ULTIMATE HOTEL ROOM SECURITY CHECKLIST

Life Security Playbook • Print it, pack it, and check it before you settle in

1. BEFORE BOOKING & CHECK-IN

- ■ Read recent reviews for safety, access control, lighting, and staff response.
- ■ If practical, request a room on floors 2–4; weigh access concerns against your mobility and evacuation needs.
- ■ Ask the desk to **write** your room number instead of saying it aloud. Keep the number private.
- ■ Notice entrances, stairwells, emergency exits, and the route to the lobby.

2. FIRST 5-MINUTE ROOM SWEEP

- ■ Keep the entry door open while you make a quick visual sweep; don't enter if you feel unsafe.
- ■ Check closets, bathroom, behind shower curtain, and other spaces where a person could hide.
- ■ Lock and test windows, balcony/sliding doors, and secondary bolts; check accessible exterior ledges.
- ■ Inspect the peephole for damage. If concerned about reverse viewing, cover it from inside when not using it.
- ■ Lock connecting doors; test the latch/deadbolt. If damaged or loose, leave and request another room.
- ■ Locate smoke alarms and emergency instructions; never disable safety equipment.

3. LAYER THE DOOR SECURITY

- ■ Engage the hotel deadbolt and security latch every time you're inside.
- ■ Use a compatible portable lock or door-stop alarm; test it gently and ensure it doesn't block emergency exit.
- ■ Optional: a reinforcement bar can add resistance if it fits the door and floor safely.
- ■ A hanger/towel trick is not a dependable lock. Avoid forcing objects into the lock or damaging hardware; never obstruct emergency egress.
- ■ If someone knocks unexpectedly, keep the door locked. Call the front desk using a known number to verify staff; request ID under the door if appropriate.

4. PRIVACY & HIDDEN-CAMERA SWEEP

- ■ Scan suspicious items: clocks, USB chargers, picture frames, vents, TV boxes/remotes, air purifiers, and powered desk accessories.
- ■ Dim lights and sweep with your phone flashlight; look for unusual tiny lens reflections, holes, modifications, or unexplained devices.
- ■ Photograph anything suspicious. Don't dismantle smoke detectors or essential fixtures.
- ■ A detector app may scan local Wi-Fi devices; an RF detector may find transmitting devices. Neither can guarantee detection of every camera.
- ■ If you find a suspected camera in a private area, don't touch it; document it, leave if needed, and report it to hotel management and local authorities.

5. VALUABLES & ROOM ACCESS

- ■ Keep passport, laptop, medication, cash, and essential documents with you when practical.
- ■ Use a secured bag; lock luggage and cable it to a sturdy fixed object only when appropriate.
- ■ An in-room safe is a useful layer, not a guarantee. Avoid leaving irreplaceable items unattended.
- ■ Use Do Not Disturb when you don't want routine service; arrange a time to be present for housekeeping.
- ■ Before leaving, secure valuables, lock windows/doors, and log out of streaming accounts. A displaced marker is not proof of entry.

6. DIGITAL & SMART-TV SECURITY

- ■ Confirm the hotel Wi-Fi name/password with staff; avoid look-alike networks.
- ■ Use a reputable VPN on public Wi-Fi. Avoid banking or sensitive transactions on unsecured networks; prefer cellular data or a trusted network.
- ■ Disable auto-join, local file sharing, and AirDrop; turn Bluetooth off when not needed.
- ■ Never enter payment details on a hotel TV. Check privacy settings and sign out of every streaming account before checkout.

7. IF SOMETHING FEELS WRONG

- ■ Don't confront a suspected intruder or tamper with suspicious devices.
- ■ Move to a safer public area and contact the front desk/security or emergency services as appropriate.
- ■ Ask for a room change if a lock, window, connecting door, or staff-verification process seems unsafe.

TRAVEL SECURITY PRODUCTS — CLICK ANY ITEM IN THE DIGITAL PDF

Portable Door Lock • Addalock Portable Door Lock • Rubber Door Stopper with Alarm • Portable Door Reinforcement Bar • 7-in-1 Hidden Camera & RF Detector • CamX Hidden Camera Detector App • Pacsafe Anti-Theft Bag for Hotel Travel • Luggage Cable Lock • NordVPN Travel VPN Subscription

Remember: No gadget or checklist guarantees safety. Follow hotel rules and local emergency guidance, and never use a device or improvised barrier that could trap you during a fire or other emergency. Product links may be affiliate links.