

Moving & Traveling Toolkit

Tactical Travel, Stealth Navigation, and Sovereign Mobility for Gender-Dissident Survivors





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Travel isn't just distance, it's data.

And in hostile states, movement is metadata.

For trans people, travel under fascist or collapsing governance becomes a warzone of ID checks, surveillance dragnet, TSA violence, and arbitrary detainment. This guide is a **counterintelligence manual disguised as a travel kit**. It's for those migrating with intent, not fear. Smuggling meds. Escaping danger. Relinking kin. Building underground networks. Mapping freedom.

This isn't tourism. It's recon.

You are not fleeing, you're outmaneuvering.

Inside you'll find:

- Travel prep lists for stealth survival and sovereign mobility
- How to cross states without triggering border checkpoints
- How to hide your digital trail, blend into cis environments, and build backup identities
- Guidance for queer convoys, trusted pods, and signal-based extraction
- Safehouse protocols, red-zone avoidance, and coded ally alerts
- Protocols for how to survive stops, surveillance, ICE, or carceral traps

We move like we've been here before.

Because we have.

PRINCIPLES OF TRANS TRAVEL UNDER DANGER

1. **Move Smart, Not Loud** — Stealth > Symbolism
2. **Know the Terrain** — Every state, route, and checkpoint has a pattern
3. **Distribute Your Identity** — Your name, your gender, your story: keep them fluid
4. **Secure the Pod** — Travel with vetted allies when possible
5. **Pack Like You're Already Free** — Survival, not spectacle



PREPARATION PHASE

- **Scan Local Legislation:** Check for anti-trans, anti-immigrant, and stop-and-frisk laws
- **Update Documents:** Carry both legal ID (if safe) and emergency aliases
- **Redundant Storage:** USB + cloud drive with medical, identity, and legal files
- **Emergency Paper Packets:** Printed affirming doctor letters, name change orders, prescriptions
- **Clothing Strategy:** Blend in—layered, plain, adaptive to region

ESSENTIAL GEAR FOR TRANS TRAVELERS

- Burner phone (no biometrics, pre-loaded contacts)
- Encrypted flash drive (Proton Drive, Cryptomator)
- HRT kit (2+ weeks, multi-method if possible)
- Snacks, cash in small bills, water purifier bottle
- Pepper spray or self-defense tool (region-dependent)
- Stim tools, sunglasses, scarf/mask for dysphoria management

MODES OF TRAVEL: RISK + TACTICS

1. Car (Personal or Rideshare)

- Best for privacy; avoids TSA
- Use anonymous or trusted driver apps (e.g. not Uber in high-surveillance areas)
- Keep gas receipts, route logs offline

2. Train (Amtrak or Local)

- Moderate surveillance: no ID often needed
- Use cash or pre-paid cards
- Carry distraction (book, headphones) and avoid sleeping alone

3. Bus (Greyhound, Megabus)

- High risk: routine ICE searches at depots
- Avoid border zones or interstate stops
- Always have alternate route if detained

4. Air Travel

- High surveillance but fastest; use for urgent escape only
- TSA: Request private pat-down, carry affirming medical letter
- Use gender-neutral clothing, arrive early, expect misgendering



NAVIGATING HOSTILE TERRITORY

- Mark “Red Zones” (e.g., Texas border counties, southern ICE corridors)
- Never stay overnight in towns without trans- or queer-friendly allies
- Use couch-surfing or vetted radical hospitality networks instead of hotels
- Avoid conservative gas stations or truck stops alone
- Wear coded symbols (rings, bandanas) for ally recognition

DIGITAL SAFETY WHILE TRAVELING

- Use VPNs + Tor when accessing trans-related or medical content
- Turn off GPS and location history
- Avoid real-time posting; only share travel logs post-escape
- Use shared group locations only in encrypted apps (Signal, Briar)
- Wipe browser history regularly; use DuckDuckGo

FINDING OR BUILDING TRANS SAFE HOUSES

- Connect with mutual aid or anarchist housing networks ahead of time
- Vet hosts through back channels, not public posts
- Bring trade/supplies as offering when possible (food, meds, labor)
- Leave no trace: clean space, secure names, erase messages

WHEN YOU ENCOUNTER LAW ENFORCEMENT

- Say only your name and “I want a lawyer”
- Do not consent to searches
- Do not unlock your phone
- Request gender-respectful treatment, but focus on survival
- Record badge numbers and names discreetly if possible

TRANSIT SIGNALS FOR HELP OR AID

- Use color-coded bandanas for nonverbal distress (e.g., yellow = need help, blue = need meds)
- Establish backup check-in buddies with 6–12 hour windows
- Have one contact *outside* the danger zone monitoring your signal chain
- Use “door knocks” or indirect phrases to ask for shelter or redirect support

Legal Disclaimer

This guide is provided for educational, strategic, and harm-reduction purposes only. It does not provide legal advice or promote illegal activity. All information herein is derived from open-source data, civil liberties education, and community-based security frameworks. Users are advised to consult trusted legal professionals for jurisdiction-specific issues.

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