

BOOK #007

The Smart Traveler's Cruise Packing Guide

Chapter 2 — Clothing Essentials

Imagine unpacking in your stateroom and realizing you have exactly what you need for every part of your vacation—from relaxing by the pool to enjoying an elegant dinner in the main dining room. Packing the right clothing isn't about bringing more; it's about bringing the right pieces for your itinerary.

Daytime Clothing

Pack comfortable shorts, T-shirts, casual tops, lightweight pants, and comfortable outfits for exploring the ship or spending time ashore. Choose wrinkle-resistant fabrics whenever possible.

Evening Attire

Most cruise lines now have relaxed evening dress codes, but many guests still enjoy dressing up for dinner or formal nights. Check your cruise line's recommendations before you travel so you know what to expect.

Swimwear & Cover-Ups

Bring at least two swimsuits if you plan to use the pools, hot tubs, or beaches. A lightweight cover-up makes it easy to move between the pool deck and other areas of the ship.

Layers Matter

Even warm-weather cruises can have cool evenings, while Alaska and Northern Europe often require sweaters, fleece jackets, or lightweight rain gear. Dressing in layers helps you stay comfortable as conditions change.

Don't Forget the Basics

Pack enough socks, undergarments, sleepwear, and comfortable lounge clothes. These essentials are easy to overlook but make a big difference during your trip.

Aimee's Insider Tip

I recommend planning your outfits before you start packing. If every piece of clothing has a purpose, you'll pack less, stay organized, and avoid carrying items that never leave the suitcase.