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Smart!

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Essex Police Fraud Alert System

29

5th March 2021



Holiday fraud warning



Action Fraud warning as holiday bookings surge after lockdown exit plans announced.

Action Fraud and ABTA, The Travel Association, are reminding the public to think twice before handing over their money and personal information when booking holidays this year.

What is holiday fraud?

Holiday fraud can vary from fake accommodation listings that don't actually exist, to "too good to be true" offers with flights being particularly targeted. Criminals can approach you over the phone, via text, email and social media, offering incredibly cheap deals to tempt you into booking a holiday with them. In reality, the holiday you've booked, or parts of it, doesn't exist at all.

Before you buy:

- **Do your research**—make sure you've read plenty of reviews and have checked that the company is an ABTA member
- **Pay Safe**—use a credit card where possible and avoid paying into bank accounts
- **If it's too good to be true, it usually is!**



If you or someone you know is vulnerable and has been a victim of fraud, please call **Essex Police** on 101
Report fraud or attempted fraud by contacting **Action Fraud** at [actionfraud.police.uk](https://www.actionfraud.police.uk) or call 0300 123 2040

Keep up to date with fraud and
do **even more** Online at [essex.police.uk](https://www.essex.police.uk)

