

TRAVEL TIPS: PLAN FOR SAFETY AND COMFORT ON YOUR NEXT BUS TRIP

Bus travel is a great way to appreciate the ride as well as the destination, as passengers can relax and enjoy the scenery. It's an up-close, laid-back travel experience that's not the same by air or from behind the steering wheel. And with a little planning, bus travelers can help ensure their trips are as safe and comfortable as they are scenic.

STAY SAFE ON BOARD

- Stay seated while the bus is moving. A quick swerve or stop could throw you off balance and cause injuries.
- If seat belts are available, stay buckled on board—most newer buses have them.
- Never block the center aisle with luggage or other belongings. Stow carry-on items securely in the overhead space or seat back pocket.
- Note the closest emergency exits, such as the emergency exit hatch in the roof above the center aisle, and windows that serve as exits. Follow the instructions on the windows or window frames.
- Your driver should point out the location of the fire extinguisher, which may be behind the driver's seat, beneath the front row passenger's seat, or in the front-most overhead compartment.
- Pay attention to and follow all your driver's safety instructions.
- If necessary, notify authorities of an emergency by calling 911.

PUT SAFETY FIRST IN TRAVEL PLANNING: RESEARCH BUS COMPANY SAFETY RECORDS

While most bus companies are responsible and operate safely, there are some that fail to meet safety requirements and may put passengers at risk. The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's (FMCSA's) convenient Bus Safety Search lets you research bus company safety records before you book a trip or buy tickets.

Use the webpage to search bus company safety data by using a company's name or USDOT number. Many bus companies have similar names, so ask the company for its USDOT number. Learn more and search online by visiting

www.fmcsa.dot.gov/lookbeforeyoubook.



