

TRAVEL LOCKDOWN: THE PRE-TRIP CHECKLIST

BEFORE THE AIRPORT, 15 MINUTES

- ☐ FREEZE NOTHING, ALERT EVERYTHING. Turn on transaction alerts for every card you're bringing. Fraud on vacation is caught by push notification, not by checking statements in a hammock.
- ☐ TWO CARDS, TWO PLACES. One on you, one in the hotel safe. A pickpocket gets your day, not your trip.
- ☐ PHONE: UPDATES DONE, FIND MY ON, BACKUP RUN. A lost phone with a current backup is an inconvenience. Without one, it's the story you tell for years.
- ☐ KILL AUTO-JOIN WIFI. Settings > Wi-Fi > Ask to Join Networks. "Free_Airport_WiFi" run from a laptop two seats over looks identical to the real one.
- ☐ PUBLIC WIFI RULE. Browsing and maps, fine. Banking and shopping, phone data only. If you must, your phone's hotspot beats the hotel's network every time.
- ☐ BRING YOUR OWN CHARGING BRICK. Juice-jacking is real but rare. Wall outlet beats public USB port.
- ☐ POST THE TRIP AFTER THE TRIP. "Two weeks in Italy!" is also "house empty for 14 days." Your followers can admire the Colosseum on a delay.
- ☐ LEAVE THE CODE WORD. Whoever's home knows: any "emergency, send money" call from "you" gets tested against it.

This sheet gets you out the door. The Travel Lockdown Kit (\$7.99) covers what happens between the airport and coming home: border device searches, hotel wifi, card skimmers, and the hour-by-hour plan if your phone is stolen abroad.

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