CRUISE PREPARATION CHECKLIST

Planning a cruise can be overwhelming, but it doesn't have to be. By splitting all of the moving parts into a timeline, you can easily see what you'll need to do first and what can wait until later. Start with the basics, and before you know it, you'll be checking off your "day before departure" items with the satisfaction of someone who's setting sail tomorrow.

6-24 MONTHS BEFORE

- ○ Choose cruise dates
- ○ Determine budget
- ○ Research and book your cruise
- ○ Purchase travel insurance
- ○ Research flights (if applicable)
- ○ Research hotels (if applicable)
- ○ Start saving for additional expenses

3-6 MONTHS BEFORE

- ○ Book flights if traveling by air
- ○ Arrange for transportation to and from the airport (if flying)
- ○ Arrange for transportation to and from the cruise port
- ○ Research and book cruise terminal parking (if driving to port)
- ○ Book hotel (if arriving in port early or staying after your sailing)
- ○ Start a rough list of must-do onboard attractions and experiences / shore excursions

2-3 MONTHS BEFORE

- ○ Sign up for your cruise line loyalty program, and link your reservation
- ○ Pre-purchase add-ons (Wi-Fi, alcohol packages, shore excursions, gratuities)
- ○ Check passport expiration dates (or locate birth certificate)
- ○ Apply for any necessary visas (check with cruise line)

1 MONTH BEFORE

- ○ Download your cruise line's mobile app
- ○ Check in for your cruise
- ○ Print boarding pass and cruise luggage tags (attach after flight)
- ○ Make packing list
- ○ Arrange for childcare, pet sitting and house sitting (if applicable)
- ○ Request "permission to travel" letters (pregnant women, adults traveling with kids who don't share their last name, etc.)

2 WEEKS BEFORE

- ○ Begin packing
- ○ Purchase any last-minute items
- ○ Inform your bank and credit card companies about your travel plans

1 WEEK BEFORE

- ○ Check the weather forecast, and adjust packing if necessary
- ○ Finish packing
- ○ Arrange for mail and newspaper hold if necessary
- ○ Verify everyone in your travel party has checked in for the sailing
- ○ Pre-pay bills due while you're gone, or set up auto-pay
- ○ Gather important contact info (emergency contacts, embassies/consulates)
- ○ Make photocopies of ID, credit cards and insurance info (front and back)

DAY BEFORE DEPARTURE

- ○ Check in for flight (if applicable)
- ○ Print flight boarding pass (if applicable), or download airline app
- ○ Fill out electronic health form if your cruise line requires one
- ○ Charge all electronic devices
- ○ Double-check all reservations and confirmation numbers
- ○ Confirm transportation arrangements
- ○ Double-check you've packed crucial items (passport, wallet, phone, charger, keys)
- ○ Set out-of-office e-mail (if applicable)

Happy Cruising!