Before you go

- **Share your travel information.** Before you leave, share your itinerary with someone you trust. Include the address and phone number of your accommodations and transportation information, like flight numbers.
- **Research ground transportation.** Research taxi and ridesharing companies that are available and reputable in the area. Do they take credit cards or only cash? Is there a number you can call if you have a bad experience? If you plan on taking public transportation, look for a mobile app that has real-time updates for the transportation system at your destination. This can help you avoid waiting for a bus in an isolated area.
- **Familiarize yourself with the destination.** Use tools like Google Maps to scout out the area around your destination. Is there a hospital or police station located near where you're staying? Check to see if there are local bus stops in the area or a shopping center where you can easily find a cab. If you plan on going out in the evenings, plan your return trip in advance.
- **Plan for safety abroad.** Check out the State Department's [resources for international travelers]. Identify the nearest [U.S. Embassy or Consulate] and store their contact information. Consular officers are available for emergency assistance 24/7. You can also register your international trip for free with the [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program]. If you are planning to travel on a cruise ship, read the safety information provided by the cruise line and learn more about [cruise ship safety] before you board.