

# TRAVEL INSURANCE FOR CARP MEMBERS

## Sergeant Bob's Travel Safety Tips

*Retired Police Sergeant Bob Paterson works with The McLennan Group Life Insurance Inc. to develop practical safety tips for CARP members.*

*"Don't gamble with your safety. The stakes are too high."*



## Safety At Your Destination

Tourists are targets for theft; they're often distracted, unaware of local scams and perceived to be wealthy.

- Lost or stolen passports are one of the main reasons travellers need help. Take steps to protect your important documents and cash when you travel. Use the hotel safe for all valuables and wear a money belt or pouch hidden under your clothes. Be extra cautious during busy times and in places where you'll find lots of travellers.  
**Remember:** Tourists are popular targets for thieves because they're often distracted, unaware of local scams and perceived to be wealthy.  
**Remember:** Hotel staff can sometimes be a greater threat than an outsider, don't leave valuables unattended and stay alert
- Be careful when ordering food and services from outside your hotel. Check hotel guidebooks and literature for more reliable outlets and retailers. Hotels with good safety policies will alert guests to local scams designed to access your credit card information.
- Your hotel room number should not be displayed on the key or access card.
- Hotel rooms between the second and fifth floor, and slightly away from stair wells are safer in terms of crime prevention and fire rescue.
- Stick to well lighted and busy parking areas and entranceways. Valet parking can be the safer option.
- Hotel pools, exercise areas and change rooms are often found in remote basement and service areas, so be extra careful.
- Remember that travel security is based on one primary goal: Stay with the crowd and avoid isolated areas. A criminal will look carefully for a location that offers good concealment and no witnesses. You should also recognize these areas and avoid them if you feel uncomfortable.



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