

Travel Technology Checklist

A practical guide to the digital tools that can make planning, navigating, communicating and managing money while travelling easier.

HOW TO USE IT

Set up the digital essentials before you leave home. The goal is not to fill your phone with travel apps - it is to make sure the tools you may actually need are installed, accessible and tested before you depend on them.

1. BEFORE YOU TRAVEL

- ☐ Update your phone operating system and essential apps before departure.
- ☐ Make sure you can access your primary email account and important travel accounts.
- ☐ Check that passwords or your password manager will be accessible while abroad.
- ☐ Review two-factor authentication so you are not dependent on a SIM or number you cannot access.
- ☐ Save digital copies of important travel documents securely.
- ☐ Download key booking confirmations or tickets for offline access.

2. CONNECTIVITY

- ☐ Decide whether you will use roaming, an eSIM, a local SIM or Wi-Fi.
- ☐ Install or activate your chosen connectivity option before you urgently need it.
- ☐ Know how to switch mobile data between SIMs if your phone supports multiple lines.
- ☐ Check whether your messaging apps remain linked to your usual number.
- ☐ Carry a suitable charger, cable, plug adapter and power bank.

3. MAPS & NAVIGATION

- ☐ Install a reliable maps or navigation app.
- ☐ Download offline maps for important areas where available.
- ☐ Save your accommodation, airport or station and other key locations.
- ☐ Check public transport options and any useful local transport apps.
- ☐ Keep the accommodation address available in the local language where useful.

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Technology should reduce travel friction - not become another thing to manage.

4. COMMUNICATION & LANGUAGE

- ☐ Install a translation tool if you may need language support.
- ☐ Download offline language packs where available.
- ☐ Save essential addresses, instructions or phrases you may need to show someone.
- ☐ Make sure family or travel companions know the best way to reach you.
- ☐ Know how to contact your accommodation or transport provider if plans change.

5. MONEY & PAYMENTS

- ☐ Confirm that your payment cards can be used at your destination.
- ☐ Make sure you can access your banking app and required authentication.
- ☐ Set transaction or travel notifications if your bank provides them.
- ☐ Have more than one payment method where practical.
- ☐ Know how you will check exchange rates before accepting unfamiliar conversions.
- ☐ Keep bank contact details somewhere accessible if a card is lost or blocked.

6. SECURITY & BACKUP

- ☐ Use a screen lock, PIN or biometric protection on your devices.
- ☐ Turn on device-finding or remote-lock features where available.
- ☐ Back up important photos and files during longer trips.
- ☐ Be cautious with unknown public Wi-Fi networks and sensitive transactions.
- ☐ Do not leave sensitive information visible in screenshots, notes or unlocked devices.
- ☐ Know what you would do if your phone were lost, stolen or unusable.

7. BEFORE YOU WALK OUT THE DOOR

- ☐ Phone charged.
- ☐ Power bank charged.
- ☐ Offline maps downloaded.
- ☐ Tickets and confirmations accessible.
- ☐ Connectivity tested or ready to activate.
- ☐ Banking and authentication access confirmed.
- ☐ Emergency contacts saved.

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If your internet connection disappeared for the next two hours, could you still **find your accommodation, show your ticket, access essential information and contact someone if necessary?**