



## Motorcycle Packing List for Long Distance Riding

Whether you ride a bag-equipped cruiser, an all-out adventure bike, or a classic tourer, it is very likely that one day you will take to the road for a long tour. Motorcycles have a way of tempting riders to chase the horizon. If you are smitten by the motorcycle tour bug, you will want to know what you should bring along with you so that your trip is one of memorable and pleasurable events instead of continually feeling unprepared. The best way to ensure that you leave nothing behind which you will need out on the road is to have a prodigious and all-inclusive packing list – just like this one.

Included here are items which many riders have learned over years of experience are essential to having a good journey. Now, not all of what is listed will be required for everyone. The concept is to present the ultimate catalog of items garnered from people who tour on a motorcycle regularly, and then let you whittle it down to what you wish to or must carry. This will be based mostly on personal preferences, the type of trip you have planned as well as where you will go and when you will ride there. Look closely at what is contained within this document and use it as a guide for your next motorcycle world tour.

## Motorcycle

The items here are those which will be used on or affixed to the motorcycle which will take you on your tour. Keep in mind that several of these are now included with certain stock motorcycles, so not all will apply to your situation. Also, if your trip is short, some of this will be superfluous. If your journey is to be very long, however, most will be indispensable.

### Luggage(saddlebags, tank bag, other bags):

#### Good Tank Bag

[Saddlemen Tank Bag E-Pak](#)



#### Features:

- Sized to be used with modern smart phones
- Strong magnets
- Weather resistant pouch
- Rubberized pouch back protects

#### Better Tank Bag

[Joe Rocket Hammerhead Tank Bag](#)



#### Features:

- 1000D Nylon construction
- Wind and water-resistant
- Extra wide magnetic mount system
- Window GPS pocket

#### Best Tank Bag

[Icon Urban Tank Bag](#)



#### Features:

- Water-resistant 420 denier ripstop construction
- Four high power magnets
- Neoprene helmet carrier / tank protector
- Contoured, padded shoulder straps

## Tail Bag

### Good Tail Bag

[OGIO Tail Bag](#)



#### Features:

- Heat sealed see-through top map pocket
- Rain hood
- Reflective exterior logos and piping
- Removable cinch strap bike attachments

### Better Tail Bag

[Cortech Super 2.0 24-Liter Tailbag](#)



#### Features:

- Quick-release mounting system
- Easy access, top loading main compartment
- Phoslite reflective striping and logo
- 1680 denier ballistic polyester

### Best Tail Bag

[Nelson-Rigg CL-1040-TP Jumbo Tail Bag](#)



#### Features:

- Easily mounts to most tail sections and seats
- Tri-Max® ballistic nylon
- Protective material prevents slipping or marking
- Made from Tri-Max® ballistic nylon

## Saddlebags

### Good Saddlebag

[Nelson-Rigg SPRT-50 Touring Saddlebags](#)



#### Features:

- Lightweight EVA molded foam panels
- Accommodates swept exhausts
- Heat resistant under panels
- Top quality UV-treated Tri-Max® nylon

### Better Saddlebag

[OGIO Saddle Bags](#)



#### Features:

- Heat-resistant silicone impregnated bottoms
- Textured Neoprene pad for paint protection
- Easy attach web mounting system
- 220 cubic inches of expansion volume on each side

### Best Saddlebag

[Cortech Super 2.0 36-Liter Saddlebags](#)



#### Features:

- Protective heat shield on lower section of bags and back piping
- Phoslite reflective piping
- Protective non-slip, non scratch diamond pattern
- 1680 denier ballistic polyester

## GPS Systems

### Good GPS System

[Garmin Zumo 660LM GPS](#)



#### Features:

- Advanced 3D navigation
- Lane assist with junction view
- Bluetooth wireless technology
- Rugged, waterproof design

### Great GPS System

[Garmin Zumo 665LM GPS](#)



#### Features:

- XM Satellite information
- Bluetooth wireless technology
- Advanced 3D navigation
- Rugged, waterproof design

