

Luxury Train Journey Packing List

What to pack for a luxury train journey through India — what's typically provided on board, what to bring yourself, and the dress codes for dinner and excursions.

WHY LUXURY TRAIN PACKING IS DIFFERENT

Luxury train journeys compress a multi-city trip into one moving hotel, which changes the packing logic entirely. Most operators provide turn-down service, dining, and sometimes loungewear or toiletries, so over-packing daily essentials wastes the limited cabin storage. The real planning challenge is matching a smaller wardrobe to a tighter daily rhythm — daytime excursions off the train, then a dressier onboard dinner, repeated for several days in a row.

WHAT TO BRING ON BOARD

- A few smart-casual evening outfits for onboard dinners, which often lean dressier than typical daywear
- Comfortable daytime clothing for off-train excursions to forts, markets, and heritage sites
- One modest outfit with covered shoulders and knees for any temple or religious stop on the route
- Light layer for air-conditioned cabins and dining cars, which can run cool
- Compact luggage — cabin storage is limited, so pack fewer, more versatile pieces rather than a full wardrobe

FOOTWEAR & ACCESSORIES

- Comfortable walking shoes for uneven ground at forts and heritage sites on excursions
- A smarter pair of shoes for onboard evenings
- Easy slip-on shoes for quick changes between cabin and dining car
- Sunglasses and a hat for daytime excursions, which can involve walking in full sun
- Small day bag for carrying essentials off the train during stops

HEALTH, DOCUMENTS & TECH

- Personal medication, since onboard medical support is limited compared to a hotel
- Basic toiletries as backup — many operators provide them, but check your specific train's inclusions in advance
- Camera or phone with extra storage — scenic stops and excursions are usually a highlight
- Portable charger, since outlet access in cabins can be limited depending on the train
- Universal plug adapter (India: Type C/D/M)
- Passport/visa copy and your train booking confirmation, often required at boarding and at certain excursion checkpoints

Provided amenities, dress codes, and luggage limits vary by operator, so check your specific train's guest guidelines before you pack.

