



ALASKA CRUISE PLANNING CHECKLIST

Your Complete Timeline from Booking to Embarkation

12-18 MONTHS BEFORE

- Research when to cruise Alaska (consider weather, budget, crowds)
- Determine realistic budget (cruise fare + flights + excursions + extras)
- Decide on itinerary (roundtrip vs. one-way, glacier viewing options)
- Choose cruise line & ship based on travel party's preferences

8-12 MONTHS BEFORE

- Contact MEI-Travel or your travel agent to book (choose balcony cabin if budget allows)
- Purchase travel insurance within 7-21 days of deposit
- Check passport expiration dates (must be valid 6+ months after cruise)
- Start to research shore excursions for each port

4-6 MONTHS BEFORE

- Create excursion wishlist, calculate costs & book high-demand tours
- Evaluate upgrade packages (drink, WiFi, specialty dining)
- Book flights (arrive 1 day before embarkation minimum)
- Begin reviewing packing guides & purchase clothing/accessories if needed

2-4 MONTHS BEFORE

- Make final payment on your cruise
- Download cruise line app
- Book remaining shore excursions
- Make dining reservations (specialty restaurants, main dining times)
- Purchase pre-cruise packages (drink, WiFi, photos, spa)
- Reserve pre-cruise hotel (1+ nights)

2-4 WEEKS BEFORE

- Complete online check-in as soon as available
- Start packing (layers, rain gear, bathing suit, sunscreen, binoculars)
- Prepare & organize all travel documents
- Arrange child/pet care if needed
- Set up auto-pay for bills due during cruise

1 WEEK BEFORE

- Verify everyone in party is checked in for cruise
- Confirm pre-cruise hotel reservation
- Print boarding passes, luggage tags, & travel documents (or save digital copies)
- Check weather forecasts for cruise ports & finish packing
- Gather emergency contact information

DAY BEFORE DEPARTURE

- Check in for flights (24 hours before)
- Charge all electronics
- Pack carry-on (including travel documents)
- Confirm transportation to airport/hotel/terminal
- Set out-of-office email
- Final house prep

EMBARKATION DAY

- Complete health questionnaire
- Arrive at cruise terminal during your check-in window
- Keep carry-on with essentials (medications, documents)
- Board ship!
- Attend mandatory muster drill
- Explore ship & find your cabin
- Enter vacation mode

NOTES & IMPORTANT DATES:

Eat Sleep Cruise

For the complete Alaska Cruise Planning Guide, visit www.EatSleepCruise.com



EatSleepCruise.com

SEA THE WORLD, ONE PORT AT A TIME