



Cruise Tips

CRUISE APP'S

Download the App for your cruise line from the app store.

Create an account, log in, enter your booking number.

Each lead guest in each room should have an account

Explore your ship, consider Shore Excursions and onboard extras!

Drink Packages, Specialty Dining In-Room Gifts or water.

You will purchase through the app with most cruise lines. We can help also.

When trying to plan a show or specialty dining, you may schedule it through the app. If the app indicated it is sold out, do not be discouraged as many cruise lines have availability to schedule when you get onboard.

14 to 30 days prior you will complete your online check in. Days vary by cruise line.

During check in, you will set a Port Arrival Time reservation and upload your travel document information, emergency contacts, credit card for all onboard purchases and other preferences.

Cell Phones

While you are at sea, always place your phone and ALL connected devices on Airplane Mode to avoid costly roaming charges, Phones, Tablets, Watches Connect to the ships **Wi-Fi** to use their app while onboard. Has many benefits.

Contact your cell phone carrier and ask about their **International Day Pass**

Most carriers have this option and does not cost a monthly fee, you must request it to be on your account. **International Day Pass** will allow you to use your phone as if you were at home for about \$10 per day while at a destination. Always put your phone in airplane mode when back onboard the ship and reconnect to ship **Wi-Fi** and their app.

There are several Wi-Fi options available for purchase from your cruise line depending on how you plan to use your device while on your cruise.

A streaming plan will be needed for video calls like Facetime or What's App.

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Credit Cards/ Cash

Onboard the ship, ALL transactions are Cashless. During your online check in, you should have entered a credit card for all onboard purchases, some have a cash option. All purchases are charged to your CRUISE card. You can check your onboard account daily to verify all transactions are correct. The final night all charges will be finalized too the credit card input during check in. Visit guest services if any charge looks incorrect or add an additional card to be put on file.

Checked / Carry-On Bags

Always keep your travel documents with you. Passport, Birth Certificate, Visa **DO NOT PACK IN YOUR CHECKED LUGGAGE** Keep in your carry-on bag. Take a carry-on bag for your important stuff. Never put expensive items or electronics in your checked bags like Prescriptions, change of clothes, swim suit, and cash. Refer to your particular cruise line for more details and FAQ's

Arrival at Port Terminal

Whether you drive or arrive by bus transportation to the port, you will stop and drop your **Checked Bags** with the porters. Be sure your luggage tag is securely installed to the top handle. I generally tip the porters a small amount. \$5 for a few bags generally. Keep your carry-on bag and proceed upstairs to security.

Security screening is like what is at an airport, some use Dogs also. You will be asked for your travel documents as you enter the line, go through the screening process, and then proceed to the check-in counter.

At the check-in counter a friendly staff member will get you all checked in. You will need all you travel documents for each guest. They may take a photo of each guest as well. Your Cruise Card may be given to you at this time, or some cruise lines have them at you stateroom, so no worries. You might receive a **Group Boarding Number**

After you have all checked in, have a seat, and wait for your boarding group number is called to board the ship.

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Boarding the Ship

After you board the ship, I'm sure your hungry and excited to get the fun started. Start by getting those shows scheduled as soon as you get onboard 1st thing. Ask a crew member where you schedule this from, they will give you the location to visit. Some cruise lines have Touchscreens Boards you can schedule you reservations.

Lunch is always available in the buffets, and some select restaurants.

Generally, your staterooms will not be available to go to until 1:30 or 2:00 pm.

If you did not get your cruise card at check in and have not gone to your room yet, you can show a copy of your cruise boarding pass, to get your purchases until then.

You should receive your luggage in the early afternoon, it will be delivered to your stateroom, left in front of the door.

Setting Sail

Muster Drill

Now you have scheduled your shows or specialty dining, explored the ship maybe had a cocktail or 2 you must complete your **Muster Drill** before the ship sets sail. Each cruise line does them differently. Your Muster Station is located on the back of your stateroom door. Life Jackets are usually in the top of the closet. Your **Muster Station** will also be listed on your **Cruise Card**. Some have you watch a video on your stateroom tv, through the App and then visit the Muster Station and check in with the crew member, others still shut everything down and everyone go to the station at the same time.

Sail Away Party

Most cruise lines have a Sail Away party on the main pool deck, weather permitting. Don't miss out on this fun.

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Cell Phone

Time to set your phone to **Vacation Mode**, I mean Airplane Mode and connect to the ships Wi-Fi and App. The ships app has many features like daily activities, shows, can look at your cruise account and some will allow you to message. Log in and play around with it and get familiar with the features.

Port Stops

When visiting Ports of Call, every time you leave the ship, **ALWAYS** take your **Cruise Card** and a Government issued **ID**. I take a picture of my passport and leave it on the ship, you should take your Passport with you if not sure. I also have a **Passport Card** I use as my id, many use their Driver License.

Re-Boarding the ship, you will go through security, If you purchased alcohol or some items, you may have to claim check it at this time. If so, you can pick it up on the last day of the cruise before you disembark the ship. Ask a crew member for this location.

Port Adventures Planned

Your Port Adventure Tickets should be in your stateroom when you arrive. Be sure to take the ticket with you when checking in. The check in/ meeting location and time will be on the ticket. Arrive early, don't be that guest who delays others from having fun. Make sure you check the dress code for specific clothing that might be required. Some activities require closed toe shoes, long pants and even no tank tops.

Place Holders

All cruise lines have a desk for future cruise planning. If you plan to cruise again with this same cruise line within 2 years, you can make a deposit on it and not set a date. You cannot get rates this low after you leave the ship. Most, allow you 1 year to set the date and another year to complete the cruise. We do this on every cruise. Some cruise line will allow each guest in the stateroom to book up to 2 per person. Check with the crew member for all that cruise line particular details.

If you used a Travel Agent, let them know at this time so your agent will be notified.

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Tipping

Please tip those who take good care of you on your cruise vacation. Your stateroom host, servers and waiters are not paid very well, they depend on this as extra income. When getting drinks from bars and presenting your cruise card, gratuities will automatically be added to the cost of the drink. If you have a drink package, the server will get their tip, it just will not be on your final bill.

Gratuities or Service Fees, whatever it may be called, it is good to pre-pay your Gratuities prior to your cruise. If not, you will be charged for them anyway, possibly daily or on the last day. Generally, it is approximately \$18 per day per person. If a crew member is giving excellent service, please reward them.

Disembarkation

The day has come, your cruise is over. Time to go back home and do all the cooking and cleaning yourself again, even go back to work. You will get Disembarkation instructions left in your stateroom towards the end of your cruise. This also includes setting your luggage out by a certain time on the last night, keep your carry-on for next day clothes and bathroom supplies. You will pick up your luggage in the Customs area after leaving the ship prior to going through Customs.

Self- Disembarkation means you carry your own luggage off the ship and can leave the ship as soon as the ship is cleared by US Customs.

Make sure you eat breakfast prior to leaving the ship.

Safe Travels Home.

If you have any questions, please visit the FAQ's of your specific cruise line. These are Adventure Dreams Travel personal experiences by cruising many different cruise lines. These tips are subject to change without any advance notice and Adventure Dreams Travel is not responsible for your lack of planning.

Book All Your Cruises with Adventure Dreams Travel or Trusted Travel Agent in your area. Support a Local Business.

We NEVER charge our clients an extra fee for our services.

We get paid by the cruise line.