

FIRE SAFETY IN RURAL AREAS FOR VISITORS

PLEASE TAKE A MINUTE TO READ THIS ADVICE

We welcome you to Portugal, one of the sunniest and warmest places in Europe.

But did you know that **each year wildfires cause massive damage to our rural areas**, putting the lives of the public and firefighters at risk and result in extensive damage to our environment and property? **Many of these fires are caused by negligence and are preventable.**

Whether you are visiting rural areas, caravanning, camping, walking in rural and forest areas, on a cycling holiday, using BBQs, using quad bikes or 4x4 vehicles in the rural areas and forest tracks, **make sure you have a safe holiday.**

Between 1 July and 30 September (the Critical Fire Period) or outside this period if the fire risk is “very high” or “extreme” (available on a daily basis at www.ipma.pt), **IT IS FORBIDDEN TO:**

- Light bonfires (camp fires) for pleasure or leisure;
- Use of fuel, matches, gas or other dangerous materials for lighting or meal preparation;
- Burn vegetation that was cut and stacked;
- Releasing fire balloons or any other kind of fireworks;
- Smoke or use a lighter in forest;

For caravans and motor homes we advise you to carry a first aid kit, fire extinguisher, smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, and check gas pipes and seals regularly. Setup camp only in designated places.

IF YOU ARE CONFRONTED WITH A WILDFIRE

If you are close or in danger, take refuge and **dial the European Emergency Number – 112**
If you are not in danger you could:

- Attempt to extinguish it with shovels, hoses or branches;
- Do not disturb the operation of the fire fighters and follow their instructions;
- Remove your car from the paths of access to the fire;
- Inform the authorities if you notice the presence of anyone acting suspiciously.

Should you need to report a fire or require a medical emergency please dial 112.

SAFE COMMUNITIES PORTUGAL
THE PORTUGUESE NATIONAL AUTHORITY FOR CIVIL PROTECTION
WISH YOU A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY!

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