



TOP TRAVEL TIPS

101 TOP TRAVEL TIPS

All your travel tips in one place at www.top-travel-tips.com

About Top-Travel-Tips.com

Top-Travel-Tips.com is a travel advice website offering practical travel tips. Our focus is on four key areas: Plan your perfect trip, Find your perfect trip, Travel accessories, and Practical travel tips.

We also offer advice and reviews on travel related products that can enhance your travel experience further. All the content on our website is unique and written by us.

We at Top-Travel-Tips.com are very passionate about travelling and we like to share our travel experience with you. We encourage you to visit our website www.top-travel-tips.com for further information and travel advice.

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Introduction

Our website, www.top-travel-tips.com includes all the travel tips and advice in this document and thousands more. It was therefore not easy to choose only the top 101 travel tips.

We therefore decided to concentrate mainly on the travel planning and travel preparation, i.e. trip planning, things to do before you travel and while en-route. We grouped the tips together so you can go directly to those of specific interest to you at any given time. Just click on the category names in the table below.

We have also included links back to our website for your convenience, when you want to get more advice on particular subject.

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We hope these tips are useful and we hope to "see" you again on our website in the future. You can follow and contact us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Google+](#) or use the [Contact Form](#) on our website.

Enjoy and best regards,

Birgir and Asa Gislason

101 Top Travel Tips

1. **Trip Planning** is the first step in your journey and will set the tone for your whole trip
2. Use the internet for inspirations and ideas but be selective as too many choices can make decision more difficult, not easier
3. Good trip planning takes all aspect of your travels into consideration, i.e. where to go, when to go there, how to get there, where to stay while there and what to see and do
4. Your safety should always be top priority so check [Travel Advisories](#) before deciding where to go
5. You might also want to check the travel weather for your destination prior to deciding when to visit
6. Make **travel itinerary**, it can be as detailed or rough as suits your style but it is useful to know in advance the outline of what you want to do and see. It will minimize the risk of running out of time and missing something you are interested in
7. If you are planning the trip on your own, seek inspirations from the professionals. Use their travel itineraries as your base and adjust it to fit your travel needs and interests
8. The best way to avoid overspending while travelling is to make **travel budget** in advance
9. Making travel budget will get you thinking about how much you can and want to spend, as well as allowing you to get the most out of the money you are spending
10. Make sure your budget has enough contingency for unforeseen fun things to do or see, i.e. allowing you to stay within your budget without spoiling your vacation
11. When **booking your trip**, bear in mind that the more flexible you are, the more likely you are to find better travel deals
12. On-line [Travel Search Engines](#) and travel booking sites make it easy to compare prices and to make travel bookings in the comfort of your own home

13. When comparing prices, make sure you are comparing apple-to-apple, i.e. make sure you add all taxes, fees and surcharges that are not already included in the price
14. Never assume that travel company is cheaper or better because it is bigger or better known, always compare prices and the included services
15. Know what affects the price of getting to your travel destination, e.g. where and how you [Book Your Trip](#) can really affect the price you end up paying
16. The same applies about accommodation. Not all rooms are equal. The same price can get you very different hotel room. When comparing [Hotel Accommodation](#) you must compare price, room, location and the included services
17. Once you have made your booking, forget about it. Don't get frustrated if the price goes down or if you come across better price elsewhere. There is nothing you can do about it so don't let it spoil your trip
18. You can **save money** on all aspects of travelling, i.e. before you go anywhere, on how you get there and what you spend while there
19. Always compare prices, read reviews and check if you are eligible for any discounts... if not ask for them anyway (you will be surprised how often you will get discount if you only ask)
20. Little things can add up to big savings remarkably quickly. Look for free Wi-Fi or internet access, use Skype to call your loved ones back home, visit the local tourist office to find out about local deals... and you will [Save Money When Travelling](#)
21. Wherever you go there are many free things to do and see, and many cities now offer city passes that give you discount on local transportation and tourist attractions. And if you qualify for international student card you should definitely get one as it can save you money on flights, sightseeing and other travel cost
22. Where, when and what you eat and drink can notably affect how much you spend on daily basis while travelling. The more you eat and drink as the locals do, the more money you are likely to save

