

Road trip checklist

1 Planning

- **Roadside assistance:**
Do you have any?
- **Rego/insurance:**
Are they up to date?
- **Traffic fines:**
Make sure you have no outstanding
- **Emergency plan:**
Do you know what to do?
- **Phone no's:**
Emergency, roadside, insurance, accommodation
- **Route: scenic or direct?**
Make it as much about the journey as the destination
- **Rest before driving:**
And plan to rest on the way
- **Kids:**
Plan rest stops around nap time, emergency meltdown plan, what to pack
- **Charge your batteries:**
Phone, tablet, GPS, kids electronics, other gadgets
- **Best time to leave:**
Have you done your research?
- **Weather & traffic news:**
A final check before heading off
- **Remote driving:**
Be prepared for long stretches between service stations and take cash

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2 Preparing the car

- **Fluids:**
Water, engine oil, windshield washer fluid, radiator coolant
- **Air conditioning:**
Run it to clear it out before a long trip
- **Battery:**
More than 3 years old? Tighten connections; clean rust/corrosion 
- **Clean out your car:**
The more you haul, the more you're wasting
- **Tyres:**
Pressures 10psi above recommended, check wear & tear, check spare 
- **Lights:**
Brake, headlights, blinkers, license plate globes, interior lights, dashboard
- **Rubber stuff:**
Visually check all rubber components for wear and tear - belts, hoses, wipers 



3 Packing

- **GPS:**
Don't leave home without knowing how to get to your destination
- **Smart phone or tablet:**
Handy for said GPS, kids entertainment, travel guide emergencies and more 
- **Proper tunes:**
That everyone will enjoy
- **Munchies:**
Crumbs beat a hungry tummy or whining child 
- **Toilet paper:**
For the not so restful rest stops
- **First aid:**
Besides the obvious - pain relief, insect repellent, motion sickness tablets 
- **Sun safety:**
To enjoy the great outdoors
- **Comfy clothes:**
Plus blankets and pillows
- **Camera:**
Never leave home without one 
- **Entertainment:**
For adults as well as the kids
- **Spare tyre:**
Good condition, plus changing kit
- **A good companion:**
To avoid always taking selfies
- **Spare sets of keys:**
Give a spare set to your companion 
- **Remote driving:**
Spare fuel, water, basic toolkit

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