

One of the most common pre-trip questions we receive is all about what to pack, and what the essential items are. This is a list of recommended kit to take on the Beyond the Grand Canyon challenge. We have tried to pare down this kit list to the absolute must-haves for your trek, but above all you should use your common sense and your own personal preferences when you are packing. Check out our additional guidelines at the bottom of this list!

RUCKSACKS AND BAGS

- Day sack 40L
- Rucksack/Duffle bag 70-90L
- Waterproof liner*

SLEEPING

- 3 season sleeping bag.
- Sleeping mat/Thermarest*
- Sleeping bag liner*

FOOTWEAR

- Walking boots with ankle protection
- Hiking socks at least 4 pairs, of which one thermal
- Training/comfy shoes for evenings
- Spare laces*

CLOTHING

- Waterproof and breathable jacket GORTEX recommended
- Waterproof over-trousers
- Windproof softshell jacket
- Lightweight fleece top
- Wicking t-shirt
- Trekking trousers (not jeans)
- Underwear light and loose
- Balaclava/hat
- Insulated gloves/mittens
- Casual clothes for around camp
- Hiking shorts*
- Smart clothes for the celebratory meal*
- Swimwear dependant on hotel*

GENERAL TREKKING EQUIPMENT

- LED Head torch plus spare batteries
- Water bottles/bladder min 3l
- Sunglasses
- High energy snacks (cereal bars, dried fruit, chocolate, nuts)
- Plastic bags for keeping clothes and docs dry
- Walking poles*
- Camera*
- Contact lenses (plus spare glasses)*
- Gaffa tape for emergency repairs*
- Ear plugs*

SMALL FIRST AID KIT

- Your own medication
- Pain killers
- Plasters or foot comfort padding
- Zinc oxide tape
- Blister pads such as Compeed
- Antiseptic wipes
- Diarrhoea tablets
- Rehydration sachets
- Dextrose tablets for extra energy*
- Deep heat*
- Knee supports*

TOILETRIES

- Personal toiletries
- Travel towel
- Tissue/toilet paper
- Insect repellent containing DEET
- Sun protection (min factor 30), After sun/moisturiser
- Anti-bacterial hand gel
- Dry wash*

DOCUMENTS

- Passport
- Visa (if required)
- Flight Tickets
- Photocopy of passport
- Cash
- Debit / Credit card
- Travel insurance

KEY * Indicates Optional

If you do not own some of this equipment and do not wish to spend a lot of money on buying equipment then we would highly recommend hiring equipment from our partners at [Outdoorhire](#). They can hire really good quality outdoor equipment for weekends and often hiring a high quality piece of equipment is better than purchasing a cheap version

MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR KIT

PACKING

Check out Outdoorhire's useful tips on how to pack your kit bag [here](#). Remember that we recommend limiting your bag weight up to 15kg.

Please be aware that in your day sack you will need to pack clothes for one day to trek up and down in Monument Valley. You will be trekking with that rucksack on your back, so don't over pack!

Your day sack should have a thick waist strap for maximum comfort. Other things to consider are back ventilation, hydration compatibility and gear loops for stowing walking poles. Waterproof liners or bags are essential for keeping valuables and clothes dry within your pack.

CLOTHES

Temperatures can fluctuate enormously from day-night and between campsites. Lots of light layers are key, as well as a synthetic or down jacket for the evenings. Make sure that you wear and test your kit before arrival, particularly your hiking boots.

SLEEPING

Look for a sleeping bag 'Comfort Rated' as close to the anticipated minimum temperature for your trek. For the Beyond Grand Canyon Trek, this should be between 10 to - 5. If you particularly feel the cold, then upgrade your sleeping bag to the next level e.g. from 4 Season to 4+ Season. Don't forget a silk sleeping bag liner for extra comfort without taking up too much space in your pack. Another handy tip is to keep your camera in your sleeping bag as you sleep. This will conserve the battery, which runs down quickly in cold temperatures.

HYDRATION

High temperatures and humid conditions mean keeping hydrated is extremely important. There are various ways to get the correct amount of fluid into your body, with many people opting to use water bladders or bottles. Another alternative is a wide mouth bottle with a drinking tube adaptor.

See Outdoorhire's top tips for hydration [here](#).

HEALTH

Make sure you take a first-aid kit with you, as the group medical kit is designed for emergencies. Zinc Oxide tape is a handy addition, as it is often a lifesaver for blisters. Tape your feet up before trekking and this will reduce the chance of you developing hotspots. In addition, when applying your sunscreen, make sure that you cover the backs of your hands as well as your face and neck. Don't forget to take an SPF stick for your lips as well.