

BOOK #004

The Smart Traveler's Alaska Packing Guide

Chapter 9 — Common Packing Mistakes

Even experienced travelers can make packing mistakes that affect their Alaska vacation. Fortunately, most of these are easy to avoid with a little planning.

Mistake #1: Packing a Heavy Winter Coat

Many first-time visitors imagine Alaska as a winter destination. During the cruise season, however, a layering system is usually far more practical than one bulky coat.

Mistake #2: Bringing Brand-New Shoes

Alaska ports often involve more walking than expected. Wear comfortable, broken-in shoes to help prevent sore feet and blisters.

Mistake #3: Forgetting Rain Gear

Weather can change quickly. A lightweight waterproof jacket is one of the most valuable items you can bring.

Mistake #4: Overpacking

You don't need a different outfit for every activity. Choose clothing that mixes and matches to save space and simplify your trip.

Mistake #5: Packing Important Items in Checked Luggage

Always keep medications, travel documents, valuables, chargers, and one change of clothes in your carry-on bag.

Mistake #6: Forgetting Room for Souvenirs

Many travelers return home with locally made artwork, clothing, ornaments, or other Alaska keepsakes. Leave a little extra space in your suitcase before you leave home.

Aimee's Insider Tip

One of the smartest things you can pack is flexibility. Alaska's weather and wildlife don't always follow a schedule, but that's part of what makes every cruise unique. Pack smart, stay flexible, and enjoy every adventure that comes your way!