



90 DAYS TO SAIL

My cruise prep checklist, from 90 days out to the moment you walk up the gangway. Tick each box as you go, and call or email me any time something on here doesn't make sense for your trip.

How to use this: every cruise line and itinerary is a little different, so treat these as general reminders. I'll confirm the exact dates and documents for your sailing. Rules can change, so always check the official links below before you go.

90 DAYS OUT

- ☐ Check your final payment date. Many cruises are due in full about 75 to 120 days before sailing, depending on the line and the length of the cruise. I'll tell you your exact date.
- ☐ Check everyone's ID now. A passport book is the safest choice. Make sure it is valid for at least six months after you get home and has two blank pages. Routine passport processing is currently 4 to 6 weeks plus up to 2 weeks of mailing each way, so start now if anyone needs one (travel.state.gov).
- ☐ On a closed-loop cruise (leaving from and returning to the same U.S. port), U.S. citizens can usually re-enter with a government-issued photo ID plus a birth certificate. Some ports and countries may still ask for a passport (cbp.gov).
- ☐ Think about travel insurance if you don't have it yet. Ask me what's available. Some benefits depend on when you buy, so earlier is better.
- ☐ If you're flying to the port, make sure each adult has a REAL ID, a passport or another TSA-accepted ID (tsa.gov).

60 DAYS OUT

- ☐ Book flights so you arrive at least the day before you sail, and a hotel near the port for that night.
- ☐ Download the cruise line's app and set up your account with the reservation number I send you.
- ☐ Start looking at shore excursions, dining, drink and Wi-Fi packages. Popular ones can sell out.
- ☐ Check the CDC's destination pages and talk to your doctor if your ports need vaccines or medicines. The CDC suggests doing this at least 4 to 6 weeks before you go (cdc.gov).

30 DAYS OUT

- ☐ Watch for online check-in. Royal Caribbean opens it in the app up to 45 days before sailing. Carnival asks you to finish it within the 14 days before you sail. Other lines vary, and I'll remind you.
- ☐ Look for your cruise documents and luggage tags. Royal Caribbean usually makes them available about 30 days before sailing for finalized bookings.
- ☐ Enroll in the State Department's free Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) for safety alerts on international trips (travel.state.gov).
- ☐ Arrange pet care, mail and house sitting.

14 DAYS OUT

- ☐ Finish online check-in, upload your photo and pick your arrival time at the port.
- ☐ Tell your bank and credit card company where and when you're traveling.
- ☐ Refill prescriptions so you have enough for the trip plus a few extra days.
- ☐ Make a packing list: formal or theme night outfits, swimwear, sun protection and any motion-sickness remedies your doctor recommends.

7 DAYS OUT

- ☐ Print or download your boarding passes and luggage tags.
- ☐ Check the weather for each port and adjust your packing.
- ☐ Make copies of your passport or ID and keep them apart from the originals.
- ☐ Check that I have a good phone number for you, and call or email me with any last questions.

1 DAY OUT

- ☐ Pack a carry-on "day bag" with IDs, travel documents, medicines, a swimsuit and a change of clothes. Your checked bags can take a few hours to reach your cabin.
- ☐ Flying with medicine? Liquid medicines can be over 3.4 oz in reasonable amounts. Tell the TSA officer and screen them separately (tsa.gov).
- ☐ Charge your phone and set it to airplane mode or turn off roaming before you sail, so you don't pay at-sea roaming rates.

SAIL DAY

- ☐ Arrive at your check-in time with your IDs and documents in your hand, not in your checked bags.
- ☐ Hand your tagged bags to the porters, go through security and check-in, then walk aboard.
- ☐ Grab lunch, explore, and join the required safety drill (muster).
- ☐ Relax. You did it! Send me a photo by email if you like.

QUESTIONS? I'M ONE CALL AWAY

Book a call: go.foxdoes.travel/bookacall

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