GUEST ROOM SAFETY TIPS

Don't answer the door in a hotel without verifying who it is. If a person claims to be an employee, call the front desk and ask if someone from their staff is supposed to have access to your room and for what purpose.

Keep your room key with you at all times and don't needlessly display it in public. Should you misplace it, please notify the front desk immediately.

Close the door securely whenever you are in your room and use all of the safety locking devices provided. When exiting your room, firmly push and pull on the door to make sure the door is latched and secure.

Check to see that any connecting room doors are locked.

Don't invite strangers to your room.

Do not draw attention to yourself by displaying large amounts of cash or expensive jewelry.

Place all valuables in the in-room safe or safe deposit box.

When returning to your hotel late in the evening, be aware of your surroundings, stay in well-lighted areas, and use the main entrance.

Take a few moments and locate the nearest exit that may be used in the event of an emergency.

A FEW MORE TIPS

Be wary of food delivery menus that are pushed into your room under the door. There have been reports across the country that many of these fliers are scams from non-existent restaurants attempting to gain access to your credit card information.

Be cautious when connecting to free public Wi-Fi connections, even if the network sounds legit. Wi-Fi skimming involves using a free Wi-Fi network to steal information from unsuspecting people. The scammer simply sets up a hotspot named "Free Wi-Fi" in a hotel, park, or popular public area. Once you start using the connection, any data you use will be sent directly to the host/scammer's computer. This means the offender will have access to your usernames and passwords. Although it's tempting, never click on a network that says "Free Wi-Fi." If you're staying at a hotel with free Wi-Fi, be sure to use the correct network, which usually requires a password, such as your room number. Ask someone at the front desk to prevent any confusion.

If you get a call from "the front desk" you can't always be sure of who is actually on the other end of the line. It's important to never give your credit card number over the phone at a hotel. If you receive a call claiming there is an issue with your reservation, take the time to go to the front desk and discuss it in person. Second, always book your hotel with a credit card instead of a debit card. Many credit cards have fraud protection, and this will prevent the thieves from emptying out your checking account.