

Congratulations!

You've purchased a ticket for a great adventure! Going on a cruise can be a worthwhile and memorable experience. With a few safety tips and suggestions, you can maximize your adventure beyond your wildest dreams.



When you purchase your cruise, you will be given a contract for passage. This is your cruise contract, and contains all of the terms and conditions of your cruise, which set forth your rights and responsibilities along with that of the cruise line carrier. It is imperative that you read this document.

The contract will set forth the limitation of liability regarding the loss or damage to personal property, typically restricted to \$5,000. Therefore, **do not bring the expensive jewelry**, watches and other family heirlooms

that could become lost or stolen only to find that the cruise line is limited in paying you a maximum amount as set forth in the ticket. Additionally, it will set forth your **responsibilities as a passenger** on the cruise. You will note that they have the right to leave you at port if you become a threat to yourself or to others aboard the ship. It will also set forth what will occur in the event of a medical evacuation. The ticket will also explain that the cruise line has the right to **change the itinerary without warning**. This may occur as a result of foreign unrest, weather or some other reason as dictated by the captain of the vessel.

Also, for the most part, the cruise lines are not responsible for **injuries a passenger receives while on a shore excursion**. The cruise line will only accept responsibility for these injuries when the excursions are exclusively owned by the cruise line. These typically take place on the cruise line's private island, and the vendors are employees of the cruise line and not independent contractors.

TICKET CONTRACT

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO GUESTS THIS DOCUMENT IS A LEGALLY BINDING CONTRACT ISSUED BY [REDACTED] CRUISE LINES TO, AND ACCEPTED BY, GUEST SUBJECT TO THE IMPORTANT TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPEARING BELOW.

NOTICE: THE ATTENTION OF GUEST IS ESPECIALLY DIRECTED TO CLAUSES 1, 4, AND 10 THROUGH 13, WHICH CONTAIN IMPORTANT LIMITATIONS ON THE RIGHTS OF GUESTS TO ASSERT CLAIMS AGAINST [REDACTED] CRUISE LINES, THE VESSEL, THEIR AGENTS AND EMPLOYEES, AND OTHERS, INCLUDING FORUM SELECTION, ARBITRATION AND WAIVER OF JURY TRIAL FOR CERTAIN CLAIMS.

When packing your luggage, do not forget your common sense.

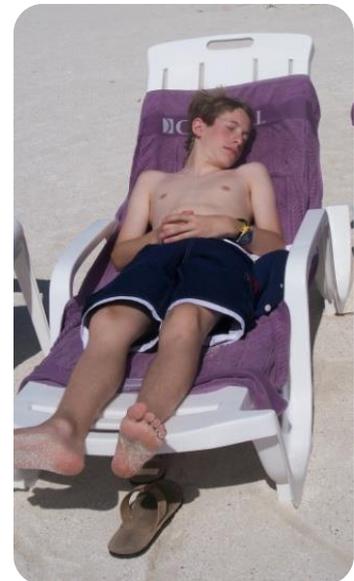
Become familiar with the climate of your itinerary, and bring the appropriate clothing. Also, be aware that your cruise may have a **formal night**, which may require evening wear for ladies and tuxedos for the gentlemen. However, many of the cruise ships have lessened their requirements to include a collared shirt and jacket for men and business/resort casual dress for women.



Do not forget **sensible footwear**. If you plan on going on a lot of excursions, many require walking from place to place. If your cruise involves foreign ports, you can expect uneven walkways and perhaps even cobblestones.

Therefore, comfortable footwear is a necessity. This holds true for footwear aboard the ship as well. The decks can become slippery with evening mist and sea spray. Of course, the pool deck will also be wet. It would be prudent to wear flat non-skid shoes or sandals in these areas.

Additionally, **bring lots of sunscreen**. While it may be cool on deck, the sun's rays are strong, and you could get sunburn without even knowing it. Do not ruin your vacation by getting sun poisoning.



Upon check-in, you will be given a plastic card. This card is your room key and your credit folio card for all shipboard purchases. It's a good idea to **keep the receipts** and a running total of how much you've spent on the boat to avoid sticker shock at the end of your cruise. Keep in mind, it is much easier to consume more alcohol than you are used to when you are not reaching into your wallet to pay the tab. Keeping safe and minding safety aboard the ship will ensure for a great vacation. A lot of shipboard accidents occur because of over imbibing alcoholic beverages.

Also, check the cruise line's policies on bringing alcohol aboard the ship. **Some carriers disallow any alcohol** while others have no limit. A visit to the cruise line's website or a call to their customer service representative will provide you the answers.



In the unfortunate circumstance that you become injured, be aware that the cruise lines are not responsible for the ship board medical personnel's medical malpractice. Therefore, if you find yourself injured aboard the vessel be mindful that you may not be receiving the highest quality of care. If you believe that you are injured more significantly than the doctor or nurse explains, approach the safety officer, and relay your concerns to that person.

If you are injured aboard the vessel and wish to pursue litigation against the cruise line, you **must notify the cruise line** in writing within six months of the injury and set forth the details surrounding the injury, the treatment of the injury and officially place them on notice of your desire to begin a claim. The contract for passage will also set forth the geographic location and jurisdiction of any lawsuit to be filed. Typically, the lawsuit must be filed in federal court in Miami. Other jurisdictions include Broward County and Brevard County, Florida. There are a few carriers that require the lawsuits to be filed in Los Angeles County or Seattle, Washington. These terms and conditions are clearly set forth in the contract for passage, and if they are not strictly adhered to, the case will be dismissed, often without the ability to re-file the case.

Hopefully, you will not run into any issues regarding loss, damage or injury. If you follow your common sense, pack appropriately and abide by the safety regulations, you should have the experience of a lifetime.

To answer any other legal questions about your upcoming cruise trip, feel free to contact the dedicated maritime and admiralty law division of [LaBovick Law Group](#). We are available to speak with you 24 hours a day, and we offer FREE CONSULTATIONS.