23. If you are doing some serious shopping, then check if you are eligible for [VAT Refund](#). Saving money does not get easier or more fun than that
24. There are so many **things to do before you go** so making a to-do list is highly recommended
25. Check your passport expire date and find out if you need any travel visa
26. Take copies of all travel documents and store them safely
27. Make sure your **money matters** are in order, e.g. all necessary bills are paid while you are away and your credit / debit card expiry dates are valid during your trip, and you have sufficient credit on your cards
28. If you are paying your bills on-line, bear in mind that internet access is not always secure. Be extremely careful when accessing your bank details on-line when travelling. If you are not sure if the connection is safe, then do not use it
29. Always use codes when writing down any personal information, including your pin numbers and passwords... and make sure they are not easy to guess / find out, e.g. never use birthdays or pet names
30. If travelling abroad, you might need to buy some foreign currency. Shop around for the best currency exchange rates
31. There are many ways to obtain [Foreign Currency](#), investigate and compare the different options you have, e.g. cash, credit cards, prepaid currency cards
32. Don't rely on only one payment mode when travelling. It will leave you vulnerable if it gets lost or stolen (of course you can misplace all your belongings when travelling but you are more likely to lose only part of them)
33. Inform your credit card company about your travel plans as many now operate overseas fraud detection programs

34. If you have any **health related issues** then you might want to consult your doctor prior to making any travel commitment. For example if you have recently had surgery, are pregnant or suffering from any medical conditions that might be affected by your travels
35. If you are taking any prescribed medication, make sure you take enough supply to last you throughout your journey
36. If you use contraception, it is safest to bring enough supply of them as well. You should always use condoms if having casual sex while travelling, i.e. not only as contraception but also to protect you from contracting sexual transmitted diseases
37. Check if you need any vaccinations for your travel destination and if you do, remember to bring updated international vaccination card with you
38. You cannot get vaccinated for malaria so if you are going to a malaria infested area make sure you check our [Malaria Prevention Advice](#)
39. **First aid kit** is highly recommended, it can literally save your life in number of circumstances
40. Make sure your travel medicine kit has everything you might need, e.g. plasters, bandages, painkillers as well as something to deal with infections, diarrhea, insect bites, travel sickness and sunburn
41. Take good care of what you **eat and drink** when travelling. Getting ill can not only destroy your holiday, in worst case scenarios it could seriously affect your health and even be fatal
42. Take necessary [Food Safety](#) measure, like drink only boiled or bottled water, avoid unpasteurized dairy products and eat only freshly cooked food
43. However, don't get obsessed about food safety as that could destroy your vacation. Just use your common sense before putting anything in your mouth. If you don't like the look, smell or feel of something... don't eat it
44. There are many great on-line [Travel Health Advice](#) websites available, check them out if you have any health related concerns

45. Never travel without adequate **travel insurance**, your belongings might be replaceable but you are not
46. If you are an EU or EEA citizen make sure you travel with a valid European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) to entitle you to free or discounted healthcare in other EU and EEA countries
47. The [Best Travel Insurance](#) for you and your trip should be based on your personal circumstances and your travel needs
48. Most of us want at least the following possible incidents to be covered, i.e. the loss of prepaid travel cost if you have to cancel before travelling and the medical expenses and loss of belongings while travelling
49. If you suffer from any pre-existing medical conditions, then you must declare them when buying your travel insurance. Not doing so means you are not covered for them
50. Travel insurances are often tailored to meet the needs of certain types of travelers, e.g. family travel insurance, cruise travel insurance, ski holiday insurance, senior traveler insurance, etc.
51. Many credit cards offer travel insurance policy if you pay your trip with their card. This can be perfectly suitable for some people, or for some trips, but unlikely for everyone all the time. Check carefully what is covered and what not before deciding if this is enough insurance cover for your travel needs
52. Always read the small print carefully, our [Insurance Jargon Guide](#) will help you get through that
53. There are many factors that can affect the price of your travel insurance, some of them you can control, while others you have less control over, like your age and health
54. The general rules are: the more you cover, the higher the covered amount is and the lower the excess level... the higher the price you have to pay for your travel insurance
55. Have our tips on [Saving Money On Travel Insurance](#) in mind when searching for the best travel insurance for you and your travel needs

