# Car Camping Checklist

A complete car camping checklist covering shelter and sleep setup, the camp kitchen, comfort gear, clothing and campsite essentials.

## Shelter and Sleep Setup

- [ ] Tent with stakes, or a sleep platform for the car
- [ ] Footprint or ground tarp
- [ ] Sleeping bags rated for the conditions
- [ ] Thick sleeping pads or an air mattress
  Car camping lets you bring a thicker, more comfortable pad.
- [ ] Real pillows and extra blankets
- [ ] Window covers or a sunshade for in-car sleeping
- [ ] Pump for an air mattress

## Camp Kitchen

- [ ] Two-burner camp stove with fuel
- [ ] Large cooler with ice or frozen packs
- [ ] Pots, pans, and a cast-iron skillet
- [ ] Cooking utensils, knife, and cutting board
- [ ] Plates, bowls, mugs, and reusable cutlery
- [ ] Dish soap, sponge, wash basin, and towels
- [ ] Coffee maker or French press and a kettle

## Food and Water

- [ ] Drinking water and a refillable jug
- [ ] Planned meals and ingredients
- [ ] Snacks and s'mores supplies
- [ ] Cooking oil, salt, pepper, and spices
- [ ] Trash bags and sealed food containers
- [ ] Store food sealed and away from your tent to deter wildlife

## Campsite Comfort

- [ ] Folding camp chairs
- [ ] Folding table
- [ ] Pop-up canopy or shade shelter
- [ ] Outdoor rug or mat for the tent entrance
- [ ] Hammock for relaxing
- [ ] Cooler chair or extra seating

## Lighting and Tools

- [ ] Lantern for the campsite and table

- [ ] Headlamps and flashlights for everyone
- [ ] Extra batteries and a power bank
- [ ] Multi-tool or knife
- [ ] Mallet for stakes and a small axe for firewood
- [ ] Rope, bungee cords, and duct tape

## Clothing and Personal

- [ ] Layered clothing for warm days and cool nights
- [ ] Rain jacket and a warm fleece
- [ ] Sturdy shoes and camp sandals
- [ ] Hat, gloves, and extra socks
- [ ] Toiletries, towel, and biodegradable soap
- [ ] Sunscreen, insect repellent, and a first-aid kit

## Before You Leave Home

- [ ] Confirm your campsite reservation and rules
- [ ] Check the weather and conditions for your dates
- [ ] Tell someone your plans and return time
- [ ] Load heavy and bulky items in the car first
- [ ] Keep the kitchen kit and chairs easy to reach
- [ ] Charge phones and any devices fully