

TRAVEL ABROAD SAFETY TIPS

1. Use common sense in looking after yourself and your possessions.
2. Keep a low profile. Try to blend in: don't wear a lot of jewellery or carry lots of expensive equipment. Learn some key words and phrases. Keep your voice down.
3. Don't flash around your money, traveller's checks, or credit cards. Keep records of traveller's check numbers separately in case your checks are lost or stolen. Be conscious of all cards and your cards numbers.
4. Use a security wallet for valuables and keep it out of sight. Do not let it dangle outside for someone to snatch.
5. Keep a photocopy of your ID card and passport in a safe place (for example in the safety deposit box at Harlaxton), and keep extra photos of yourself. When travelling, keep a photocopy of important documents in your hand luggage. You should also keep a copy of the prescription for any medication you take under a doctor's supervision.
6. Be sure you understand the currency system so you are in control of your own financial dealings.
7. Try to avoid large denomination bills.
8. Be sure all your luggage—checked on and carry on—has your name and address inside and out but not so as to be easily read by someone else. It also helps to make it easily identifiable (string, tape, a funny keychain, etc.)
9. Use luggage that is light, sturdy and flexible.
10. Never leave your luggage unattended. It could be easily stolen, and in some airports and train stations it could be confiscated as a potential security risk.
11. Pack a change of necessary clothing and toiletries in your carry-on bag just in case your checked luggage is delayed. (Check for any restrictions of airline carry-on items though! Airline policies can differ greatly.)
12. Don't joke around at airport security check points, immigration, or customs. Just answer the questions. Agents can make your life miserable if you fail to cooperate, and humor is not part of their job. Keep your passport with you at all times!!!
13. Beware of suspicious looking adults and children. In much of Europe, gypsy children prey on tourists. Don't be shy about pushing them away from you and shouting for the police. Pickpockets operate in nearly every city. They almost never harm anyone physically, but they are very adept at stealing.
14. Do not stop in the street to be "interviewed" by anyone. This approach is usually a scam or set up for harassing you. There are many scams to con tourists, if you feel uncomfortable walk away.
15. Women should be especially cautious about maintaining eye contact with men. This action is generally considered either rude or an invitation to trouble.
16. Stay out of the bad parts of any given city. Travelling alone is risky regardless, but especially in bad areas it is really dangerous. In large cities, stay on well-lighted streets or call a taxi.
17. Do not engage strangers in discussions about drugs or black market exchanges of any type for any reason. Remember, countries have varying laws and you are subject to the laws of that country. Many take narcotics very seriously, much more so than in the US.
18. Do not be naïve enough to believe AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases don't exist in other countries.
19. If you should run into personal difficulty abroad, consult a consular officer at the US consulate. Be sure to call the Manor at the main Reception line and leave a message, hopefully with a number in which we can reach you.
20. When you are away from Harlaxton on a trip, be sure to complete the weekend checkout form, or if needed let Reception know where you'll be in case someone needs to contact you. Tell your roommate, too. This is especially important when you are travelling by yourself.