



Passport & Documentation Guide

What you need to board, what you need to get home, and the rule that catches more travellers than any other.

This PDF is fillable. Open it in any PDF reader - Adobe Acrobat Reader, Preview on a Mac, or your browser - tick the boxes and type in the fields, then save. It also prints perfectly well blank if you would rather use a pen.

Closed-loop versus one-way sailings

A closed-loop cruise starts and ends at the same U.S. port. That distinction changes what documents you need.

- ☐ Closed-loop: U.S. citizens may generally board with an original or certified birth certificate plus government-issued photo ID
- ☐ One-way, repositioning, or any sailing starting or ending outside the U.S.: a valid passport book is required
- ☐ Flying to or from your ship at any point: a passport book is required

Even where a birth certificate is technically accepted, Katie strongly recommends a passport book. If you have a medical emergency and need to fly home from a foreign port, a birth certificate will not get you on that plane.

Check every traveller now

Fill in one row per person. Check the expiry date today, not the week before you sail.

TRAVELLER 1 - NAME AS ON DOCUMENT

DOCUMENT EXPIRES

TRAVELLER 2 - NAME AS ON DOCUMENT

DOCUMENT EXPIRES

TRAVELLER 3 - NAME AS ON DOCUMENT

DOCUMENT EXPIRES

TRAVELLER 4 - NAME AS ON DOCUMENT

DOCUMENT EXPIRES

- ☐ Every passport is valid for at least six months beyond our return date
- ☐ Every name matches the booking exactly, character for character
- ☐ Children have their own documents - they cannot travel on a parent's
- ☐ Any renewals needed have been started

The six-month rule

Many countries require your passport to remain valid for at least six months beyond your travel dates. A passport that expires two months after you get home can still be refused.

Passport book or passport card?

The book is valid for all international travel by air, land and sea. The card is valid only for land and sea entry from



Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean and Bermuda - it is NOT valid for international air travel. If there is any chance you will need to fly home from a port, you want the book.

Travelling with children

- ☐ A child travelling with one parent, or with grandparents, may need a notarised letter of consent from the absent legal guardian
- ☐ Different last name to your child? Bring documentation of the relationship

If you are not a U.S. citizen

Permanent residents should carry their green card alongside their passport. Depending on nationality you may also need visas for specific ports. Tell Katie the citizenship of everyone travelling as early as possible so this can be checked properly.

Do not email a completed copy of this sheet, and do not write passport numbers on it. Names and expiry dates are enough to plan around. When Katie needs the numbers to finalise a booking she will send a secure link. Entry requirements also change and vary by nationality - verify against travel.state.gov and your cruise line.

Questions about any of this? Ask Katie - it costs nothing, and she would rather answer it now than have you find out at the pier. cruisingwithkatief@gmail.com