

Road Trip Checklist

A complete road trip planning checklist covering route and stops, packing, snacks, entertainment and pre-departure prep.

Route and Planning

- ☐ Map your full route with start and end points
- ☐ Mark fuel, food, and rest stops along the way
- ☐ Book overnight lodging or campsites in advance
- ☐ Download offline maps and directions
 - Cell service can drop on rural and mountain roads.
- ☐ Check the weather and road conditions for your route
- ☐ Share your itinerary and arrival times with someone at home
- ☐ Plan scenic detours or attractions you want to see

Documents and Money

- ☐ Driver's license and vehicle registration
- ☐ Proof of insurance
- ☐ Reservation confirmations for lodging and attractions
- ☐ Cash and a debit or credit card
- ☐ Roadside assistance membership card and number
- ☐ ID for each traveler

Car Essentials

- ☐ Phone mount and charging cables
- ☐ Power bank and a 12V car charger
- ☐ Sunglasses and a sunshade for parked stops
- ☐ Reusable water bottles for everyone
- ☐ Trash bag and a roll of paper towels
- ☐ Tissues, wet wipes, and hand sanitizer
- ☐ Basic first-aid kit

Packing and Clothing

- ☐ Outfits for the length of the trip plus one spare
- ☐ Comfortable shoes and a layer for cooler evenings
- ☐ Toiletries and any medications
- ☐ A small day bag kept in the cabin
 - Pack what you need at stops so you avoid digging through the trunk.
- ☐ Pillow and a light blanket for passengers
- ☐ Reusable shopping bag for purchases along the way

Snacks and Drinks

- ☐ Trail mix, nuts, and dried fruit
- ☐ Granola or protein bars
- ☐ Crackers, chips, or pretzels
- ☐ Fresh fruit that travels well, like apples and grapes
- ☐ Jerky or cheese sticks

- ☐ Water and a few caffeinated drinks for the driver
- ☐ A small cooler with ice packs for perishables

Entertainment

- ☐ Road trip playlist and offline music
- ☐ Audiobooks and podcasts downloaded ahead
- ☐ Downloaded shows or movies on a tablet
- ☐ Travel games and a deck of cards
- ☐ Books or magazines for passengers
- ☐ Headphones for each traveler

Pre-Departure Checks

- ☐ Fill the fuel tank the night before
- ☐ Check tire pressure and the spare tire
- ☐ Top off fluids and washer fluid
- ☐ Confirm the route and first stop with everyone
- ☐ Lock up the house and adjust the thermostat
- ☐ Charge all phones and devices fully