

Fortalice

Traveling domestically or internationally on business can present a series of challenges for travelers that want to protect their privacy and security. You don't want to look like a gadget geek or be inconvenienced, by following just a few of these tips, you will protect your business better & your own personal safety and privacy.

THE FORTALICE FIX: TRAVEL ADVISORY

NO FREE WIFI

Never use free WiFi when conducting sensitive and confidential transactions. The alternative is to travel with a portable hot spot or to use your cell phone as your own WiFi connection. This is often available on your smart phone as a hard wire option by plugging your phone into your laptop or by setting up a secure WiFi spot.

SECURE YOUR COMMUNICATIONS

Consider encrypted texting, calling and email apps to secure your conversations. Some examples are: Signal, Threema. They are incredibly easy to use!

PROTECT AND ENCRYPT PASSWORDS

Call your device manufacture to ask them how to enable encryption and password protection. Consider implementing 2 factor authentication for log ins on your devices by implementing another key. Use two factor authentication on all work and personal apps

and email addresses as much as possible. If you have someone steal your credentials while you are traveling, unless they have your smart phone, they will not have that code to get into your accounts.

REALIZE YOU'RE ALWAYS A TARGET

Business travelers are a target. Do not leave your digital devices in your hotel room or even your safe. Keep them on your person or travel with a strong combination lock.

DEFENSE IS THE BEST OFFENSE

Use up-to-date protections by updating your operating system and your web browsers before you leave. Also make sure you have the latest versions of your antivirus, anti malware and anti spyware turned on.

NOTE: If you are an international traveler, visit www.osac.gov for security news and reports for the country(s) you plan to visit.

At Fortalice, your cyber security comes first. We are former White House cyber operatives and national security veterans who have honed our craft protecting people, business, and nations for decades. Our approach is deceptively simple. We outthink and outmaneuver. We deliver analysis, training, action, transparency and creative problem solving to keep what matters most to you safe. From deterring to detecting, monitoring to thwarting, we are more than a line of defense. Fortalice means fortress.

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INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL NOTICE!

Discussions are underway both in the U.S. and in the U.K. to expand the laptop ban currently in place between their countries and Middle East countries: Egypt, Jordan, Qatar, Kuwait, Morocco, United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, and Turkey. The current ban requires that travelers departing from several Middle East countries pack their laptops, tablets, game consoles, digital cameras, and other larger devices in their checked luggage.

NO LAPTOP? NO PROBLEM

Check the airlines you are flying on for alternatives, for example: (1) Some airlines, like Qatar, are providing complimentary laptops to premium-class passengers; (2) Emirates Airline has introduced a laptop-handling service; (3) Etihad Airlines is offering free Wi-Fi for your smart phone.

INVEST IN SPECIAL LUGGAGE

Buy transparent, tamper proof bags that your devices will fit into, it may deter security from accessing your device.

TURN YOUR DEVICE INTO A LAPTOP

Purchase a portable keyboard for your phone so you can turn your smartphone into a laptop.

LESS IS MORE

Consider purchasing a less expensive travel laptop and do not store data on the laptop. Store important data on a portable & encrypted thumb-drive or on a cloud service. Be sure to protect everything with strong passwords and two factor authentication.

SECURE YOUR DEVICES

Install anti-theft software and features on your devices. Some examples are: Find My "laptop" (both Droid and Apple have these) and apps such as Prey or Find My Mac allow you to track where your laptop is, and if needed, to lock it and erase it's data. You may also want to consider attaching an RFID tracker such as Tile.

NOTE: U.S., Department of Homeland Security (DHS) guidance states that nothing "larger than a smartphone" can be carried onboard, but the agency is vague about the dimensions. As of this writing, the ban only exists on travel from the countries listed above, however the US may expand the ban to all international flights regardless of origin.