

Packing for a Ski Vacation

If you plan on traveling for a ski vacation, it is often a challenge to know what to pack. You may not have a problem knowing what to pack, but instead have a problem trying to figure out how to get everything that you need from your home to your destination. Skis do not easily fit into suitcases, and if you are flying, their bulkiness presents a huge problem.

Start by finding out what is available at your destination. Are rentals available? How much do the rental fees cost for skis, boots, and poles? If the prices are reasonable, and you don't mind skiing with rented equipment, this is a viable option, and it makes packing and traveling much easier.

If you don't want to ski with rented equipment, there is another option. Find out if there are any ski shops in the vicinity. Typically, there are. Check prices on skis, poles, and boots, and then ask if they buy used equipment. If they don't, ask if there is a shop nearby that does purchase used equipment. Call that shop to get an estimate on how much you could receive for barely-used ski equipment. Calculate the difference in the money you will spend on the ski equipment, and the money you will get for the used equipment when you are finished with it. If it isn't too much more than what it would cost you for equipment rental, go for it!

Ski suits, ski jackets, and sweaters can be very bulky and difficult to pack. These articles of clothing will take up a lot of room in your suitcase, and leave less room for other clothing and essentials. If you are trying to pack for a ski vacation that lasts two weeks, it will be impossible to fit everything you need into one suitcase.

There is a solution. Contact the lodge or resort where you will be staying. Tell them that you need to ship a package, for yourself, to them, and that you need that package to be ready when you arrive. Request that they hold it for you at the front desk. In most cases, they can hold packages. Once you've made arrangements with the resort, get a box, put all of your ski suits, your ski jacket, and any other bulky items in the box, and ship it to yourself, in care of the lodge or resort. Shipping may take overnight, two days, or three days depending on how far it must travel. Depending on how much the box weighs, you may pay less than fifty dollars to ship a package in the continental United States, which may cost less than you would pay an airline for extra baggage!