

TRAVEL/LEISURE CRUISING TIPS CHECKLIST

Before You Arrive

- Read the documents the cruise line sends to you, fill out any forms that will be required in advance of arriving at the terminal or forward any completed forms to the cruise line or travel agent that must be received in advance of the cruise
- Packing
 - Don't overpack (easier said than done)
 - Arrive dressed for first day on ship (it may be some time before you meet up with your luggage)
 - Keep necessities in a separate bag you can easily carry
 - Know luggage rules and regulations
 - Place personal tags on each bag or suitcase
 - Know what is provided in your cabin so you don't have to pack these items
 - Using luggage that is collapsible or fits under a bed will free up floor space in your cabin
 - Tip: A separate bag you don't check should include a light sweater or jacket, passport, identification, cruise documents, medication or any other item you will need.*
- Reservations premade at specialty restaurants
- Special needs (food, handicapped, etc.) prearranged
 - Tip: Dining at specialty restaurants often requires a longer dining time, so plan activities accordingly.*
- Reservations premade for on-ship activities that require reservations
- Reservations for off-ship excursions
 - Tip: Book off-ship excursions through the ship's personnel. These excursions have been preapproved (for safety, insurance, etc.)*
- Know what time the actual boarding of the ship begins and ends and plan your schedule accordingly
- Limit the amount of cash you bring as you will receive a pass/card to use; you may need cash for the casino or for items purchased while off the ship
 - Tip: Check the balance on the ship pass/card often and dispute any charges you feel are not correct. You can also negotiate tips added to your pass/card.*
- Check with your cell phone carrier to see whether you will have service on your trip and the cost of roaming charges
 - Tip: Consider bringing two-way radios to use while on the ship or during on-shore excursions.*

First Day on Ship

- Don't avoid the safety drill and be aware of safety equipment and requirements
- Acquaint yourself with the layout of the ship

End of Trip

- If self-checkout is available and you can handle your own luggage, see if this is an option that may be of interest to you
- Keep necessities in a separate bag you can easily carry