



TIPPING GUIDELINES

We have put together this tipping reference in response to many requests from travelers worried about not sufficiently tipping or tipping too generously. Although not mandatory, tipping is highly appreciated in all cases. Our general advice to travelers is to tip what you feel is appropriate and based on performance – using the guidelines below – and do not worry about offending anyone. It is a good idea to keep small denomination bills (either U.S. dollars or local currency) handy for tips. Gratuities are gladly accepted in U.S. dollars or local currency.

Private Drivers:

\$5 per passenger, per day; or,
Airport transfers or short transfers: \$5-\$10, total
Transfers (2-4 hours): \$10-20, total
Full-day transfers (over 4 hours): \$10-\$30, total

Driver/Guides (Guides who also do the driving):

\$5-\$10 per passenger/per day; or,
For a couple or small group (1-6 passengers) – \$30-\$60 total per day
For a group (over 6 passengers) – \$50-\$100 total per day

Guides:

Local guide – \$5-\$7, per passenger, per day
Naturalist/Specialized* guide – \$10-\$15, per passenger, per day
For a couple or small group (1-6 passengers) – \$20-\$40 total per day
For a group (over 6 passengers) – \$40-\$80 total per day
*Specialist guides might earn a larger tip than the average tour guide (for a special service performed, or if it generally feels appropriate).

Cruise crew:

\$5-\$10 per passenger, per night

Lodge staff (all-inclusive lodges):

\$10-\$15 per person, per night
*Some lodge packages include service charges.

Miscellaneous:

Hotels: Luggage handlers – \$1-\$2 or, \$0.50 - \$1 per bag; room cleaning staff – \$1 per room per day; 10% for room service if the service charge has not already been added.
At restaurants throughout Latin America, 10 – 15% of your bill is customary and may be added automatically.