



# CYBER SECURITY & YOU

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**LASERS**

## TRAVEL SECURITY

The holiday season is approaching quickly and the number of cyberattacks will be on the rise. Here are some tips to stay cybersecure and aware when traveling during the upcoming months.

### Beware of Travel Phishing Scams

Be cautious when searching the web for cheap airline and hotel prices. There are many sites that attract customers by undercutting ticket prices and reservations offered elsewhere. First, they capture your credit card information and account number that you entered on the website. Then you will receive a message stating that the credit card transaction has been declined, followed by instructions to wire funds for payment. Another version of this scam has the web site giving you an error message at the end of the transaction alerting you that there was a technical problem with instructions on how to pay for the ticket by postal money order.

### Use Caution on Public Wi-Fi Networks

The usage of public Wi-Fi during travel is greater and these public networks may have attackers snooping on them. Avoid connecting mobile devices to open networks that do not require a password. Limit the connection time made to password protected public networks to reduce the risk of exposure. When the device is not in use, disconnect it from the public Wi-Fi when in range. Always be aware when clicking web links, and be particularly cautious if you are asked to enter your account or log-in information.

### Sharing on Social Media

Do not share your travel plans online before or during your trip. Wait until you get back to post messages and pictures to social media. Criminals may take advantage of someone's absence to launch an attack.

### Back up your data

Always back up your mobile device data to a computer or the cloud before you travel. If you lose your device or if it is stolen, the data can be restored to another device and will not be gone forever.

### Be on the Lookout for Card Skimmers

Thieves will install card skimmers on payment terminals such as gas station pumps and ATMs. When someone swipes a credit or debit card, it captures and stores data from the magnetic stripe. After some time, the criminal will return to the device and collect the data. Inspect the card reader and check for a tamper-resistant seal on the door of the terminal.

### Travel light

Only bring what you need. The more you bring, the more you may lose, and the more an attacker might be able to steal. ■



## QUICK TIP

If you have any battery-powered home security devices, such as door bell cameras, make sure they have a good charge before traveling.

Information sources: *Infosec.com, Fraudguides.com*