

POWDERHOUNDS

CHECKLIST OF THINGS TO PACK ON A SKI OR SNOWBOARD HOLIDAY OR VACATION

The following is a check-list of items you may need or want to take on an (overseas) snow holiday or vacation. Obviously everyone's holiday is somewhat different, so everyone will want to pack different items. This is just a guide of all the potential things you might manage to pack into your baggage allowance!

Check your airline's luggage restrictions, as there have been some changes over the past few years such that ski and board equipment is no longer counted separately. Many airlines have an economy class baggage limit of 20-23kg, within which you'll need to pack your ski or board gear. You might need to pack your boots in a separate bag, and hope that they'll be lenient and check them for you. If not, you'll have to take them on as cabin baggage. If you're not flying anywhere, then go for it with your packing!

Ski/board equipment (if not renting)

- skis (fat skis if heading to a great powder destination)
- snowboard
- ski/board boots
- ski poles

Skiing and board accessories

- powder ribbons or straps (if going to destinations with very deep powder)
- lift pass holder (if going to resorts that provide little cardboard tickets e.g. various resorts in Hokkaido such as Furano, or low key South America ski resorts)
- board leash
- wax and iron if you want to DIY, petex
- ski holder strap to hold your skis together
- ski/board lock
- boot/hand warmers

Skiing/boarding clothing

- face mask – if going to a particularly cold or windy destination such as Niseko or Lake Louise
- hood or hooded top if going somewhere particularly cold
- neck warmer (neck gaiter)
- thermal pants (not cotton as it captures the moisture), Skins or equivalent
- thermal top or other under-layer (not cotton as it captures the moisture)
- fleece/s – vest and long-sleeve
- helmet
- goggles
- headband (or ear muffs if you're game!)
- beanie
- ski/board jacket
- ski/board pants
- jacket hood (if not attached)
- ski/snowboard gloves
- silk or merino wool glove inners – particularly useful if taking photos or video footage
- glove protectors (if going to a resort with nutcrackers e.g. New Zealand club fields)
- ski/snowboard socks

Safety gear

- avalanche transceiver (beacon)
- shovel
- probe
- backpack

Other clothing

- “going out” clothes
- “going out” gloves
- non slip shoes +/- shoe chains for extra grip
- slippers
- bathers
- sleeping clothes
- underwear
- socks

Other things for the ski/board jacket

- sunscreen
- lip balm
- tissues
- goggle wiper
- wipe cloth

“First aid”

- Ibuprofen (Nurofen) or other anti-inflammatory drugs, other painkillers
- bandaids, sports tape or water-proof dressings
- Lomotil and Stemetil (if going to a place like India)
- medications (and prescriptions)
- knee braces
- Zovirax (coldsore) lip cream
- vitamins such as A,C,E, zinc, Echinacea (preferably combined in one tablet)

Toiletries

- nail scissors
- face moisturiser
- hair conditioner
- shampoo
- deodorant
- massage oil
- toothpaste and toothbrush (if not in cabin luggage)
- comb or hair brush and hair accessories
- hair product
- shaving gear
- cosmetics

Luggage

- boot bag (may need to take this on as cabin luggage)
- ski or board bag (preferably on wheels)
- suitcase or bag (if able to take 2 bags on the plane)
- luggage locks
- luggage tags

Electronics

- mobile phone and charger
- still camera and charger
- video camera and charger
- spare battery for camera/video
- tri-pod
- spare memory cards for cameras
- memory stick to back-up photos/videos
- electrical adapters
- GPS transponder (if not on your phone)
- walkie talkies (can't use them in Japan)

- iPod, charger cord and radio adapter for car (if not on your phone)
- iPad or laptop and charger
- power board for all these chargers
- travel alarm if not taking mobile phone
- hairdryer (check if voltage appropriate for the country)

Other

- portable clothes line
- spare credit card
- phrase book
- notes off Powderhounds website
- sunglasses
- photocopy of passport, visa and airline ticket
- travel insurance information
- octopus straps if likely to travel in a taxi or a train
- drivers license
- playing cards
- cotton and thread
- bag for wet ski gear and/or dirty clothing

Cabin luggage

- passport and visa if required
- airline tickets
- itinerary and reservation confirmations
- maps and directions
- toiletries for cabin luggage in small sealed plastic bag including toothbrush & small toothpaste
- sleeping tablets/pain medication
- ear plugs
- blow up cushion
- eye shades
- book, kindle or equivalent
- wallet, credit card & cash
- eye glasses or contact lenses (and accessories in main luggage)
- don't pack razors, scissors, matches etc – check for prohibited items

Things to do before travel:

- make sure passport is valid for at least 6 months
- organise any visas required
- get any necessary vaccinations (e.g. if travelling to India)
- organise international drivers license if necessary (e.g. Japan, South America)
- email your itinerary to yourself in case you lose it
- set mobile phone to international roam
- check electrical adapters required for the country
- photocopy passport, visa and tickets
- leave itinerary/contact information with family member and leave photocopy of passport
- consider currency exchange for at least a small amount of cash
- pay off credit card
- pay bills
- organise mail to be collected or “stopped”
- organise travel insurance
- set up pet care