

BOOK #007

The Smart Traveler's Cruise Packing Guide

Chapter 5 — Carry-On Packing Strategy

Imagine boarding your cruise knowing you already have everything you need for the first several hours. While your checked luggage makes its way to your stateroom, you're relaxing by the pool, enjoying lunch, or exploring the ship because all of your essentials are safely tucked away in your carry-on. A well-packed carry-on can make embarkation day much smoother.

Keep Important Documents Close

Your passport or identification, cruise boarding documents, travel insurance information, airline confirmations, and any necessary visas should always stay with you. Never place these items in checked luggage.

Pack Medications & Valuables

Prescription medications, eyeglasses, hearing aids, jewelry, electronics, chargers, and other valuables should remain in your carry-on throughout your journey. If your checked luggage is delayed, you'll still have everything you truly need.

Bring a Change of Clothes

It may take several hours for checked luggage to arrive at your cabin. Pack a swimsuit, lightweight outfit, or anything you'll want for the afternoon so you can start enjoying your vacation immediately.

Don't Forget Electronics

Keep your phone, charging cable, portable battery bank, earbuds, and any travel apps ready to go. Download your cruise line's app before you leave home so you can access schedules, dining reservations, and onboard information as soon as you board.

Your Carry-On Checklist

- ✓ Passport and travel documents
- ✓ Cruise documents
- ✓ Medications
- ✓ Wallet and valuables
- ✓ Swimsuit or change of clothes
- ✓ Phone, charger, and battery bank
- ✓ Sunglasses and sunscreen

Aimee's Insider Tip

One of my favorite embarkation-day traditions is changing into my swimsuit as soon as I board. While many guests are waiting for their luggage, I'm already relaxing by the pool with lunch and officially in vacation mode!