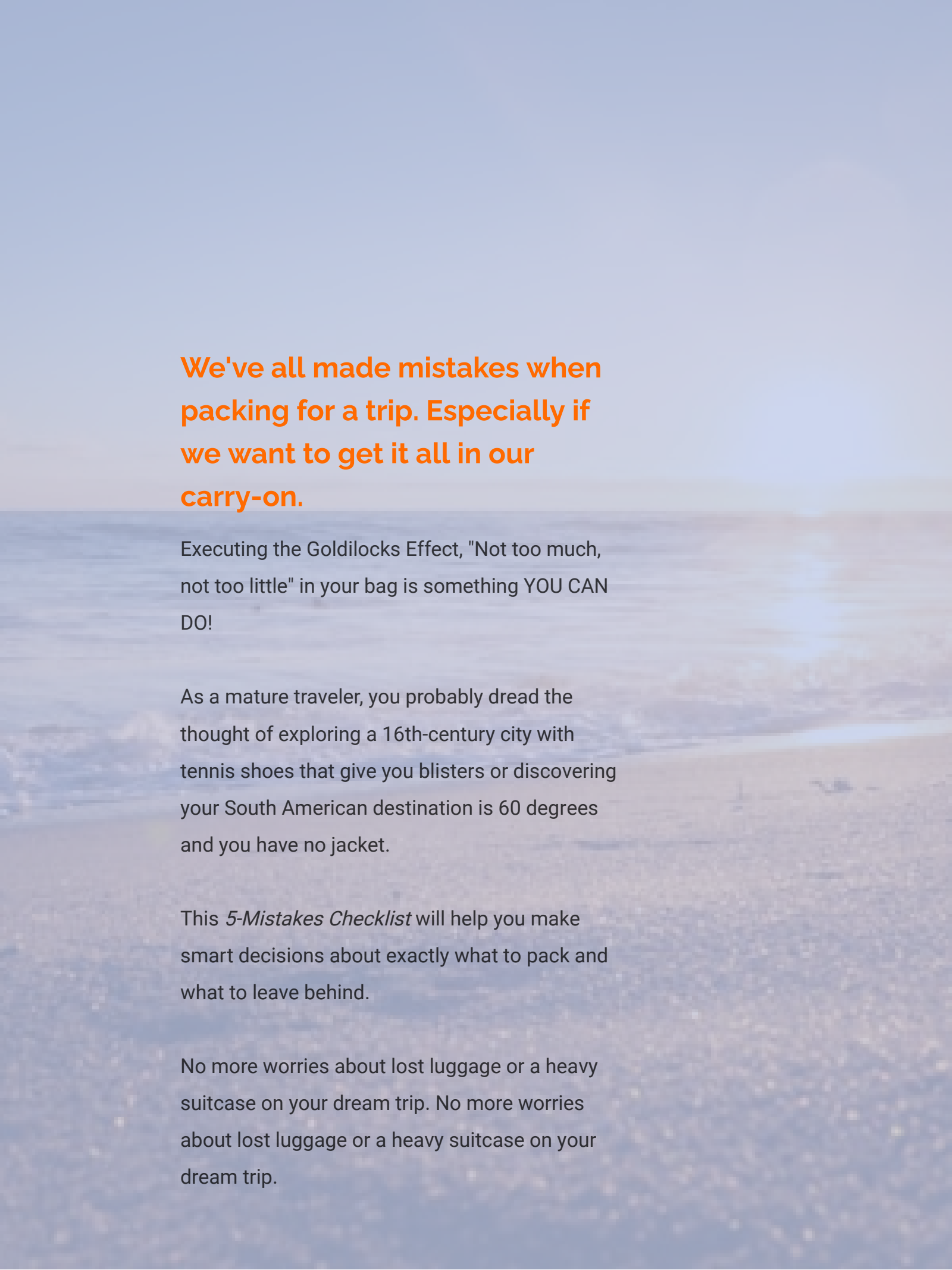


Don't Make These 5 Packing Mistakes! (for Travelers 55+)



By Jenny Desmond

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We've all made mistakes when packing for a trip. Especially if we want to get it all in our carry-on.

Executing the Goldilocks Effect, "Not too much, not too little" in your bag is something YOU CAN DO!

As a mature traveler, you probably dread the thought of exploring a 16th-century city with tennis shoes that give you blisters or discovering your South American destination is 60 degrees and you have no jacket.

This *5-Mistakes Checklist* will help you make smart decisions about exactly what to pack and what to leave behind.

No more worries about lost luggage or a heavy suitcase on your dream trip. No more worries about lost luggage or a heavy suitcase on your dream trip.



Mistake #1

Ignoring the Weather Forecast

What to do instead:

- When you start packing, look at average temp for this time of year.
- The day before your trip, what is the forecast?

Will you be visiting various destinations?

- Pick out the cities where you will be overnight and look at their weather forecast.

💡 We recommend *AccuWeather.com* as a reliable resource.





Not Planning for Daytime & Nighttime Activities

What to do instead:

Review your itinerary

- Are you going on a cultural tour that involves both time in the city and the countryside? You'll want good walking shoes that are easily cleaned after walks on dirt trails.
- Will you go to a ballet performance or an elegant place for dinner? Include a dressy outfit so you don't feel like a frumpy tourist at a special occasion.



Mistake #3

Packing 10 Outfits for 10 Days

What to do instead:

Pack clothes for 5 days!

- What can be worn multiple times between washings?
- What pants or shorts go with every top I'm taking?

Laundry services?

If you're staying at boutique hotels or hosted Air B& B's you could get everything washed on Day 5 and start fresh!

- Or pack some powdered laundry soap and sink wash as you go.



Mistake #4

Too Many Shoes

Take the Essentials

- Are tennis shoes or water sandals sufficient for a hike?
- Sandals that are daytime and evening ready?
- Flip-flops or slip-ons in case you get a blister?

As always, wear ones that take up the most room on the plane.



□ Mistake #5

Not Checking with Your Bank

Get Local Currency When You Arrive:

- It is often more costly to get destination currency before you leave or in a U.S. airport.
- Google, "Best way to get local currency in ___." (trust advice that is within the last three years)
- Technology and scams change often, so follow the advice that was posted in the last five years.

Check your credit and ATM cards to see if they charge a **foreign transaction fee**.

*If you're going to Cuba from the U.S., your cards won't work! You'll need U.S. dollars for everything.





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What's your next adventure?

At Vive Más Tours, we specialize in small group tours designed with the active 55+ traveler in mind that are no-hassle, authentic, and So. Much. FUN.

Have you always dreamed of riding around Havana in a '55 pink Bonneville with the top down? We'll take you to Cuba and have you tapping your toes to the local music and more!

Looking for somewhere exotic? Discover historic Cartagena, named a top travel destination for 2024 by Travel & Leisure. You'll also walk among the world's tallest palm trees in Colombia's coffee country. You'll be surprised by this little-explored destination.

Let's have a 15-minute call to learn if one of these destinations is right for you.

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