

How to transport an inflatable SUP with a roof rack

While paddleboards can be packed in an inflatable stand to fit into a backpack, you can carry iSUPs on a roof rack. Carrying your [SUP](#) on a roof rack is always convenient, so it is good to understand the correct configuration. This article covers the way your [inflatable paddle board](#) can be transported via a roof rack and gives some additional tips and tricks.

There are a number of reasons why you can choose to transport your [SUP](#) on a roof rack. Perhaps you need more space in the car, find it easier to pump the boards indoors, paddle for several days in a row, or ship between nearby water bodies. Whatever the reason, the ins and outs of how to transport your SUP properly on a roof rack is worth understanding.

Go on the Roof Rack before anything

Before you put your board on the roof to tie it down, you will consider several things, such as how far you are travelling on the roof with your board and the possible drival conditions. If you are only a short drive on roads to a nearby location, you do not have to do anything special. However, if you go on a long journey or go off-road it might be worth considering an additional protection.

Intro to Stand-Up Paddleboarding

If possible, use a special SUP roof rack. Many roof racks have the perfect accessories designed to prevent damage to your board. If you do not have a roof rack designed for upstanding paddle panels, you can improvise on important points of contact between the board, the tray and the straps by fixing foam blocks, pool noodles, soft toys and soft materials. Common contact points include the board with the tie down straps and the board touching the roof rack.

Flatable paddleboards don't suffer like hardboards from dents and dings. Their lightweight inflatable bodies make them more resistant to these usual accidents. Nevertheless, follow the added precautions doesn't take much, so why not?

Mount your SUP to the Rack Roof

You can mount your board after you pad your roof rack. When you bring many on the roof ensure the largest is put on the ground and your way up to the smallest. This helps to build a solid and robust basis for the load that you carry.



If you put SUPs on the rack, you want to put them down. The positioning of your SUP with its deck reduces wind resistance. You can also increase your safety and security a little by placing your board so your tail is on the front of your vehicle. Here's the idea that a strap might slide off while you drive your board. However, when the tail is on the front (with or without fins attached) while the board slides back, the fin box is fastened. That's not something you want to rely on, of course. It is just a final line of defence against an accident that is unintentional.

How to turn your inflatable stand up paddle board

Securing your roof rack SUP

You can now secure your board to the roof rack when you have your board in position. Wrap the strap under and over your board. * While roof racks are very similar, it is best to review the instructions of your particular model. When the straps are in place, shut them before you buckle. The strap twist prevents them from fluttering into the wind while driving and creates an unpleasant wind noise.

Now that the straps are tightly tightened, check them. You don't want the boards to move around when secured to the rack. You want to make sure that it is not too close with an [inflatable paddle board](#). Look for plugs where the strap meets your frame. If it's too tight, you'll see plugs in the board as if it's pinched or pinched.

Security added

Although the tie-down straps must be sufficient if they are properly attached, you can add security by securing your SUP with the D-rings. DO NOT rely only on the D-rings to tie your paddleboard down. They are not safe enough alone and tension can damage your board. Instead, you can simply add an additional trunk to the D-rings or your roof rack that your SUP will not fly away in case something happens to the main straps.

Do You Need to Know Exactly How to Swim to Paddle Board?

Fast Guide to Transportation on Roof Rack of your SUP

Step 1

Pad the rack. Pad the rack.

Step 2



Place your board on the centred roof rack between the bar wall, tail first. Often put the biggest panel on the bottom and get to the smallest.

Step 3

Place the straps in line with your model roof rack. Attach a twist to the harness to prevent loud flapping in the breeze.

Phase 4

Make sure your straps are tight and your board can not move around.

As you can see, it's nothing complicated, but with the additional insights you can transport your board correctly. This helps you to keep your equipment in good shape and to remain safe on the road.