

Book your holidays and travel safely



Internet Safety Starts with **you.**



These days, the majority of people research and book their holidays and other travel on the internet, enjoying the choice, convenience and sometimes lower prices.

As with everything we do online, however, there are risks associated with booking online, such as being tricked into booking accommodation, flights or packages that do not exist, or paying on insecure websites.

You can safeguard yourself by following some easy, practical advice.



Top tips for safe holiday and travel booking

- Ensure the authenticity of any holiday or travel company that you use. Ensure that they are a bona fide member of a recognised travel authority such as ABTA or ATOL.
- When possible, pay for holidays and travel using your credit card as this offers additional protection over other methods.
- Do not reply to unsolicited emails or phone calls from companies you don't recognise.
- If renting a private villa, apartment or caravan, call the owner/agent directly to ensure that it is legitimate. Get the full address and find it on Google Maps.
- Prior to payment, get a contract.
- Ensure payment pages are secure before entering your payment card details.
- Never pay for holidays or travel by direct bank transfer, however close it is to the time of travel, however desperate you are to get away.
- When making a payment to an individual, never transfer the money directly into their bank account but use a secure payment site such as PayPal, where money is transferred between two electronic accounts.
- Don't advertise that your house is empty by social media posts.
- Double check all details such as travel dates, itineraries, destinations and travellers before confirming payment.

For more information on booking holidays and travel safely, please visit www.getsafeonline.org, click 'Protecting Yourself' and select 'Holiday & Travel Booking'

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Get Safe Online

Get Safe Online is the UK's leading source of information and advice on online safety and security, for the public and small businesses. It is a not-for-profit, public/private sector partnership backed by a number of government departments, law enforcement agencies and leading organisations in internet security, banking and retail.

Our advice is free, authoritative, informative, impartial and easy to follow.

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