PREPARING FOR YOUR JOURNEY

REVIEW YOUR PASSPORT
Your passport needs to be valid for **at least six (6) months** after your journey ends, and should have enough blank visa pages for entry and exit stamps from each country you visit.

If you require assistance obtaining a new U.S. passport or passport renewal, contact our partner VisaCentral at visacentral.com/abercrombiekent.

*Due to the phased reopening of U.S. passport agencies and centers, processing time for new or renewed passports may be substantially longer than usual.*

SECURE YOUR VISA
Many destinations also require a tourist visa for U.S. or other passport holders; see included **Essential Information** for details as it pertains to your journey.

UPDATE VACCINES & MEDICATIONS
Check with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (cdc.gov/travel) or the World Health Organization (who.int/en) for the latest on required and recommended vaccines for your destination. You’ll want to visit your doctor or local travel clinic a couple of months before departure to allow time for any vaccinations to take effect or to fill any prescriptions.

TRAVEL ADVICE & ADVISORIES
Visit the U.S. Department of State at travel.state.gov or the Government of Canada at travel.gc.ca/travelling/advisories for current information on travel advisories, COVID-19 entry restrictions and special considerations for travel in various countries. Information changes rapidly and we recommend routinely reviewing the specifics pertaining to your journey prior to your departure; our partner VisaCentral maintains an up-to-date list of all COVID-19-related travel restrictions, available at visacentral.com/coronavirus-travel-and-immigration-disruption.

We also recommend that you register with your nearest embassy or consulate for the destinations included in your journey. U.S. citizens can register through STEP, the Smart Traveller Enrollment Program (step.state.gov/step). Canadian citizens can enroll in Registration of Canadians Abroad at travel.gc.ca/travelling/registration.

MONEY MATTERS
We recommend travelling with some cash and at least two different major credit cards, such as Visa and Mastercard, so you have back up if your card is not accepted or lost. Contact your bank and credit card companies to let them know where and when you'll be travelling, as well as confirm any foreign transaction fees.

When carrying cash, try to travel only with recently issued currency in smaller denominations; many merchants overseas won’t accept wrinkled or torn bills. Only exchange currency at authorized outlets such as currency exchanges, ATMs or hotels and save receipts as they may be required for exit.

KEEP CONNECTED
While most smartphones work overseas, you might need to turn on international roaming service before you travel. Contact your carrier for information on coverage and voice and data plan options while travelling abroad.
GETTING ONLINE
Many hotels and public places have Wi-Fi and you’ll usually be able to stay connected throughout your journey, although Internet access may be poor to nonexistent in remote destinations. Note that some countries block access to social media sites or otherwise impose restrictions on what content you can view or send online.

CHARGING YOUR GADGETS
Be sure to bring a global travel adapter set with you to recharge your electronics at your hotel or aboard ship. You can purchase one through A&K’s Travel Store at usa.thetraveloutfitter.com.

WEATHER & TIME ZONES
Many websites and smartphone apps allow you to check the forecast and time zones for specific destinations. We recommend weather.com and timeanddate.com/worldclock. Upon arrival, the time on most smartphones will automatically adjust to the local time.

STAY HEALTHY ON THE ROAD
Carry your prescriptions and over-the-counter medications in their original containers in your carry-on luggage. Pack a simple first-aid kit along with medicines for motion sickness and mild upset stomach. As a precaution, use only bottled water and avoid foods from street vendors.

Take care to observe safe health practices when travelling: Maintain adequate physical distance; wash or sanitize your hands often; avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth; and cover your mouth when coughing or sneezing. If you begin to feel unwell at any point in your journey, please stay in your room and inform your guide.

To protect all guests on A&K small group journeys and Luxury Expedition Cruises, wearing a mask is required in vehicles, indoor spaces, and any outdoor spaces where physical distancing is not possible. On Tailor Made journeys, masks must be worn in accordance with local regulations. We encourage you to bring your own masks; a supply will be on hand where needed. Note all protocols are subject to change in accordance with relevant guidelines, local regulations and conditions.

PACKING FOR YOUR JOURNEY
The typical attire on A&K journeys is relaxed and informal during the day. Choose comfortable, versatile clothing that can be layered to account for changes in the weather throughout the day. Smart casual is appropriate for evenings.

Plan on packing light — many A&K journeys include domestic flights that impose much stricter weight restrictions than your international carrier. Consult the Packing List and Baggage Restrictions specifics provided.

Use the provided A&K luggage tags, even if your bags already have ID tags. This makes it easier for A&K staff to find and manage your luggage for you.

KEEP VALUABLES SECURE
We strongly recommend leaving valuables such as jewelry at home as A&K cannot be responsible. Use safes where available to secure your valuables, especially passports, money, jewelry, electronics and medications. Replacing a lost or stolen passport is much easier if you have a copy on hand. Pack a photocopy of your passport’s personal information page with your luggage, and keep a photo of it on your smartphone.
ARRIVE TO A WARM WELCOME

Your A&K local representative (holding a bright yellow A&K sign) meets you at the airport when you arrive. See your itinerary for additional arrival instructions.

SMART SHOPPING

If you are interested in shopping, your A&K guide may recommend local shops; however, A&K is not responsible for the quality or value of merchandise. Any purchases and shipping are at your sole discretion.

Be sure to review your credit card receipts before signing, paying special attention to currency conversion. We recommend taking items with you in lieu of shipping them whenever possible. Consult the local customs authority (cbp.gov in the U.S. and travel.gc.ca in Canada) for information on what you can bring back and duty taxes. Keep receipts and items together.

PHOTOGRAPHY ETIQUETTE

Be sure to ask permission before taking pictures of local people, including small children. Note photography is not permitted in some locations, which is usually clearly marked. If in doubt, ask your guide to avoid having your camera confiscated.

TIPS ON TIPPING

Tipping on A&K journeys varies depending on where and how you travel. Consult the Tipping Guidelines provided for your journey.