

## Spring Break Travel Tips

Are you headed out of town for spring break? If you are, you want to be as safe as possible so you can enjoy your vacation.



## Beware of social media

It's always fun to share your life on social media but beware of people lurking who may not have good intentions. If potential thieves know your plans it's a perfect opportunity for them to break in to your home. If you have a friend, family member or neighbor you can trust – consider asking them to keep an eye on your home and grab your mail for you.

## Update banks and credit card companies

If you will be traveling away from home, especially overseas, ensure you have made your bank and credit card companies aware. Too often, stolen cards are used outside of your own community. If you alert the bank(s) ahead of time of unusual activity they will be able to properly monitor for suspicious activity. It's also a good idea to know your bank and credit card

companies' fee structure as many of them charge fees for international usage. Don't be surprised by your bill when you return home!

## Be prepared for health-related emergencies

We never think it will happen to us, though occasionally tragedy does strike and you want to be prepared. If you are covered under a health insurance policy you will want to know if there are any special restrictions for using your insurance outside of your normal doctors or hospital. There may be additional information needed for traveling outside of the country – call your insurance company before traveling to make sure you have all the information you will need. They can also help make you aware of any shots or medication you may need if you are traveling to a remote country.

## Are you renting a car for your trip?

Many people do not accept the additional insurance offered by car rental companies, assuming their own car insurance will be enough should an accident occur. If you are taking a long road trip or renting a car in another state or country – it's worth a phone call to your insurance provider to discuss what they will/won't cover while on your trip.

## Follow news local to your destination

If you aren't enjoying a staycation this spring break, get the inside scoop by following the local newspaper or TV station for your destination to find out what's happening there. How's the weather? Are there any big events taking place you need to be aware of? If you worked with a travel agent, ask them if they have updates they can share with you. For those traveling outside the country, the [U.S. Department of State Travel Warnings website](#) is a wealth of information and will provide you with an travel advisories you need to consider before your trip.

## Is your car ready for a road trip?

Taking your own car on a long road trip? Make sure you are up-to-date on necessary service for your vehicle. It's a great idea to schedule a checkup with your local mechanic or trusted dealership to have them check your tires, brakes, fluid levels, wiper blades and for any factory recalls that need to be addressed. If you don't already have an emergency car kit, now is the time to put one together. Jumper cables, a portable car charger and jump-starter as well as an emergency first aid kit are important supplies to keep handy.

## Keep kids occupied

Distracted drivers wreak havoc on the roads each day. Keep your kids occupied in the backseat with movies, books, and toys that will provide them with hours of fun so you can focus on the road ahead. Headsets for their movies and music will also help keep the noise level down in the car. Set some rules up front so that all passengers know that safety comes first!

The team at Speedy Marietta hopes you have an enjoyable spring break!