

News Release

THINK AHEAD – SAVE TIME, HASSLE AND MONEY BUY AN ANNUAL TRAVEL INSURANCE POLICY

Planning a holiday can be a stressful task. Whether it's two weeks in sunny Florida or a weekend discovering the culture of Venice, arranging every aspect can prove very time consuming for holidaymakers who want to be able to sit back and relax when they reach their destination. However, with a spot of forward planning, travellers could eliminate added stress and more importantly, save money!

Nowadays, the average family takes around four holidays a year and with that in mind, it makes sense to buy one travel insurance policy, rather than wasting precious time arranging cover for each individual break. By buying single trip insurance for each holiday or break, travellers could be spending more than they need to. The best solution is to invest in an annual multi-trip travel insurance policy, providing cover for a 12 month period for an unlimited number of trips throughout the year.

Steve Hook, Director of Corporate & Travel, Mondial UK comments: "After hearing other peoples' holiday nightmares in the news, people are now beginning to realise that booking travel insurance needs to come high on the list of priorities when arranging a holiday. Yet holidaymakers still don't seem to understand that booking single trip policies for each break or holiday just incurs more time and hassle – and could ultimately leave them out of pocket."

In particular, for those looking to travel to the USA, annual policies often work out much cheaper than single trip policies. This is because the cost of medical cover in the USA is high and so buying specifically for this country will up the premium. In this case, an annual policy could end up costing less, even if travellers only have one trip planned.

Hook concludes: "Opting for an annual policy is just common sense and the most convenient way for travellers to ensure they are covered for all their trips and holidays, leaving more time to plan the fun parts!"

Book your policy now – and check out Mondial UK's top tips for travel below, to make your holiday planning run like clockwork.

Got It Covered! Mondial UK's Top Travel Tips

- If you are travelling in Europe, the E111 has now been replaced by the European Health Insurance Card (EHIC). This will give you access to some free emergency medical cover in EU, although you may have to pay initially and claim the money back. Visit www.dh.gov.uk/policyandguidance/healthadvicefortravellers or call 0845 606 2030 for a full list of countries participating and details on how to get the card.
- Book your travel insurance as a priority. Check the details of your policy carefully when the documents arrive, BEFORE you leave for your trip, to make sure you have adequate cover for your holiday plans.
- Note down your travel insurance policy number and any emergency telephone numbers in two different places.
- Check your passport has at least six months left on it and establish visa requirements for the country you plan to visit by asking your travel agent or contacting their Embassy or Consulate.
- Check with your GP whether you require any vaccinations for your destination.
- Check the Foreign and Commonwealth Office website for up to date travel advice for your destination – www.fco.gov.uk/travel.
- Pack half your luggage in your companion's bag and vice versa – then if your luggage goes missing you will both have some items to tide you over for the trip.
- Learn some of the local language before you head to your destination – the effort will certainly be appreciated and it will also enable you to communicate if you do need to seek help.
- Taking a mobile can provide extra peace of mind – call your service provider before you travel to make sure your phone can roam globally.
- Cancel the newspapers and milk whilst you are away and set lights to come on automatically via timer switches – summer is the perfect time for opportunist thieves.

Steve Hook is available to offer comment and advice on annual travel insurance policies. Please contact Lauren Helm, Claire Foster or Shelley Armes-Mather at HSL on 020 8977 9132.

-ENDS-

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Note to Editors

Mondial UK is a leading provider of customer support services to the motor and travel industries, insurance companies and other blue chip organisations. As a member of the global Mondial Assistance Group, Mondial UK provides services to customers 24 hours a day, wherever they are all over the world.

The Mondial Assistance Group, part of the world's largest insurance company Allianz of Germany, provides customer care contact to over 200 million individuals world-wide. Many of the world's leading organisations benefit from Mondial Group services each year, ranging from Motor Assistance, Customer Information and Care Contact, Marketing Programmes, Fulfilment, Breakdown and Accident Management, Warranty Services, Travel Insurance and Assistance, Property Assistance and Advice Lines.

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