Before You Travel: Security Checklist

HCS Technology Group - Travel Data Security Guide

Before Departure:
- 💾 Backup & encrypt all data (leave backup at home)
- 📤 Sign out of sensitive services (Box, Dropbox, iCloud, social media)
- 📸 Evaluate your Photos library for sensitive content
- 🗑️ Consider temporarily deleting social media apps
- 🔐 Use strong passwords (13+ characters with symbols)

At the Border:
- 🚫 Disable Face ID/Touch ID: Press power + volume buttons until "slide to power off" appears (then cancel)
- ⏰ iOS 18 auto-restart: iPhone automatically restarts after 3 days without unlocking
- 📴 Turn off Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, Cellular in hostile environments

High-Risk Destinations:
- Use a sanitized loaner device with no personal data
- Reboot devices daily (clears certain types of malware)
- Store sensitive documents only in secure cloud storage

Device Security Basics

Mobile Devices

- Use strong passcodes (6+ digits)

- Enable biometric locks

- Set auto-lock to 30 seconds

- Enable "Find My Device"

- Disable lock screen notifications

Computers

- Use full-disk encryption

- Require password on wake

- Enable firewall

- Keep software updated

- Disable auto-login