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Paying the Bill When Traveling Abroad

In the West, it's common for people to split the bill. This practice is called "going Dutch." The origins of this phrase could go back to the 17th century. At that time, Britain and the Netherlands were often at war. And so the British used the word "Dutch" whenever they wanted to convey something negative. "Dutch metal," for example, meant fake gold. At that time, splitting the bill was seen as ungentlemanly. So to "go Dutch" expressed stinginess or cheapness. These days, however, the phrase has largely lost this negative meaning.

Now the tip: tipping is a practice that often causes problems as the rules vary from country to country. Many restaurants may simply include the tip in the bill. This will often be listed on your bill as a "service charge." In the United States, 15-20% is expected.

Most restaurants accept credit cards as well as cash. You'll either sign your name on the receipt or electronic signature pad. Make sure you have either enough cash or a credit card as restaurants don't accept traveler's checks. Also, more and more restaurants accept mobile payment. Just one click, and your payment will be done. Mobile payment is indeed the new trend around the world.

(220 words)