

Africa & Indian Ocean Packing List



Practical information for your journey

Once you've booked your expedition, it's time to start thinking about what to pack to be ready for anything throughout your trip!

When travelling on an Expedition Voyage, many of the experiences will involve Zodiac® cruising and remote areas ashore. It's important to be prepared with the proper clothing and gear.

The list below has been curated by our Expedition Experts to help you prepare the right gear, which is essential for your adventure.



What to pack

LIFE ONBOARD

Experience the ultimate luxury expedition vacation onboard our expedition ships, shipboard attire is always casual.

During the day, casual wear, similar to five-star resort sportswear, is suitable for daytime activities. Shoes should be non-skid, flat, or low-heeled for deck activities.

Evening attire falls into two categories: **Casual**: open-neck shirts, trousers, and sports outfits are appropriate, with the exception that jeans and shorts are not permitted in The Restaurant. **Informal**: On informal evenings, ladies may choose to wear a dress or pantsuit, while gentlemen must wear a jacket in indoor spaces. A tie is optional.

ESSENTIALS CLOTHING ITEMS

When travelling on an Expedition Voyage, many of the experiences will involve Zodiac® cruising and remote areas ashore. It's important to be prepared with the proper clothing and gear. or additional expedition gear visit [Ship to Shore](#).

Here are the most important items to have with you:

Tops

- **Shirts**: Protect from sun, heat and insects. Pack quick-drying, breathable long-sleeve shirts. Choose light colours as dark shades can attract mosquitoes. We also suggest a shirt with UV protection.
- **Rash guard or ozone top**: Keep the core warm while snorkeling and stay safe from sunburn and stinger.s
- **Rain jacket/poncho**: Bring a lightweight rain jacket or rain poncho to stay dry during sudden downpours.
- **A light-weight loft jacket, pullover or vest**: Feather-light and compact for easy packing. Loft garments are water-repellent and windproof, and ideal garments to stay warm on cool evenings. Fleece is also a good option.

Bottoms

- **Trousers**: Travel with ease and flexibility in lightweight, fast-drying convertible trousers.
- **Shorts**: Pack comfortable, loose-fitting and breathable shorts. These are not recommended for women as shorts may be considered a moral offense in many areas.
- **Pareos/sarongs**: The most versatile garment in the tropics. Wear as a skirt, a wrap, or to sit on.
- **Light weight waterproof trousers**: Breathable and quick-drying to stay dry during sudden downpours during hikes.

Hat

- Shade from the sun by wearing a wide-brimmed hat with a chin-strap to secure your hat while on Zodiac® rides.

Footwear

- **Water sandals**: Sturdy sandals that don't chafe when wet are essential expedition wear. Add socks by night to reduce insect bites. Water sandals are essential to protect your feet while near coral and sharp stone beaches.
- **Hiking/ Walking shoes**: Shoes with breathable materials, sturdy soles and good traction are essential expedition wear.

ACCESSORIES

- **Backpack**: Lightweight and water resistant: Silversea provides onboard complimentary water-resistant backpacks for carrying personal items ashore and ensuring embarkation and disembarkation of the Zodiacs.
- **Seal-proof waterproof bags**: Heavy-duty plastic used to store camera, binoculars, phone and more in the backpack.
- **Trekking poles**: A lightweight, collapsible walking staff (also called a trekking pole) provides a sense of security, and increases balance, and confidence when walking on rugged terrain.
- **Binoculars**: For spotting birds and other wildlife. These are an essential part of the field gear and will enhance the experience.

ALSO RECOMMENDED

- A pair of good sunglasses or goggles with UV filter protection.
- Protective lotion for lips, hands and face. We recommend minimum 50 SPF.
- Camera, film, memory cards and extra batteries. Bring more film and/or memory cards. Certain film types will be difficult to purchase or unavailable once the trip begins. Test the camera before leaving home to ensure it's working properly, and pack the manual for reference should unexpected problems arise.
- Consider bringing a camera beanbag to support a 300mm+ lens to help stabilise the shots.
- Insect repellent.
- Motion sickness remedies.
- Spare contact lenses or glasses .
- Reading and writing materials.

OTHER ITEMS TO PACK

Some toiletries are available in the Boutique onboard, as well as limited quantities and varieties of film and batteries for the camera. However, we do suggest to pack a substantial supply of essential items since they may be unavailable in foreign ports and remote destinations.

Also, be sure to bring an ample supply of over-the-counter medications and prescription drugs in the carry-on hand luggage.