

PACKING & TRAVEL TIPS

The quality of your trip is important to us and we want you to feel as comfortable as possible while traveling with Discovery Cruises and Tours.

Read the following tips to be more prepared for an amazing time!

1 BAGS

- Only 1 checked bag weighing 50 lbs. will be permitted per person. You will also be allowed a carry on as well as a personal item, but packing light is always easier. Carry on dimensions must be no larger than 55cm x 40 cm x 20 cm and no more than 17 lbs. It must fit in the overhead bin or under your seat. Only checked bags will need to have a Discovery Cruises and Tours luggage tag with your name/phone number/address printed on it, which we will provide.



2 CLOTHING/PACKING

- Bring comfortable walking shoes. We will be walking at least a mile a day, so comfortable shoes will make or break your trip. Choose FUNCTION over FASHION.
- Do not bring any expensive jewelry that is not on your body at all times.
- Try on everything before you pack it to ensure it is comfortable and fits well- especially shoes!
- Pack water shoes and a swimsuit for the Jordan River and the Dead Sea.
- Shoulders and legs will need to be covered in certain areas for men AND women alike. It's a good idea to carry a pashmina and skirt or joggers in your bag to be prepared for this. If you are wearing shorts it is recommended that they cover your knees.
- Bring Sunscreen!
- Be prepared for weather! If you are traveling from November-April pack gloves, coats, ski silks and a hat. Summers get very hot, and it is always a good idea to bring a rain poncho or umbrella, no matter what time of the year you are traveling.
- Binoculars are a good idea for Masada- which is on a mountain
- In order to pack light, it is best to plan to re-wear certain items. In the chance that you stain them, tide packets or sticks are a good idea to have.



3 VOLTAGE

- Make sure any appliances are able to adapt from America's 120 Volt plugs to Israel's 220V. Make sure you have a convertor, and an adapter. There is a difference! Some appliances cannot be used even with a convertor, so use at your own risk!
- Hair dryers and curling irons should be used at the lowest setting as a higher voltage will heat up appliance much hotter. American made electric razors do not operate well most of the time.



4 AIRLINE/TRAVEL TIPS

- Check your airline to see if there are Apps available to upload your information ahead of time. (American Airlines is VeriFLY, United has a Travel-Ready Center, etc.)
- Make a copy of your passport and keep it in your luggage.
- Check your airline to ensure your plane has a USB charger for your phone.
- It is not necessary to carry your passport except at the airport. Keep it in a safe place and always know where it is.
- To call home it is encouraged to download WhatsApp to call/text for free, or iMessage when connected to WIFI.

6 HELPFUL LINKS

- https://www.amazon.com/Tide-Packs-Laundry-Detergent-Loads/dp/B07JMGR536/ref=sr_1_2?keywords=tide+packets+travel&qid=1650337387&srefix=tide+pa%2Caps%2C156&sr=8-2
- https://www.amazon.com/dp/B08R8QDHRT/ref=twister_B099NKJS9W?_encoding=UTF8&pvc=1
- https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B07HKM5V5H/ref=ppx_yo_dt_b_asin_title_o02_s00?ie=UTF8&pvc=1
- https://www.amazon.com/s?k=packing+aids+for+travel&crd=R5QF8RPLJHN&srefix=packing+aids%2Caps%2C489&ref=nb_sb_ss_i_1_12



TRAVEL & LOGISTICS

The quality of your trip is important to us and we want you to feel as comfortable as possible while traveling with Discovery Cruises and Tours.

Read the following tips to be more prepared for an amazing time!

1 CHECKING IN

- Upon check in to every hotel you will go to the lobby and receive an envelope with your room key and 2 stick on tags for your luggage with your room number on them. Place these on your luggage outside by the bus and your luggage will be delivered to your room where you can freshen up and prepare for dinner.



2 CHECKING OUT

- Upon check-out, you will place your luggage outside of your door WITH the identification tags, which will then be taken to the bus. You MUST visually identify your luggage and tell the driver before boarding the bus. It is very hard to retrieve left behind luggage.
- If you made charges to your room be sure to have these paid before exiting the hotel to check luggage and board the bus.

3 DAILY SCHEDULES

- Daily Schedule: Plan for a 6:30 AM wake up call and plan to be on your bus by 8:15-8:30 AM. Your guide will instruct you on exact times and dress limitations for the day.



4 SHOPPING & ENTERTAINMENT

- Most shops close down at 6 PM but if you would like to explore some nightlife there is a YMCA in Jerusalem that offers an Israeli Folklore Evening of music, dances, etc. from 9 PM – 11 PM. The cost is \$15 per person- Check with your guide to make sure it is offered in English the night you are there.
- Dollars are generally accepted in Israel, but change is often given in Shekels. We recommend bringing \$50 one dollar bills for small souvenirs, and most vendors will accept Visa, Mastercard, and/or personal checks.
- Several opportunities will be provided for souvenir shopping. ONLY go to stores recommended by your guide. DO NOT let someone lead you to their shop- Only go where you guide trusts.



5 LEAVING ISRAEL

- You will only have to clear customs once upon arrival into the US. Your luggage will have to be claimed and declared no matter your departure location. You will receive a Declaration Form on your flight home and will fill it out accordingly. You are allowed \$400 per person for duty free products. You do not have to list diamonds, jewelry and precious stones, due to trade agreement between the US and Israel. You do not need receipts for small purchases, but it is recommended to keep them for larger items.
- You will have 3 hours until departure when you arrive at the Tel Aviv Airport. Place your luggage on a rolling cart. Your guide will direct you to a line inside of the airport where you will go for through security and check in. DO NOT GET IN A HURRY! The process is slow and the plane will not leave without you.



6 ADDITIONAL TIPS

- You CAN drink the water!
- If lunches are not provided plan for \$17-20 USD per day for lunches. Ask your guide if you have any questions or are unsure about what is included in your meal.
- Video Cameras, iPads, and smart phone are all ok for taking pictures- policy dictates a security deposit for these items at the airport, but it is rarely enforced with group travel
- It is safest to leave handbags, purses, etc. on the bus during a tour- It will remain locked for the duration of your tour. Pickpockets do exist everywhere and target tourists.
- Israel is the safest country in the world with less crime per capita than any other country. However, safety is a priority. Keep your valuables in the safe in the hotel room, stay with your group and do not go out alone at night, especially in the Old City or any Muslim areas. While Americans are liked in Israel, we would prefer not to take any chances.

