



Release at Will

DON'T BE A VICTIM OF BAGGAGE THEFT
TIPS FROM TRIP

According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, mishandled baggage complaints, including theft, rank second only to flight problems as the most common consumer complaint. Although actual baggage theft from luggage carousels and other pilferage may account for a small percent of mishandled bags in the U.S., it is still prevalent in some parts of the world. In fact, the U.S. State Department, in its "[Country Specific](#)" pages, provides destination information on international airports where pilferage may be a problem.

The [US Travel Insurance Association](#), through its [TRIP](#) web site, offers the following tips to lessen the chance that your bags will do a disappearing act:

- Use hard-sided luggage.
- Pack valuables in your carry-on
- Avoid luggage that looks expensive.
- Pack only items that are easily replaced or those you can live without.
- Use a TSA approved lock or plastic cable ties to secure your bags.
- Make your bags conspicuous by choosing eye-catching colors or distinctively colored straps.

Want more details and additional tips? Visit www.trip.ustia.org. Developed by the US Travel Insurance Association, TRIP is designed to provide helpful information for anyone planning a trip. The TRIP acronym stands for "Travel Responsibly, Informed and Protected." With a motto of, "Empowering you to travel safely," the site offers useful articles, tips and links on various aspects of staying healthy, safe, and secure while traveling.

For more information on travel insurance and a listing of USStIA members, visit www.ustia.org

About USStIA

USStIA promotes fairness, integrity, and a commitment to excellence in the travel insurance industry. With a mission to educate the public on travel insurance while maintaining high industry standards, USStIA is a non-profit association of insurance carriers and allied businesses involved in the development, administration and marketing of travel insurance and assistance. Travel insurance and assistance services are available from travel agencies, airlines, tour operators, hotels and resorts, and insurance brokers, as well as through the Internet.

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