FCC | CONSUMER CONNECTIONS

Keeping in Touch While Abroad

Taking your mobile device along on an international trip? Roaming rules and rates can be tricky, and can vary by carrier. Understand them before you travel.





For more tips, visit fcc.gov/international-roaming

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- Before you go, confirm your phone is compatible with networks and countries on your trip.
- If your phone will work abroad, check your carrier's roaming rates.
- Ask your provider about using Wi-Fi abroad and whether it counts against your data allowance.
- Wi-Fi may not be free abroad. Find out the cost before browsing the web or using your apps overseas.
- Track voice and data usage abroad. Charges may not appear on your bill right away.
- Turn off automatic downloads. They may result in additional roaming charges.
- Be aware of emergency calling numbers in the countries you're visiting.
- Check security risks before sending personal information over public networks.
- Explore other options: Pre-paid or pay-asyou-go handsets, calling cards and 'SIM' cards. Contact your provider for details.