



## SUGGESTIONS FOR YOUR CRUISE VACATION.....

*You are about to embark on your exciting Cruise Vacation! Whether this is your first or fifteenth cruise, it is always a good idea to plan carefully for your trip. The following information is to help you enjoy your cruise to the fullest!*

### DRESS...

**D**uring your days on board ship or in port, casual dress is the order of the day. For **ladies**, this means ! slacks ! jeans, ! shorts, ! sundresses, ! casual shirts or blouses, and ! comfortable shoes. **Men** would be comfortable in ! slacks, ! jeans, ! shorts, ! casual shirts, and, once again, ! comfortable shoes. For around the pool, we suggest ! shoes with nonskid soles, ! a swimsuit coverup and if you are planning on swimming, bring ! two swimsuits so you'll always have a dry one. Also the ship will have a gym as well as several exercise classes available, so be sure to pack your ! workout clothes and shoes.

To plan on what to wear in the evenings, please consult your brochure or your Cruise Adventures Travel Company Cruise Counselor. On most 3 or 4 night cruises, there is one formal night and on 7 night cruises, there are usually two formal nights and one semiformal night Other evenings are generally informal/casual or, on certain cruiselines themed (! country/western, ! 50's/60's). On **informal** evenings, casual resort wear is acceptable. For **women**, this means ! slacks or knit pants, ! dresses, ! skirts and casual shirts or blouses. For **men**, this could consist of ! slacks, ! sport or button down shirts and possibly a ! sports coat (please check with your Cruise Adventures Travel Company Counselor if a jacket is required in the dining room on board the ship you have selected. For **semiformal evenings**, **women** might select a ! dress, or ! nice skirt and blouse ensemble, or even a nice ! pantsuit. **Men** should wear ! slacks, ! dress shirt, ! coat and a ! tie. During the **formal evenings**, **women** should wear a ! cocktail or evening dress or ! pantsuit, and **men** should wear a ! dark suit, or if they prefer a ! tuxedo. Occasionally, there is a costume or theme night on a cruise. Please have your Cruise Adventures Travel Company Cruise Counselor check whether your cruise has any planned theme nights, so you can pack accordingly.

### PACKING...

### REMEMBER THE BASICS.....

! Undergarments ! Eyeglasses

! Sunglasses and Sunscreen  
! Prescriptions ! Address book  
! Swimsuits (2) ! Robe & Pajamas  
! Rainwear (Alaska)  
! Binoculars (Alaska)  
! Camera Equipment

### CHOOSE THE ACCESSORIES.....

! Hosiery ! Neckties ! Handbags  
! Light Jacket ! Sweaters  
! Costume Jewelry ! Shoes  
! Tote/Beach Bag ! Hats, Gloves, Scarves (Alaska)

**O**n most ships the electrical outlets will handle ! electrical shavers. However, it is wise to bring along a safety razor for emergencies. Almost all ships are equipped for 110 volt electricity suitable for ! small hand-held hair dryers, ! electric razors, ! curling irons, and ! travel irons. Your cruise ship may have a built in hair dryer. If you are cruising on an older ship or in Europe, please ask your Cruise Adventures Travel Company Cruise Counselor to check whether it can accommodate your appliances. Other items you may find handy on your cruise are ! a small first aid kit, ! manicure set, ! sewing kit (with a few extra buttons and a pair of scissors), ! shoe polishing kit, a ! small travel clothes line and clothes pins, and some ! plastic bags for your dirty clothes. Dry cleaning or laundry services are available on most ships. Self serve laundry facilities are also available on many ships; you can buy laundry detergent in the laundry room. Please ask your Cruise Counselor to check for you on the services available on your cruise. If you forget anything...sunglasses, extra blades, toothpaste, deodorant, sunscreen, or even a camera, you can probably purchase it in the ship's store.

