

# *LANsultants Times*

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## **I'M LEAVING ON VACATION AND NEED MY E-MAIL**

When traveling overseas, what's the most convenient way to access your email?

If you think that bringing your notebook computer with you and hoping your hotel offers a DSL or phone line connection is your best option, think again: Our recommended solution is to use the services of an Internet Café, especially if you are leaving North America.

To use your own notebook to access your email overseas, you must deal with the following issues:

- you'll need power adapters to connect your laptop to incompatible foreign power grids.
- you will have to reconfigure your Internet access to use a local dial-up account on alien phone systems.
- you must deal with the inconvenience and risk of theft involved in bringing your laptop with you overseas.
- if your PC uses certain kinds of encryption software you may even find yourself in violation of laws limiting export of advanced encryption software.

Bringing your own notebook to access your email makes no more sense than bringing your own writing desk to write conventional letters. By using an internet café (which are widespread outside the U.S.), you can access your email account without dealing with the complexities of connecting to the internet. In some regions, a 1/2 hour of internet time in an internet Café costs less than a cup of coffee.

But if you just love the challenge of technology, use LANsultants' vacation e-mail check list.

## **VACATION E-MAIL CHECKLIST**

- Confirm your ISP provides national or International access numbers. If not available setup a rule in your email program to forward your email to Yahoo, MSN or another international mail service.

If you wish to use your laptop for email access:

- Check with Traveloasis.com to check the electric and telephone system adapters required by the places you will be visiting.
- Before you go, configure your notebook to use a dial-up connection using DUN (Dial-Up Networking). Contact your ISP for DUN configuration settings and test before you go.
- Buy a USB PBX adapter which may be necessary when accessing the Internet through a Hotel's PBX. Laptopproducts.com offers a great USB PBX adapter with excellent technical support.
- Check with the Hotels you will be staying at in advance for their type of Internet connection and cost.

If you plan on using internet cafes:

- Check with NetCafes.com before you leave and record the address of Internet Cafes in the places you will be visiting. Test access from a local Internet Café in your home area. This is an ideal solution if your office uses GroupWise or Outlook with Exchange and Web access has been enabled.

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*LANsultants will be closing at 3:00pm on Thursday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> and will be closed all day on Friday, July 4<sup>th</sup> in celebration of Independence Day.*

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