



LUGGAGE WAREHOUSE

TRAVEL SMART EUROPE SCAM & SAFETY GUIDE

Travelling to Europe is an adventure – but you don't want an adventure that's scary and full of worry. Scams and pickpockets are a reality, especially in Europe.

Most people are lovely, but every city has its tricksters. From “free” bracelets to phone snatchers, it pays to be prepared.

TRAVEL BUDGETING TIPS

BEFORE YOU GO: SMART PREP

- Research common scams in your destination.
- Scan and back up important documents (passport, IDs).
- Set up device tracking (Find My iPhone/Android).
- Buy travel insurance—covers loss & theft.

STAY AWARE ON ARRIVAL

- Stay alert in crowded places: train stations, metros, busy squares.
- Don't get distracted by "helpful" strangers or street performers.
- Ignore anyone offering "free" bracelets, roses, or friendship bands—these are classic scams.

TOP SCAMS TO AVOID

1. Bracelet Scam: Someone ties a bracelet on your wrist, then demands money or distracts you for a pickpocket.
2. Petition Scam: People ask you to sign something as a distraction.
3. Fake Police: Demanding to check your wallet or passport.
4. ATM Helpers: Strangers offer "assistance" while trying to see your PIN or swap cards.
5. Bump & Grab: Sudden pushes or crowding to pickpocket.
6. Card Skimmers: Devices placed on ATMs to steal card data.
7. Found Ring Scam: Someone pretends to find a gold ring near you, then asks for money as a "reward" or uses it as a distraction to pickpocket.
8. Overpriced Taxi: Unlicensed drivers charge you inflated fares, often with rigged or no meters.
9. Fake Charity Petition: Groups ask you to sign a petition, then try to pickpocket you or demand a donation.
10. Restaurant Overcharging: Restaurants near tourist areas add bogus items or inflate your bill, insisting you pay.
11. Spilled Drink/Condiment Trick: Someone spills something on you, then "helps" clean up while an accomplice steals your valuables.
12. Distraction Performers: Street acts gather crowds, allowing pickpockets to work through distracted onlookers.
13. Fake Tickets: Unofficial sellers offer tickets to attractions or transport that turn out to be fake or invalid.
14. Broken Camera/Phone Scam: Someone asks you to take their photo, then blames you for "breaking" their device and demands compensation.
15. Fake Tour Guides: "Locals" offer private tours, then pressure you for big tips or disappear with your money.

CONNECTED & IN CONTROL

- Know the local emergency number: 112 works EU-wide.
- Save your embassy's contact info in your phone.
- If approached by police, ask for ID—suggest going to the station.
- Keep a backup credit card and some emergency cash separate.

WHAT IF IT HAPPENS?

- Don't panic—get somewhere safe.
- Report thefts to police for insurance claims.
- Cancel cards and alert your bank immediately.
- Contact your embassy for lost passports.

PROTECT YOUR STUFF

- Wear your bag in front, zipped up.
- Use a money belt or hidden pouch for valuables.
- Don't keep wallets or phones in back pockets.
- Lock zips and choose anti-theft bags (see our range!).

LUGGAGE WAREHOUSE PRO TIPS

- RFID-blocking wallets help prevent digital theft.
- Luggage trackers (like AirTag) can help locate lost bags.
- Our anti-theft backpacks and crossbodies are built for busy cities.

TRAVEL SAFE—ENJOY EVERY MOMENT!

- Most trips are smooth sailing, but a little street smarts keeps your adventure stress-free.
- Stay alert, keep smiling, and have a brilliant time!