



## The Investigator Newsletter

### Travel Scams



#### Travel Alert: Common Taxi Scams & How to Avoid Them

##### About Us

Since 2000, BCSI Investigations Inc. has performed thousands of successful investigations. Our integrated team of investigators and support services ensure that the investigations are conducted promptly with leading-edge techniques.

With over 40 years of combined experience, BCSI Investigations Inc. is the platinum standard

Planning a trip this summer?

Make sure you don't fall victim to taxi scams. They are one of the most common tricks targeting tourists, especially during high-travel seasons like spring break and summer.

Here are a few taxi scams to watch out for:

##### 1. The Broken Meter

Once a taxi driver discovers you're a tourist, their meter will spontaneously break. After the meter is broken, they get to make up any number they want and tend to overcharge you. They may try negotiating a rate with you and say an extremely high price for a short ride.

##### 2. "Your Hotel Is Closed"

Another way taxi drivers will try to trick you is by saying your hotel is closed. They'll try to convince you that the place has been closed for months or is overbooked, and you can't stay there. They will then take you somewhere else to run up the meter.

##### 3. Taking the Long Way

Unfamiliar with local roads, tourists are easy targets for drivers who take longer, more expensive routes. It's a simple trick to increase the fare without raising immediate suspicion.

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#### How to Protect Yourself:

##### ***Ask a local***

Before getting in a taxi, ask someone trustworthy, either from your hotel front desk or a server at a restaurant, how much the taxi should cost. This gives you arguing power because once they know you know the proper rate, they will usually stop arguing.

##### ***Use your phone***

Track the route on Google Maps and check whether your booking at your hotel is still valid.

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