Cruise Packing Checklist

A complete cruise packing checklist covering documents, formal and casual attire, cabin essentials, shore-excursion gear and what not to bring.

Documents and Money

- [ ] Passport or required ID and any visas
- [ ] Cruise boarding pass and luggage tags
  Attach tags before arriving at the terminal so porters can route bags directly to your cabin.
- [ ] Booking confirmation and shore-excursion tickets
- [ ] Travel insurance details
- [ ] Credit card and some cash for ports
- [ ] Printed copies of key documents as backup
  Store copies separately from the originals.

Formal and Evening Wear

- [ ] At least one formal outfit per formal night
  Check your cruise line's dress code before you pack.
- [ ] Dress shoes or smart sandals
- [ ] Accessories: jewelry, tie, or a clutch
- [ ] A wrap or light jacket for cool dining rooms
- [ ] Smart-casual outfits for regular dinners

Casual and Daywear

- [ ] T-shirts, shorts, and breathable daywear
- [ ] Two swimsuits and a cover-up
- [ ] Comfortable walking shoes for ports
- [ ] Flip-flops or pool sandals
- [ ] A light sweater for air-conditioned areas
- [ ] Workout clothes if you plan to use the gym

Cabin and Toiletry Essentials

- [ ] Toiletries and travel-sized shampoo
- [ ] Sunscreen and after-sun lotion
- [ ] Daily medications and motion-sickness remedy
  Keep all essential medications in your day bag in case checked luggage delivery is delayed.
- [ ] Small first-aid kit and pain relievers
- [ ] A power bank and the right charging cables
- [ ] A magnetic hook or two for the metal cabin walls
  Cabin walls are metal; magnetic hooks add hanging space for hats, lanyards, and jackets.
- [ ] A nightlight and a lanyard for your cruise card
  Keeps your hands-free ship card accessible at all times for cabin doors and onboard purchases.

Shore Excursions and Day Bag

- [ ] Small day pack for off-ship trips
- [ ] Reusable water bottle
- [ ] Hat, sunglasses, and sunscreen
- [ ] Waterproof phone pouch
  Protects your phone from sand, saltwater, and pool splashes while still allowing touch screen use.
- [ ] Snorkel gear if not provided
- [ ] Cash in local currency for ports
- [ ] Carry-on with day-one essentials for embarkation

What Not to Bring

- [ ] Irons and steamers (usually banned)
- [ ] Candles or anything with an open flame
- [ ] Surge-protected power strips
  Surge protectors pose a shipboard electrical fire hazard and will be confiscated by security.
- [ ] Drones unless explicitly allowed
- [ ] Large quantities of alcohol
  Most lines limit or prohibit bringing your own alcohol.
- [ ] Anything on your cruise line's prohibited-items list