



TIPS ON TRIPS



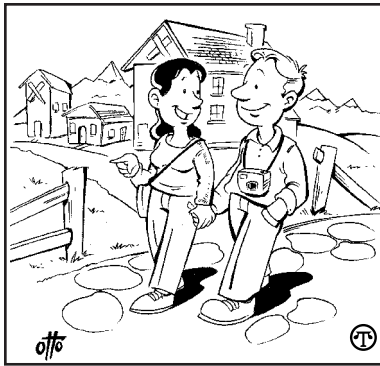
Free Brochure Offers Helpful Hints For Traveling Abroad

(NAPSA)—Want to find out if a country is considered safe for tourists? Want to find out where the closest Cybercafe is to your vacation destination? Want to safeguard against common problems when traveling abroad? Western Union Financial Services Inc., a worldwide leader in money transfer services, can help.

According to Ameurop, a hotline travelers can call when they are away from home, medical emergencies, missing wallets and lost travelers are among the most common vacation problems. To help avoid these common travel pitfalls and unexpected detours, Western Union is offering a free World Travel Tips brochure. The brochure is packed full of travel information on everything from money saving tips to seeking medical advice.

"If it's business or pleasure, a little planning can help you avoid those unexpected detours, making it less likely to throw your trip off course," said Liz Stokes, director of international marketing, Western Union. "Western Union has been providing travelers with world-class services for almost 150 years. Today, we are continuing to serve travelers by offering this free brochure to help make travel safer and more enjoyable for everyone."

Western Union's free consumer brochure, World Travel Tips, offers important information for



travelers. Following are a few tips included in the brochure for a successful trip overseas.

Not sure if it's safe to visit?

Keep up with the latest political situation. Contact the U.S. State Department Consulate Affairs Office or the Tourist Board of the country you are visiting. Visit the Travel Warnings & Consular Information sheets section of the U.S. State Department Web site at http://travel.state.gov/travel_warnings.html.

How to call home

Placing a call through a hotel phone line can be extremely costly, even if the call is local. Consider registering with a callback service or getting a cell phone with international access.

ePostcards

Why wait until you go home to tell your friends and family about your trip when you can fill them in

while you're still traveling? Before leaving for home, log onto www.cybercafe.com to locate the closest Cybercafes to your destination—they let you rent time on the Internet.

Money matters

Traveling abroad means using different currencies and having to be mindful of things such as currency exchange rates and commission fees for changing money. By using an ATM card overseas, you will get the most current rate of exchange without having to pay surcharges at money exchange companies. If you get caught short of cash, Western Union has more than 100,000 agent locations and territories in more than 185 countries throughout the world.

So the next time you plan your dream vacation or an important business trip, put together a smart game plan by including the Western Union World Travel Tips brochure as part of your itinerary. To receive a free brochure, write to World Travel Tips, c/o MS&L, 79 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10016 or e-mail your request to westernunion@mslpr.com.

Western Union Financial Services, Inc. offers more than 100,000 agent locations in more than 185 countries and territories where you can transfer money quickly, safely and reliably.