

# Tips for Traveling in Eastern Europe

- Avoid staying in train stations if you possibly can. They simply aren't safe and aren't well patrolled either. Friends of mine have been robbed in the Prague station at midnight.
- Try to avoid looking too "American", seeing that North American tourists and Western European tourists have become more and more the target of crime in Eastern Europe. An embassy warning states that one method thieves have is to watch passengers boarding trains bound for western countries. They seek out travelers who are alone, travel at night, look western (West=money), and then board the train behind them, buying a ticket to the boarder. After you go to sleep, they make your load a bit lighter to carry.
- It's generally not a bad idea to try to "blend in" a bit. Don't wear Gortex jackets, carry a green and yellow daypack, wear tennis shoes or big T-shirts tucked out. They are all dead give-aways. Go with dark colors and leather shoes. Pack the baseball cap.