

Traveling with a Mobile Device

Introduction

When traveling out of the country, especially if you don't have a carrier that supports foreign travel, there are several ways to communicate.

For example, Consumer Cellular does not provide service when out of the country. What you would have to do is buy a SIM card in the foreign country and put it into your phone. You would have a different phone number but you could call or Text anywhere. Be sure to place your existing SIM card in a safe place.

To see the features that are available from various carriers see the link [here](#).

Here are some other options:

- Wi-Fi calling – if your carrier provides this feature you can place calls if you have Wi-Fi available. You can read more about this feature [here](#).
- iMessage – this feature works over Wi-Fi but can only send to other iPhone or iPad users. To read information on iMessage and Text Message see the article [here](#).
- FaceTime – this works over Wi-Fi or Cellular with anyone with an iPhone or iPad. Go to Settings, Cellular and scroll down to FaceTime to Enable/Disable Cellular.
- Skype – this works over Wi-Fi and can be used to call anywhere in the world. It's best to add calling minutes to your account before you travel out of the country.
- WhatsApp – Send messages over the Internet for free, see the article [here](#). For this App open it and go to the App Settings and tap Data and Storage Usage. From here you can control whether Cellular is enabled for the various media types.

If you are leaving the US and your carrier supports world travel, check with them before traveling. They may have a plan just for foreign travel that will give you reduced rates. These plans can be "turned on" for 1 month at a time.

If you don't have an international data plan it may be wise turn off your Data Roaming since your phone may try to download all your email as soon as you arrive. You can always do this as soon as you have Wi-Fi.

For more information on using your mobile device abroad see the article [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#).

Remember, always check with your carrier to get the best advice.