## GPS Mounts

### Good GPS Mount

[RAM Mounts Universal Finger Grip Holder With U-Bolt Mount](#)



#### Features:

- High-strength composite and powder-coated marine-grade aluminum
- 1" rubber ball "B" size
- Four flexible rubber coated fingers grip your device
- Mount to both the brake/clutch reservoir

### Best GPS Mount

[Firstgear Laguna GPS Tank Bag With Backpack](#)



#### Features:

- Attaches to bike with straps, magnets or suction cups
- Reflective piping
- Crafted from ultra-durable 1680D nylon
- collapses when not in use

## Cover

### Good Motorcycle Cover

[Nelson-Rigg UV-2000 1/2 Cover](#)



#### Features:

- UV-treated nylon
- Heat sealed seams - 100% waterproof
- Snug elastic bottom
- 1 year warranty

### Better Motorcycle Cover

[Show Chrome Universal Half Cover](#)



#### Features:

- Ideal for traveling
- Covers seat, windshield and front of bike
- Expandable windshield pocket
- Universal fit

### Best Motorcycle Cover

[CoverMax Half Motorcycle cover](#)



#### Features:

- Lightweight, all-weather, water-proof cover
- Waterproof heat sealed seams
- Elasticized bottom for snug fit
- Reinforced grommets sewn into cover

## Bungees

### Good Bungee

[BikeMaster Heavy Duty 4-Hook Bungee](#)



#### Features:

- Heavy Duty
- 4-hook bungee system

### Better Bungee

[Adjustable Cargo Net](#)



#### Features:

- Adjustable netting
- 6 removable plastic hooks to adjust size
- 15" x 15" unstretched
- 36" x 36" stretched

### Best Bungee

[Klim Tie Down - Black](#)



#### Features:

- 1-1/8" 100% nylon webbing
- Dual locking clips on the hooks
- Soft-end lock to protect handlebars
- Length: 24" to 78"

## Lock/Security System

### Good Lock System

[Xena X2 Disc-Lock](#)



#### Features:

- Two attack points
- 14 mm double-locking pin
- Ultra-high level security
- Sportbike fit profile

### Better Lock System

[Deemeed Grenade Motorcycle Disc Lock](#)



#### Features:

- Made from molded, hand-polished zinc
- Disc lock is equipped with a patented anti-drill-proof lock tumbler mechanism
- Mounts on most bikes that have ventilated brake discs
- 50,000 coded key variations

### Best Lock System

[Kryptonite Kryptodisc Lock - Chrome](#)



#### Features:

- Lifetime key registration and replacement
- Made from the strongest forged steel to resist cutting, sawing freezing, and chisel attacks.
- Fits all discs with an opening of at least 10 mm in diameter and 2-1/2" from outside edge

## Tool Kits

### Good Tool Kit

[BikeMaster 17-Piece Tool Kit](#)



#### Features:

- Open ended wrenches: 11, 12, 13, 14, 16 and 17 mm sizes
- 10 mm combination wrench
- 6" adjustable wrench
- 3/8" drive ratchet wrench

### Best Tool Kit

[CruzTOOLS Roadtech M3 Metric Tool Kit](#)



#### Features:

- 8, 10, 12, 14 mm combination wrenches
- Mini ratchet and 2" extension
- Hex key set (3, 4, 5 and 6 mm)
- 6-in-1 screwdriver

## Tire Repair Kit

### Good Tire Kit

#### [BikeMaster Tire And Tube Flat Repair Kit](#)



#### Features:

- Covers tubes and tubeless repair
- Comes complete with patches, plugs, plug insertion tool, hole cleaner, glue, pressure wheel with surface preparation tool and knife for plug trimming
- Includes 4 CO2 Compressed air cylinders and an air valve

### Better Tire Kit

#### [Tubeless Tire Plugger With Co2](#)



#### Features:

- Seals from inside/out
- Repair punctures without dismounting tire from wheel
- Complete with CO2 to re-inflate tire
- Compact 22 ounce, 8" x 4" x 1" size

