cruisy.

So, before you set sail, it's worth finding out what weather you can expect, any dress codes your ship has in place, the different ship facilities and amenities at your disposal, and the different types of activities and shore excursions you'll be doing. Also, keep your destination in mind, whether you're voyaging on an Alaskan adventure or a Caribbean getaway will determine what you pack.

This cruise packing checklist will help guide you in deciding the kinds of things to pack to make the most of your cruise, without having to worry about shopping for supplies while at sea.

What to pack for your cruise

Travel documents

- Passport and photocopies of travel documents
- Visas (if required)
- Driver's licence
- Boarding pass
- Cruise travel insurance information

Medications and health essentials

- Prescription medication and copies of prescriptions
- Sea sickness tablets/sea wristbands
- Pain relief tablets (e.g. Ibuprofen and Panadol)
- Muscle and joint pain rubs (e.g. Deep Heat)
- Hygiene products
- Travel first aid kit – including band-aids, bandages and antiseptic
- Allergy medication
- Multivitamins

Toiletries

- Toothbrush, toothpaste, mouthwash, and floss
- Antiperspirant/deodorant and perfume/cologne
- SPF and moisturisers
- Tissues and wipes
- Hand sanitiser
- Razorblades and shaving cream/wax strips
- Comb/hairbrush, haircare products and hair ties
- Insect repellent
- Face cream and face wash
- Lip balm
- Makeup and makeup remover

Undergarments and sleepwear

- Underwear and bras
- Socks
- Thermal wear
- Pyjamas

Electronics and gadgets

- Mobile phone and charger
- Power banks/portable chargers and USB cables
- Travel adaptors
- Laptop or tablet/e-reader, plus charger
- Camera, spare batteries, memory cards, plus charger
- Headphones

Clothing

- Casual trousers/jeans
- Skirts/shorts
- Sundresses
- T-shirts/polos
- Singlets/tank tops
- Long-sleeved tops/button-downs
- Cardigans/jumpers
- Jacket/coat
- Poncho/parka
- Formalwear
- Activewear
- Swimwear and cover-ups
- Sunglasses
- Sunhat
- Scarves/shawls
- Jewellery

Footwear

- Thongs/water shoes
- Sneakers/runners
- Sandals
- Waterproof boots
- Formal shoes

Cabin essentials

- Earplugs and eye mask
- Travel journal/notebook and pens
- Holiday reads
- Sustainable water bottle
- Day pack/tote

Payment and currency exchange

- Travel wallet
- Credit and debit cards
- Cash in local currency

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