

**"400,000  
pickpocketing  
incidents occur per  
day worldwide."**

**The most highly targeted  
cities around the world  
for pickpocketing are:**

- Barcelona, Spain
- Rome, Italy
- Prague, Czech Republic
- Madrid, Spain
- Paris, France
- Florence, Italy
- Buenos Aires, Argentina
- Amsterdam, Netherlands
- Athens, Greece
- Hanoi, Vietnam

## **Get Involved!**

If you see any suspicious activity taking place, or have any information pertaining to a crime, don't hesitate to call the police!

Your information is valuable and could help victims gain closure and police gain justice.

For other safety tips and alerts provided by the department, visit the Police News page located on our website.

### **contact us**



(859) 441-8956



176 Johns Hill Road  
Highland Heights, KY 41076



Clerk Sonoma Moreland  
smoreland@hhky.com



# **TRAVEL TIPS**

**SAFETY TIPS TO AVOID  
BEING PICKPOCKETED**

**HIGHLAND HEIGHTS  
POLICE DEPARTMENT**

# KNOW YOUR THIEF

- Pickpockets often work in groups - One or two members of the pickpocketing team will act as distractions while an accomplice steals your stuff.
- Pickpockets are often children - A tourist doesn't expect a child to be a criminal; the young pickpocket can get closer to their target without raising suspicion.
- Pickpockets are often well dressed - They want to blend in with their environment and appear as non-threatening as possible to get as close to you as they can without setting off alarms.

# WHERE THEY WORK

- Tourist attractions - Tourist attractions are a pickpocket's paradise. You've got lots of clueless tourists often carrying lots of cash, and monuments and exhibits that distract people and take their gaze and attention off their possessions.
- Public transportation - Because public transportation forces people to stand right next to each other, it's a fertile field for pickpocketing.
- Hotel Lobbies - Pickpockets take advantage of the tourist's diverted attention by stealing what they can from them.

# KNOW THE TRICKS

- Helpful stranger - If someone acts a little too friendly and helpful towards you, be suspicious. They could be a pickpocket or the distracter.
- Child beggars - While many pickpockets look like mild-mannered middle-class folks, some do look like the stereotypical street urchin/beggar.
- Bag slashing - Some thieves won't even bother with all the distractions and stealth tactics, and will just cut open your backpack and take what they can get their hands on.