### Best Tire Kit

#### [Genuine Innovations Tire Repair & Inflation Kit](#)



#### Features:

- Includes tire plugs, tube patches, glue, tire reamer, plug installation tool, monster air chuck
- Two 45g threaded CO2 cartridges

## Roadside Cleaning

### Good Roadside Cleaner

#### [Plexus Plastic Cleaner .5 oz](#)



#### Features:

- Ideal protection for helmet shields, windshields, sunglasses and goggles
- Special formula leaves a lustrous, anti-static, antifog finish that resists finger prints

### Better Roadside Cleaner

#### [BikeMaster Compressed Towelettes - 50 Pack](#)



#### Features:

- With just a little water, each expands back to its full size
- Manufactured from compressed fabric with 70,000 pounds of pressure
- Supplied with a 10-piece carrying tube

### Best Roadside Cleaner

#### [S100 Cycle Care Gift Set](#)



#### Features:

- Contains: 500 ml Total Cycle Cleaner, drying towel, finish restorer, corrosion protectant, detail wax, yellow sponge



## Chain Oil/Wax

### Good Chain Wax

[Maxima Chain Wax - 5.5oz](#)



#### Features:

- Eliminates "fling-off" and seals lubricant to chain
- Special paraffin base creates waxy film
- Excellent rust protection
- For O-ring and conventional chains

### Best Chain Wax

[Maxima Chain Guard Chain Lube](#)



#### Features:

- Race-proven protection
- Waterproof and heat resistant
- Excellent rust and corrosion protection
- Extends chain and sprocket life

Other items to consider taking with you:

- Spare key(s)
- Extra oil
- Spares (bulbs, fuses, etc.).

## Motorcycle Riding Gear

This selection is for what you will wear on the motorcycle trip. You probably already have most of this, but you may find that a newer piece of gear is better suited to your intended destination. Remember, though, that if you do buy new gear, break it in before the journey so that no comfort or compatibility issues hamper your riding enjoyment.

### Packable Rain Gear

**Good Packable Rain Gear**  
[REV'IT! Acid H2O Rain Pants](#)



**Features:**

- PVC-free, EN343 certified
- Adjustment tab at ankles
- PVC-free PWR|Oxford with polyurethane coating outer shell
- 100% waterproof

**Better Packable Rain Gear**  
[REV'IT! Nitric H2O Rain Jacket](#)



**Features:**

- Includes transport bag, hood with easy inside-collar storage
- 100% polyester (100% polyurethane coating)/lining: 100% polyester
- Laminated reflection at upper arms
- 100% waterproof

**Best Packable Rain Gear**  
[Alpinestars Quick Seal Out 2-Piece Rain Suit](#)



**Features:**

- Taped seams
- Stows away in its own convenient carry bag
- Strategically placed reflective details
- Dual front flap design helps seal elements out



## Backpacks

### Good Backpack

[Dainese Backpack-R - Black](#)



#### Features:

- Internal waterproof polyurethane coating
- Nylon fabric
- Reflective inserts
- Expandable construction for full-face helmet transport

### Better Backpack

[Alpinestars Commuter Backpack - Black](#)



#### Features:

- Combination of water resistant 840D ballistic nylon twill and 420D honeycomb nylon
- Laptop compartment, audio port, internal organizers, external side pockets storage
- Self-locking waterproof zipper on main compartment

### Best Backpack

[OGIO No Drag Mach 5 Backpack](#)



#### Features:

- Aerodynamic molded exterior design
- Reflective safety piping and logo for 360 degree visibility
- Ergonomic and deluxe padded back panel
- Weather-resistant molded exterior shell

## Ear Plugs

### Good Ear Plugs

[Hearos Super Hearos Ear Filters](#)



#### Features:

- Package of 16 with carrying case
- NRR 32 protection
- BMW magazine rated HEAROS the "Best" ear protector for riders

### Best Ear Plugs

[Hearos Xtreme Ear Plugs 14 Set](#)



#### Features:

- Pack of 14
- Super soft foam
- NRR 33 protection

## Clothing

This section is fairly self-explanatory. The important part of choosing proper clothing is to check the weather along your trip path and at your destination. You do not want to be over or under-dressed for any events, either. Try to find garments which are multi-purpose to save room in your luggage.

