

Safety Advice for Caribbean Nationals Travelling to Northern Ireland

All Caribbean Nationals visiting Northern Ireland are advised to read the "Protecting Yourself" https://www.psni.police.uk/advice_information/protecting-yourself guidelines provided by the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI).

Visitors Guide

Northern Ireland is one of the most interesting and exciting regions in the world attracting millions of visitors each year. It's also one of the safest.

As in any large area, however, crime can sometimes be a problem so you do need to take care about personal safety and looking after your belongings. Below provides advice on what you can do to make your visit to Northern Ireland safer and more enjoyable.

In Your Hotel

- When you check into your room, make sure to check that the door has a functional lock and a dead bolt and keep it locked whenever you are in the room.
- Avoid leaving valuables in your room - keep them in the hotel safety box or safe.
- Keep a record of your personal belongings such as cameras, credit cards, passports and travellers cheques. Note down the numbers - it may help police to identify them if they do get lost or stolen.
- When you leave the hotel, make sure the door of your room is firmly closed. Always hand your key in to the reception staff or use the key box – do not leave it on the reception desk.
- Remember that hotel lobbies and reception areas are open to the public so do not leave your bags or any valuables lying on the floor unattended at any time.

Out and About

- Keep your bag or camera where you can see them by wearing them in front of you, not over your shoulder. This is especially important if you are in a crowded area.
- When in restaurants, bars, theatres or cinemas never leave your bag on the floor or over the back of your chair. Keep it where you can see it.
- Only buy theatre or concert tickets from reliable sources and not from 'touts' in the street. If you are out and about at night on foot, try to keep to busy, well-lit areas.
- When travelling by bus or train try to avoid using stations in isolated places. When possible sit near the driver on buses, and on trains try to make sure you sit in a compartment where there are other people.
- Only use taxis which have been licensed. These are easily recognised by a licence on display.
- Take extra care when crossing the road. Always remember to look both ways as traffic may be coming from a different direction than you are expecting.

Weapons and drugs

- Be aware that it is a criminal offence to carry weapons such as knives and guns.
- Unlike some other European countries it is also illegal to carry CS spray.
- Remember that it is against the law to be in possession of 'classified' drugs. This includes cannabis, marijuana and hashish.

Finally

Remember the police are there to help you. If anything does go wrong and your possessions are lost or stolen then contact the police at the earliest opportunity.

IN AN EMERGENCY REQUIRING POLICE, FIRE OR AMBULANCE SERVICE DIAL 999