

International Travel Checklist

Note: The packing list section is intended for low-profile international executive protection operations where agents may be required to travel on commercial airliners and pass through typical aviation security checkpoints.

Before you go:

- Obtain and assess trip itinerary in encrypted PDF format (note who has access/control access)
- Ensure all passports have minimum 6 months validity and sufficient blank pages for new visa stamps
- Ensure necessary visas are obtained
- Ensure no conflicts with existing visa-stamps or passport issuing authority (e.g. Israeli stamp and visiting Saudi Arabia or Lebanon passport and visiting Israel)
- Check vaccination requirements for destination; obtain vaccinations/prophylaxes as necessary
- Ensure all hotel arrangements complete (floors 3-5 generally preferred, subject to principal input and risk assessment)
- Complete credit and debit card travel notices
- Complete credit card authorization for hotels (to avoid lengthy check-in/out process)
- Arrange all transport (drivers must be vetted and agree to terms in writing)
- Obtain international driver's license if necessary (only needed in certain countries and if driving)
- Ensure principals and agents have international capable cell phone plan
- Review cultural and language guides
- Check time, weather, and currency information
- Complete pre-trip intelligence assessment (monitoring continues during trip)
- Complete risk assessment (identification of assets, threats & vulnerabilities)
- Compile and verify emergency contacts (including embassy/consulate, 24-hour emergency room, private hospital, urgent care, 24-hour pharmacy, poison control center, police station, hotel of flight crew, safe-houses)
- Compile and disseminate Security Operations Plan in encrypted PDF

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Packing list:

- ❑ Appropriate attire (e.g. suit/tie) and personal effects
- ❑ TSA-approved lock for luggage
- ❑ Luggage tracker (e.g. Tile Mate)
- ❑ U.S. currency (for contingencies)
- ❑ Relevant foreign currency (for expenses, tips, and contingencies)
- ❑ Credit card with chip and PIN
- ❑ Mission-specific advanced medical kit and extra medications for principal(s) - if cannot bring AED, know the location of one near all venues
- ❑ Pocket medical kit (always available)
- ❑ Prescriptions for medications
- ❑ Cell phone that will function properly at destination (appropriate service, model & plan)
- ❑ Cell phone charging case or USB power bank
- ❑ Programmable VHF/UHF radio
- ❑ Satellite phone (check legality at destination - illegal in multiple countries)
- ❑ Charging cables for all relevant devices
- ❑ Tactical pen (multi-use)
- ❑ Small roll of duct tape
- ❑ 25+ ft. 5/8-inch webbing
- ❑ Umbrella
- ❑ Packable rain jacket
- ❑ Smoke escape hoods (one per agent and principal)
- ❑ Door wedge or other barricade device
- ❑ Tire pressure gauge
- ❑ Discreet body armor (check legality at destination)
- ❑ Seatbelt cutter
- ❑ Flashlight and extra batteries or charger
- ❑ CO and smoke detectors
- ❑ SteriPEN
- ❑ Garment steamer (dual voltage type)
- ❑ Country specific power-adaptor(s)
- ❑ Valid passport in RFID wallet
- ❑ Copy of agent and principal passports
- ❑ Insurance cards
- ❑ Headphones for discreet monitoring of communications devices

“No-fly” List

- Firearm (generally only OK for U.S. domestic travel in checked bag; illegal on most international trips)
- TASER (generally OK in checked-luggage for U.S. domestic flights, but must know laws of arrival location)
- Pepper spray (illegal in some jurisdictions)
- Controlled substances such as painkillers (check laws being traveling overseas with these items, even if you hold a prescription)
- Knife (laws vary widely by jurisdiction depending on length and type)
- Unnecessary electronic devices and printed information (reduce vulnerability/attack surface)