



distant francophile

For when France seems too far away...



Quickstart Guide To Stylish Packing

My Universal Guide To Help Ensure That You Always Travel As Stylishly As Possible

- ⇒ Get clear on where you are going and what you are doing while you are travelling. This will allow you to plan and make decisions accordingly.
- ⇒ Start with shoes. Once you know what you'll be doing, start packing around your shoe choices. Fancy dinners. You'll probably want heels. Stacks of walking. Don't forget to pack your favourite street sneakers.
- ⇒ On the topic of shoes, to save on weight, consider multi-tasking footwear. For instance, flat ankle boots can be great for walking as well as dinner. And they are versatile enough to wear with skirts as well as pants.
- ⇒ When it comes to clothing, apart from co-ordinating your outfits around your shoes, pick a colour palette and stick to it. Three colours – perhaps two neutrals and an accent colour – usually guarantee success.
- ⇒ Always remember the golden packing rule. If you don't wear it at home, you're unlikely to wear it while you are away. Our body shapes, our preferences and the colours that suit us don't magically change when we land in an exotic location.
- ⇒ Having said that, do consider what style might be appropriate for your destination. Your fabulous black blazer might not be so special in a resort setting.
- ⇒ Before you make your final packing decisions, think about your items as outfits. If each item doesn't match with at least two other pieces, consider whether it is worthy of your valuable packing space.
- ⇒ Pack travel friendly clothing. Contemplate how comfortable your choices will be. And especially consider how creased your clothes might get. No one looks great when their outfit is crushed. And I don't know about you, but I find ironing a dreadful waste of precious vacation time. (Let's be honest, I find ironing less than fun at the best of times.)
- ⇒ Finally, avoid many of the 'tips for travellers'. As a rule, they make you stand out as a tourist, and therefore make you a target for pick-pockets. High visibility gear – by way of example – is neither stylish or necessary.