



# THE FIELD GUIDE TO DEPLOYMENT PLANNING

# **Grant Rayner**

#### Copyright © 2020-2022 Grant Rayner

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopy or any storage and retrieval system, without prior permission from the publisher.

Published by Spartan9 in Singapore www.spartan9.com

# The Field Guide to Deployment Planning Version 3.0

Written and edited by Grant Rayner Edited by Crystal Cover and photos by Grant Rayner

ISBN 978-981-14-6842-1 (digital edition)

- 1. Travel 2. Travel Safety 3. Travel Security
- 4. Travel Risk Management 5. Travel Planning
- 6. Deployment planning

The information in this Field Guide is intended to be generic and is not tailored to any one location. If you are travelling to a higher-risk location, seek professional advice in advance of your travel.

# **Contents**

Preface	ĺΧ
Purpose	ix
Who this guide is for	X
Operating context	X
Preliminary Planning	1
Scheduling	1
Passport	2
National ID card	4
Visas	4
Driving	6
Vaccinations	6
Embassy registration	7
Travel insurance	7
Research	8
Travel Arrangements	10
Flights	10
Airport pickup	11
Accommodation	13
Transport	15
Communications	18

Mobile phones	18
Power	22
Satellite phones	22
Handheld radios	24
Contingencies	24
IT Equipment	25
Devices	25
Applications	27
Power	29
Adapters	29
Cables	30
Power banks	30
Solar panels	31
Medical	32
Hospitals	32
Clinics	33
Medical support at your hotel	33
Medical kits	33
Medical evacuation planning	34
Clothing and equipment	35
Clothing	35
Layering of gear	36

Medical kits	39
Emergency kit	41
Restricted items	42
Avoid military gear	42
Fly-In kit	42
Photographic equipment	43
AirTags	44
Unpack after each deployment	44
Money	45
Cash	45
Credit cards	46
Exchange rates	47
Black market exchanges	47
Personal Profile	48
Congruency	48
Social media	49
Local Support	50
Guides	50
Fixers	52
Interpreters and translators	53
Drivers	54
Protective Security Detail	55

Physical & Psychological Preparation	58
Physical preparation	58
Psychological preparation	62
Contingency Planning	65
Emergency contact	65
Loss of communications procedures	66
evacuation planning	67
Pre-Travel Checklist	73
Weeks leading up to deployment	73
Days leading up to deployment	73
Day of deployment	74
At the airport (before boarding)	74
On landing	75
Before getting off the plane	75
Once in the arrivals area	75
End Notes	76
About the author	76
About Spartan9	77
Other titles	78
Feedback	79

# **PREFACE**

## **Purpose**

Operating in complex and higher-risk environments not only presents significant difficulties but also potentially involves serious risks. At Spartan9, we've spent many years enabling organisations and individuals to operate safely and securely in challenging environments. In doing so, we've built up a significant amount of knowledge and experience.

We've developed this Field Guide to help you prepare for engagements in complex and higher-risk environments.

Our objective in writing this guide is to ensure you safely get to your destination and you're well-positioned for a successful engagement.

This Field Guide includes essential information only. We limit lengthy explanations, focusing instead on specific and actionable advice and recommendations.

We have also published additional Field Guides that will build on the information here and will focus on proactively managing your safety and security once you're on the ground.

### Who This Guide Is for

We have designed this Field Guide specifically for people who travel to, and operate in, complex and higher-risk environments. This audience may include journalists, security consultants, aid workers, field researchers, expedition teams and adventure travellers.

That said, most of the advice and recommendations in this Field Guide are applicable to all travellers.

# **Operating Context**

The advice in this Field Guide is focused on complex and higher-risk environments. These environments are characterised by the fact that there are active threats to your safety and wellbeing. These environment may also have the following characteristics:

- The location may be remote
- The location may have poor infrastructure
- There may be high levels of corruption
- You have minimal local support to back you up

In combination, these factors pose a host of challenges to your operations. You will need to take proactive steps to manage risk to ensure the safety of both yourself and your team.

This Field Guide will show you how.

# **END NOTES**

#### About the Author

Grant Rayner is an experienced security and crisis management specialist, based in Asia.

Grant's career started in the military, where he served for a little over 13 years as a soldier, NCO and officer. During his period of service, he worked in infantry, special operations and intelligence units.

After leaving the military, Grant relocated to Asia, where he has lived and worked for more than 20 years. During that time, he has held senior regional positions in several global security consulting firms. He has also worked in corporate security roles at regional and global levels.

In 2012, Grant founded Spartang.

During his time as a consultant, Grant has provided specialised security and crisis management services to clients across more than 25 countries in the Asia Pacific and Middle East regions. He has also supported clients during and after a host of major crisis events, including natural disasters, civil unrest and terrorist attacks.

Grant is an active traveller, writer and photographer. He has published numerous books and articles on the subjects of security and crisis management. He has spoken at a number of industry events, and has also been invited to speak to a class at Harvard Business School.

## **About Spartang**

Spartan9 provides consulting, training and operational support designed to enable organisations to operate safely, securely and successfully in complex and higher-risk environments.

We work with some of the world's leading organisations in many of the world's most interesting and complex places—from board rooms in Manhattan to remote field camps in Balochistan, and most places in between.

We're accustomed to working in challenging operating environments and in different cultural contexts. In fact, these are the places we feel most at home.

We bring unique skills, experience and perspectives to our projects..

You can learn more on our website.

www.spartang.com

#### Other Titles

We have published a number of books focused on operating securely in higher-risk environments.

#### The Field Guide Series

- The Field Guide to Deployment Planning (this guide)
- The Field Guide to Personal Security
- The Field Cuide to Accommodation Security
- The Field Guide to Transport Security

#### Other titles

- The Guide to Travelling in Higher-Risk Environments
- Under the Radar
- The Security Evacuation Handbook Vol I -Fundamentals & Planning
- The Security Evacuation Handbook Vol II Decision-Making & Execution
- The Crisis Response Handbook
- The Crisis Simulation Handbook

You can purchase these books from our website.

## Feedback

If you identify any errors or broken links, or have thoughts to add on the topics in this Field Guide, please get in touch.

Thank you for reading, and safe travels!

