

Communications

Expert David McClelland says...



TOP TIPS FOR USING YOUR MOBILE PHONE ABROAD

AS SOON AS YOU HAVE BOOKED YOUR HOLIDAY – CALL YOUR MOBILE PHONE OPERATOR AND TELL THEM WHICH COUNTRY YOU'RE VISITING

- **ASK** them to check that your phone will work where you're going, and that it isn't barred from international use. You want to be able to use it if you need to!
- **CHECK** how much voice calls and text messages cost to send and receive, how to access your voicemail (and how much it costs) and how much data costs. Make clear notes.
- **MAKE SURE** you're opted-in to SMS notifications from your operator which will tell you when you're reaching your spending cap.
- **ASK** the operator to talk you through turning off data roaming if you're not planning on using data on your phone. This will stop you using a service you didn't plan to by mistake
- **EXPLAIN** how you plan to use your phone if you are planning on using it abroad, and ask about bundles and packages which might make it cheaper.

BEFORE YOU GET ON THE PLANE - KNOW YOUR PHONE

- **GET TO KNOW** your mobile phone, particularly how to disable your data and how to monitor how much data you're using. Ask for help if you need it.
- **RESET** your phone's data usage counter at the beginning of your trip and keep checking to get a feel for how much data you're using and how quickly you're using it.

WHEN YOU ARE ON HOLIDAY – MAKE SURE YOU USE WI-FI WISELY

- **SOME** hotels, airports and cafes feature free or cheap Wi-Fi. When connecting to Wi-Fi to browse the internet or watch a video turn off data roaming on your phone - this will make sure that you don't!

Happy Holidays!