Overseas Travel Safety & Security Training
How safe are you when you go abroad?

• In 2014 British nationals made over 60 million trips abroad

• 17,000 required serious assistance from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office

• 38,000 required emergency travel documents
What is the biggest risk you face when travelling abroad?

Road traffic accident
Pre-travel Preparation

- Risk Assessments
- Information, education and training
- Travel requirements
Pre Travel Preparation

- Entry Requirements
- Medical requirements [http://travelhealthpro.org.uk](http://travelhealthpro.org.uk)
- Safety and Security
- Local laws / customs / culture
- Personal details / next of kin
- Money
- Insurance
Useful resources

- www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice
- www.lonelyplanet.com
- www.state.gov/travel
- red24
Mexico

Summary

Safety and security  Health
Terrorism  Natural disasters
Local laws and customs  Money
Entry requirements  Travel advice help and support

Elsewhere on GOV.UK
Driving abroad
Hand luggage restrictions at UK airports
Renew or replace your adult passport

Get email alerts  Subscribe to feed

Summary

Still current at:  3 April 2017
Updated:  16 February 2017
Latest update:  Local law and customs section – advice on surrogacy in Mexico; assisted human reproduction, including surrogacy, might only be recognised in some Mexican states; if you’re considering a surrogacy arrangement in Mexico, you should familiarise yourself with the relevant laws and regulations and seek independent legal advice
In 2011 a Swiss couple Olivier David Och and Daniela Widmer planned to drive from New Delhi, India to Switzerland.
In 2011 a Swiss couple Olivier David Och, 31, and Daniela Widmer, 29, planned to drive from India to Switzerland. Their planned route took them...
Resolution

- They were detained for 9 months living in dreadful conditions
- Either escaped or family paid a ransom

Identify high risk areas
Travel Security

- Airport security
- Public transportation
- Hiring a vehicle
- Using taxis
- Using a driver
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Choosing a residence

• Location
• Facilities
• Proximity to services
• Resident profile
• Security
• Fire / carbon monoxide alarm

• Local crime
• Consider Distance and Journey to University
• View day and night
Crime

Most likely incident for any traveller

Prevention:
• Personal security
• Situational awareness
• Low profile

Petty vs violent
Street Crime

From the following clips in groups identify:

Why the victim was chosen?

What precautions could the victim have taken?

Why is this a high risk area?

C:\Users\Wells\Documents\My docs\Andy Wells Ltd\Red 24\Presentations\Sussex Uni\Rio 1-4.mp4
Situational Awareness

- Stay Alert
- Be aware of what is around you
- Listen to your sub-conscious – If it feels wrong it probably is

Jason Bourne
Cultural Considerations

• What do we mean by culture?

• The ideas, customs, and social behaviour of a particular community or society
Approval or agreement

Actually the highly offensive thumbs down

Up yours!
METAL FANS EVERYWHERE!

“Awhat’s up?”
or
“Awesome bro!”

AFRICA

A curse

SPAIN, ITALY

Your partner is cheating on you.
Do your research

- Red24 portal
- FCO Travel Advice
- Lonely planet

www.roughguides.com

http://guide.culturecrossing.net/index.php

Follow the locals
Kidnapping

• Different types
• Who is targeted?
• How to respond
• Durations and outcomes
Types of Kidnap

- Kidnap for ransom and extortion (KRE)
- Criminal vendetta
- Tiger kidnapping
- Express kidnapping
- Wrongful detention
- Virtual kidnapping
Political Instability and Civil Unrest

• Geographically widespread

• Socio-economic or political motivations

• Advice during a protest
Terrorism

- High-profile attacks in traditionally low-risk countries
- Changing threat: home-grown terrorism
- Affects on travel
- How to respond
Terrorist bombing

• Heed FCO advice
• Remain calm.
• Be aware of the source of the explosion, and to be aware of the possibility of secondary devices
• Respond immediately to official announcements over PA
• Some buildings have bomb shelters in their basements, and others have evacuation routes to areas outside the building.
• Try to get to safety as quickly as possible; do not stop to retrieve personal possessions or to make phone calls.
• If things are falling around you, crawl beneath a sturdy table or desk until the objects stop falling.
• Leave quickly, watching for weakened floors and stairs and falling debris as you exit. If possible, use stairs rather than elevators.
Shooting incident advice

Shooting incidents can take a variety of form

- Terrorist-related
- Gang dispute
- Increasing number of indiscriminate shootings by individuals (or sometimes several people) with personal problems or grudges.

- Stay safe
What assistance is provided by the FCO?
I’m at the airport. Why hasn’t my guide from the Embassy arrived?

Sorry madam, do you realise you’ve called the British consulate?

MAKE THE RIGHT CALL

FCO TRAVEL ADVICE
know before you go
gov.uk/knowbeforeyougo
The FCO cannot:

- Help you enter a country if you do not have a valid passport or necessary visas
- Give you legal advice or translate documents
- Investigate crimes or get you out of prison
- Get you better treatment in hospital or prison than is given to local people, but we will raise concerns if treatment falls below internationally recognised standards
- Pay any bills or give you money
- Make travel arrangements for you

The FCO can:

- Issue you with an emergency travel document
- Provide information about transferring money
- Provide help if you have suffered rape or serious sexual or physical assault, are a victim of crime, are ill or in hospital
- Give you a list of local lawyers, interpreters, doctors or funeral directors
- Contact you if you are detained abroad
- Contact friends and family back home for you if you wish
- Provide help in cases of forced marriage
- Assist people affected by parental child abduction
Useful Apps

- Smart Traveler - Travel alerts and detailed country advice
- City Maps 2Go - Offline Maps and much more
- Triposo - Book hotels, restaurants, local experiences & activities in 50,000 destinations worldwide
Useful Apps

• XE – Currency exchange

• Google translate

58 languages in text and hear 23 languages of converted phrases.
Summary

When travelling to a new place

• Have enough medication
• Research the destination
• Get local knowledge
• Inform family and friends of your plans and contact details
• Travel with other friends
• Sign up to alerts
• Ensure you have correct travel documents
• Have a copy of your passport
• Arrive somewhere new during the day
• Use reputable transport
Summary

- Learn basic survival phrases
- Have alternative communications
- Practise your situational awareness
- Protect your personal information – social media
- Maintain a low profile – blend in
- Be aware of local law, customs and culture
- Avoid civil disturbance, demonstrations and large public gatherings
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash
- Know fire escape / evacuation routes
- Carry travel insurance card – Policy number / telephone number
In the event of an emergency

• Be guided by local official advice and assistance
• Know how to contact the embassy
  www.gov.uk/government/world/organisations
• Know local Police, Fire Service and ambulance contact numbers
• Know the Sussex University email address and emergency number
  +44 1273 873333
• Use the ‘safety check’ facility on Facebook
Any questions?