

Pre-Cruise Checklist

Item	When to do it	Done?	Notes
Check passport validity & visa / ESTA requirements	Before booking		
Book time off work / school	Before booking		
Arrange pet or house care	Before booking		
Advise cruise line of dietary needs / accessibility	When you book		
Choose dining time & cabin preferences	When you book		
Buy travel insurance	Straight after booking		
Download the cruise line app	Straight after booking		
Book flights (if needed)	Straight after booking		
Book parking, transfers & hotel	Straight after booking		
Plan port days & book excursions	A few months before		
Book drinks package / key onboard activities	A few months before		
Pay cruise balance	By final payment date		
Complete online check-in	When check-in opens		
Arrange foreign currency	A few weeks before		
Check roaming or buy eSIM	A few weeks before		
Buy cruise clothing & toiletries	A few weeks before		
Download boarding passes & documents	A few days before		
Check weather forecast	A few days before		
Pack suitcases	A few days before		
Send itinerary to a trusted contact	A few days before		
Check in for flights (if applicable)	Day before		
Set out-of-office	Day before		