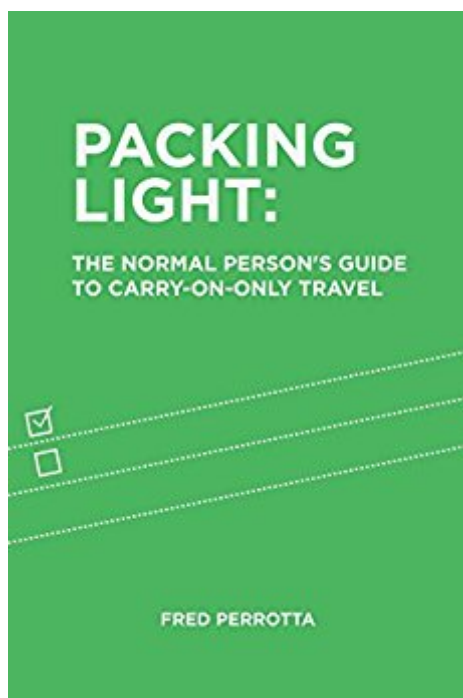


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# Packing Light: The Normal Person's Guide To Carry-On-Only Travel



## Synopsis

Traveling can be an amazing, transformative experience. It can also be a pain. Have you ever resented your luggage? You can admit it. Everything that seemed totally necessary when you were packing is suddenly the bane of your existence when you're dragging it around a strange city trying to find your hotel. Most frequent travelers aspire to pack light, but many can't pare down their load to a single carry on bag. Unsure of what you need, you pack everything you might use. Your luggage becomes a physical and mental burden. You have to carry all your stuff. You have to worry about all your stuff. You have to pay to check your stuff. Travel can be difficult and challenging enough on its own. Don't add to it with excess luggage. Travel light. Stay flexible. Enjoy your trip. You will remember what you did and how you felt, not what you packed. Even if you check a bag on every trip and have never traveled carry-on-only, you can become a light packer.

### The Benefits of Carry On Travel

Why would you want to travel carry-on-only? Why travel light?

- Skip the airport check in line
- No wasting time waiting for your bag at baggage claim
- Always make your connecting flight, even on short layovers
- Save money on airline baggage fees, often \$50 or more per roundtrip flight
- Don't worry about the airlines losing or damaging your luggage
- Less stuff to keep track of
- Bringing fewer clothes means less worrying about what to wear
- Bring your luggage on local transportation, like buses, taxis, motorcycles, and tuk tuks
- Never drag a heavy suitcase over cobblestone streets and up flight and flights of stairs

Traveling light will make for a better, more enjoyable trip. If you're ready for a life with less baggage, keep reading.

### What You Will Learn

Packing Light is written in escalating order, starting with the basics then moving onto more advanced tactics and trip-specific advice. After the first two chapters, the book can be used for reference when you need it. You will note that some material is included in multiple chapters since the book is not usually read cover-to-cover.

### Introduction

- Chapter 1: Carry On Basics for Beginners
- Chapter 2: The Definitive Carry on Packing List
- Chapter 3: Packing for Extreme Weather
- Chapter 4: Packing Specific Items
- Chapter 5: Minimalist Packing
- Chapter 6: Packing Light for Men
- Chapter 7: Packing Light for Women
- Chapter 8: Packing Light for Long-Term Travel
- Chapter 9: Packing Hacks

Afterword

Packing Light contains 130+ pages of carry on packing advice in an organized, easy-to-read format.

### Why I Wrote This Book

I'm Fred Perrotta, the co-founder and CEO of Tortuga Backpacks. In 2009, I backpacked Eastern Europe with my childhood friend, Jeremy Michael Cohen. After two weeks, we hated our bags. Neither backpack was well suited to travel. When we returned to the States after that trip, we vowed to make a better backpack for urban travel. Together, we co-founded Tortuga Backpacks. After starting a backpack company, everyone asked me what to bring on every trip. Instead of rewriting the same answers over and over again,

Jeremy and I started a blog, Packsmith, to answer common packing and gear questions. The most popular content from the blog became the core of this book. Read *Packing Light* so that you can bring everything you need without checking a bag.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I'm currently evaluating long-term travel backpacks and decided to read this publication in search of ideas for downsizing. Overall, this is a good eBook. My only complaint is that it's about twice as long as it needs to be given the repetition of content. On the other hand, I appreciate the detailed lists and packing strategies, which is what I was looking for when I started browsing for recommendations. I like that the travel towel was included. So many say it's overkill, but I've used my quick-dry towel for a wide variety of purposes including the following: blanket, to dry clothing (wrap and step on to remove moisture), beach towel for sitting, rolled for pillow, to conceal contents of our vehicle, as curtains (4 times), to protect a rental car from dog hair, as a scarf, as a temporary rain shield, and on and on. It's worth carrying around. The Tortuga is on my short list of

possibilities, so thank you for sharing all this great information!

