

Daniel Dalton MEP

Travelling in Europe 2018

Holidays should be fun, relaxing, stress-free and something to look back on with a great deal of pleasure.

A lot has changed in terms of the security situation and consumer issues and regulations in 2018, so I have collated this factsheet to ensure you are up to speed and fully informed for your holiday this summer.

I hope it helps and ensures your well-earned break is a memorable one for all the right reasons.



Daniel



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Remember when
abroad the
emergency
number is **112**

New Package Travel Protections

On the 1st July new protections for people booking combined travel arrangements came into force, bringing them into line with package travel rules.

Under current law if you buy a flight on an airline website and are then offered the opportunity to book a hotel via that website and pay a combined total price for both services, you have different protections to your friend who bought a pre-arranged package with the same airline staying at the same hotel. When you both arrive at the hotel to find it has closed unexpectedly, your friend can turn to their package travel organiser to find alternative accommodation, whereas you have nowhere definite to turn to for help.



Under the new rules you will receive the same protection as your friend and can turn to the airline to provide accommodation of equal or higher quality.

The new rules also require companies to provide travellers with greater transparency on protections available when buying linked but not combined packages, e.g. Being transferred from an airline website to a hotel website and booking separately.

Flight delayed / cancelled?

You could be entitled to claim up to **£520** in compensation if your flight is delayed or cancelled.

More details on my website:

www.danieldaltonmep.co.uk/news/what-are-your-passenger-rights

Terrorism: stay safe

In many countries, the threat of terrorism remains high. Always be aware of your surroundings, and report any concerns to local security authorities. Regularly check the FCO's travel advice for the country you're visiting and minimise risks by following media reports and being vigilant. Keep your mobile phone with for emergencies. More info on at risk countries and what to do in a terrorist attack at:

www.fco.gov.uk

Sign up for email bulletins at www.danieldaltonmep.co.uk

RIGHT TO ROAM



this is however subject to a fair use policy.

Under fair use policy mobile operators contract terms may vary but roam like at home is not intended to apply to people spending more time abroad than at home over a significant time span.

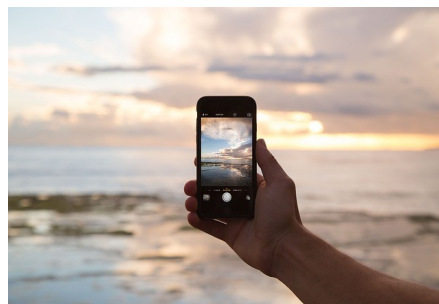
Specific fair use policy can also apply around data usage, so check your contract terms before travelling.



You should also always check the mobile network you are connected to. Last year tourists staying in some coastal areas of Greece and Spain found themselves unwittingly racking up large phone bills connected to Turkish and Moroccan networks.

The “roam like at home” rules introduced last year mean that in 2018 UK customers do not have to pay any additional roaming charges when travelling in the rest of the EU.

So you would pay exactly the same charges as if you were at home,



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Holiday Viewing Win

If you subscribe to services such as Sky Now TV and Netflix you can now watch your favourite programmes while abroad.

On the 1st April the Portability Regulation came into force, allowing people to view their subscribed content online when in the rest of Europe. The ruling also covers music streaming services



like Spotify and online games as well.

Don't forget your EHIC

A European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) gives you the right to access state-provided healthcare during a temporary stay in another European Economic Area (EEA) country or Switzerland. Apply for or renew an

EHIC using the official free-of-charge [EHIC online application form](#). Unofficial websites may charge if you apply through them. The EHIC does not replace travel insurance, so it's important to have both.

Currency Exchange Rate Advice



The value of the pound has fluctuated a great deal in the last two years, meaning consumers need to be more aware of the possibility of substantial differences in currency exchange rates at banks and retailers.

There are a variety of different exchange rate comparison websites and it is worth checking more than one before making a decision where to purchase, and keeping an eye on offered rates right up until the day you intend to buy a currency.

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