



Darek's Packing List

FOR ANY SEASON OR TRIP

clothing

SHIRTS: Bring up to 4 short and/or long-sleeved dark color shirts in a cotton/polyester blend.

SWEATER: 1 warm and dark color is best for layering and dressing up. It never looks wrinkled and is always dark, no matter how dirty it gets.

PANTS: 2 pairs: one lightweight cotton and another super-lightweight for hot and muggy big cities, and churches with modest dress codes. Jeans are still my favorite. **NOTE:** Jeans take long time to dry.

UNDERWEAR/socks: Bring 4 sets (lighter colors dry quicker).

SHOES: Take well-used, light, and cool pair, with strong soles and good traction. I like low-profile comfortable shoes with a good tread.

JACKET: Bring a light and water-resistant windbreaker with a hood. **NOTE:** a good, multipurpose jacket can replace a need for sweater.

other

MONEY: Bring your preferred mix of credit/debit cards, an ATM card, and some hard cash. Bring American dollars for situations when you want to change only a few bucks.

DOCUMENTS AND PHOTOCOPIES: Email digital copies of passport, credit/debit cards, and the itinerary to yourself. Paper/digital copies help you get replacements if the original items are lost or stolen. Carry photocopies separately in your luggage.

CAMERA: Put a new battery in your camera before you go. Store everything in a low-profile nylon bag, not an expensive-looking camera bag. Small but good digital camera is best. **NOTE:** use camera on your cell phone; it is probably as good as any stand-alone camera!

other cont.

PHONE: My mobile phone works in Europe and calls or text messaging are better value than calling from a hotel or using a calling card. If you want to use calling cards, do not buy one until you get to Europe (those purchased in the US are not always working as advertised).

ZIP-LOCK BAGS: Get a variety of sizes for 1,001 uses. They are great for packing out a little lunch from the breakfast buffet, leftover picnic food, containing wet clothing or items, and bagging potential leaks before they happen. The 2-gallon jumbo size is handy for packing clothing.

WATER BOTTLE: The plastic .5-liter mineral water bottles sold throughout Europe are reusable and work great. Alternatively, keep a water bottle that you got on your flight.

MEDICINE: Keep in original containers, if possible, with legible prescriptions.

SMALL TOWEL: Face towels are rare in Europe.