ADVENTURE TRAVEL ABROAD: PLAY IT SAFE

Planning an adventure holiday, expedition, gap year, or volunteering abroad: as an individual, a group or a school? Looking forward to the challenges? Whether with a company, volunteering organisation - or on your own:

**THINK ABOUT SAFETY**

1. Remember your safety comes first, so think carefully about your trip and don’t be afraid to ask questions.

**WHAT QUESTIONS SHOULD I ASK?**

2. Don’t assume good safety measures are properly in place to reduce risks.

3. Good organisers use safety standards e.g. British Standard BS 8848 for adventurous travel abroad – see BSI’s Consumer Guide.

4. Claiming to stick to a safety standard is good, but what happens in practice? Find out how risks are assessed and managed for this trip.

5. Where will you stay? What will you be doing? Do you speak a common language? What are the potential safety issues?

6. Are the leader(s) and staff fully trained and experienced in the country and activity? Who will be looking out for you?

7. What does their/your insurance cover? Make sure you read their policy and the small print.

8. What happens in a medical or other emergency? Apart from the trip leader who will be there to help you? What medical support will be available?

9. If in doubt, ask more safety questions. Be satisfied with answers before you commit.

**IF YOU'RE NOT SURE, LOOK ELSEWHERE.**

**IF YOU'RE CONVINCED, GO FOR THE TRIP THAT APPEALS TO YOU!**

To help you prepare for your adventure travel abroad, visit gov.uk/knowbeforeyougo and bsigroup.com search for ‘Consumer Guide’.