

# TRAVEL SAFELY ABROAD



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
WARWICK

As a University of Warwick student, travelling abroad, you need to be aware of your rights and responsibilities. The University will offer you support both before you travel and during your stay **but remember that you are adults and are fully responsible for your own actions and behaviour.**

Before you leave we advise you read the FCO publication 'Support for British nationals abroad; A Guide'.

<http://www.fco.gov.uk/resources/en/pdf/2855621/english-summary>

This information is designed to help British nationals prepare for a trip abroad. If you are not a British national, you will still find the information helpful, but additionally we advise you to seek similar guidance from your national government.

## Personal Safety tips

- If you are being Harassed:
  - Ignore the harassment/pretend ignorance
  - Feign confusion/lack of understanding
  - Move away/remove yourself from the situation.
- Confrontations of any type serve to encourage harassers who want attention, even negative attention will do.
- If you say no with a smile on your face or in a weak, unconvincing voice, the words lose their force and power. Say no firmly and swiftly and follow that up with removing yourself from the situation and getting assistance if needed to back you up.
- It is essential to your safety that you never allow yourself to be vulnerable to attack. Being under the influence of substances of any kind sets you up to be vulnerable to attack.
- If you are going out to drink, ensure that you drink in moderation, if this is not possible, then ensure that one of the group stays sober and that you travel back to your accommodation together.
- It is important to follow local customs and dress and behave appropriately – your signals may be misinterpreted if you behave and dress in a provocative manner.
- Do not go out alone at night.
- Stay in touch with family and friends and keep the department informed of any difficulties.
- Follow any health advice eg. drinking safe water, taking care of what you eat and where you eat it.
- If you are abroad as part of a group, you should look out for others and be clear on safety procedures and contacts in the event of an incident or an emergency.

## General crime prevention tips

- Locals don't wear money belts. If you choose to wear a money belt, you stand out as a tourist.
- Place your money in hidden pockets or deep inside your bag, so that it's hard for pickpockets.
- Put only things that you are willing to lose in your visible pockets.
- Take care on public transport and in crowded areas where pickpockets and bag snatchers may be operating.
- Store your passport, extra money, plane ticket, list of credit card/ATM card customer service phone numbers and other valuables in a secure location in your accommodation. Keep a copy of your passport/insurance details separate from the originals.
- Be wary of scams on tourists, if it seems too good to be true, it probably is.

## Contact numbers and emergency procedures

For British nationals, your local British Embassy, High Commission or Consulate will be your first point of contact in an emergency.

Before you travel, we strongly advise you to go to [www.fco.gov.uk/travel](http://www.fco.gov.uk/travel) to look up this telephone number.

**Make a note of this number on the card below:**

International students will need to contact their relevant embassy in an emergency. (British embassies generally only offer support to British nationals).

**Make a note of this number on the card below:**

If you require an urgent out of hours response from the University of Warwick, please contact the University of Warwick 24 hour security team on

**+ 44 (0)24 7652 2083**

## Student Support

The University of Warwick is committed to providing a supportive and positive environment for all members of its community. There is a comprehensive support and welfare structure available to help with all kinds of different problems.

Please contact us on:

- ✉ [studentsupport@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:studentsupport@warwick.ac.uk)
- 🌐 [go.warwick.ac.uk/supportservices](http://go.warwick.ac.uk/supportservices)
- ☎ +44 (0)24 7657 5570

Student Support  
University House  
The University of Warwick  
Coventry  
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