



Documentation: Important Documents

The information provided below came from the U.S. Department of State's Traveler's Checklist. Find the original checklist, visit www.travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/before-you-go/travelers-checklist.html.

- Safeguard all documents by making two copies of all travel documents
 - Leave one copy behind with a trusted friend or relative.
 - Carry the other copy separately from original documents.
- Passport
 - If you need one, apply for a new passport several month in advance.
 - If you have one, make sure that it is valid at least six months after your return home and that it has two blank pages.
 - Note: This depends on your destination. Some countries may not let you enter even if you meet their requirements.
 - Keep your passport separate from your money.
 - Mobile Passport Control (MPC) is available to U.S. citizens and Canadian visitors. For more information on MPC, visit www.cbp.gov/travel/us-citizens/mobile-passport-control.
- Visas
 - Check if the country you are traveling to requires a visa. Contact the country's embassy for information regarding visa requirements.
- Medications
 - Check if the prescription drugs or U.S. over-the-counter medications are illegal in the country you're traveling to by contacting the country's embassy.
 - Always carry your prescription medication in original packaging with your doctor's prescription.
- Travel with minors
 - Traveling with minors requires custody documents or notarized written consent. Contact the country's embassy for more information.
- International driving permit
 - Many countries don't recognize a U.S. driver's license. You may want to consider obtaining an International Driving Permit (IDP) as well as supplemental auto insurance.
 - Learn more about an International Driving Permit by visiting www.aaa.com/vacation/idpf.html.
 - Learn more about driving and road safety abroad by visiting www.travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/before-you-go/driving-and-road-safety.html.

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- Other documentation to consider
 - Bring along a copy of your flight itinerary and hotel information. You may be asked to fill out an entry card when you first arrive in a foreign country with information about where you will be staying during the trip.
- Health care professionals
 - Make copies of all active professional licenses.
 - Have a copy of standing orders, plan of care, medical supplies and usage, EAP, etc.

An external hard drive, flash/thumb drive, or web-based document apps are good ways to back up all documents in addition to the hard copies.

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