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General International Travel Tips

Fox Travel American Express would like to say “**THANK YOU**” for choosing us to help plan your next great adventure. Following are some extra travel tips to help you to have a safe and enjoyable travel experience.

Copy your tickets and itineraries three times - One for loved ones at home (the hotel itinerary has the local phone & address listed). One for your carry-on bag, and the third copy for any checked baggage. **Keep the original on you. This is especially true of your PASSPORT.** Put a copy of your passport in a couple of pieces of luggage for safe backup. Make sure you have each piece of your luggage labeled on the **INSIDE** as well as on the **OUTSIDE**.

Typically for International travel you will be allowed 2 carry-ons per person such as a purse/computer case plus a tote/duffle bag usually no more than 20 lbs or 45” by adding the H+W+L. Then, for checked baggage each airline has a different policy. Check with your carrier for the current policy on number of pieces, measurements and cost. Usually the size cannot measure more than 62” by adding the H+W+L and cannot weigh more than 50 lbs or 23 kilos. If you are an elite member with your airline’s travel program there may be different luggage policies so check with your carriers’ frequent flyer desk for the current policy. If you are not an elite member, then you may be charged for each bag and over weight baggage. If you are traveling on more than one carrier, you will need to check with each one for current baggage policies. We suggest you bring one change of clothing in your carry-on in case your baggage is delayed. Airlines now suggest that you carry all medications in your carry-on baggage as a precaution. *If you take daily medications plan in advance to have a sufficient amount of pills with you for the entire trip. Check with your doctor for any refills. Also remember that TSA has certain restrictions on liquids and gels (including medications) in carry-on luggage. See www.tsa.gov.*

Provide us your Airline Frequent Flyer account number and we will add it to your flight record. Where code share airlines are involved be sure to carry your Frequent Flyer account card with you to make sure it is applied to every leg of your trip. You can confirm that your frequent flyer numbers are in the record at each airline check in.

If you plan to take cash, use \$100/day as a guide. If you wish to exchange money prior to departure for a foreign destination, we suggest that you do so thru your bank or at your local airport. The amount should be no more than what you would use for tips or perhaps a taxi. ATMs are conveniently located everywhere – even in the baggage claim area of many international airports. Take advantage of them as some International resorts and hotels do not exchange currency. It is also a great idea to notify your charge card company of your trip abroad to what countries and for what dates. If you don’t have a debit card for withdrawing money, you can set your charge card up by securing a pin # from your charge card bank. This will save you any problems with using it internationally. We have found that most stores, restaurants, and hotels will ask if you wish to charge the purchase in U.S. Dollars or the local currency. You can decide to lock in a US Dollar amount or charge the foreign currency and vie for a lower conversion. Along with your American Express card take a Master Card and/or Visa which may be more widely accepted at the smaller shops and restaurants. By using your charge cards where you can, you will get the Best Bankers Buyers rate on the currency conversion. Many smaller shops do not process cards using the embedded chip and conduct business with the swipe method of charging. Therefore, you need to take one card that has the raised imprint instead of the newly designed flat layout.

As a tourist, dress down so as not to bring attention to yourself. As a general precaution, do not wear a lot of visible jewelry. If you do not have a safe in your hotel room or cabin, utilize hotel lobby safes where possible. A deposit may be required or there may be a fee for losing the safe key.

Utilize your arrival afternoon to peruse the area and to plan your next full day in the destination. There are usually tours available in the hotel lobby or we can plan private tours or drivers for you convenience prior to your departure.

Please feel **FREE** to call us with any other questions about your travel plans. **FOX Travel** is here to **HELP!**
NOW, ENJOY your trip and have a safe journey **HOME!**