

UAE warns citizens of London "dangers"

23rd August, 2014



The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has advised its citizens to avoid certain "dangerous areas" in central London. The UAE's Ministry of Foreign Affairs has released a map highlighting areas they deem to be crime hotspots. Most of the areas are around London's prestigious shopping area in the West End, the

upmarket street Piccadilly, and the entertainment district Soho. A statement on the ministry's website urged citizens to avoid areas, "where pickpocketing, fraud and theft are frequent and where it is not advisable to live". The warning follows several attacks on Emiratis in London earlier this year. One incident saw three sisters attacked in their hotel room by a hammer-wielding burglar.

London's Metropolitan Police insisted that no part of London was considered a "no-go" area. A spokesman said: "There is absolutely nowhere in London which should be avoided." Police believe Emiratis are targeted by criminal gangs because they wear expensive clothes and have bags and accessories worth thousands of dollars. London's police said the city's crime rate was a lot lower than many world cities and that the UAE should educate its citizens on how to not attract the attention of criminals. A statement said: "The UAE should put together its own preventive measures to educate UAE nationals visiting, studying or doing business not only in London, but the rest of Europe and all over the world."

Sources: *The National* / *Gulf Times*

Writing

People should not dress expensively or flash their wealth in the streets. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

citizens / London / map / crime hotspots / prestigious / shopping area / pickpocketing / no-go area / avoided / expensive clothes / crime rate / educate / studying / business

True / False

- The UAE told its citizens to stay away from London. T / F
- The UAE has made a map for its citizens showing crime hotspots. T / F
- The UAE advised citizens to avoid a prestigious London shopping area. T / F
- The advice for Emiratis follows an attack by Londoners in Abu Dhabi. T / F
- London's police said nowhere in London was dangerous. T / F
- The police advised Emiratis to not wear such expensive clothes. T / F
- London's crime rate is among the highest in the world. T / F
- The UAE asked London police to make a list of preventative measures. T / F

Synonym Match

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. advised | a. argued |
| 2. released | b. robbery |
| 3. district | c. brandishing |
| 4. theft | d. notice |
| 5. wielding | e. issued |
| 6. insisted | f. precautionary |
| 7. targeted | g. encouraged |
| 8. attention | h. actions |
| 9. preventative | i. picked out |
| 10. measures | j. neighbourhood |

Discussion – Student A

- Do you think London is a dangerous place?
- How safe or dangerous is your capital city?
- What do you think of the UAE's map highlighting "dangerous" areas in London?
- Should tourists avoid the shopping and entertainment areas of London?
- What parts of your country should tourists not visit (and why)?
- Is pickpocketing a problem in all cities full of tourists?
- What can you do to protect yourself against pickpockets?
- Is it better to take vacations in your own country?

Breaking News English - The Mini Lesson

Phrase Match

- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| 1. advised its citizens to avoid certain | a. "no-go" area |
| 2. highlighting areas they deem to | b. theft are frequent |
| 3. London's prestigious | c. three sisters attacked |
| 4. pickpocketing, fraud and | d. was a lot lower |
| 5. One incident saw | e. "dangerous areas" |
| 6. considered a | f. measures |
| 7. There is absolutely | g. shopping area |
| 8. the city's crime rate | h. of criminals |
| 9. attract the attention | i. be crime hotspots |
| 10. preventive | j. nowhere in London |

Discussion – Student B

- Should tourists "dress down" on the streets?
- What's the best way to keep your money and belongings safe?
- Should the UAE advise its citizens on how to stay safe as a tourist?
- Which world cities would you never visit?
- Have you ever had trouble while visiting another country?
- What would you do if you were pickpocketed abroad?
- What can London's police do to help tourists more?
- What would you like to ask the UAE's foreign affairs minister?

Spelling

- The UAE has advised its tzenisci
- London's tgpurossiei shopping area
- the entertainment tdstiicr Soho
- uafrd and theft are frequent
- One ntdcniei saw three sisters attacked
- a hammer-ldiiengw burglar
- ddoscirnee a "no-go" area
- There is ulesltaoyb nowhere in London
- draettge by criminal gangs
- bags and iesacerssco worth thousands
- attract the ointtetan of criminals
- nvivetreep measures

Answers – Synonym Match

1. g	2. e	3. j	4. b	5. c
6. a	7. i	8. d	9. f	10. h

Role Play

Role A – Shopping

You think shopping is most important for a town to attract tourists. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that aren't so important about their things. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): restaurants, sightseeing or nightlife.

Role B – Restaurants

You think restaurants are most important for a town to attract tourists. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that aren't so important about their things. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): shopping, sightseeing or nightlife.

Role C – Sightseeing

You think sightseeing is most important for a town to attract tourists. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that aren't so important about their things. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): restaurants, shopping or nightlife.

Role D – Nightlife

You think nightlife is most important for a town to attract tourists. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that aren't so important about their things. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): restaurants, sightseeing or shopping.

Speaking – Capital City

Rank these with your partner. Put the best things about your city at the top. Change partners often.

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| • shopping | • nightlife |
| • parks | • sightseeing |
| • restaurants | • local people |
| • museums | • festivals |

Answers – True False

a	F	b	T	c	T	d	F	e	T	f	T	g	F	h	F
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.