



essential FIRE SAFETY

IN CASE OF FIRE WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

If your clothes are on fire:
STOP, DROP AND ROLL.

Feel the temperature of the door from the inside with the **back of your hand.**

If the door is cool, open slowly and ensure fire and/or smoke is not blocking your escape route and close it behind you.

If the door is hot, do not open. Escape through a window. If you cannot escape, hang a white or light-colored sheet out the window, alerting fire fighters to your presence.

Keep low to the ground – smoke and heat rise. Call emergency services once you're safe.

Do you have a smoke detector?

You should have one in your bedroom. A smoke detector should be installed in every room that will be occupied except the kitchen or above a fireplace where there will be false alarms.

Do not live above the 7th floor.

The fire service cannot rescue you with a ladder truck, and helicopter rescues are not possible for most buildings.

Plan two ways out of every room.

Think about how you will escape the room in case of fire – do you have a ladder/a rope and window access?

Watch your smoke.

Cigarettes are a leading cause of fire deaths – put your ashes out and don't smoke in bed!

65% of reported home fire deaths occur in homes with no smoke alarms or non-working smoke alarms.

Every year, thousands of people die in fires because they are not properly equipped and prepared.



FIRE SAFETY *in* COSTA RICA

Fire safety regulations vary drastically across the world; be prepared to take initiative to ensure your safety

EMERGENCY NUMBER: 911 OR 112

In Costa Rica, there is an average of at least 8,800 fires every year! (Fatalities not reported.)

Although Costa Rica has officially adopted NFPA's fire safety codes, officials say that it is too costly to actually implement. Some fire departments are actually going broke! So be vigilant! It is up to you to ensure that you have smoke alarms and escape routes in your new home.

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