

Female Business Traveller Solutions

*... Safeguarding your
female travellers*

- Female business traveller safety solutions
- Travel-safe employer accreditation
- Employer duty of care advice
- Female business traveller safety training
- Certified female friendly hotels
- Secure employee travel network

Maiden
Voyage





The number of female business travellers has increased rapidly in recent years and they now make up at least 50% of business travellers. As more and more women reach senior positions, it is inevitable that many will conduct both domestic and international business travel as part of their remit. Business travel presents both risk and opportunities for employees and employers alike. Whilst the positive opportunities are widespread, there is also an obligation of employers to provide a duty of care to their female business travellers ensuring that safety is foremost for women travelling alone.

Independent research* by Maiden Voyage revealed that one in four business travellers have suffered a safety related incident whilst on company business, ranging from theft of personal belongings to serious sexual assault.

51% of female travellers stated that they felt vulnerable in their hotel, 55% in cabs and 67% on public transport.

31% felt that their employer did not take adequate precautions to ensure their safety whilst travelling on business.

By having the right services and policies in place, business travel will no longer be an inhibitor in attracting, retaining and empowering women within your organisation to achieve their full potential and will positively impact your organisational success.

*Maiden Voyage spoke to 100 female travellers as part of the female traveller safety research, January 2015.



Maiden Voyage Solutions

Secure global networking for female business travellers

Many women find travelling alone to a strange city intimidating. They often limit their out of work activities to staying in their hotel rooms, due to reticence to draw attention to themselves by eating alone in a hotel restaurant.

Launched in 2008, Maiden Voyage provides a global professional network, through which female business travellers can meet and expand their professional contacts in a safe, social environment.

Through corporate membership, organisations can also use the Maiden Voyage platform to facilitate female employees meeting up whilst on business travel. It is frequently the case that employees from different offices could be staying at the same hotel, unaware that the woman at the next table is actually a colleague. Maiden Voyage facilitates the growth of informal relationships within your own organisation.

Your female travellers are also supported by a team of trusted global ambassadors, professional women who can advise on local customs, business etiquette and dress codes, and provide recommendations of places to visit and eat.



Many organisations work with a Travel Management Company who will provide a list of hotels which meet with the corporate budget. Little consideration is given however, to the safety of business hotels, with little or no vetting taking place. As a result, there are a number of cases each year where women have been attacked, robbed or sexually assaulted whilst on company business in a hotel, frequently these crimes have been committed by hotel employees.

Maiden Voyage inspects hotels in the world's top business cities for both safety and comfort. Hotels that meet the stringent inspection criteria which include 24/7 manned reception, double-locking hotel doors and being located in safe areas will be awarded the Female Friendly stamp of approval from Maiden Voyage. Maiden Voyage partner hotels are sensitive to the needs of female travellers, many of whom have undergone further 'Female Guest Excellence' training. These hotels will exercise discretion when communicating room numbers, will understand where to locate women within the hotel and how to make lone female diners comfortable in the public dining areas.

This provides you with peace of mind that you are sending your most valuable assets, your people, to a safe hotel that understands how to cater for solo female travellers.

Maiden Voyage provides a list of personally vetted hotels to its corporate members and is also happy to share inspections of hotels that have not met our safety and comfort criteria.

