


## Using Rideshare Applications Abroad

Using rideshare applications (e.g., Uber, Lyft, etc.) can be a safe and reliable transportation option in many locations. However, before your travel, you need to do your research. To help inform your decision, speak to a trusted host or individuals that have experience in your destination country. You can also visit the “Travel and Transportation” section on the Country Information Page of your destination’s [U.S. Department of State travel advisory](#) for more information about road travel.

### Follow these guidelines if you decide to use a rideshare application:

- Research the use of rideshares at your destination to determine if using a service is a safe and suitable option.
  - Check online reviews to learn about local app services. Speak to friends or trusted hosts about their experiences.
  - Only use a dispatch application if it provides vehicle description, license plate number, and the driver’s name, picture, and user rating.
  - Verify you can pre-confirm the price, vehicle, and driver on the rideshare application. Read the reviews of your assigned driver if available.
  - Meet rideshare vehicles in public, well-lit locations.
  - Before entering the vehicle, verify the information provided, including the vehicle make/model, license plate number, and driver’s name/picture.
  - Look inside the vehicle before entering. If anything seems odd or questionable (e.g., there are unexpected passengers in the car), do not enter.
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- Always ride in the back seat of the vehicle, behind the driver.
  - Once you enter the vehicle, verify you can close and re-open the vehicle door.
  - Always wear a seatbelt.
  - Only use rideshares with other passengers you know—do NOT use pooling options.
  - During the ride, follow the route on your cell phone’s map application. Update friends with your location.
  - Have the phone numbers of friends, hosts, and local emergency services available in case of an emergency.