

Keeping safe in Cape Town and surrounding areas

- **Walking at night:** *Never walk alone*. Remember you are safer when walking in a group.
- **Keeping safe on the streets:** Make sure you have planned your route beforehand, when you are going and when you expect to return. Do not walk alone or in areas with inadequate lighting and stay away from short cuts.
- **Don't be flashy:** Wearing expensive jewellery, fancy clothes and taking your phone out could make you a target. Ensure that you are not walking around with baggage that looks like a laptop holder, try to use a backpack instead.
- **Do not walk with your headphones in your ears:** This makes you a walking target. Avoid walking and talking/texting on your cellphone, as this might make you less vigilant.
- **Don't take your valuables with you:** Take a dummy wallet. Avoid carrying large sums of cash, carrying camera and video cameras in plain sight, and don't leave your belongings unattended. You might consider leaving your room keys at the hotel desk for the day.
- **Be aware of your surroundings:** Pay particular attention to the people in your environment. Be alert for suspicious persons in your surroundings and never pursue a suspicious person.
- **Important documents:** It is a good idea to travel with certified copies of your important documents (especially passport), keeping the originals in a safe place.
- **ATM safety:** Practice generally accepted safety precautions that you would employ at home. Never accept an offer from a stranger to help you with your transaction, and be aware of your surroundings when using the ATM. Put the money immediately away.
- **Booking accommodation:** It is preferable to check with a local resident regarding the safety of the neighbourhood of the accommodation, prior to booking.
- **Using public transport:** When travelling around Cape Town, always use MyCiTi buses or an Uber car, preferably not other kinds of taxis. If you want to use trains, ensure you don't use them before 8am or after 5pm.
- **When you rent/drive a car:** Always park at a designated parking, ensure your doors are locked at all times and your windows are preferably closed or almost closed when driving, and closed when parked. Stick to the main Cape Town tourist locations and make sure you always have enough fuel. Don't pull over on highways for any reason,

and never hitchhike. When stopping at traffic lights at night, and when getting into and out of your car, be aware of your surroundings. Never leave valuables in your car in plain sight. When parking at night choose well-lit or security-patrolled parking areas. Street security guards will usually ask whether they can watch over your car, and in return should be paid a small fee – around R5 is adequate.

- **Safety on Table Mountain and hiking areas:** There are safe well travelled paths, and less frequented paths where walking alone is inadvisable. Follow local recommendations.
- **Vagrants:** Try to avoid eye contact or discussion. There are shelters and facilities for destitute people and like in many cities some may act destitute and use sad stories as a con. If you wish to assist people in need then please only do so via a registered organisation.
- Please put one or more of the emergency numbers below into your phone.

If you are unsure about any situation please feel free to ask an SKA SA employee or fellow local resident.

Emergency numbers

National

10111 - National Flying Squad

10177 - National Ambulance

Cape Town

107 - General Emergency (Landline)

112 - General Emergency (Cell phone)

Stellenbosch

021 8095015 - Stellenbosch Police Station

021 9370500 - Stellenbosch Ambulance

SKA South Africa

Cape Town

021 5067300 – The Park, Park Road, Pinelands