

SAFETY TIPS FOR BUSINESS TRAVELERS

TIPS AND TOOLS FOR STAYING SAFE AT MEETINGS, EVENTS AND CONVENTIONS

Cities across the world continue to face public safety challenges while simultaneously uniting professionals from across the globe through meetings and conventions. As destinations continue to welcome business travelers, they are working to ensure not only safety, but also peace of mind. Independent travelers can support the destinations in prioritizing traveler well-being by implementing common-sense precautions, allowing meetings and conventions to provide a secure environment and positive experience for all.

While visitor safety is a top priority for destinations, travelers are advised to adhere to local laws, report crimes to law enforcement and follow basic precautions.



ON THE TOWN

- **Keep an eye on your belongings:**

Pickpockets and thieves are often at work in crowded places, so leave your valuables at home or in the hotel safe.

- **Blend in:**

Remove your conference badge when you're outside of the event to avoid looking like a tourist. Don't wear expensive jewelry or other accessories.

- **Travel in groups:**

Explore the city with colleagues or pals, ideally in crews of three or more, instead of venturing out alone.

- **Embrace the daylight:**

Avoid going out alone after dark and walk on well-illuminated main streets. When darkness falls, take advantage of public transportation and ride services (cabs, Uber or Lyft, etc.).

- **Be prepared:**

In case of an emergency (or in case you get lost), keep the address and phone number of where you're staying in your phone along with a photo of your passport.

- **Ditch the cash:**

While it's often helpful to carry a small amount of local currency, try to use debit and credit cards or traveler's checks instead and don't let anyone see how much money you have in your wallet or purse.

- **Stay alert:**

Don't leave your drink unattended at any bar or restaurant; avoid being distracted by your phone (keep your eyes up) and ask for help at hotels, attractions or restaurants if something seems fishy, and reach out to the local law enforcement to investigate any situations and to provide further assistance.



AT YOUR HOTEL

Stow your valuables securely:

Keep them in a signed and sealed envelope in your room safe and stow your cash and credit cards (if you brought multiple) in different spots such as in the safe and hidden in your luggage.

Lock yourself in:

Take advantage of all the locks on your room door, including the dead bolt, and don't open your door immediately after anyone knocks. Use your peephole, talk to visitors through the locked door and, if necessary, call the front desk to verify the identity of hotel employees before letting them in.

Have a plan:

Locate the fire exits and elevator closest to where you are in the hotel at all times in case you need to escape in an emergency.

Be discrete:

Don't share your room number with anyone and book your hotel reservation using your first and middle initials and last name.

Connect with the concierge:

For ideas on safe things to do or where to eat between your professional engagements, ask the hotel staff or local official destination marketing organization for tried-and-true recommendations.

UTILIZE THE DESTINATION ORGANIZATION RESOURCES

Travelers can greatly benefit from utilizing the resources offered by the Destination Organization to familiarize themselves with the destination and enhance safety and security during their travels. Serving as valuable hubs of information, the Destination Organization can provide comprehensive guides, maps, transportation options, safety tips, and local law enforcement initiatives. These resources offer valuable insights into the destination's culture, customs, and potential safety concerns. Additionally, Destination Organizations can often provide up-to-date information on any travel advisories, weather conditions, or public health alerts that may impact visitors. By utilizing the resources offered, travelers can make informed decisions, enhance their understanding of the destination, and take proactive steps to ensure a safe and secure travel experience.

