



Q I'm going on a luxury mini break but every time I go away I always end up taking too

many products or the wrong things. What is the perfect package that won't have my husband complaining that it weighs a ton?

A It's tempting, not to mention comforting, to take your whole bathroom cabinet away with you. But I try to think of my wash bag as a mini spa and fill it with luxurious products that will relax the working week away. To do this I try and decant most of my basics into small size bottles – The Body Shop and Muji have great selections (the lids don't leak either). Charles Worthington has divine mini-sized body washes, £1.75 each, from Boots.

Cleansers, toners and moisturisers should be in a different compartment to your toothbrush, to avoid any nasty tastes if there are leakages. The best wash bags – and believe me I've tried hundreds – are Zoe

Phayre-Mudge's (mail order 020 8288 1091). They cost £34.95 and have different compartments so you can fit your make-up in there too. A cheaper alternative is to use sealable sandwich bags.

Another trick is to save sample packets from magazines or department store counters. But if you have time for pampering, treat yourself to some extras. I'd recommend Christian Dior Masque Cocoon Moisture Mask, 50ml, £19.50 (call 01932 233 908 for stockists), and Dermalogica Barrier Repair, £22.40, which will protect your skin on windy walks.

Using a hair mask is a good idea when in the country; I love John Frieda's Kelp Help, £4.95. If you like to have straight hair, my favourite straighteners are by GHD. They're not cheap at £88.50, but they are very lightweight and the ceramic plates heat up in half the time of normal ones (call 01943 603 000 for stockists). Finally, don't forget scented candles – every woman looks more beautiful in candle glow.

Fiona Jolly is a top celebrity make-up artist, and has been working in the beauty industry for 12 years.