

# Packing Checklist

## Azores Horseback Riding Tour

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Below is a gear list of required and optional items to bring on your adventure. Try your best to avoid cotton clothing for being active in, looking instead for clothing made of nylon, polyester, wool, etc. Please ensure you check the local forecast before your trip and pack accordingly.

### Required Items

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- Main piece of luggage: doesn't need to be able to lock, unless that's important to someone.
- Sun hat (either a wide brimmed hat or baseball type cap)
- Lightweight warm hat/beanie (for colder nights and mornings around camp)
- Lightweight gloves (wool or polypro)
- Leather gloves for riding (lightweight work or gardening gloves also work well)
- Lightweight polypro thermal tops/bottoms (autumn trips)
- Polypro sweater or jacket (for cooler nights)
- Light down jacket/sweater with stuff sack (for September/October trips)
- Light wind/rain proof tops/bottoms (a MUST have item)\*\*
- Riding breeches or other comfortable fitted stretchy pants for riding
- Comfortable loose shirt (with pockets) for riding
- Lightweight pants for around the lodge

- Extra shirt for around the lodge
- Comfortable riding boots or lightweight hiking boots (Note: if you choose to bring riding boots, lightweight hiking boots are also recommended for the hikes)
- 3 pairs wool or polypro socks
- Leather or synthetic half chaps (if you have your own)
- Lightweight walking shoes or sandals for around camp
- Bandana or neck gaiter (good for extra sun and dust protection)
- Personal first aid kit and medications including pain killers and immodium
- Insect repellent (for June/July/August trips)
- Sun block and lip balm with sunscreen
- Basic Personal toiletries
- Small camp/sports towel
- Sunglasses
- Bathing suit
- Water shoes (you will likely be walking through water at the bottom of the caldera hike, but want sturdy boots for the hike itself)
- Refillable water bottles
- Alcohol-based sanitizer and face masks



Note: Individual bags on the saddle are not accepted. You will be provided with a saddle bag for a small water bottle (also provided), lip balm, sunscreen, phone.

## Optional Items

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- Sarong or light scarf (light blanket/shoulder cover)
- Small Pillow (for travelling)
- Binoculars (for bird watching)
- Pencil and Notebook/Journal
- iPod/mp3 player
- Reading material
- Camera with extra batteries and card
- Energy snacks and drinks: while snacks will be provided, you may like to bring some along too if you have special dietary needs or personal favourites.
- Chafing cream or powder (found in bicycle shops)
- Small torch/flashlight or headlamp
- Riding helmet (helmets are provided, but you can bring your own if you prefer)

## Essential Documents

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- Passport: stored in a waterproof wallet/ zip lock bag (if applicable)
- Passport copies: please bring a photocopy of your passport (if applicable)
- Money: cash in local currency, credit/debit cards with pin number for cash withdrawals
- Air tickets and itinerary: your international and domestic itinerary and tickets (plus photocopies)

# Packing Notes

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## Luggage Logistics

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Prepare for lost or delayed luggage by wearing or carrying on the items that are essential to your adventure such as an active outfit and your hiking boots. In your day pack (your carry on), you should bring a full change of clothes, your waterproof jacket, toiletries, medications, camera and all paperwork.

It is recommended you have one small waterproof bag (10-liter dry bag) for your documents, camera, etc., that you can carry on motorboat trips. It is especially important that electronic equipment such as digital cameras, video cameras, etc. is fully waterproofed.

Each day you will take the essentials with you in your day pack or saddlebags/pockets. Your guides will let you know any specific items that might be helpful for each activity. You will not return to the lodge and the rest of your luggage until the end of each day.

### **Your Daypack Essentials (for all activities including horseback riding) are:**

- Sunblock (a small one will last for your whole trip)
- Lip balm with sunscreen
- Camera/phone
- Light rain jacket
- Sun glasses
- Personal medication- any medication you might need, for example an asthma inhaler, heart medication or for a diabetic; insulin, glucose etc.

### Your Daypack Optional Items (for hiking and other activities) are:

- Insect repellent
- Lip chap with sunblock
- Binoculars
- Refillable water bottle
- Nuun re-hydration tablets
- Snacks
- Extra t-shirt
- Extra pair of socks
- Blister care
- Alcohol-based hand sanitizer and face masks
- Extra shirt or jacket (they won't fit in the saddle bags but could be tied tightly around the waist while riding)

## Resources for Buying Outdoor Gear & Clothing

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- **Mountain Equipment Co-op (Canada) or REI (USA):** Membership is required for both but so worth it! Both companies have great learning resources, so check them out!
- **Borrow:** Why buy when you can borrow from a friend?!
- **Variety/Value Village, Goodwill and Salvation Army** are also great places to find second-hand items like sports shirts and fleece sweaters that are quick-drying, for a fraction of the price! Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!