## Underwear

### Good Underwear

#### [Held Megalight Base Layer Pants](#)



#### Features:

- Outer shell made from Megalight (78% polyamide, 22% polyester)
- Knitted with 3D seamless technology
- temperature regulating
- Antibacterial and deodorizing effect

### Better Underwear

#### [Firstgear TPG Basegear Shortsleeve Top](#)



#### Features:

- UV 50+ protection from sun
- Releases 80% of its moisture after 30 minutes of rest
- All seams flat-stitched
- Heat-release mechanism

### Best Underwear

#### [REV'IT! Women's Violet Shirt](#)



#### Features:

- Purpose-built for summer use
- Moisture wicking function
- Antibacterial finish
- Polyamide outer shell

## Shirts

### Good Shirts

#### [MotoSport Logo T-Shirt](#)



#### Features:

- 100% pre-shrunk cotton
- Screen printed MotoSport.com logo

### Best Shirts

#### [One Industries Medford Long Sleeve Plaid Shirt](#)



#### Features:

- 100% Cotton
- Yarn dyed plaid long-sleeved shirt

## Pants

### Good Pants

#### [One Industries Women's See Thru Shorts](#)



#### Features:

- Elastic waistband and drawcord
- Back patch pocket
- 58% cotton/38% poly/4% Spandex fleece

### Better Pants

#### [One Industries Women's Rockstar Star Power Pants](#)



#### Features:

- 60% Cotton/35% Polyester/5% Spandex
- Ribbed waistband
- Adjustable draw-cord
- Contrast stitching on waist rib and lower leg

### Best Pants

#### [Alpinestars Drifter Pants](#)



#### Features:

- 100% cotton
- Mid-weight, denim, five-pocket jean
- 16" bottom opening
- Straight fit

## Sweater or Pullover

### Good Sweater/Pullover

#### [MotoSport Hoody](#)



#### Features:

- 90% cotton/10% polyester
- Kangaroo-style hand-warmer pocket at front waist
- Drawstring, double-layer hood
- Stretch material at cuffs and bottom hem

### Better Sweater/Pullover

#### [One Industries Icon FZ Hooded Fleece Jacket](#)



#### Features:

- 80% Cotton / 20% Polyester
- Novelty media pocket construction
- Zip-up fleece

### Best Sweater/Pullover

#### [Metal Mulisha Women's Janis Zip Fleece Hoody](#)



#### Features:

- 80% cotton / 20% polyester 240-gram fleece
- Zip-up
- 100% jersey lining for hood and body
- Contrast side panels with engineered screens

## Windbreaker Jacket

### Good Windbreaker

#### [2014 Fly Racing Pit Jacket](#)



#### Features:

- Lightweight outer shell construction
- Water resistant and breathable
- Hoody-style inner sleeve cuff
- Two zippered hand warmer, two front cargo pockets

### Better Windbreaker

#### [Icon 1000 Hoodlux Softshell Jacket](#)



#### Features:

- Stretch woven 330-gram softshell fabric bonded to polar fleece interior
- Modified raglan fit with drop tail and pit zips
- Synthetic leather elbow patches
- Snorkel hood

### Best Windbreaker

#### [2013 Klim Women's Whistler Jacket](#)



#### Features:

- 100% windproof
- Highly water resistant
- Highly breathable
- Adjustable hook-and-loop cuff closures

## Walking Shoes/Sandals

### Good Walking Shoes/Sandals

[Alpinestars Substance Sandals](#)



#### Features:

- Nubuck upper strap with woven polyester inner strap
- Anatomical arch support with brushed and textured EVA footbed
- Custom Astars patterned rubber outsole

### Better Walking Shoes/Sandals

[Speed & Strength Women's Wicked Garden Shoes](#)



