

International Travel

Step 1

Do your research.

Look for inspiration on social media, ask friends about their last great vacation, and browse through travel books. Consider your budget, travel companions, goals, and comfort level.

Don't forget to check the State Department's up-to-date [Travel Advisory and Alerts](#).

Step 2

Learn the visa requirements.

Some countries require a visa issued by their embassy. Find [visa requirements](#) and embassy contacts for your destination through the State Department.

Step 3

Check your passport.

Your passport should be valid for at least six months after you return home and have at least two consecutive blank pages. If you need to renew yours, plan ahead. The process can take several months.

Keep track of multiple passports for each family member in Trustworthy, including expiration date reminders and country-specific renewal instructions for select countries.

Step 4

Make a reservation.

Plan months in advance to find the best travel deals.

Step 5

Get required immunizations.

Check the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) to learn which shots are required for your destination. Make an appointment with your primary care doctor at least one month before you travel.

Upload your documentation to Trustworthy. That way, it will always be at your fingertips.

Step 6

Line up childcare and a house and/or pet-sitter.

If your child isn't traveling with you, figure out reliable childcare as soon as possible. Choose someone whom your child feels comfortable with. To find a house or pet-sitter, ask friends or family members for recommendations. Always meet in person to make sure they're the right fit.

Blending families? Trustworthy offers multi-household access, so you can connect with an unlimited number of family members from your account.

Step 7

Make two copies of these important documents.

In case of an emergency, keep one copy at home and another with you, but separate from the original document:

- Your passport
- Your children's passports
- Visa to enter a foreign country (if applicable)
- Consent to travel with minors (if only one parent is traveling)
- Documentation for medication
- International Driving Permit (IDP)
- Supplemental auto insurance (if needed)

Upload these documents to Trustworthy as well. We're the only platform that offers a centralized view of your family's essential information. Sync between devices to instantly access what you need.

Step 8

Choose travel insurance.

Expect to spend between 4-10 percent of your trip's costs for benefits like trip delay coverage and emergency evacuation benefits.

Once you have your policy, keep a copy in Trustworthy. We're the only online service that exceeds industry standards for security and privacy.

Step 9

Notify credit card companies.

Check your card issuer's website to set up a travel notice. Be ready to provide the dates you'll be traveling and the countries you'll be visiting.

Trustworthy.

Step 10

Check international cell coverage.

Contact your mobile provider about an international plan. You can also buy or rent a SIM card and install it on your phone once you arrive at your destination.

Tip: Make sure that your phone is “unlocked,” meaning that you can use it with any cellular provider.

Step 11

Pack wisely.

Check your airline’s luggage requirements. Keep essentials with you in your carry-on. Don’t forget the essentials to stay connected: a universal travel adapter, portable backup charger and WiFi mobile hotspot.

Step 12

Buy local currency.

The best exchange rates and cheapest fees will be at your local bank or credit union. Otherwise, withdraw money from an ATM during your trip, preferably one that’s affiliated with your bank.