

# Cruise Travel Checklist

By Bianca Hendriks

- Getting to your Ship
  - Arrive at the pier early.
  - Be onboard at least 90 minutes prior to departure.
  - Have your passport and cruise documents in-hand to speed check-in.
- Onboard Health and safety
  - Plan to take part in the ship's safety, or muster, drill.
  - Get familiarized with the location and operation of life vests, as well as the emergency exit locations.
  - Take time to explore the ship once onboard.
  - Familiarize yourself with the onboard doctor's location and services.
  - Visit the gift shop to see what items are sold.
  - If your cabin doesn't have its own safe, ask for the option of storing valuables in the ship's vault.
  - Avoid running on the decks.
  - Get a pair of comfortable shoes for the walking you'll be doing onboard and ashore.
- Shore Excursions
  - Book your excursions far ahead of time to secure your reservations.
  - Ask onboard for advice on what to wear for your excursion.
  - Dress appropriately.
  - Choose to skip a shore excursion and enjoy a quiet day onboard.
  - If you stay onboard, consider a spa treatment.
- Returning Home
  - Review your final onboard charges statement for accuracy.
  - Consider adjusting the tip, if your service was excellent.
  - Properly label your bags for easy identification.
  - Don't forget your carry-on bag.
  - Plan pickups at the pier.