#### Features:

- Perforated leather and textile upper
- Anti-slip rubber outsole
- Molded internal toe and ankle reinforcements

### Best Walking Shoes/Sandals

[Alpinestars Joey WP Shoes](#)



#### Features:

- Wax treatment on outer shell for waterproofing
- Waterproof membrane lining ensures feet remain dry
- Dual density ankle protectors on lateral and medial sides
- Reinforced internal toe box and heel counter gives strategic support and impact performance

## Hats/Visors

### Good Hat/Visor

[Alpinestars Trainer Beanie](#)



#### Features:

- Flat embroidery, 3D embroidery with nylon backing
- Acrylic
- One size

### Better Hat/Visor

[MotoSPORT Flexfit Hat](#)



#### Features:

- 6-panel mesh cap Flexfit 210 blend twill
- Pre-curved bill
- Fitted

### Best Hat/Visor

[Fly Racing Trooper Beanie](#)



#### Features:

- Black or Grey color
- One size fits most

## Sunglasses

### Good Sunglasses

[Zan Headgear South Dakota Sunglasses](#)



#### Features:

- Wrap styling Blocks wind on the road
- 100% polycarbonate frames and lenses
- 100% UV protection
- Shatter resistant

### Better Sunglasses

[River Road Kickback Sunglasses](#)



#### Features:

- Foam padding for added comfort
- Soft touch frames
- Anti-fog coating

### Best Sunglasses

[Oakley Oil Rig Sunglasses](#)



#### Features:

- Plutonite lens filters out 100% of all UV
- Clarity and impact protection meet ANSI Z87.1 standards
- Built with lightweight O Matter®

In addition to these items consider packing the following along for your trip:

- Suit jacket/blazer
- Casual socks
- Swimsuit
- Contact lenses or glasses

## Toiletries

Small items which you need to keep up your hygiene and grooming duties are listed here. There are some motorcycle-specific items which do differ from any other form of travel, so take care to think about the ride itself and any common issues you experience when on a bike for a long period of time.

Consider packing these items for your trip:

- Pharmaceuticals (anti-allergy, anti-inflammatory, pain meds, regular meds)
- Bug repellent
- Soap
- Shampoo
- Deodorant
- Female sanitary items
- Toothbrush, toothpaste and floss
- Grooming supplies (razor, shaving cream, nail clippers, etc.)
- Safe sex bits
- Washcloth, towel, anti-monkey butt powder

## Information and Connectivity

Since you will be far from home, it is a very smart idea to carry your important information with you on the trip. It is also wise to have a way to communicate with the world should you get hopelessly lost or need to let someone know where you are. You will also be presented with many opportunities to take photographs and record what you see along the journey, prepare for it. While on the road, some music may be helpful for the more boring super-slab portions. The items here will help you with all of these needs and check out our wallets to help you carry some of these items:

- Passport/ID
- Vehicle insurance card
- Bike registration
- Credit card, cash or traveler's checks
- Tickets to any events
- Camera
- Binoculars
- Mobile phone
- Maps
- Guide books
- Printed directions
- Affinity cards (Safeway, Albertsons, etc.)
- MP3 player
- Laptop, tablet
- GPS (mentioned above, but important if not attached to bike)
- Pen or pencil

## Wallet

### Good Wallet

[Alpinestars Spencer Custom Wallet](#)



### Features:

- Custom faux leather bi-fold wallet
- Interior offers cash pocket, 2 slip pockets, 4 card pockets, and ID viewer

### Better Wallet

[FMF SmallBlock Wallet](#)



### Features:

- 100% polyurethane
- Bi-fold wallet

### Best Wallet

[Icon Leather Wallet](#)



### Features:

- 100% genuine leather
- Multiple card slots
- Cash pocket
- Emergency information badge

## Camping

Should the motorcycle tour involve sleeping outside, away from stuffy same-y hotels and motels, here are some camping items which will help to keep you warm, happy and safe. Even if you do a hybrid trip where there are some rented rooms and some nights under the stars, much of this will make that easier to accomplish and far more comfortable.

