

ROBBERY

(Anytime)

Key messages/top tips

- Be aware of your surroundings. If you are talking on a phone or wearing headphones you don't take in what is going on around you
- Don't be complacent – robbery can occur in crowded environments, not just deserted streets and men are just as likely to be targeted as women
- Don't flash your property about – keep mobiles phones, MP3 players and laptops hidden when you are out and about. Be particularly aware of this around transport hubs – bus stops and in and around stations – where people tend to get their phones out, making it a target for robbers
- Spread your possessions about – for example, keep your mobile phone separate from your purse and your keys separate from your credit cards
- Carry your bag close to you with the clasp facing inwards. Keep it zipped up and make sure your wallet or purse can't be seen. Don't carry large amounts of cash
- Cover up any expensive jewellery and, if you must carry other valuables, be discreet. Talking on your mobile, wearing headphones (for a CD player, MP3 or iPod) or carrying a laptop all show thieves you have things worth taking
- Think about your route, especially if you are going to be on your own or having had a few drinks, or even carrying lots of shopping bags.