Travel Tips for All Inclusive Resorts

Legacy Travel customers who have taken All Inclusive Beach Vacations have offered these tips.

Planning Tips:

Think about your ride to and from the airport. Consider upgrading at least to the nonstop transfers if available. When you arrive in the destination, you probably would like to go right to your resort.

Do you have a frequent flyer number? It’s much easier to put it in to your record before your trip than to claim the miles retroactively. Your airline confirmation number is on your travel documents. If you need help, let us know.

Some credit card companies have a low threshold for fraud. You might want to call and let them know you'll be out of the country and that they might see some unusual activity.

Packing Tips:

You won't need as many clothes as you think you will.

However, you may very well need at least one pair of long pants (gentlemen) in order to eat at some of the nicer restaurants at your resort. Check the dress code at your resort to make sure you have what you need. Closed toed shoes and collared shirts may also be required.

You may find the following items helpful:
- Bug Spray (Remember, you’re headed to a tropical destination.)
- Water Shoes (Very useful if there are rocks on the beach or in the water and impossible to find in the destination)
- Cheap Snorkeling Gear (Even if you have it for free at the all inclusive you might not want to use a mouthpiece someone else has used.)
• Air Mattress (in case you like to float on one in the water - very expensive in the destination)
• Sand Toys (expensive in the destination. The resort may have them, but in case you don't want to look
  for them and take pot luck.)
• Big Plastic Cups (Cups at all inclusives can be rather small and require frequent refills.)
• One Dollar Bills (for tipping)
• Medications (think Advil, Pepto, etc)
• Neck Wallet or what I call a "Resort Pouch" to carry your cell phone and your room key and a few 1$'s.
• Mesh Laundry Bag (for accumulating dirty clothes and packing them to come home)
• Sunscreen (Seems obvious, but is easy to forget and it's VERY expensive in the destination.)
• If any of your electronics use disposable batteries, you might want to pack extra. These can also be
  expensive at the resort.
• Be careful about packing anything it would break your heart to lose. It's a good idea to only pack
  valuables that will be with you every moment.
• Pack your swimsuit in an accessible location so that you can grab it, change and hit the beach if your
  room isn't ready right away. Check in at most resorts isn't until 3pm. When you arrive you can go ahead
  and eat a meal and enjoy a few drinks while you're waiting for your room.
• Consider making a clothespin or two a permanent part of your packing. (They are great for eliminating
  that irritating slice of daylight peaking through the drapes so you can sleep the day away.)
• Pack medications in your carry on in the off chance you get separated from your luggage.
• Keep a small bottle of baby powder in your beach bag. When you're ready to leave the beach, sprinkle
  yourself and kids with the powder and the sand will slide right off.

**Technology Tips:**

Check with your cell phone carrier prior to your departure to see if you can make and receive calls and texts and
what the charges will be to do so.

While you're on the phone with the cell phone carrier see about data charges if you have a smart phone. Be
clear on how to set your phone not to use data if you're not wanting to do that during your trip.

Helpful Apps: Speaking of your smartphone, take a look at the Skype and Vonage Apps. If you can get on
decent Wifi, you can make phone calls on these apps for almost nothing. It's a great way to keep in touch.
Another great app is "Whatsapp". This allows you to "text message" with other Whatsapp users as long as
you both are on internet. (Say, if you're at Wifi at the resort.) This app allows you to to bypass expensive
international texting rates.

**Tips for In Destination:**

Make good use of the local representative of whatever tour company you travel with. They are familiar with the
area and can help with all sort of things.

If you're at a resort where the beds are hard, you can sometimes ask for a "mattress topper". It will make the
bed feel softer.

Be aware that beaches are Federal property in most destinations. The hotel can't stop vendors from combing
the beach, they can only stop them from coming onto hotel grounds.
Before boarding the shuttle back to the airport, the driver will require that you present a "Check-Out Pass" from the hotel, which indicates that you have settled your account.

In your room there may be a "master switch" that controls all lights and electricity in the room. It may look like a normal light switch. Try it before you call down for maintenance. Alternatively there may be a slot near the door where your room key must be for the electricity to come on.

Many resorts have a sliding glass door out onto the balcony. Most of those doors automatically lock when they are closed. If you want to assure that you won't be locked out while you're enjoying your swim up room or your beautiful balcony, simply unscrew the plastic top from a bottle of water and place it in the track of the door. The lid fits perfectly and prevents the door from closing completely. Be sure to take it out when you want to secure the door later.

Be aware that some hotel concierge may in fact be part of the time-share sales process. A simple "No thank you." will let them know you are not interested. However, still continue to use their other services that are offered.