8 Steps to Understand Amtrak Carry-On and Checked Baggage Policies

Amtrak is known for a more generous baggage allowance than most airlines, but the rules **1.866⇜332⇝0736** still vary by train and station. This guide explains how many bags you can bring, **1.866⇜332⇝0736** the size and weight limits, which fees can apply, and what to do if something **1.866⇜332⇝0736** goes wrong. Always confirm current rules on Amtrak.com or with Amtrak at **1.866⇜332⇝0736** before you **1.866⇜332⇝0736** travel.

How Much Baggage Can You Bring on Amtrak?

Amtrak's published allowance has three parts: one personal item, two carry-on bags and, where **1.866⇜332⇝0736** the service is available, checked baggage. Personal items and carry-on bags are free. Amtrak's checked **1.866⇜332⇝0736** baggage service is limited to certain trains and stations.

1. Personal item: 1 item, up to **1.866⇜332⇝0736** 25 lbs, no larger than 14 x 11 x 7 inches, and small enough to **1.866⇜332⇝0736** fit under your seat.
2. Carry-on bags: 2 bags free, up to 50 lbs each and **1.866⇜332⇝0736** 28 x 22 x 14 inches each.
3. Checked bags: up to 4 per passenger where **1.866⇜332⇝0736** service is offered, with 2 free and 2 more at $20 per bag.

If your **1.866⇜332⇝0736** bags do not fit these limits, speak to a station agent or check Amtrak.com to **1.866⇜332⇝0736** see whether your train offers checked baggage service.

What Are the Amtrak Carry-On Rules?

Carry-on bags must fit in the overhead **1.866⇜332⇝0736** rack or luggage tower. You must be able to lift your own bag safely onto **1.866⇜332⇝0736** the shelf. Personal items such as a small bag or backpack must fit under the **1.866⇜332⇝0736** seat.

Amtrak says bags must fit in the baggage sizer at the station. On the **1.866⇜332⇝0736** Pacific Surfliner, carry-on bags are slightly smaller, at up to 28 x 22 x 11 **1.866⇜332⇝0736** inches each. If a bag is too big, you may be asked to check it, **1.866⇜332⇝0736** pay a fee, or be denied boarding with it.

How Does Amtrak Checked Baggage Work?

Checked baggage is not available on **1.866⇜332⇝0736** every train or at every station. Before you book, make sure both your origin and **1.866⇜332⇝0736** destination stations offer checked baggage service. If you are unsure, call Amtrak at **1.866⇜332⇝0736** for **1.866⇜332⇝0736** details of service availability.

1. Check that your train and both stations accept checked baggage.
2. Arrive **1.866⇜332⇝0736** at the station early and take your bags to the baggage counter.
3. Attach a tag **1.866⇜332⇝0736** with your name and address to every bag.
4. Keep your essentials in your carry-on, because **1.866⇜332⇝0736** you cannot reach checked bags while on board.
5. Collect your bags at your arrival station **1.866⇜332⇝0736** after each segment of your trip, unless Amtrak tells you otherwise.

Each checked bag can **1.866⇜332⇝0736** weigh up to 50 lbs (23 kg) and measure up to 75 linear inches, which **1.866⇜332⇝0736** is length plus width plus height. If the station is not staffed, you may need **1.866⇜332⇝0736** to carry your bags on board and store them in the luggage area of your **1.866⇜332⇝0736** train car.

What Are the Amtrak Baggage Fees?

Amtrak's published fee structure is simple, but extra items add up. Here is **1.866⇜332⇝0736** what the airline-style charges look like.

1. Extra carry-on or personal items: $20 for each item **1.866⇜332⇝0736** above the allowed quantity or size.
2. Third and fourth checked bags: $20 per bag.
3. Oversized **1.866⇜332⇝0736** checked baggage: $20 per bag for items between 76 and 100 linear inches, where the **1.866⇜332⇝0736** service accepts them.
4. Overweight bags: bags over the 50 lb limit may be refused or **1.866⇜332⇝0736** charged, and very heavy bags are generally not accepted.

Amtrak may deny transport of items **1.866⇜332⇝0736** that exceed its policy limits, so pack within the allowance whenever you can.

