



## Hints and Tips

Even with adequate insurance, you still need to look after your photographic equipment. It is a condition of the cover that all reasonable care is to be taken care for the safety and protection of the property insured. Here are some ideas to help you reduce the risks to your equipment.

- Always use a neck strap with your camera. It will save your camera from damage if it slips out of your hands. A camera should only fall into a river or sea if you fall in with it!
- Never let the equipment out of your sight in a public place. If you need to put a camera bag on the ground as you take a picture, always keep it in front of you, preferably with your foot on the strap.
- If you sit at pavement cafés, avoid tables next to the road. Thieves can snatch your camera and be away before you realise what is happening. Choose a table closer to the café for safety.
- Remember to pick up all your camera equipment after shooting! A surprising number of claims are received for equipment which has been left behind at a location.
- Try not to leave camera equipment in an unattended vehicle, even for a few minutes. Do not use the boot of your car as a camera case, returning to swap lenses or change film. If thieves are watching, they will see that you have valuable goods and clear the boot while you are away for a few minutes.
- Theft from unattended vehicles at night is excluded by this policy. Always take cameras and lenses into a hotel if you are staying overnight. Many hotels offer safe deposit boxes for valuables, either in your room or at the reception area.
- When using a multi-storey car park, find a space in the middle of the floor, away from pedestrian exits. Thieves prefer to target cars near to staircases where they can escape quickly if challenged.
- Do not cover your camera bags with badges which shout the name of your camera. Some photographers have stopped using camera bags because they are obvious targets for thieves. A rucksack or holdall can be safer, but make sure there is enough padding to protect the camera and lenses. Use padded lens pouches, or wrap lenses in soft cloths.
- Always report any loss or theft to the local police. If you are travelling, report the loss at your next stop. Record the details of the police station, together with the name of the police officer and the police case number (if any). This information will be required when you make a claim.

Remember to update your insurance policy whenever you add to your camera system, or change cameras, lenses or accessories. You are only covered for the items listed on the policy schedule.