56. It is important to bear in mind that the cheapest travel insurance is not always the best choice. You must always consider and compare both the price and the cover on offer
57. You also have to **keep your home safe** while you are away travelling. Things you might want to do include switching on your alarm system or installing one if you do not have one already. You might also want to consider motion activated floodlights and timers to automatically turn the lights on and off
58. Make sure electrical equipments are not left on standby, unplug things like your TV and computers and turn off the water mains to prevent the risk of leaking
59. Hide the things that are most valuable or important to you, as well as those popular by thieves. Also, keep written records and take photographs of your valuables. It will be useful if you have to deal with the insurance company but also to identify stolen items if located later
60. Other things to do before you leave your home include making sure your home insurance is up to date, cancel newspaper deliveries, ask someone to pick up your post on regular basis and deal with any possible emergencies, clean out all food that can go off while you are away and make sure your doors and windows are securely locked
61. You might want to renew or buy some new things before you go. Special **travel clothes and gear** can make your life both easier and more comfortable when travelling
62. [Travel Clothes](#) are designed for travelling, i.e. with travelers needs in mind. They are designed for comfort and convenience, i.e. lightweight, dry quickly and wrinkle less
63. Ready to **pack your bags**? We have all heard about the importance of packing light but sometimes that is not an option, or not what you want. What you pack is important, but also how you pack it
64. Always pack smartly. Divide your luggage into what you must take with you and what you would like to take. Start with packing the "must take" items and then pack the rest if you have enough space left

65. It can be costly to exceed the airline [Luggage Allowance](#) and airlines are getting stricter on this all the time. If you tend to have problem with your luggage weight, then using portable luggage scale could save you some money
66. Packing lists can be very useful when packing. They reduce the risk of forgetting any "must have" items and remind us of things that might be good to bring. Top Travel Tips offers number of free printable [Packing Lists](#) for various occasions, e.g. when travelling with children of different age, when going skiing or on a cruise, etc.
67. If you want to minimize the clothes to pack, then pick lightweight clothes in colors that mix well and use layers to deal with variations in temperatures
68. Minimize toiletries as much as you can, just pack what you will need for your trip, it makes no sense to travel back home with unused toiletries
69. When packing travel gadgets consider carefully what to bring and what to leave behind. In this case it is not only about space and weight, many gadgets are expensive and often targeted by thieves
70. There are three main [Packing Luggage Methods](#), i.e. folding, rolling or bundle wrapping, we explain them all in details and with step by step photos
71. Many travelers, including us, like to use [Packing Cubes](#) when packing. They ensure better use of the limited space available and help you to stay organized when traveling
72. Choosing the **right luggage** for you and your trip is also important. Your travel needs should decide the type of luggage to go for, so the first question you need to answer is: What kind of traveler are you?
73. There are so many different [Types Of Luggage](#) available, including: trolley cases, spinners, roller cases, garment carriers, totes, duffel bags, mobile offices, etc.
74. Your travel destination, the purpose of your trip, what you need and want to take with you... defines your travel needs and help you to decide which luggage features are most important for you

