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**From:** Attorney General Ellen F. Rosenblum <attorneygeneral@doj.state.or.us>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 14, 2013 10:06 AM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** 6 Signs It's a Travel Scam



Oregon Department of Justice  
FINANCIAL FRAUD/CONSUMER PROTECTION SECTION

# SCAM ALERT

## 6 Signs It's a Travel Scam

Not sure if you're dealing with a travel scam? Here are six signs that sun-filled getaway isn't what it seems:

**1. You "won a free vacation," but you have to pay some fees first.** A legitimate company won't ask you to pay for a prize.

**2. The prize company wants your credit card number.** Even if they say it's just for "verification," "taxes," or "port fees," don't give it to them.

**3. They cold-call, cold-text, or email you out of the blue.** Before you do business with any company you don't know, call the [Attorney General](#) and [local consumer protection agencies](#) in the company's home state to check on complaints;



Attorney General Ellen  
Rosenblum

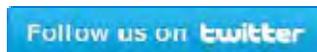
then, search online by entering the company name and the word "complaints" or "scam." To contact the Oregon Attorney General, call 1-877-877-9392 or visit [www.oregonconsumer.gov](http://www.oregonconsumer.gov).

**4. They don't - or can't - give you specifics.** They promise a stay at a "five-star" resort or a cruise on a "luxury" ship. The more vague the promises, the less likely they'll be true. Ask for specifics, and get them in writing.

**5. You get pressure to sign up for a travel club for great deals on future vacations.** The pressure to "sign up or miss out" is a sign to walk away. Travel clubs often have high membership fees and limited choice of destinations or travel dates.

**6. You get a robocall about it.** Robocalls from companies are illegal if you haven't given a company written permission to call you. That's true even if you haven't signed up for the national [Do Not Call Registry](#).

If you think you may have been targeted by a travel scam, report it to the FTC at [ftc.gov/complaint](http://ftc.gov/complaint) or to the Oregon Department of Justice at [www.oregonconsumer.gov](http://www.oregonconsumer.gov). For more on travel scams, visit [ftc.gov/travel](http://ftc.gov/travel).



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Oregon Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum | 1162 Court Street, NE | Salem | OR | 97301