

The Perfect European Vacation Checklist

What to Book When — and What to Pack for a Stress-Free Trip

Planning a trip to Europe?

Whether it's your first visit or your fifth, this checklist will help you plan like a pro — so you can skip the stress and savor the sights.

This free guide includes:

- ✓ A step-by-step timeline of what to book (and when)
- ✓ A detailed packing checklist customized for European travel
- ✓ Pro tips from experienced travel advisors
- ✓ Space-saving travel hacks & what *not* to pack
- ✓ Bonus: Essential apps & tools to simplify your journey

Trip Planning Timeline: What to Book When

6–12 Months Before Departure

- ✓ Choose destination(s) & ideal travel dates
- ✓ Set a budget
- ✓ Research visa requirements (Schengen rules apply!)
- ✓ Book major flights
- ✓ Hire a travel advisor or begin creating your itinerary

3–6 Months Before

- ✓ Reserve hotels, tours & train tickets (especially in peak season)
- ✓ Buy travel insurance
- ✓ Apply for necessary travel documents
- ✓ Book special restaurants or experiences

1–2 Months Before

- ✓ Check passport expiration (must be valid 6 months post-travel)
- ✓ Confirm all reservations
- ✓ Research tipping, currency, and local customs
- ✓ Set up international phone plan or SIM

1-2 Weeks Before

- ✓ Print or download all confirmations
- ✓ Notify your bank of travel dates
- ✓ Arrange airport transfers
- ✓ Finalize packing list



Smart Packing Checklist for Europe

Essentials

- ☐ Passport + ID copies
- ☐ Travel insurance card
- ☐ Credit cards & currency (have some Euros in cash!)
- ☐ Phone + charger & travel adapter
- ☐ Medications + prescriptions

Clothing (season-dependent)

- ☐ Comfortable walking shoes (Europe = cobblestones!)
- ☐ Light layers (think mix & match)
- ☐ One “smart casual” outfit for evenings
- ☐ Rain jacket or compact umbrella
- ☐ Scarf or shawl (for churches or chilly nights, don’t forget a long skirt or pants for some churches too!)

Extras

- ☐ Daypack or crossbody bag
- ☐ Portable power bank
- ☐ Refillable water bottle
- ☐ Snacks for travel days
- ☐ eSIM or pocket Wi-Fi (optional, but handy) -also check with your service carrier - depending on the plan you have, you might be pleasantly surprised on some international add on pricing!



Pro Travel Advisor Tips:

💬 “Plan fewer cities and stay longer in each — it’s more relaxing and cost-effective.”

💬 “Trains in Europe can book up fast — reserve your rail passes or point-to-point tickets early.”

💬 “Pack light! Many hotels and apartments have stairs, not elevators.”



“Pay close attention to air conditioning when traveling in summer months - some hotels offer A/C in public spaces but not necessarily every room!”



Want Help Booking Your Perfect Trip?

Take the stress out of planning — get expert help with everything from hotels to hidden gems

👉 [Schedule A Call](#)