



# Budget Planning Checklist

## Plan smarter, travel further, and stay on budget

No matter the trip length, knowing your costs ahead of time helps you travel with confidence. Use this checklist to estimate, organize, and track your travel expenses from start to finish. Adjust, add, or remove items to suit your trip.

### Transportation

#### **Getting There**

Estimate the total cost of reaching your destination.

- Flights (round-trip or one-way)
- Airport transfers / taxis to and from the airport
- Train, bus, or ferry tickets
- Checked baggage or seat selection fees
- Travel insurance add-ons related to flights
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Getting Around**

- Car rental (daily rate + insurance + fuel)
- Local trains, buses, trams, or metro passes
- Rideshare / taxi / scooter apps
- Parking fees or tolls
- Domestic flights or long-distance buses within your destination
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

 **Tip:** If you're planning multiple destinations, check whether a rail or multi-city pass could save money.

### Accommodation

Think beyond just the nightly rate — include all extras.

- Hotels, hostels, or guesthouses
- Airbnb or vacation rentals
- Camping or caravan park fees
- Cleaning or resort fees
- Taxes and service charges
- Breakfast or meal add-ons
- Security deposit (refundable)
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

 **Tip:** Multiply your nightly rate by total nights to avoid under-budgeting.

### Activities & Experiences

Plan for both must-dos and spontaneous fun.

- Guided tours or excursions
- Museum or attraction entry fees
- Outdoor adventures (diving, skiing, hiking permits, etc.)
- Cultural experiences or shows
- Equipment rental (bike, snorkel, etc.)
- Classes or workshops
- Tips for guides or instructors
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

 **Tip:** Keep a small “fun fund” for last-minute opportunities you can't resist.

## Food & Drink

These small expenses add up quickly!

- Breakfast (included or separate)
- Lunches and dinners
- Coffee, snacks, and street food
- Groceries or self-catering ingredients
- Drinks / nightlife / bar tabs
- Bottled water and tips
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

 **Tip:** Research average restaurant prices to set a realistic daily food allowance.

## Travel Insurance & Documentation

Don't skip the safety net.

- Comprehensive travel insurance (medical + trip protection)
- Health / accident insurance add-ons
- Visa or entry fees
- Passport renewal or photo costs
- Vaccinations or travel clinic visits
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## Money & Banking

Plan for how you'll access funds abroad.

- Foreign currency (cash)
- Prepaid travel cards
- ATM withdrawal fees
- Credit card foreign transaction fees
- Bank notification of travel dates
- Emergency cash reserve
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

 **Tip:** Keep backup payment options in case one card fails.

## Gear & Packing Expenses

Some gear is worth investing in before you go.

- Luggage or backpack
- Packing cubes or travel organizers
- Adapters, chargers, power banks
- Clothing / footwear suitable for climate
- Travel-sized toiletries
- Camera / GoPro / memory cards
- Reusable water bottle or travel mug
- First-aid and medication supplies
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## Before-You-Go Home Expenses

Don't forget costs you'll incur while you're away.

- Pet care or boarding
- House sitter or plant care
- Parking at airport or long-term storage
- Mail hold or forwarding service
- Subscriptions paused or prepaid bills
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## Contingency & Hidden Costs

Build in a cushion for the unexpected.

- Lost luggage replacement items
- Currency fluctuations
- Medical visits abroad
- Souvenirs and gifts
- Emergency travel changes or cancellations
- Laundry services
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

 **Tip:** Add 10–15% to your total as a safety buffer.

## Quick Budget Summary

Category	Estimated Cost	Actual Cost	Difference
Transportation			
Accommodation			
Food & Drink			
Activities & Experiences			
Insurance & Documents			
Money & Banking			
Gear & Packing			
Home Expenses			
Contingency			
<b>TOTAL</b>			

## Final Thoughts

A well-planned budget isn't about restricting your trip — it's about freeing yourself to enjoy it. Once you know what you can comfortably afford, you can make confident choices, prioritize what matters most, and leave space for a few unforgettable splurges.

## How to use this?

Find more guidance on budgeting, planning your next trip and useful travel tips on **Explorable - Journeys**.

You can also explore custom travel itineraries with suggested budgets.

Visit [www.theexplorablelife.com/explorable-journeys](http://www.theexplorablelife.com/explorable-journeys)