Certified Hotels for Female Traveller Security

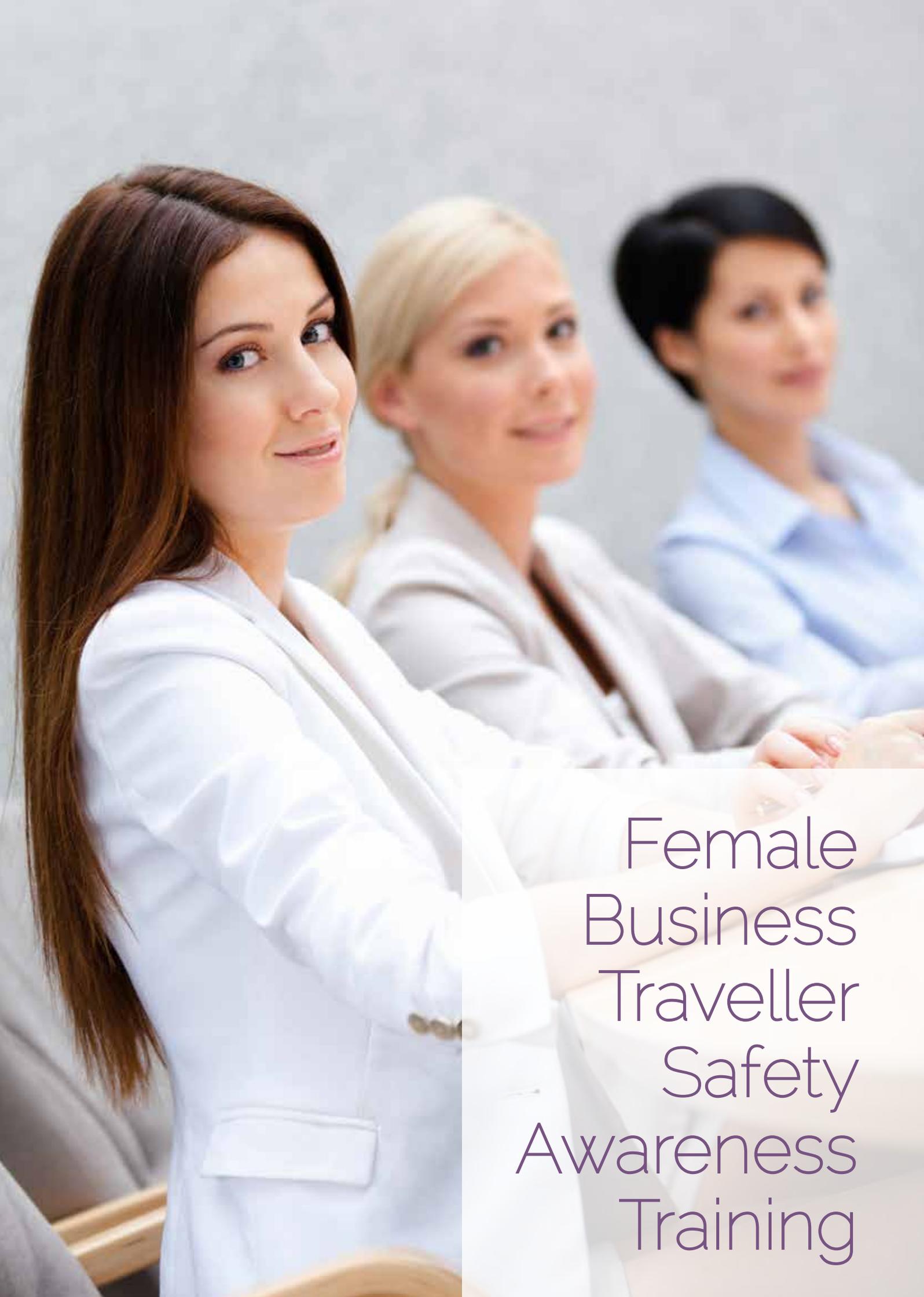


Gender Specific Travel Policies

Whilst employers have an obligation to provide a **duty of care** to their business travellers, organisations are often unaware of the specific risks that female travellers face, how to reduce that risk and how to deal with incidents should they occur. As a result, their need to provide accurate advice on cultural and legal restrictions is often overlooked. No special provisions are made to avoid risk associated with sexual assault or indeed pregnancy in travel, particularly so in the first trimester when employees may be reluctant to disclose a pregnancy.

There is a fine-line between discrimination, being patronised and providing pragmatic support to a growing segment of your workforce in a sensitive way.

We can help you navigate this potential minefield by reviewing your travel policies with women in mind.



Female
Business
Traveller
Safety
Awareness
Training



Our Female Traveller Safety Training empowers and informs women to perform their roles safely whilst travelling on business, ensuring they understand the risks facing female travellers.

Our Female Traveller Safety Training has been developed in consultation with female travel security professionals and tested on some of the most knowledgeable individuals and organisations in the industry.

The course uses a mix of study, video and role-play to provide the female traveller with the right knowledge and confidence to deal with events that may happen during a business trip. This not only provides the traveller with confidence but also helps your organisation to legally comply with its requirement to provide a duty of care to employees under UK Health and Safety law (including the Corporate Manslaughter and Homicide Act 2007).

Course Outline:

- Pre-planning your trip
- Understanding local legal and cultural differences
- Arrival and transport safety
- Hotel safety
- Safe meetings
- Safe leisure time
- Predator psychology
- Diffusing a conflict situation
- Basic self defence
- Medical and pregnancy in travel
- Social media and travel

About Maiden Voyage



It was on a lonely business trip to LA that Maiden Voyage's founder, Carolyn Pearson decided to create a network for professional women business travellers. Passionate about travel, Carolyn was hugely disappointed at having missed the opportunity to get out and explore one of the world's most vibrant cities.

Following extensive market research there was encouragement to bring the site to life which came from scores of other business women who had spent many lonely evenings in their hotel rooms or dining alone in a restaurant, often being the subject of unwanted attention.

Carolyn launched maiden-voyage.com in 2008 and it was soon to be widely covered by the global press including the New York Times, the Guardian, CNN, The Economist and BBC.

Today maiden-voyage.com has members across all industries in over 80 countries and is a reliable and trusted brand.

Talk to us...

**Maiden
Voyage**

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