

PACKING LIST FOR SCA DAY EVENTS

These are the things I've found I want to have with me at SCA day events. Your mileage may vary. Notes with tips follow the list. (Please note that this is my personal list. I am NOT speaking on behalf of the SCA.)

Quick & Dirty Minimal List

chair
mug
water/drinks
food
sunblock
tote bag or basket
site fee
membership card (if a member)
"reasonable attempt" at garb

Regular Day Event List

Setup

shade
chair
chair disguise cloth
small table
tablecloth

Food

drinks cooler
cooler disguise cloth
water
sports drink
snack
lunch

Feast Gear

basket or sack
mug
plate or bowl (or both)
eating utensils
sharp eating knife
cloth napkin
plastic bag

Men's Garb

tunic or shirt
pants
belt
belt pouch
shoes/sandals
cloak

Women's Garb

dress

chemise
leggings
belt
belt pouch
shoes/sandals
shawl/wrap/cloak

Accessories

jewelry
special things for your persona
basket or tote bag for a purse
basket cover cloth
"sewing basket"
straw hats

Toiletries

sunscreen!!!
OTC medications
prescription meds
baby wipes
hand sanitizer
lip balm
hand lotion
Kleenex
personal hygiene products

Misc

camera
extra batteries
membership cards (if members)
site fee
cash if you want to shop
pen
paper
flashlight

Fighters

authorization cards
armor and/or gear
duct tape

Children

garb
usual travel supplies
things to do
**mandatory forms for minors
not your own (see notes)**

Dog (if site allows)

water dish
collar with tags
leash
clean-up bags
blanket or towel
rabies certificate
toys
den

NOTES:

Deciding on and collecting *your* SCA gear is part of the fun of being new to the SCA. What you get will depend on everything from your persona (when you decide on it) to how much you want to spend to your means of transportation. Don't feel in a rush to get everything all at once (unless you want to!)

General Tips:

- Thrift stores, Ebay, discount stores like Ross', and the Fabric District can be your friends. In addition, some incredible SCA artisans sell at Merchants Row.
- An item that does two (or more) jobs takes up less space and is easier to pack than multiple individual items.
- Cell phones should be turned off or set on vibrate during events. If you need to make or receive a call, do so discreetly (for example, in back of a pavilion) and keep your voice low. Some of our sites (in the mountains especially) have spotty reception, so if you don't turn your phone off, check you coverage to be sure the battery isn't draining down.
- SCA events are all "no smoking." If you choose to smoke, go outside the confines of the event and obey the site's smoking rules.
- "Dry site" means no alcohol. Underage drinking is never allowed.
- If you need help (medical, police, etc.), contact the event steward or the seneschal immediately. If you don't know where to find them, ask at Gate or wherever opening court or announcements were held. Modern law always takes precedence at SCA events. At many events, a constable is available for site security and for lost and found, and a chururgeon for site first aid.

Setup:

"Shade" can mean anything from sharing the Barony of the Angels' pavilion (where newcomers are always welcome) to setting up your rug under an inviting tree. If you plan on sharing the baronial pavilion, it helps if you let those doing the planning know you'll be attending, so they know what size "shade" to bring. Either post to the baronial e-list at [///](#) or send an email to the Angels Seneschal at seneschal@sca-angels.org.

A camp chair is fine, just throw a "disguise" cloth over those with bright or overtly modern patterns. (A tablecloth or woven blanket works really well -- or a shawl or cloak can do double duty here.) Solid color camp chairs can pass, but many people throw a cloth over those as well.

Food:

Bring more water than you think you will need! Living in the Modern Middle Ages is thirsty work! I sometimes freeze a couple of water bottles the day before to augment my cooler ice. That also gives me cold water later in the day as the ice is melting. Because coolers look so modern, we disguise them with a cloth or hide them under a table that's covered with a tablecloth.

Even if you're buying lunch at the site, it can be a good idea to bring a light snack like an apple, pretzels and string cheese, or a hardboiled egg to tide you over in case there's a glitch with the expected meal.

Unless the site announcement says food will be available on site, assume you'll need to bring your lunch. Some people bring (for example) a big Subway sandwich and cut off pieces as the day goes on. Others want a more period(ish) repast. A lunch I like to bring is bread and cheese, some sliced meat, carrot sticks, and cookies.

Potlucks -- Angels often holds potlucks in the baronial pavilion. Lots of times, even if we're just planning on bringing snacks to share, a potluck breaks out. If you want to take part, bring a dish to share in return. We generally tell people to bring "food for 8." That means bring 8 adult servings of whatever dish you're bringing. For example, an entire quiche cut into 8 pieces is 8 servings. Voila, you have your contribution! When in doubt, err on the side of bringing more. Remember a serving dish and utensil(s). Also bring an ingredients list, as some people have food allergies. If the completed dish is from Uncle Ralph's or Grandma Albertson's, it'll

look more period if you transfer it into a plain ceramic or wooden serving dish. For the ingredients list then, just pluck off the list from the side of the store's packaging.

Feast Gear:

Loaner feast gear is often available. If you need some, let the seneschal know ahead of time.

