

Overseas Travel Checklist

By Bianca Hendriks

- Before You Go
 - Do some research on the destination country before you go.
 - Check the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade's travel advice for the country/countries you plan to visit.
 - Purchase a guide book for the regions you are visiting.
 - Read up on local laws and customs, places of interest, etc.
 - Check with your travel agent or your doctor to see if any vaccinations or immunisations are required for the areas you are travelling to.
 - Get information on how to stay well while travelling.
 - Check that you have a valid passport.
 - Take a copy of your passport with you and leave a copy at home with a trusted friend or family member.
 - Make enquiries about visas well before your planned departure date.
 - Do not leave without comprehensive travel and medical insurance.
 - Find out if require an International Driving Permit to drive in another country.
 - Check with your bank or credit card company and whether ATM facilities are readily available in the countries you are visiting.
 - Consider purchasing travellers' cheques.
 - Decide how you will get emergency funds if you need them.
 - Determine your itinerary and budget
 - Book your flights.
 - Book your hotels.
 - Book your transportation (cars, train, bus).
 - Book any tours/sightseeing that require advance booking.
 - Set up mail to be held during your trip.
 - Set up timers to make the house look lived in.
 - Arrange for someone to watch your house while you are gone.
 - Turn off unnecessary appliances/utilities.