This is a very well thought out and well put together book. I'm convinced, and will be following these guidelines and tips on the next trip I make, using only a carry on bag. The author was very upfront about the company he owns and in promoting his products, I appreciated that and especially liked that he points you in the direction of alternatives. At no time did he come across as hard sell. What would have made this a 5 star review: tips for my specific region. I'm in Australia, so I suspect that some of the TSA guidelines don't apply. E.g.. They mention bringing tiny scissors in carry on luggage; I had mine confiscated when going through security at Sydney domestic airport. In the parts of the book where returning home and having home currency in your bag were discussed, it would have been nice to have it presented in a more generic way - reading about 'when you get back to the States' while it may be easy to substitute my country there, it would be better in my opinion if the author didn't come across as assuming all readers are US based. These are very minor quibbles on what really is a very useful and well written book. I received it when it was free, but would happily have paid for it. I've picked up so many really good ideas, as well as a sound understanding of the whys and hows of packing light. I highly recommend this book. Update 6th June 2015: I would also like give my thoughts on other reviewer's comments re repetition within the book. It's true that some things are repeated, but for me this was a very effective way to take in and remember the information - by reading the same concepts coming from different angles. This is not the first book I have read which is basically a collection of blog posts, Alignment Matters by Katy Bowman is another such book which also has its detractors because of this format, but once again it works for me, and for many other people. In any case, as the author says, the repetition is necessary if the book is to be of the most use as a reference - just read the chapters you're interested in, and you won't miss any vital points that are also pertinent to other sections. Since reading this book I have taken on the challenge - I will be flying interstate next month for a 3 day trip, and I'll be doing it all with only 7kg of carry on luggage - no extra personal item allowed (Tigerair Australia)! This would have been in the impossible basket before, but now I KNOW it will work and I'm excited to try it out. It's especially difficult as I'll be travelling in winter, but it's still workable and I'm coming up with all sorts of ways to save weight in my packing that weren't in the book, but which the book has inspired me to come up with on my own and in reading other blogs that they reference.

After starting my international traveling just a few years ago I knew I was making some major mistakes regarding packing, particularly since I was determined to carry ONLY carry-on. This book

pinpoints practical approach to the fact that each trip is different, necessitates its own needs while certain logistics are set in stone. Like many books it offers packing lists and recommended luggage, but it's emphatic about the what the traveler actually needs and the "just in case." I definitely plan to use some of the information I gleaned from this publication for my next trip, be it a short 3 hour drive or three year trip around the world.

I am an ultralight backpacker where every ounce you carry on your back on the trail needs to carefully considered to be worth carrying. Lighter backpack means an more enjoyable experience due to the simplicity of having less stuff to burden you. This book is a great resource that take concepts that are familiar to the ultralight backpacker and applies it to the urban traveler. The concepts are laid out clearly and very logically, though there are repeated themes that come up over and over. In that regard, the book itself could be condensed down a bit further, but it does read well and holds your attention, so it is a minor issue. This book is a great mix of laying out the theory of traveling light and giving you specific examples of what to do and what products to buy to help you save weight and simplify your urban travels. However, this book is not simply about cutting weight for weights sake. The advice that is given is also about making sure that you are warm, comfortable, and looking good on your travels. Yes, the author is one of the owners of Tortuga Backpacks, but is very upfront about this from the start and is not heavy handed about pushing their own products. That said, after doing a ton of research, I have come to the conclusion for myself that they make a unique set of travel backpacks that are intelligently designed and very well thought out that has solved some of the short comings of the other travel backpacks on the market. I have already ordered their day pack and will be ordering their Tortuga Air Pack for my next trip abroad. Anyway, the key thing about this book is that it provides you solid concepts and practical tips that can be applied to ANY trip that you take with whatever brand of backpack or luggage that you have that is TSA/Airline Approved for carry on size or even check in size. Whether you are looking to travel light with just a carry on bag or are looking for ways to decrease the weight of your check in bag, this books has useful tips and suggestions for you.

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