### Lighting (flashlight, candles, lantern):

#### Good Lighting

#### [CruzTOOLS Superbright 9 LED Flashlight](#)



#### Features:

- Nine LEDs provide extremely bright illumination
- More natural hue than incandescent bulbs
- Unique canister holds three AAA batteries

#### Best Lighting

#### [BikeMaster LED Flashlight](#)



#### Features:

- Ultra bright white light
- Very long battery life (3 AAA batteries)
- Satin chrome finish
- Water-resistant (sealed with O-rings)

In addition to lighting consider taking along these items:

- Tent
- Sleeping bag, sleeping pad / air mattress
- Collapsible chair
- Ground cloth
- Pocket knife (or multi-tool)
- Firestarter (matches, lighter)
- Saw or hatchet
- Eating utensils
- Camping dishes
- Cook stove
- TOILET PAPER!



## Foodstuffs

Taking some food along on the tour is a very good idea as there are many areas where you will find next to nothing in terms of eating. Plus, for the simple fact that the human body also needs fuel to run and to stay alert, capable and coordinated, you need to eat and drink. Of course, if you plan on camping for most of the trip, you may want to bring along a good selection of foodstuffs for preparing over a campfire.

## Hydration pack

### Good Hydration Pack

[2013 Klim Fuel Pak - Black](#)



#### Features:

- Main compartment holds up to 3 liters
- 3 liter Hydrapak® hydration reservoir included
- Anti-microbial
- BPA and PVC free

### Better Hydration Pack

[2013 OGIO Dakar 100 Pack](#)



#### Features:

- 3 liter bladder made from BPA-free polyurethane film
- Two external side pockets
- Clear TPU window for displaying ID, trail map or lift pass
- Tailored paneling to control slosh and bladder movement

### Best Hydration Pack

[Geigerrig Shuttle Hydration Pack](#)



#### Features:

- 70 ounce bladder
- Quick-release valves for drinking tube
- 100% heavy-duty 840 ballistic nylon
- Removable Waist and Shoulder Straps

Bring along the following in addition to water:

- Snacks
- Coffee
- Hot chocolate
- Condiments.

## Maintenance/Emergency

Bad stuff happens – it's just a simple fact of travel. Be prepared for it by taking some of the items below with you on your motorcycle tour. For almost all of these, it is always better to have it and not use it than to need it and not have it. Most of this will fit in your wallet or tank bag, so there is no excuse to leave something at home which could save your butt.

### First Aid Kit

#### Good First Aid Kit

#### [Klim Ultralight Watertight First Aid Kit](#)



#### Features:

- (4) 3 x 3 Sterile dressings
- (4) 2 x 2 Sterile dressings
- (2) Afterbite sting relief
- (3) Antibiotic ointment

#### Best First Aid Kit

#### [RotopaX First Aid+Preparedness Pack](#)



#### Features:

- (50) 3/4" x 3" adhesive plastic bandages
- Bug repellent
- (25) 3/4" x 3" fabric bandages
- (1) Burn relief pack, 3.5 grams

Also bring along the following:

- Medical insurance card
  - Locator device (i.e. SPOT)
  - Duct tape
  - Extra batteries
  - Flashlight (see Camping section)
  - Sunscreen
  - Superglue
  - Zip-ties or cord for tying objects in place
  - AAA or other roadside assistance card
  - List of dealers or shops along the way.
-



## Conclusion

The motorcycle tour list here is fairly long and includes several optional items which may not suit your plans for a motorcycle tour. Keep in mind that this is merely a guideline to assist you in finding what you will require. You will find that experience is the best teacher. As you do more and more long distance travel by motorcycle, you will develop your own list which more closely matches your needs, wants and your personality. Write it down and keep it somewhere that you will always be able to find it. The human mind loves lists because then it does not have to recall everything on its own; take advantage of this and prepare yourself well for your journey to the horizon and beyond!

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