

Packing Lists for Georgian Adoption Travel

by Kent & Cindy Bair

We traveled in December 2002, and we went through Moscow both ways. We adopted two children, ages 9 and 18 months. We stayed in a two-bedroom apartment that had a gas space heater and a gas stove. It was comfortable and spacious. We had occasional power outages that lasted from 30 minutes to several hours, and we had one occasion when the water was not available for an hour. The apartment had one battery-operated light that came on when the power went off.

1. BABY STUFF

a. What we took and were glad to have

- Diaper bag/airplane carry-on
- Baby Tylenol
- Baby Benedryl
- Balmex diaper ointment
- Mylecon gas drops
- Hydrocortisone 1% ointment
- Antibiotic ointment
- Pseudoephedrine
- Dexamethorfan
- Q-tips
- Lotrimin cream
- Baby carrier/sling
- 8-10 outfits plus socks, etc.
- Cloth diapers
- Thermometer
- Bibs
- Medicine dosage spoon
- Baby brush/comb
- Travel size baby shampoo & body wash
- Orajel
- A few small toys
- Sippy cups (for our toddler)

b. What we took and didn't need, but were still glad to have

- Nix lice treatment
- Pedialyte
- Vaseline
- Band-aids
- Syringe

c. What we took, but could have bought there and saved the hassle

- Baby wipes
- Diapers
- 6 plastic baby bottles (could have taken 2 and bought rest there)
- Lots of different kinds of nipples
- Receiving blankets (apartment had good linens)

d. What we bought there, and were glad we hadn't dragged from the US

- Winter coats & shoes that FIT the kids
- Extra pacifiers that they liked

e. What we wished we'd taken and couldn't get in Georgia

- Prescription antibiotics for kids (we got some from Georgian doctor, but we'd have preferred to have brands we knew)
- Teething ring
- Crayons

2. ADULT STUFF

a. What we took and were glad to have

- One nice outfit for court
- Dark clothes and shoes
- Woman's head scarf & man's hat
- Warm PJ's
- Flip-flops for wearing around apartment
- Camera & film & batteries
- Alarm clock
- Journals
- Eastern Europe electric adapter
- Money belts
- Hair dryer
- Prescription antibiotics for upper respiratory infection
- Pepto Bismol (NOT Imodium)
- Benadryl (for sleeping)
- Sudafed & cough medicine
- Our prescription medications
- Tylenol & Advil
- 2-gallon and 1-quart Ziploc baggies (my favorite thing we had, because organized everything)
- Basic toiletries in SMALL quantities
- Hand/body lotion
- Something to read
- Rope for washing line (handy for lots of other things, too)
- Nylon duffle that packs flat but can be used on the trip home for extra volume

- Travel guide to Georgia
- Emergency numbers provided by CAS
- Washcloths (always take when traveling abroad)
- Flashlight & extra batteries
- Familiar snack foods
- Laundry soap
- Pens

b. What we took and didn't need, but were still glad to have

- Disposable toilet seat covers

c. What we took, but could have bought there and saved the hassle

- Toilet paper (our apartment had all we needed, and it was just fine)
- Small packets of Kleenex

d. What we bought there, and were glad we hadn't dragged from the US

- Paper towels

e. What we wished we'd taken and couldn't get in Georgia

- Afrin nasal spray
- A wider array of cold remedies