

19 Comfy, Travel-friendly Shoes Made for Walkin'

Walking is, without a doubt, one of the best ways to take in a new city. On foot, you can spot the details that bring a destination to life. It's easy to lose track of time perusing the shops along Via del Corso in Rome, exploring [a bamboo grove in Kyoto](#), or weaving your way through the medieval medina of Fez. But there's no quicker way to shatter the magic of these [immersive cultural experiences](#) than an uncomfortable pair of shoes.

Comfort vs. style has long been a classic conundrum for the fashion-conscious traveler. Your everyday flats aren't necessarily the most practical for a packed itinerary, but something more orthopedic in design might have you cropping your [vacation photos](#) from the ankles up.

Some destinations call for a sturdier shoe due to rugged terrain or extreme weather—[Iceland in the winter](#), perhaps—and in that case, you'll need some trusty, [travel-friendly boots](#). But when mild weather and walkable streets open up the possibilities, it gets a lot harder to choose the perfect pair.

We sorted through sneakers, sandals, slip-ons, and every style of footwear in between to find the best walking shoes for women. Our picks are designed to maximize comfort—using technology like shock absorption, memory-foam insoles, and breathable upper fabrics—without compromising style.

Related: [18 Cute Hiking Boots to Take You From Trail to Town](#)

There is one more important element that makes for a good pair of travel shoes: versatility. If the same kicks can take you effortlessly from shopping to a six-hour [walking tour](#) to dinner, sans blisters, you're set. We know it's a ludicrous ask, but planning to wear only the pair on your feet makes it much easier to pack everything else to match. Plus, those five just-in-case pairs of shoes are often what add the most weight to your [luggage](#). Wouldn't you rather have the extra suitcase space to pick up a few souvenir pairs?



Best For: Cute Water Shoes

Would you believe us if we said these sneaky [Sea Star Beachwear espadrilles](#) (\$90) are actually water shoes? With a fast-drying neoprene upper and a grippy rubber sole, they'll take you straight from the boardwalk into a rocky surf, sans stubbed toes.