

Krakow Packing List

A complete checklist for your trip — tick off before you leave and as you pack



BEFORE YOU LEAVE HOME

- ☐ Passport valid for trip duration
EU recommends 3+ months beyond your departure date
- ☐ ETIAS / EES status checked
No confirmed launch date as of Sept 2026; fee will be €20 once it launches
- ☐ Flights booked
No direct flights from the US; connect via Frankfurt, Amsterdam, London, or Munich
- ☐ First nights' accommodation booked
- ☐ Travel insurance arranged
- ☐ Train tickets booked if day trips planned
Warsaw, Wrocław, and Zakopane are all reachable
- ☐ Bank notified of travel dates
- ☐ Backup card from a separate bank
- ☐ Document copies saved to cloud
- ☐ eSIM downloaded or SIM plan arranged

LUGGAGE

- ☐ Backpack or hard-shell suitcase
Spinner wheels recommended — Old Town cobblestones are extensive
- ☐ Day bag / daypack
- ☐ RFID travel wallet
- ☐ Packing cubes
- ☐ Waterproof wash bag
- ☐ TSA luggage locks

HEALTH AND GROOMING

- ☐ Toiletries
Buy on arrival — Rossmann and Hebe are everywhere
- ☐ Refillable water bottle
Krakow tap water is generally safe to drink
- ☐ Sunscreen
- ☐ Moisturizer
- ☐ Antihistamines
- ☐ Ear plugs
- ☐ Quick-dry travel towel

CLOTHING

- ☐ Lightweight pants and shorts
Apr–Sep; warm, insulated pants for winter
- ☐ Tops and breathable base layers
- ☐ Waterproof jacket / rain jacket
- ☐ Supportive walking shoes
Extensive cobblestones, plus 378 stairs at the Wieliczka Salt Mine
- ☐ Underwear
- ☐ Sunglasses
- ☐ Winter accessories
Nov–Mar; colder and icier than Berlin or Vienna

ELECTRONICS

- ☐ Type C/E plug adaptor
Check device is dual-voltage; hair dryers often are not
- ☐ Cell phone
- ☐ Power bank
- ☐ Noise-cancelling headphones
- ☐ Camera + spare memory cards
- ☐ Kindle

DOCUMENTS AND ESSENTIALS

- ☐ Passport (+ cover with document pockets)
- ☐ Insurance documents
- ☐ Printed tickets and boarding passes
- ☐ Cash — Polish Złoty, not Euro
Milk bars and markets are often cash only; use PKO, Santander, or mBank ATMs
- ☐ Polish phrasebook
- ☐ Student / teacher card (if applicable)
ISIC card — museum discounts, including at Wieliczka
- ☐ Emergency bank contact numbers noted

ESSENTIAL KRAKOW TIPS

Carry cash. Milk bars, markets, and smaller shops are often cash only. Use ATMs at PKO, Santander, or mBank, and decline the dynamic currency conversion offer.

Book Auschwitz-Birkenau early. It's the most time-sensitive booking in the city, and is often paired with Wieliczka Salt Mine as a full day trip.

Watch your footing. Old Town's cobblestones plus 378 stairs at the salt mine make good shoes matter more here than in most cities.