



Tips for Avoiding Bringing Bed Bugs Home During Travel

First keep in mind that there are no socioeconomic boundaries for the presence of bed bugs. (This includes five star presidential suites.)

Prior to leaving home place multiple large size plastic bags in laundry area and purchase several “No Pest Strips” (Available at Lowes Hardware) Also have change of clothes set in laundry

Enjoy you travel and avoid unpacking and placing you clothing in dressers and nightstands if possible.

Upon your return home **DO NOT** take you luggage and clothing into your bedroom to unpack.

Take luggage directly to the laundry room. Clothing that can be washed - wash and dry. If you have clothing to dry clean then place that clothing in one of your large plastic bags and seal to deliver to dry cleaners. If there is clothing or items that you do not wash you may place clothing in dryer on hot cycle for 20-30 minutes. An alternative to heating items in dryer would be to place the items in a chest freezer for approximately one week and then remove. Change from travel clothing into clothing that was left in laundry room.

Following handling of clothing place luggage in large plastic bags and place a “no pest strip” in each bag and seal bags. Leave luggage in bag for a minimum of one week prior to removal, airing out, and then storing.

If you follow these procedures then the likelihood of bringing bed bugs into your home following travel will be greatly reduced.

For more information on bed bugs and their biology you may visit our website www.mcneelypest.com and click onto our bed bug page. We also have a link to NC State University’s insect notes on bed bugs.

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