



Be The Gray Man When Traveling

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Americans Are At Risk Abroad

We tend to see ourselves differently than we are perceived overseas.

- Potential attackers view you as representative of the US as a whole.
- The "haves" are hated by the "haves nots".
- They may hate you because of US military or economic actions.
- Don't be the "ugly American."
- You may not be able to be the "gray man" physically based on race. Don't bring more attention to yourself.
- There are many Westerners abroad. Pay attention to dress and behavior so you don't stand out.

Do Your Homework Beforehand

Do Internet searches prior to traveling.

- The CIA fact book has great information. So does Homeland Security and the State Department. Look for travel warnings.
- Your goal is to understand what the threats are in a given area. Anticipate them.
- Consider your trip from start to finish to mitigate risk factors. Take nothing for granted. Assume the people around you may be a threat.
- Terrorism, theft/crime, and fire are all issues.

Avoid Mistakes While Traveling

You can't be on your guard ALL the time.

- Understand your operational environment. Change up plans when possible/feasible.
- Research past behavior of local threats.
- Watch the behavior/reactions of people around you. Glean warning signs from this.

- Mental rehearsal helps prepare you and helps you to avoid panic. Plan your routes!
- Fighting skill is the NO. 1 thing you can do to mitigate risk. It makes everything else easier.
- Situational awareness, understanding your environment, and the quiet confidence that you can protect yourself are the three keys.

Blending In As The "Gray Man"

When in Rome, act like a Roman.

- Match local dress where possible.
- Be extremely careful who you talk to.
- Don't let your guard down and don't volunteer important information.
- Always be mindful of who might overhear.
- Don't look nervous, but don't look oblivious.

How To Tell You've Been Targeted

Have you become a "mark?" Stay AWARE.

- Sometimes being polite isn't helpful. Challenge people if they stare at you.
- Watch for visual cues and make sure you don't give cues that you are uncomfortable.
- TRUST no one. All requests for significant amounts of money are SCAMS.
- Never walk INTO conflicts if they're avoidable.

Escape & Evasion

If you're being pursued:

- If you can, go towards people/authorities.
- Try right angles/entering structures and businesses. Do things that will slow them.
- Change your appearance if possible.
- Set up local help numbers on speed dial.

Prepare. Train. Survive.

www.ModernCombatAndSurvival.com