

Infinity Travelaz Recommended International Travel Tips

Make sure you have a valid US Passport with a minimum of 6 months validity past your return travel date. To apply for a new passport or renew your current one, please click on the following link and follow the instructions: <https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/passports.html>

To check to see if you will need a Visa, please click the following link: <http://cibtvisas.com/>

Check with your doctor and on the CDC's web site for guidance on vaccinations and general health precautions. Click the tab for Traveler's Health: <http://www.cdc.gov/>

Always make copies of your passports and credit cards and carry 1 copy with you in a safe place. Also leave a copy with someone you trust at home along with your itinerary.

Contact your bank about 1 week before you leave town to advise them where you are going and what cards you will be using at your destination. Recommended for land or cruise vacations.

Always keep your passport, credit cards and money secured to your person when out in public. Never leave any valuables sitting out in the hotel room or cruise cabin. Always use the provided safe to secure your items.

Call your mobile phone provider to check on international rates while traveling abroad. Infinity Travelaz can help you purchase a prepaid phone to use on your trip if you find your provider's rates will be too expensive.

Know ahead of time what your restrictions are regarding customs and duty. For information on limits and taxes click on the link: <https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/go/customs.html>

You don't need a large amount of cash in local currency. Local ATM's will give you the best rate of exchange and you won't be vulnerable with the extra money. Credit cards give you the best rate to purchase items. Be cautious, don't wear clothes or jewelry that will make you stand out in a crowd. Be aware that pickpockets are everywhere looking for unsuspecting tourists to target.

Be cautious when hailing cabs as cabbies are notorious for trying to rip off tourists. It is best practice to have your hotel concierge confirm a trusted cab for you. Or have your travel agent pre-arrange any transfers before you leave on your vacation.

If you are renting a car, always take the recommended insurance, as your personal car insurance will most likely not cover you in a foreign country. In most countries, your US Driver's License will be all that is required, however you can check into an international license. Infinity Travelaz has a great car rental provider we highly recommend with very competitive rates.

Download any destination information through this link: <http://3002.mtravel.com/guides/countries>
Make sure you check the site for electricity currency and if an adapter/converter is needed.

Infinity Travelaz wrote a blog on useful Apps when traveling. Check out the article here: <http://infinitytravelaz.com/blog/theres-an-app-for-that/#.V6tzt5grKUK>

Packing & Airport tips

We highly recommend purchasing Travel Insurance in the event something unforeseen occurs. Most health insurance policies do not cover you when traveling abroad and the insurance we offer covers emergency medical treatment and evacuation if needed. Make sure to carry the cards with you at all times.

Most airlines will allow 1 checked bag free of charge, with fees for additional bags and/or if your first checked bag is overweight. Check with your specific carrier to find out their requirements and guidelines. NEVER pack any of the following items in your checked luggage:

Passport/Visas, Itinerary, airline information or boarding documents, jewelry, cameras, electronics, medication, credit cards or money. These items need to be with you packed in your carry on item. Ensure you have enough medication to get you through your trip. Remember to place any liquid or gels you might be carrying in your carry on in a quart size Ziploc bag, and that they cannot be over 4 ounces each.

Be sure to do your online check in with your airline 24 hours prior to departure on their website. We recommend setting up alerts when doing your check in, in case of delays or cancellations. Infinity Travelaz will monitor your flight status and alert you if there are delays if possible. Arrive at the airport 2-3 hours prior to scheduled departure for international flights. When doing your online check in, confirm your carrier does not recommend more time.

Make sure you have enough time between connections to change gates. If you or someone in your party has any physical limitations, Infinity Travelaz can request wheelchair assistance at the airport to assist. Our recommendation is that too much time is better than a short connection time, in part to account for any delays that may occur. Signage in foreign countries is not always in English, so you want to make sure you have enough time. You can almost always google the airport you will be connecting in prior to traveling to get a little beforehand knowledge of the gate and concourse layout.

Don't over pack! Most hotels and cruise ships have laundry facilities available for a nominal charge. Check the weather at your destination and plan accordingly. Try to mix and match outfits and only take a few pairs of shoes, including a pair of comfortable walking shoes.

To stay healthy when traveling, wash your hands with soap and water frequently. Stay hydrated by drinking plenty of water, especially on long flights. Drink bottled water, if available, in foreign countries. Don't over indulge in rich food you normal don't eat. Cruise ships have lots of hand sanitizer stations onboard, and attendants at dining entrances with hand sanitizer spray.

A few good things you may want to consider packing: a small power strip, alarm clock, converter/adaptor if you're going where 120 volts is not the electric current. Remember cell phones, laptops and tablets require special chargers in this case. Make sure to research and plan ahead for this.