

Road Trip Preparation Checklist

FOUR WEEKS+ BEFORE DEPARTURE

- ☐ **Schedule a Vehicle Appointment (or check over yourself)**
 - this gives you enough time to book a secondary before departure
- ☐ **Inspect**
 - set up all of your gear and inspect for damage
 - this includes clothing, packs, tents, and trailer
 - decide what needs to be repaired or replaced
- ☐ **Repair and Replace**
 - repair holes in tents and screens, apply waterproofing
 - fix or schedule service for trailer (or check over yourself)
 - replace worn out or damaged gear (this gives you time to shop for the best equipment and prices)
- ☐ **Check Your Travel Documents**
 - confirm what travel documents will be required to reach your destination (passport, visa, etc.) and make sure they won't expire while travelling
- ☐ **Book Home Care**
 - schedule someone to house sit or check on the property
 - schedule the suspension of services such as mail, internet, etc.
- ☐ **Schedule Appointments for Any Vaccinations***
 - *typically vaccinations need to be administered at least 30 days before border crossings for dogs
 - check for any requirements for crossing borders or at your destination at least six months in advance and keep watching for changes or updates
- ☐ **Check Medications**
 - ensure there is enough medications for all humans and animals
 - book appointments or order refills if needed

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Road Trip Preparation Checklist

THREE WEEKS BEFORE DEPARTURE

- ☐ **Take Stock of Food**
 - look over dried foods for spoilage
- ☐ **Restock**
 - restock shelf-stable foods and snacks
 - avoid buying items that were not used the previous year
- ☐ **Dehydrate**
 - if you have a dehydrator or an oven with a dehydrate function, start to dehydrate foods now
- ☐ **Redeem Loyalty Program Points**
 - points can be used for gas cards, attractions, lodging, etc.

TWO WEEKS BEFORE DEPARTURE

- ☐ **For The Dogs**
 - check over dog food and treats, plan for more than you think you'll need
 - if feeding a specialty diet, determine where there are locations to buy more
- ☐ **Home Instructions**
 - start preparing a list of instructions for anyone caring for or checking on the home
 - include insurance info and any service providers (gas, water, electric, etc.)
- ☐ **Start Clearing Out The Fridge**
 - start using up all the perishables
 - avoid buying foods that won't be eaten before leaving
- ☐ **Lawn Care**
 - plan the best time to mow the lawn if applicable

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Road Trip Preparation Checklist

ONE WEEK BEFORE DEPARTURE

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Wash Up

- wash all bedding and clothing
- sleeping bags may need commercial cleaning
- wash dishes, cutlery, and cooking utensils

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Charge Up

- start charging electronic devices (store with charging cables)
- check for software/hardware updates

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First Aid

- check over and restock first aid kits
- pack extra of the most used items

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Vehicle Checkover

- pre-departure oil change and checkover

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Road Safety Kit

- check over road safety kit
- pack tire inflator and booster cables (at a bare minimum)

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Clean the Vehicle

- remove everything that is not needed for the trip
- give the glass and interior a good cleaning

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Cash Out

- purchase local currency if needed

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Device Care

- clear storage on devices and download apps/podcasts/maps etc.
- buy eSim if leaving cell area (prevents or reduces roaming charges)

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Road Trip Preparation Checklist

THE DAY BEFORE DEPARTURE

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Prep Food and Cooler

- wash, cut, and pack any perishable foods, organize in fridge for easy loading
- discard or pack food that will spoil while on the trip
- pre-chill cooler with ice or frozen water bottles

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Pack Up

- pack your gear

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Load Up

- start loading your vehicle or trailer if it's safe to do so

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Reduce the Power

- unplug unnecessary appliances, reduce heat or A/C, set water softener to vacation mode

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Temperature Control

- set or program the temperature

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Reduce the Stink

- take out the garbage and set off mouse traps
- run the dishwasher and unload the washer/dryer

THE DAY OF DEPARTURE

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Pack the Last of the Gear

- including any valuables such as electronics and documents
- pack the cooler
- triple check to make sure you have all your documents, medications, and anything else that can't be replaced on the road

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Check the Property

- unplug remaining appliances and router
- make sure all windows, doors, and balcony's are secure
- activate programmed lights and cameras

HAVE FUN!!!!