### PROGRAM...

**E**very day a program of schedule events on board the ship will be delivered to your cabin. In order that you fully enjoy the cruise, it is suggested that you read the program prior to the start of your day, so you do not miss any activities in which you may wish to participate. The program will also inform you of the dining hours and the dress for the evening

### DINING...

**O**n most ships, you may choose Early or Late Dining for your evening meal. Both breakfast and lunch now can usually be eaten in open seating between specific posted hours. You may enjoy breakfast or lunch in either the dining room or in the more casual café. Early dining is usually between 6:00 to 6:30p.m. and Late dining is usually 8:00 to 8:30 p.m. Some cruiselines also now offer alternative options: 1. Personal choice dining where you may choose when and where you dine each evening; 2. Alternative restaurants onboard. (Please be aware that in the alternative restaurants, there usually is a charge as you are not dealing with your regular waitstaff. Before reserving in these restaurants, we recommend that you check on the charge.) There is usually no charge for iced tea or punch, but soft drinks and other bar drinks will be charged to your account. Wine may also be ordered with your meals.

### BRIEFINGS...

**T**here will be briefings held during your cruise to inform you about the ports you will be visiting as well as the availability of OPTIONAL shore excursions. There will also be a briefing towards the end of the cruise to explain details about disembarkation and custom procedures. The times and the location of these briefings will be announced in your ship program, and it is highly suggested you attend to get the necessary information.

### CURRENCY...

**U**nited States currency will be readily accepted on board ship and at all ports in the Caribbean, Mexico, or Alaska. We highly recommend that you carry your funds in the form of traveler's checks. **Personal checks are not accepted on board most cruise ships.** Most ships required that you set up an account by using a credit card, and then have all purchases billed to your cabins. You have the option on the last night of your cruise to either pay cash or have the purchases billed directly to your credit card. This will eliminate the need to carry cash on board the ship. Some ships now have ATM's or you can get a cash advance at the Purser's Desk. Please ask Cruise Adventures to check available options .

## **TIPPING...**

**W**hile each ship varies, average guidelines for your cruise are as follows: cabin steward and dining room waiter \$2.50 to \$3.50 per passenger, per day; busboy \$1.50 to \$2.00 per passenger per day. The Maitre' de or head waiter may be tipped depending on how attentive they are to you or if they provided any special services (such as birthday or special anniversary celebrations). Gratuity envelopes are provided in your cabin for tipping your cabin steward, waiter, and busboy on the last night of the cruise. On some cruise lines, tipping is included on your onboard account at a standard rate per day applying to the cabin steward and your dining room staff. This may be adjusted, if you desire, at the Purser's Desk. Bar stewards and wine stewards receive 10 - 15% gratuities which are usually included in your bar bills, so please read them carefully.

## **SHORE EXCURSIONS....**

**S**hore excursions are **OPTIONAL** and may be booked onboard at the Tour or Shore Excursion Desk. On certain itineraries or cruiselines, you may receive port information and shore excursion information in advance and you may be able to preselect and book them in advance. There is limited availability for shore excursions, so we advise if you are particularly interested in a shore excursion, book in advance. If you change your mind, you may cancel the shore excursion without penalty as long as it is done by the deadline posted by the Shore Excursion desk. You may also make changes to your prebooked excursions onboard. Certain cruiselines allow you to prebook or prepay for your shore excursions online; others charge them to your onboard account **AFTER** you have taken the excursion. For cruiselines that do not provide advance information, generally your shore excursion booklet will come with your final cruise documents and may be booked onboard.

## **OTHER FAQ'S...**

*! Is a jacket required every night for dinner on board the ship I have selected?*

*! How many formal and semiformal nights will there be?*

*! Are there any theme nights or special activities I should prepare for?*

*! Would a tuxedo be more appropriate on this particular ship than a dark suit?*

*! Does my ship have 110 voltage?*

*! Does my cabin have a hairdryer in it?*

*! Does my cabin have a safe?*

*! Is there a self service laundry onboard? If not, what type of laundry facilities are available?*

***The Crew of Cruise Adventures  
Travel Company Wish You Bon  
Voyage and Smooth Sailing!!***