

Adventures Croatia Packing List

Clothing

Shirts / Blouses: Bring at least five short-sleeved or long-sleeved shirts or blouses (Warmer options in non-summer months). Shirts with long sleeves that roll up easily can double as short-sleeved shirts. Look for a wrinkle-camouflaging pattern or fabrics that show minimum wrinkles. If hoping to blend in with the locals while abroad, we recommend against wearing big logos or sports teams.

Pants: Bring two pairs of pants: one lightweight cotton and another super-lightweight pair for hot and muggy big cities. Jeans can be too hot for summer travel (and are slow to dry). Even in summer the evenings can sometimes cool down to need pants.

Shorts: During the summer season, expect to mainly wear shorts. We recommend bringing a minimum of 1 pair with you.

Dresses/Skirts: Are totally acceptable in Croatia. Your comfort is your priority, and dresses are great for packing easy outfits.

Underwear and Socks: Bring five sets. Bamboo or cotton/nylon-blend socks dry faster than 100-percent cotton, which lose their softness when air-dried.

Shoes: Bring at least one pair of comfortable walking shoes with good traction. Keep in mind that the street quality will not always be the best. Expect cobble stones and some bumpy walkways. Sturdy, low-profile tennis shoes with a good tread are fine. For another pair, consider sandals in the summer. Whichever shoes you bring, make sure they are well broken in before you leave home.

Water Shoes: While optional, we need to inform you that most of Croatia's beaches aren't sandy, but rocky. We prefer rubber-soled water shoes to make the adventure a little easier and avoid stepping on the very painful sea urchins!

Sweater or Lightweight Fleece: Warm and dark is best — for layering and dressing up.

Jacket: Bring a light water-resistant windbreaker. European summers can spontaneously break out into a couple hours of rain before the sun returns, so it's great to be prepared. A hooded jacket of Gore-Tex or other waterproof material is perfect.

Tie or Scarf: Scarves and ties give your limited wardrobe just the color it needs. They dress up your outfit, are lightweight and easy to pack, and if purchased in Europe, make a great souvenir. Some women bring a shawl-size scarf or pashmina to function as a sweater substitute, head wrap, skirt at a church, or even a blanket on a train.

Swimsuit: For swimming in lakes, the sea, or public pools, you'll need a swimsuit.

Hats: Croatia is famous for its sun! Make sure to bring sun protection for your trip.

Sleepwear / Loungewear: Comfortable streetwear — such as shorts, leggings, T-shirts, tank tops, yoga pants, and other lightweight athletic gear — can be used as pajamas or post-dinner loungewear.

Toiletries

Toiletries Kit: Because sinks in many hotels come with meager countertop space, we suggest packing a kit that can hang on a hook or a towel bar. Be sure to pack only necessary toiletries to conserve on luggage space. For your overseas flight, put all squeeze bottles in sealable plastic bags, since pressure changes can cause even good bottles to leak. You can pack your own bar of soap or small bottle of shampoo if you want to avoid using hotel bathroom toiletries.

Medicine and Vitamins: Even if you check your suitcase on the flight, always carry on essential toiletries, including any prescription medications (don't let the time difference trick you into forgetting a dose). Keep medicine in original containers with legible prescriptions. Also, be sure to pack anti-diarrhea medication, just in case a meal doesn't sit well with you. And it's always smart to pack some ibuprofen for headaches and other minor body aches.

First-Aid Kit: Be sure to pack some Band-Aids and Neosporin for any unexpected cuts and nicks.

Glasses/ Contacts / Sunglasses: Contact-lens solution is widely available in Europe. Carry your lens prescription, as well as extra glasses, in a solid protective case. And remember to pack along sunglasses, especially if they're prescription.

Sealable Plastic Bags: In addition to holding your carry-on liquids, sealable plastic bags are ideal for packing leftover picnic food, containing wetness, and bagging potential leaks before they happen. The two-gallon jumbo size can be used to pack (and compress) clothing.

Laundry Soap: Although most large hotels have a laundry service at an additional cost to you, we recommend packing a small box or packet of concentrated, multipurpose, biodegradable liquid soap for laundry. Hotel shampoo works fine as laundry soap when doing your wash in the sink. For a spot remover, bring a few Shout wipes or a Tide to-go pen.

