Intro

During the year people are occupied with their daily duties at home or at work. We are increasingly exposed to stressful situations each day and therefore, with great impatience, we are waiting for holidays in order to relax a little bit from everyday life and spend some more quality time with our loved ones. Hence we spend a lot of time planning our holidays, by searching travel agent websites or forums in order to find the best offer we can get. Some of these offers sometimes exceed our budget, but we have a glance anyway because they look tempting.

Possible frauds on the Internet during holidays

Hackers also know this. That's why, most often during the holiday season, many of us receive email or text messages with fantastic "half price" or fake "last minute" offers. In these "offers" you will most lakely find some hidden fees that needs to be paid into a specific account in order to get confirmation of your ''reservation''. In those and similar situations you have to be very careful, because such "offers" eventually end up being ''you exclusive'', that is, without your departing on a well deserved vacation.

How to avoid this type of frauds

Before selecting a destination, the desired type of accommodation or sights that you can visit during your stay you should do some research on certain travel agent, how long they run their business on the market, etc. You can also check with your friends whether someone has already used services of that agency and what their impressions are.

If you have received an offer from an unknown email address or via text message, informing you about the "prize trip" you have won, be careful. Such messages usually have a request for payment of a certain amount to an unknown account, after which you will receive a ''confirmation'' of a successfully booked holiday arrangement.

In some cases there are requests in which you are required to provide your credit card number as well as your PIN (Personal Identification Number) in order to "successfully" complete the transaction. The National CERT of the Republic of Serbia advises all users not to give their credit card numbers nor PIN, otherwise they will be exposed to the risk of being robbed by hackers.

The conclusion would be that the most common form of fraud on the Internet starts with a phishing e-mail message, which puts you ''just one click away'' from the desired destination. Do not be hasty, take your time in order to avoid offers that sound too good to be true.