

Money and Security

Debit/Credit Card

Notify your bank and credit card company of your travel and dates. Some locations require a visible bank logo (i.e. Mastercard or Visa) on the card.

Identify Your Travel Budget

Determine whether you will be able to withdraw cash from local ATMs.

Exchange Rate. Visit EXCHANGE-RATES.org

ATMs usually provide the best available exchange rate. Bring a back-up card in case your primary card does not work. When exchanging U.S. dollars, only bring bills printed after 2013 to meet exchange security requirements.

Type of Currency

Carry a small amount of local currency - not every place will accept credit or debit cards.

ATM Machines. Visit IndependentTraveler.com

Exercise caution at ATM machines.

Emergency Funds

Have sufficient funds available to cover emergencies or unexpected expenses.

Scams Abroad. Visit Travel.State.gov

Take precautions to protect yourself and your money.

Enable International Calling on Your Cell Phone

Research the best way you can be reached in the country you will be traveling. Is a cell phone the best option? Check mobile carrier for international fees and capabilities. Phone #:

Know how to call, use Whatsapp, Skype, or FaceTime abroad. A copy of your passport is needed to get a sim card.

Passport

Ensure passport date goes beyond 6 months of your return date.

Signed Power of Attorney

HIPPA

FERPA

Transportation Plan

Determine a transportation plan. Who will pick you up at the airport? Who will you contact if that person is not there? What is the address, phone, and route to the Embassy or Consulate from the airport. What is the safest mode of transportation from the airport if required?

Lost or Stolen Passports. Visit Travel.Stats.gov: [US Passport and International Travel](http://Travel.Stats.gov)