

Jetting Off Checklist: Steps We Took Before Leaving

CHECKLIST

1. Quitting Your Job (At the Right Time)

- Check your bonus/incentive schedule: Make sure you're not leaving before key payouts.
- Choose a target quit date: Ensure your quit date aligns with financial bonuses and your personal timeline.
- Align with house rental contract: Time your resignation with your rental end date to avoid overlapping rent or mortgage payments.

2. Budgeting for Travel

- Research countries you plan to visit: Look into the cost of living, accommodations, transportation, and daily expenses.
- Create a travel budget: Based on your research, estimate how much you'll need to save and where you can stretch your money.
- Set financial goals: Ensure you have enough saved for a comfortable start to your travels, including an emergency fund.

3. Handle Administrative Tasks

- Terminate contracts: Cancel utilities, internet, phone, and any other subscriptions tied to your rental.
- Return the rental unit: Give proper notice to your landlord, clean the place, and return the keys.
- Forward your mail: Set up mail forwarding or have it sent to a trusted friend or family member.
- Sort and store personal items: Decide what to keep, sell, or donate.

4. Downsizing

- Host a garage sale: Sell unnecessary items to declutter and raise extra cash.
- Donate or discard: Throw out or donate items that aren't worth selling but still clutter your space.
- Condense to essentials: Reduce your belongings to a minimal amount (e.g., 6 boxes) that you can easily store.

5. Organizing Social Events

- *Schedule time with friends and family: Plan dinners, meetups, and farewell parties to say goodbye to loved ones.*
- *Share your travel plans: Keep close ones updated about where you're going and how to stay in touch.*

6. Packing

- *Check weather for your destinations: Pack light and appropriate for the climates you'll encounter.*
- *Pack versatile clothing: Choose items that can be layered and used across multiple climates.*
- *Use carry-on luggage: Try to pack everything into a manageable-sized bag for ease of travel.*

7. Flight & Overland Travel Planning

- *Look for flight deals: Use flight comparison tools to find the cheapest flights.*
- *Research overland routes: Check bus and train options for traveling between countries.*
- *Plan your first few steps: Know how you'll get to your first destination after the flight.*

8. Visa & Travel Requirements

- *Check visa requirements: Research visa rules for the countries you're visiting based on your passport.*
- *Apply for necessary visas: Start early for countries that require advanced applications or embassy visits.*
- *Know your visa limits: Keep track of how long you're allowed to stay in each country and plan accordingly.*

9. Credit Cards for Travel

- *Apply for travel-friendly credit cards: Choose cards that offer benefits for travelers.*
- *Check for points and rewards: Ensure the card awards points or miles for overseas transactions.*

- *Confirm easy usage overseas: Make sure your card is widely accepted in the countries you're visiting.*
- *Check overseas transaction fees: Look for cards with low or no foreign transaction fees.*
- *Review annual charges: Choose cards with low or manageable annual fees, especially if you won't be using them heavily during your travels.*

With this checklist, you'll be ready to jet off into your adventure confidently and smoothly!