Preparing for Your Dive Trip

PLANNING:

* Pay trip deposits
* Buy [trip insurance](https://www.diversalertnetwork.org/travel/)
* Place an [alert](https://www.kayak.com/trips) on the airfare and purchase tickets ASAP
* Book your [pet sitter](https://dogvacay.com/)

60 DAYS BEFORE:

* Pay all outstanding trip balances
* Confirm your airfare
* Let the U.S. State Dept. know about international travel - [State Dept STEP](https://step.state.gov/step/)
* Inform your credit card company and banks that you’re leaving the country
  + Plan to bring a card with no international fees, like Capital One
  + Plan to bring the airline card used to purchase the flight (AA/Delta/United)
* If you are renting a vehicle, call your insurance company to see if you are covered. If not, check if your trip insurance covers rental cars.
* Check medical requirements - Do you need to have a doctor sign a dive form? Do you need shots prior to the trip? [CDC (Center for Disease Control)](http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel)
* Put your mail and package deliveries on hold:
  + [USPS Mail Hold](https://holdmail.usps.com/holdmail/)
  + [UPS Package Hold](https://www.ups.com/pea/preferences?loc=en_US&appName=DeliveryPlanner&returnTo=https://wwwapps.ups.com/mcdp?loc=en_US&pbid=2l61&WT.si_n=Login_MCE#showNameAndAddress)
  + [FedEx Package Hold](https://www.fedex.com/fedextracking/?cntry_code=us&action=custdeliveryoptions) (Click **My** **Profile** at the top of the page. Go to **FedEx Delivery Manager**, and then edit the delivery address to add a vacation hold.)
* Review your packing list and order items that you need ([Amazon Prime](http://www.amazon.com/dp/B00DBYBNEE?_encoding=UTF8&ref=mrp_10002_shr_cpbd_rf_d&refcust=QC77IWQOPFYRTQS7NHS5JYD3LY) includes free 2-day shipping)
* Service any dive equipment that needs maintenance

ONE WEEK BEFORE:

* Withdraw cash from the bank
* Print (or save PDF to your phone) copies of the following:
  + Passport
  + Drivers license
  + Credit cards
  + Dive cards / Dive insurance
  + The last page from your dive log book
* Print and fill out early registration or dive forms for your resort (Check the resort website)   
  For example: <http://www.buddydive.com/blankslate/save-time-on-check-in/>
* Check that you have enough prescription and OTC meds for the trip
* Download movies or Audible/Kindle books for vacation
* Back up and delete photos on your phone/tablet/computer to make room for new ones
* Clear camera memory cards
* Test/charge the battery for your dive computer (and backup computer)
* Prepare for service people that come while you’re gone (trash, plants, lawncare, housekeeper)
* Confirm your pet sitter arrangements
* Check the weather for your destination and plan your clothes accordingly
* Begin packing, or at least gather everything on the list to find last-minute missing items

THE NIGHT BEFORE:

* Recheck your packing list and make sure that you have everything packed
* Pre-charge all batteries (cameras, dive computers, phones, laptops, tablets)