



The great escape

Getting away from it all is great, for just a few days or for a few weeks.

Taking the caravan and getting off the beaten track ... getting in the boat and exploring canals, lochs or coastal waters.

But you'll need to do more than check the weather forecast. Always remember, fires don't take holidays.

And fires can be even more terrifying when you're on your own, off the beaten track. Or when you're at sea and you've nowhere safe to escape to.

On the open road – or all at sea?

Get wise

Make a fire plan – always check that your exit is clear

Fit and maintain a fire extinguisher, fire blanket and smoke alarm

Never leave children or pets alone in a caravan or boat

Make sure everyone knows where firefighting equipment is at the site/marina



Visit www.dontgivefireahome.com for practical fire safety advice. Or talk to your local firefighters. You'll find contact details on the website, in your local library and in the phone book.





Before you set off:

Fire safety equipment –

- change the battery in the smoke alarm, test the alarm, and vacuum the casing inside and out
- check that your fire extinguisher has been serviced
- check that you have a fire blanket.

Electrical system –

- check that cables and fittings aren't showing signs of wear or damage
- check that circuit breakers are working
- make sure the battery is secured in a well-ventilated locker
- make sure electrical appliances are secured.

Gas supply –

- check that hoses aren't perished or cracked
- use soapy water to check for leaks

- make sure the pilot light is working
- check the cooker and heater controls
- make sure that cylinders are secured in a well-ventilated locker above the water line, or secured on deck away from hatches
- make sure gas appliances are secured.

Under way:

Make sure that the gas supply is disconnected and gas appliances are turned off.

When you're refuelling –

- turn off all cooking, heating and lighting appliances
- close all doors/hatches to keep out flammable vapours
- extinguish cigarettes and all naked flames
- mop up any spillage
- refuel on shore, never on board.

Don't carry spare petrol unless it's essential –

- if you must carry spare petrol, store a limited supply only in approved containers
- make sure that all containers are secured.

In a fire:

Get everyone out/on deck quickly

Take fire extinguishers on deck with you

Call the fire service/coastguard

Only tackle the fire if it's safe to do so

Seal off vents and hatches to reduce air getting in

If possible, isolate petrol and gas

Never go back into the caravan/cabin

In a boat, prepare to use the dinghy or life raft

