



# Japan Travel Essentials Checklist

Here's a handy checklist based on all the little things I learned during my recent trip to Japan with my son. These are the things no one told me - things that would've made planning easier and travel smoother. From transport hacks to packing tips and Disney surprises, this guide is here to help you travel smarter, lighter, and with fewer surprises!

## Before You Go

- Pre-book subway passes like the 72-hour Tokyo Subway Pass.
- Check baggage allowances for both international and domestic flights.
- Pre-book excess baggage online while doing your web check-in.
- Book luggage forwarding services at least a day in advance if needed.
- Ask restaurant staff if there's a one-dish-per-person policy before sitting.
- Compare costs between airport limousine bus and Uber.
- Save hotel details in both English and Japanese.
- Carry some yen in cash for local purchases and small restaurants.

## Packing Tips

- Pack light - Japan is a shopper's paradise!
- Don't carry nightwear; most hotels provide yukata or pajamas.
- Leave out toiletries - hotels offer shampoo, toothpaste, face wash, etc.
- Bring essentials only: medications, walking shoes, universal charger.

## Local Travel & Navigation

- Use the Tokyo Subway Pass for unlimited travel on Metro and Toei lines.
- Buy occasional tickets if needed instead of reloading a Suica card.
- Keep screenshots of station names and hotel address in Japanese.
- Use apps like Google Maps or Navitime for easy navigation.
- Download a basic Japanese phrase or translator app for convenience.

## Smart Booking Tips



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- Pre-book popular experiences like museums and themed cafés.
- Avoid booking Mount Fuji tours in advance - check weather first!
- Use Klook or similar apps that offer free cancellation for flexibility.

## Disney & Entertainment

- Don't line up at 3 AM! Arrive around 11 AM for a smooth entry.
- Buy an express pass if you want to skip long ride queues.
- Enjoy the vibe, food, and parades - it's fun without the stress!

## Extra Luggage Hacks

- Buy an extra suitcase in Japan (Don Quijote, Daiso, etc.).
- Pre-book baggage online for both domestic and international flights.
- Check luggage policies before flying domestic - limits may be lower.