

Before you start packing...

Make sure you've:

- Arranged travel insurance
- Got a valid passport(s)
- Had any necessary vaccinations (ask your GP if unsure)
- Planned transport to and from the airport, and at your destination.
- Arranged airport parking if necessary

Now, let's get packing.

What documents do I need for my holiday?

- Passport – email yourself a photo of it too, just in case
- Visa documents if needed, plus a photo copy
- Driver's licence (and car hire details if using)
- Travel insurance documents, including your EHIC card if travelling in Europe.
- Airline tickets, hotel bookings, train tickets
- Your ATOL certificate, if you have one

What should I pack in my hand luggage?

The essentials:

- Mobile phone and charger
- Keys
- Wallet/purse (with credit cards and local currency)
- Essential medication
- Copy of your prescription(s)
- Glasses/case/contact lenses
- Hearing aid

And how about:

- Electronic plug converter
- Electronics (tablet, iPad, iPod, computer) and charger
- Earphones or headphones
- Camera and camera charger
- Wet wipes
- Scarf, shawl or blanket
- Tampons and sanitary towels
- Toothbrush and toothpaste
- A lockable case for any valuables
- Jewellery
- Book or magazine
- Pen to fill out landing cards if needed
- Snacks or treats for long flights
- A bottle of water once you've passed through security

If travelling with children:

- something to keep them amused such as toys, games and books
- nappies if necessary
- change of clothes
- dummy or comforter
- favourite toy
- baby food, if needed

Practical items for my checked bags

Or hand luggage if you prefer a travel size (under 100ml for liquids):

- Hand cream
- Hand sanitiser
- Batteries
- First aid kit
- Contraception
- Sun cream
- After sun
- Mosquito repellent and bite cream
- Hairdryer
- Deodorant
- Antibacterial hand gel
- Face and body moisturiser
- Lip balm
- Tissues
- Hair brush
- Hair clips and ties
- Contact lens solution
- Face wash
- Soap and/or shower gel and shampoo
- Razor and shaving gel

Other useful bits and bobs for travelling

- Neck pillow
- Blanket
- Eye mask
- Ear plugs
- Phrase book and guidebook or apps for the country you're visiting
- Reading material – on your device or paper copies
- Playing cards
- Umbrella
- Sealable plastic bags for toiletries
- Extra plastic bags for dirty laundry
- Pen knife
- Mini sewing kit