Your feast gear will be easier to transport if it's in a basket or tote bag. For your mug, plate, and bowl, ceramic or wooden dishes that aren't overtly modern are great. (No cartoon characters or sayings or such.) For eating utensils, a wooden spoon or stainless knives, forks, and spoons that don't look overtly modern are also fine. A cloth napkin can double as both a napkin and as a basket cover. There's often no place to wash dishes, so bring a plastic bag in which to take the used dishes home. I generally bring a new kitchen trash bag with a handle tie.

Garb:

The tunic/shirt or dress can be the most distinctive piece of clothing to wear, and the least likely to be in your modern closet already. Angels has loaner garb, so let the seneschal know if you need some.

Black sweat pants are fine. Under dresses, leggings can help keep you warm on chilly days. Leather or fabric belts that aren't overtly modern work with most garb. Belts should NOT be white, red, green, or yellow. (Those color belts have special meaning in the SCA.) At many sites, it gets cold when the sun goes down. Having a shawl or cloak available can be really handy. (This can also do double as a chair disguise.)

Most dark leather shoes or sandals will pass. Light sneakers tend to really stand out, so try to avoid those if you can (unless they fit totally under a dress). Some activities (including youth combat) require "closed toed shoes" for safety reasons. If that means your child is competing in his/her sneakers, so be it!

Accessories

The SCA has some sumptuary laws regarding jewelry. No unadorned gold chains. No coronets/crowns/tiaras. Those all have special meaning in the SCA and are worn only by people who have been awarded titles for specific accomplishments. (Some of these laws are the same from kingdom to kingdom, some things are unique to Caid.)

A purse basket or tote bag can double as a sewing basket/bag. A handkerchief or cloth napkin work as a basket cover to hide the modern things.

THE SUN IS NOT YOUR FRIEND! Overheating and sunburn are serious concerns in Caid. In addition to keeping yourself hydrated and wearing sunblock, consider wearing a straw hat or a kerchief or veil to protect yourself from the sun's rays, especially if you burn easily.

Toiletries

One word -- SUNSCREEN!!! Beyond that, bring the OTC medications (like aspirin, allergy meds, etc.) you might need, as well as prescription meds like inhalers. Baby wipes are one of the great all-purpose items.

Misc

I always bring extra batteries for my camera. Try to avoid flashes, especially in court, as they distract people from the feeling of being in the Middle Ages.

We don't wear sunglasses in court, and most people don't wear them at all at events in keeping with a more medieval look. However, if you're sun sensitive, wear them as you need to.

If you're called up in court, men should take off their hats. Everyone should take off sunglasses. If there's a royal presence (if the king and queen are there), everyone who has "live steel" (a blade like a belt knife or sword, even sheathed) and who is not an SCA "peer" should hand the live steel to the royal guards before

proceeding up the aisle to the thrones. The guards are the people at the end of the aisle, holding the spears.

Minors/Children

Parents/guardians are responsible for their children at all times at SCA events. Minors age 12 and under must be within sight/sound of responsible parent/guardian at all times.

For older youth who may be beyond your sight/sound at classes or with friends, it's a good idea to have them carry your contact information in a belt pouch, pocket, or shoe.

If you are bringing a minor who is not yours to an event, notarized waiver and medical authorization forms from his/her parent/guardian are required by the SCA. Forms are available at

<http://library.sca-caid.org/forms/minorform1notary.pdf>

<http://library.sca-caid.org/forms/minorform2notary.pdf>

You can't save the forms, so print out the master copy and give it to the minor's parent/guardian to prepare for you **prior to the event**. If you have questions about how to fill out the forms, ask the seneschal. In Angels, that's seneschal@sca-angels.org. It's a good idea to make at least two copies. Carry one yourself. Have minors over the age of 12 carry their copies as well.

Dogs

Dogs are allowed at most (but not all) SCA events that are held outside. The site announcement will usually say something like "well-behaved dogs on leashes are welcome." When in doubt, check with the event steward listed in the event announcement. Dogs are expected to be licensed and to have a current rabies vaccination. Always clean up after your dog.

I carry a copy of our dog's rabies certificate with me -- her chip number as well -- in case she'd get lost and be picked up by animal control. I also got an extra tag for her that says "Caid" and has the names of the two groups we're mostly likely to be with at an event.

Be sure your dog has shade and water all day. A towel or blanket will keep her comfortable if the ground is cold. You may also want to find out where the area vets are located and what hours they're open.

Further questions?

Bring them up at a Newcomers Meeting or at Picnic in the Park, which is held in Recreation Park in Monrovia from 1:30 - 4:00 on Sunday afternoons (except when there's a conflict with a local or kingdom event). Take the 210 to Mountain Avenue in Monrovia. Exit and go north (towards the mountains). Four lights up, take a left on Lemon. The YMCA will be on your left. (If you reach Foothill, you've gone too far.) We'll be just past the Y in the grassy area. Look for the shields and the people in armor. Park on the street and come join us!

You can learn more about the barony (including joining the baronial e-list and getting the online newsletter) at <http://www.sca-angels.org/>

Welcome to the Barony of the Angels! Let's go have fun in the Modern Middle Ages!