

TRAVELING ALONE IN AMERICA

Travel Safety Facts

- Proper planning reduces the risk of assault.
- Being educated about personal safety decreases your risk.
- Women are particularly vulnerable especially when traveling alone.
- Every 22 seconds a violent crime is committed in the USA.

TRAVEL Safety: GENERAL

- ALWAYS-ALWAYS be aware of your surroundings.

Minimize the appearance of vulnerability or insecurity.

- Avoid isolated areas.
- Do not leave your purse exposed.
- Know exactly where you are going and let others know your route of travel.
- When in any suspicious situation contact police immediately.
- If you have an accident, especially at night, drive to a safe location before exiting car.

TRAVEL Safety: PRIOR TO ANY TRIP

- ALWAYS let someone know your itinerary to include route of travel and hotels.
- Carry sufficient ID and insurance information.
- Check your vehicle lights, tires, fluids, and belts.

- Make sure you have at least a half tank of gas.
- Make sure the car is tuned up and working properly.
- Have an up to date map to unfamiliar destinations.
- DO NOT put your full name and address on luggage tags.

TRAVEL Safety: PERSONAL AUTOMOBILE

- Thoroughly check the condition of the car's tires, windows, wipers and lights prior to setting out.
- Make sure you have at least a half tank of gas.
- Make sure car is tuned up and in proper working order.
- Keep the vehicle doors locked even when driving.
- When parking your vehicle, always lock the doors.
- Upon approaching your vehicle, have keys ready in hand.
- Make a visual inspection of the back seat area of the vehicle.
- Once inside the vehicle-lock all doors immediately.
- When asking for directions, keep your window rolled up to within one inch of the doorframe.

TRAVEL Safety: RENTAL AUTOMOBILE

- Make sure window stickers or license plates do not identify the vehicle as a rental vehicle
- Make sure you have proper directions to your destination.
- If you become lost, do not stop in an isolated location to

check your directions.

- Contact local police for directions if necessary.
- Carry a portable phone for emergency needs if possible.

TRAVEL Safety: EMERGENCY ROAD SERVICE

- STAY in the car
- Have a "CALL POLICE" sign in the glove box.
- Use a handkerchief or flag and fit it into a tightly closed window.
- Preprogram phone to dial 9-1-1 and other emergency numbers.
- DON'T raise the hood of your car as a distress signal.

TRAVEL Safety: OFFERS OF ASSISTANCE

- Make sure all doors are locked and windows rolled up.
 - STAY in your vehicle.
- If you need to talk with a stranger roll a car window down ONLY one inch.
- If a stranger offers to help, only accept their offer to contact authorities.
- Do not get out of the vehicle with a stranger present-- male or female.
 - Verify police identity with a second piece of identification.

TRAVEL Safety: PARKING GARAGES:

- When parking your vehicle always lock your car.
- Upon exiting your vehicle, walk confidently to the

nearest garage exit.

- Upon returning to your vehicle, have your driver's key exposed and ready.
- Go directly to the car and enter as quickly as possible.
- Do not walk around vehicle for inspection purposes.
- Once your vehicle is started proceed immediately to the garage exit

TRAVEL Safety: ARRIVING AT HOTELS

- Use valet parking if it's available, especially after dark.
 - Allow the bellman to escort you to your room.
- Have the bellman check hidden areas of the hotel room.
 - Confirm the working order of the hotel room phone
ASAP.
- Verify any strangers knocking on hotel room door with front desk.
- NEVER open hotel room door to strangers. Notify hotel security immediately.
- Consider a portable door alarm for added hotel room security.

Remember, you are responsible for your personal safety