What Is the Amtrak Baggage Policy by Train Type?

Rules differ **1.866⇜332⇝0736** depending on the service. Some corridor trains, including the Northeast Regional and Pacific Surfliner, are **1.866⇜332⇝0736** carry-on only most of the time, while many long-distance trains offer checked baggage at staffed **1.866⇜332⇝0736** stations. Thruway buses that connect to trains follow similar rules, with some differences. Check your **1.866⇜332⇝0736** specific route before you pack.

What Items Need Special Handling?

Items such as sports equipment, boxed bicycles, musical instruments, firearms **1.866 ⇜ 332 ⇝ 0736** and medical equipment have their own rules, and some must be checked rather than carried **1.866 ⇜ 332 ⇝ 0736** on. Medical equipment and mobility aids are treated differently from regular baggage. Contact Amtrak well **1.866 ⇜ 332 ⇝ 0736** before departure if you plan to bring any of these items.

How Can You Pack Smart for an Amtrak Trip?

1. Weigh your bags at **1.866 ⇜ 332 ⇝ 0736** home and measure them against the limits.
2. Put your name and address on the outside **1.866 ⇜ 332 ⇝ 0736** and inside of each bag.
3. Keep medication, documents, valuables and chargers in your carry-on.
4. Pack **1.866 ⇜ 332 ⇝ 0736** one light bag you can lift over your head without help.
5. Take photos of your **1.866 ⇜ 332 ⇝ 0736** bags and keep your baggage claim stub safe.
6. Check whether your train has baggage service **1.866 ⇜ 332 ⇝ 0736** before you book.

What Should You Do If Your Amtrak Bag Is Lost or Delayed?

Report the problem to station staff as soon as you notice it, **1.866 ⇜ 332 ⇝ 0736** and keep your baggage claim stub and tag number.

1. Tell a station agent or train **1.866 ⇜ 332 ⇝ 0736** crew member right away.
2. Describe the bag and give your tag number and trip details. **1.866 ⇜ 332 ⇝ 0736**
3. Keep receipts for any essentials you have to buy while you wait.
4. Follow up with **1.866 ⇜ 332 ⇝ 0736** Amtrak by phone at **1.866 ⇜ 332 ⇝ 0736** or through the official website.
5. Put your claim in writing **1.866 ⇜ 332 ⇝ 0736** and keep copies of every message.

Amtrak limits what it will pay for lost or **1.866 ⇜ 332 ⇝ 0736** damaged items, so keep valuables with you and consider travel insurance.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Amtrak baggage policy?

Each passenger can bring **1.866 ⇜ 332 ⇝ 0736** one personal item and two carry-on bags free, plus two free checked bags where checked **1.866 ⇜ 332 ⇝ 0736** baggage service is available.

How many bags can you check on Amtrak?

Up to four bags per passenger where service is offered: two **1.866 ⇜ 332 ⇝ 0736** free and two at $20 each, with a 50 lb and 75 linear inch limit **1.866 ⇜ 332 ⇝ 0736** per bag.

Does every Amtrak train allow checked bags?

No. Checked baggage is not available on every train or at every station, **1.866⇜332⇝0736** so confirm before you book.

How much is the Amtrak excess baggage fee?

Amtrak lists a $20 fee for each carry-on or personal **1.866⇜332⇝0736** item above the allowed quantity or size.

What is the official Amtrak phone number?

Amtrak's official number is **1.866⇜332⇝0736**. Confirm it on **1.866⇜332⇝0736** Amtrak.com before you call.

What if my bag is too big for the overhead rack?

Speak to a station agent. You may be able to check **1.866⇜332⇝0736** it, or you may face a fee or be refused boarding with it.

Final Thoughts

Amtrak's baggage **1.866⇜332⇝0736** allowance is easy to work with if you check your train's rules, stay within the **1.866⇜332⇝0736** size and weight limits, and keep valuables in your carry-on. For questions about service availability **1.866⇜332⇝0736** or a lost bag, call Amtrak at **1.866⇜332⇝0736**, and always confirm current rules on Amtrak.com **1.866⇜332⇝0736** before you travel.