

Hitchhikers Checklist

By Bianca Hendriks

- Before Hitchhiking
 - Carefully consider the route on which you are hitchhiking.
 - Know the towns or crossroads in the direction you are heading.
 - Check to see if hitchhiking is legal in the area where you're traveling.
 - Know how to defend yourself - learn a bit of karate.
 - Know the signs of drinking and drug use.
- Safety
 - Turn down any ride with which you do not feel comfortable.
 - Observe the make, model and registration of the car before getting in.
 - Do not accept a ride in a car full of strangers.
 - Try to sit up front in the passenger seat.
 - Make sure that there are no child safety locks on before you get in a car.
 - Keep your bags with you at all time.
 - Keep your passport and travel documents on your person.
 - Keep your cash in several separate locations.
 - Travel with at least one other person.
 - Carry a mobile phone at all times.
 - Don't hitch after dark.
 - Keep a bottle of pepper-spray handy, just in case.
 - Be wary of any offers of accommodation.