

TRAVELING ALONE IN AMERICA

TRAVEL Safety: THE FACTS

- When sound precautions are implemented risks are greatly reduced.
- Women who are educated about personal safety decrease their risks
- 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.
- 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 exact route.
- 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/address on luggage tags.

TRAVEL Safety: PERSONAL AUTOMOBILE

- Thoroughly check the condition of the cars 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.

TRAVEL Safety: RENTAL AUTOMOBILE

- Make sure the rental vehicle is not identified by window stickers or license plates
- 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.
- Pre-program 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 1 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.

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 drivers 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** •

• **Accompanies Travel Alone Videotape Program 38 minutes** •



Travel tips courtesy of: Film Ideas, Inc. • 308 North Wolf Rd. Wheeling, IL 60090
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