

Hotel Safety Tips

Traveling solo—especially for solo female travelers, it can be somewhat scary. While most hotels have security plans in place on how to protect their guests, it is important to know how to protect yourself—especially when traveling alone.

- Request a room that isn't on the ground floor. Security experts agree that staying between the third and sixth floor are high enough to avoid easy break-ins and are still low enough to be reached by a fire engine ladder in the event of a fire.
- Take your key card out of the room key sleeve. If you accidentally lose your key card with the room number written on the sleeve, anyone who finds it has access to your room.
- When leaving your room, leave the TV on loud enough so that anyone trying to enter can hear it—but not loud enough to disturb other guests.
- Leave the *Do Not Disturb* sign on the door—if you leave a portion of the sign closed in the door, you will know if someone entered your room while you were out.
- Do not open your door to anyone—even if they claim to be hotel staff and you're not expecting them. Tell the person who claims to be hotel staff to wait and call the front desk and ask if they sent someone to your room.
- Consider purchasing a door wedge, door jammer or portable door lock as added security (criminals have been able to open locked doors with a sturdy piece of paper).
- Read evacuation plans and make sure everyone in your room knows where to egress and where you will meet up in the event of an emergency.
- Ask for the hotel's business card and place the card by the phone in your room. If there is an emergency and you need to call for help, you will have the name and address of your location.



- Consider asking a hotel employee to accompany you to your room while you look in the closet, shower, under the bed and behind curtains before you shut the door and are left alone. There have been real horror stories where predators were hiding in rooms until people were alone.
- Don't use hotel room safes that open with a key card (employees have access to these too). Only use hotel room safes that allow you to select your own combination. If the safe in your room doesn't appear reliable, ask to lock your valuables in the hotel safe and be sure to get a receipt for your items.
- Use the hotel's main entrance at all times. Using the main entrance helps ensure that hotel staff sees you and gives you the opportunity to ask an employee to escort you to your room if you are worried about being followed to your room.
- If you are traveling alone, ask for rooms that do not have connecting doors—one less door to secure.
- If the hotel employee announces your name and room number aloud with others in earshot, ask for a different room. You may feel self-conscious doing this, but your room number should be private for your own personal security, as eavesdropping thieves would know where to find you and your room.
- If the hotel door doesn't have a peephole cover, then cover the peephole with a few sticky notes. Criminals have been known to switch out the peephole so they could peer in your room.
- Trust your gut, beware of your surroundings and stay safe!

<https://www.corporatetravelsafety.com/safety-tips/top-6-hotel-and-resort-safety-tips/>

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