



PERSONAL SAFETY

London is generally a safe area in which to live. However, it is worth taking personal safety into account wherever you might be. Here are some tips for staying safe:

- Remember that cars drive on the left, and always look both ways when crossing.
- Don't walk on the street with a bag hanging from one shoulder where it can easily be taken.
- Be careful when using iPods and MP3 players; it leaves you vulnerable to attack by those who wish to steal them.
- Don't carry large amounts of cash, and try not to keep money, cards and other valuables in one place.
- Keep your mobile phone and laptop out of sight.
- Be aware of people around you when using cash machines; it is not usual for others to stand too close.
- If travelling after dark, always walk on well-lit streets. Avoid walking on your own; you are much safer with friends.
- Try to avoid quiet areas on buses or trains, especially late at night.
- Never take a taxi unless it is registered. It should have a special license number near the registration plates on the car. A taxi should be booked in advance or taken from a designated taxi rank.
- Never let someone in to your accommodation without establishing who they are. Official visitors will always have an identity card.
- If drinking alcohol when going out, make sure you know how you will get home in advance and have enough money to do so. Ensure someone else knows where you are.
- Don't leave drinks unattended; as drinks can be 'spiked' with other substances.
- At home, always keep doors and windows closed and locked when you are out. Keep valuables out of sight and away from windows.

Emergency Services

The emergency services are the police, ambulance service, fire service and coastguard. You can telephone **999** or **112** and ask for the appropriate service. Calling either of these numbers is free of charge.