75. The main luggage features you should have in mind when [Choosing Your Luggage](#) include: size, weight, wheeling system, soft or hard case, durability, style and last but not least the price
76. It is worth spending a bit more for better quality luggage as it is very inconvenient when your luggage breaks down while travelling, e.g. if the zip breaks or wheel falls off
77. **Shopping travel gear on-line** is increasingly popular, as retail shops cannot compete with the product range on offer on-line. It is also easy to compare different products and prices and convenient to be able to do so in the comfort of your own home
78. Always read customer reviews if available, they can also be very useful when deciding which product to go for. You must though be able to read between the lines, fake reviews are not unheard of. Different travelers also have different views and expectations. You must remember that when reading reviews
79. Reputable on-line sellers offer easy return policies and safe payment methods. Most offer regular product promotions, we are constantly on the lookout for best [Top Travel Offers](#)
80. If you are **flying to your destination** there are number of things you can do to make your flight as comfortable as possible. Which clothes you choose to wear on your flight and the seat you sit in can for example make you more, or less, comfortable
81. Travel comfort and safety is the key when deciding [What To Wear When Flying](#). The best travel clothes are both comfortable and practical, e.g. wear layers, dress for airport security and wear special flight socks
82. Brush up on your airline etiquette, e.g. be on time, only use the overhead locker above your seat, make sure your personal hygiene is socially acceptable, be considered when leaving / returning back to your seat during the flight and when pushing your seat back
83. If you are scared of flying, you are not alone. The good news is that you can overcome your fear of flying. Many people can do it on their own but some need professional help to [Overcome Fear Of Flying](#)

84. Some practical tips that can help you deal with your fear of flying include concentrate on your destination - not your journey, let the flight crew know you are nervous, bring something to distract you during the flight, take deep breath, turn on the air vents above your seat, etc.
85. Choosing aisle seat over the wing area can also help those that are scared of height or suffer from motion sickness
86. Your **safety is top priority** when travelling. Life is about taking certain amount of risk, the main thing is to take calculated risk. Use your common sense, listen to your instinct, don't take any unnecessary risks and be alert at all times... and you are likely to travel without any serious mishaps
87. Still, always brush up on your [Travel Safety](#) awareness before travelling. You might know it all but it is still important to refresh your memory on regular basis (like with the airplane safety procedures)
88. Practical street safety tips include avoid drawing unnecessary attention to the fact that you are a tourist, try to blend in the crowd as much as possible, avoid empty and dark streets, walk purposely at good steady rate, show extra care when in crowded places, dress appropriately and in line with local customs, etc.
89. Practical hotel safety tips include keep your hotel room door locked at all times, never open your doors to strangers (including hotel employees you are not expecting), use the main entrance after dark, read the fire escape instructions, keep your valuables out of sight, etc.
90. Be aware of classic tourist frauds. Remember, if something sounds too good to be true, it probably is... not true that is
91. However, don't assume that all strangers are dangerous or you will lose out. Meeting and talking to local people adds important flavor to any trip. Just use your common sense and stay alert
92. One of the most asked travel question is about **when to tip and how much to tip**. There is no one rule you can follow... except you should aim to never "over tip" nor "under tip"

93. The best way to achieve that is to tip in accordance to the custom in the country you are visiting... not according to the custom in the country that you come from
94. Tipping etiquette varies greatly from country to country. Our [Guide To Tipping Around The World](#) gives you general idea of what to expect in different parts of the world
95. Few practical tipping tips that are always valid include don't put the tip on your credit card unless you are sure the employees get all of it, don't tip if the service is already included in the bill, hoard small notes and coins for tipping purposes and keep it separately and if in doubt what to do, just ask the locals
96. We tend to forget things quickly so keeping **travel journal** is a good idea. Safeguard your memories and enjoy reading them in the years to come. Modern technology makes it easier and more fun than ever to keep travel journal and to share it with your friends and family, or even with like-minded strangers (travel blogs)
97. Take good camera with you, it helps you to safeguard your memories and to share them with others. Brush up on some photography travel tips before you go and click away
98. If you are concerned about your camera being lost or stolen, then make sure it is adequately insured and use discreet [Camera Bag](#) for it, but do not leave the camera at home. You will regret doing that
99. Stay in touch with your family and friends back home, they are worth it. It has never been easier or cheaper to stay in touch. You can get internet access in most corners of the world now, giving you access to e-mail, social media, and cheap / free phone calls through companies like Skype
100. Be careful when using your cell phone abroad, the roaming charges can be nasty surprise. Rather buy local SIM / phone card or use the internet
101. Finally yet importantly, keep an **open mind** when travelling and pack lot of patience. Some things will be different from what you are used to. Not necessarily better or worse - just different. Embrace the difference, there would not be much point in travelling if everything was just like back home, would it?