



**THE FIELD GUIDE TO
PERSONAL
SECURITY**

Grant Rayner



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The Field Guide to Personal Security
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1. Travel
2. Travel Safety
3. Travel Security
4. Travel Risk Management
5. Travel Planning
6. Personal Security

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.

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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 developed this Field Guide to help you stay safe while operating in complex and higher-risk environments.

This guide will cover a broad range of situations, risks and threats. We'll start by outlining the key aspects of preparation, including protective equipment and communications. From there, we'll focus on the actions you should take when first arriving in a new location. We'll cover how to stay safe while in your accommodation, while on the streets and while driving. We'll highlight the risks of protests and riots, and discuss how to avoid, detect and evade hostile surveillance. Finally, we'll work through how to navigate corruption and how to deal with armed engagements.

This Field Guide includes essential information only. We limit lengthy explanations and avoid case studies and

anecdotes. Instead, we focus on specific, actionable advice and recommendations.

We'll be producing 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 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 Spartan9.

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 Spartan9

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.spartan9.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
- The Field Guide to Personal Security
- The Field Guide 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!

