

What to Leave at Home and Buy Abroad

Rather than risking paying for overweight luggage, it can be more economical in the long run to take the attitude that if you don't have something and you think you may need it, then you can buy it overseas and discard it later or discard other things to make room for it. For example, I take this attitude with hairdryers. Like many women, I like to have daily access to a hairdryer. Sometimes I find that the lady of the house I am staying in has taken her hairdryer with her, so I need to purchase one. Differing voltages in different countries make traveling with one very impractical. Of course, sometimes I have to remind myself that this is no longer the 1960s and that hairdryers can now be purchased for around \$10 in most countries. For some reason I still find it difficult to get it into my head that electrical goods have become fairly disposable items! They are not top of the line of course, but they do the job. So for the price of less than a bottle of wine, I can have a great hairdryer wherever I go. And why bring them home again and risk overloading your suitcase? Discarding is great and leaving a spare one in a house is always welcomed by the house owners.

- Clothes or underwear -- because I figure I can buy those anywhere
- Formal wear – these can be borrowed, rented, or purchased in second hand shops
- Extra makeup
- Shampoo, hair gel, body lotion, soap
- Blow Dryer
- Curlers
- Food
- Robe and Slippers (unless it is one of those silky robes that takes up no more room than a handkerchief)
- Linens, Towel, Pillows (these are supplied for you, if you don't like the ones they have, buy new ones)
- Books, download books onto your tablet or e-reader
- CDs or DVDs – Download these onto your tablet and/or smart phone
- Work files – download these onto a Cloud app
- Beach Towels – these are usually supplied in the home, if not, very easy and inexpensive to buy