

# SUMMER SAFETY

## TRAVEL SAFETY TIPS



With children and teens spending more time traveling during the summer, it is vital that parents have conversations about the different risks that exist.

### PREVENTION

- Talk to your children about what to do if they become separated from you.
- Consider marking your name and number on their hand. Marking your child's name on their luggage and/or backpack alerts others to what their name is and children can become confused when someone uses their name.
- Don't draw attention to yourself. People who look like out-of-towners are especially vulnerable to crime, so blend in by choosing inconspicuous clothing. Be discreet when looking at maps, and be careful when approaching people to ask for directions.
- Do not post on social media real-time updates of your travels. Your stories/posts are broadcasting to others that you will be away from your home for an extended period of time, exposing your home's vulnerable state.
- **When on the road:**
  - Always have yourself and children buckled and in appropriate seating.
  - Be wary of hitch hikers and strangers.
- **When camping or staying in a hotel:**
  - Keep valuables with you at all times or locked away out of sight.
  - Mitigate any potential dangers around the space and childproof where needed.
- Try to give the impression that you are in your room, even when you are away, such as hanging the Do Not Disturb sign on your door knob, or closing curtains/blinds.
- **When traveling internationally:**
  - Stay up-to-date on the latest travel requirements for the country you are going to. The State Department website has a travel advisory page for every country in the world.
  - Make a copy of important documents and keep them separately from the originals. Or have important information on a laminated card, or put digital copies on a USB thumb drive in case the originals go missing or are stolen.
  - Familiarize yourself with local scams that are used to foreigners.



### PARTNERS & RESOURCES

- **HealthyChildren.org:** is an organization powered by pediatricians from the American Academy of Pediatrics that offers valuable resources for parents. [healthychildren.org/English/safety-prevention/on-the-go/Pages/Travel-Safety-Tips.aspx](https://www.healthychildren.org/English/safety-prevention/on-the-go/Pages/Travel-Safety-Tips.aspx)
- **The State Department:** has a travel advisory page for every country in the world. [travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html](https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html)