

Vacation Safety

Did you know that you should take extra precautions to protect your property and your finances while on vacation? Here are a few tips to help make sure that your trip is a relaxing getaway with no unexpected complications.



Keep Your Home Safe

- **Keep It to Yourself** – Do not post your vacation plans on social media, reveal vacation plans in your “Out of Office” email and phone messages, or discuss your travel plans in public places where they could be overheard.
- **Keep Up Appearances** – Have a neighbor or friend pick up your newspaper and mail daily, leave a car parked in your driveway or have a neighbor park in your driveway, and have lights programmed with a timer.
- **Use Your Security** – Make sure your home is locked. If you have a security system, notify the monitoring service of the dates you will be traveling and make sure the system is armed while you are away.
- **Keep It Clean** – Clean up sensitive documents and equipment from around your home and make sure they are locked safely away while you travel.

Protect Your Finances

- **Maintain Access To Your Funds** – Notify your bank and credit card issuers of your vacation plans to ensure your transactions aren’t delayed while you travel. Know which credit cards are accepted at your destination and when you will need cash.
- **Spend Smart** – Only carry the essential cards and cash necessary while traveling. For major purchases, use a credit card, only use your debit card at trusted locations, and monitor your accounts if you have a secure method of doing so.
- **Have a Backup Plan** – Pack a backup credit card and keep it in the hotel safe. Make a copy of your important financial information and travel documents and leave a copy of this information with a trusted person back home and/or keep a copy in the hotel safe in the event of loss or theft.
- **Keep It Safe** – Use the hotel safe to store valuables. Beware of accessing sensitive information, such as bank accounts, via free Wi-Fi networks in hotels, coffee shops, or other public places.
- **Keep It Clean** – Clean out your rental car before returning it; do not leave receipts or belongings behind.

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