

Tilley Tips to protect against pickpockets

Above all else: carry your valuables in your Tilley *secret* pocket.

1. Pickpockets come in all guises and disguises; many are very well dressed and groomed.
2. Trust your instincts. Pickpockets usually survey their targets. If someone is following you, move to a more secure location.
3. Be aware of loud arguments, bumps and other incidents. Pickpockets usually work in teams and will often create a commotion to distract the victim so a partner can pick a pocket or two.
4. Pickpockets frequent bus and train stations, airports, hotel lobbies, outdoor festivals, subways and other crowded places. If you see a sign, 'Beware of Pickpockets', don't reveal your wallet's location by touching it.
5. Wear clothing with pockets that offer peace of mind... ones that are closed with 'noisy' Velcro or zippers, or best of all are completely hidden. Tilley offers secure, secret and stop-loss pockets on most garments, including our relaxed beach pants/shirts, and dressier clothing.
6. Be unassuming in your choice of clothing, luggage and camera case. Leave the expensive jewelry and watch at home.
7. Swarmed by a group of children? Run and shout!
8. Carry hotel key and car keys separately from your bag or purse.
9. Travel as lightly as possible. Being overburdened with luggage makes you more of a target.
10. Walk with a purpose. Never look vulnerable or lost.
11. Photocopy your passport, credit cards and driver's license. Leave one copy with a friend; carry another in your secret pocket.
12. During your trip, do not give out information about your destinations, valuables or itinerary to people who do not need it – desk clerks, doormen or taxi drivers.
13. Do not carry all your cash, traveller's cheques and credit cards in one pocket. Carry only enough money for the day's adventures, divided up in secure pockets.
14. Avoid putting your wallet or passport in a back pocket.
15. Do not leave purses, handbags or backpacks unattended.
16. For a small fee, many airports will shrink-wrap your luggage or bag in plastic. This helps prevent tampering and theft at the airport or even in taxis, and saves wear and tear on your luggage.
17. If victimized, report the incident to the appropriate officials. In the case of a stolen passport or visa, contact your embassy.

Tilley Endurables

Tilley Hats and the finest travel clothing in the world

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