

## SAFETY ON THE ROAD

1. Never leave any belongings unattended or “hidden”. You are out of your element, people know it and will take advantage of you.
2. Carry only what is necessary. A small wallet with your I.D. or D.L., and one credit card is usually enough. Keep small amounts of cash in your wallet, larger amounts in your pocket. If your wallet is stolen, that will minimize the monetary loss.
3. Minimize the gadgets and “bling”. These have high street value. The more you advertise, the bigger draw.
4. Buy only from reputable stores or vendors. Street buys may be shoddy or stolen merchandise. Food may be improperly prepared. Watches, software and other desirable items at cheap prices are usually just that, cheap and more than likely illegal copies.
5. Beware of pickpockets. They sometimes work in teams, sometimes alone. If you are “bumped”, check your belongings immediately.
6. Panhandlers, homeless and other destitute people are common in larger cities. Some have sad stories, some become overly friendly others may be aggressive. Do not converse with them, keep moving. It is recommended you do not give them anything.
7. If you are touring, go in a group or minimally two people at a time. There is safety in numbers. A friend can also watch your things if you must put them down.
8. Carry a police whistle. It is a great attention getter.
9. Coordinate your logistics. Where/when do we meet? Where is an alternate assembly spot? Who has a cell phone, what is the number? The coordinator should have a list of emergency numbers, home phone numbers and general information about the group.
10. If you don't know what it is, who it is or what it does, treat it/them as unidentified. Be civil but not overly friendly, be inquisitive but not a participant.