Small Packet of Tissues: Stick one of these in your daypack, in case you wind up at a bathroom with no toilet paper!

Accessories

Small Daypack: A lightweight pack is great for carrying your sweater, camera, guidebook, and picnic goodies while you leave your large bag at the hotel or train station. Don't use a fanny pack — they're magnets for pickpockets.

Earplugs / Noise-Canceling Headphones: If night noises bother you, you'll love a good set of expandable foam plugs or noise-canceling headphones. They're handy for snoozing on trains and flights, too.

Water Bottle: The plastic half-liter mineral water bottles sold throughout Europe are reusable and work great. If you bring one from home, make sure it's empty before you go through airport security (fill it at a drinking fountain once you're through).

Book: The flights getting to Croatia are long – be sure to pack some entertainment such as a great book, crossword puzzle book or Sudoku.

Optional Accessories:

Neck Pillow: These are great for snoozing in planes, trains, and automobiles. Some travelers also swear by an eye mask for blocking out early-rising or late-setting sun.

Insect Repellent: Bring some along if you're prone to bites and are going somewhere especially bug-ridden.

Small Lock: Use it to lock your backpack zippers shut. Note that if you check your bag on a flight, the lock may be broken to allow the bag to be inspected. Improve the odds of your lock's survival by buying one approved by the Transportation Security Administration — security agents can open the lock with a special master key. Or buy plastic locks or zip-ties to secure zippers (but be sure to pack fingernail clippers or TSA-approved scissors so you can open them when you arrive).

Small Binoculars: For scenery or church interiors.

Technology

Mobile Phone: Bring your smartphone to keep in touch with folks back home and for accessing resources on the road such as email, travel apps, and GPS. Be sure to contact your cell phone service provider prior to travel for international calling rates, as well as tips for avoiding unexpected charges during your travels.

Digital Camera: Take an extra memory card and battery, and don't forget the charger and a cable for downloading images.

Tablet / eReader: Download apps, eBooks, and music before you leave home.

Headphones / Earbuds: These are a must for listening to music, tuning in to audio tours, or simply drowning out noise on an airplane. We also suggest bringing noise-canceling headphones – they are incredible at canceling out any unwanted background noise. Pro-tip: Bring a Y-jack so you and a partner can plug in headphones at the same time.

Chargers, Converters, and Batteries: For each device that you pack, bring its charger, or look into getting a charger capable of charging multiple devices at once. You will also need an electrical adapter/converter to use your American volt appliances. Power supply: 220 V, frequency: 50 Hz – this is the same as the rest of continental Europe.

Other

Money: Bring your debit card, as well as a widely accepted credit card, such as MasterCard or Visa. Remember to contact your debit and credit card companies prior to traveling to let them know the dates you will be traveling outside the United States. Also, be sure to bring US dollars in various denominations.

There are various currencies used in Croatia and surrounding countries. Here is a simple list for your reference: *Croatia: kuna (KN), Albania: lek (lekë), Bosnia & Hercegovina: convertible mark (KM), Kosovo: euro (€), Montenegro: euro (€), North Macedonia: denar (MKD), Serbia: dinar (RSD), Slovenia: euro (€).*

Money belt: This flat, hidden, zippered pouch — worn around your waist (or like a necklace) and tucked under your clothes — is great for the peace of mind it brings. We also suggest purchasing a money belt that is lightweight and neutral in color.

Travel Documents: Pack your airplane, train, and rental car documents and vouchers in an easily accessible area in your bag. Also be sure to pack your valid passport, driver's license, and any other useful forms of identification. Include a copy of your driver's license, passport, and credit cards in one of your carry on bags (the one that does not contain the hard copies of these documents). Also, pack a record of all reservations (print out your hotel confirmation emails) and bring health and travel insurance contact information.

Guidebooks and Maps: Pack the vital travel information you'll need on the ground (or download it into your phone). Rip out appropriate chapters from guidebooks and staple them together, or use special slide-on laminated book covers.

Journal and Pen: An empty book to be filled with the experiences of your trip will be your most treasured souvenir. Attach a photocopied calendar page of your itinerary. Use a hardbound type designed to last a lifetime, rather than a floppy spiral notebook.