

On the road

- ☐ Anticipate the weather by following forecasts. Reserve enough time for the journey.
- ☐ Consider the safest tyre type in advance.
- ☐ On slippery roads, remember these two safety measures: a safe speed for the conditions and longer following distances.
- ☐ The least tired drives – never under the influence of alcohol.
- ☐ Check the condition of the vehicle, the tyre pressure in particular.
- ☐ Pack your luggage in the boot and tie it down, if necessary. Reserve the passenger area for passengers only.
- ☐ Be flexible in traffic.
- ☐ Make sure that the passenger seat belts and any safety equipment are appropriately secured.

Arriving at the cottage

- ☐ Make sure that the smoke alarms work. A smoke alarm should be located at least in all bedrooms, the living room and at exits.

- ☐ Show your guests how to exit the cabin in an emergency.
- ☐ Make sure that the fire extinguishing equipment is in working order.
- ☐ Make sure that everyone knows the address of the cottage and that the coordinates are available.

Heating

- ☐ If you are lighting up a cold fireplace, start with a small fire. Sudden and intense heat may break the flues.
- ☐ Allow the embers to fully die out before closing the dampers.
- ☐ If you are using a gas heater, ensure that it is intended for indoor use. Check the tightness of the joints and the use-by date marked on the hose.
- ☐ Do not cover the heater with anything.
- ☐ Only up to 25 kilograms of liquefied gas can be stored indoors. Never store it in a basement.
- ☐ Ensure that the chimney flues have been cleaned within three years.



Safety check for the cottage

Checklist for a safe stay at the cottage during the winter.

Expertise on accidents: the Accident Prevention Network, www.kotitapaturma.fi
Drawings Adobe Stock, Antti Metsäranta

Outdoors

- ☐ Keep pathways in the yard easily accessible and well-lit.
- ☐ Ensure the snow removal and gritting of roads and paths.
- ☐ Keep a phone with you when you go outside.
- ☐ Wear sturdy outdoor footwear of the right size and with good grip.
- ☐ Wear anti-slip guards, grip shoes or high-traction shoes during slippery weather conditions.

Performing cottage chores

- ☐ Make sure that your cottage chores are relative to your physical condition and state of health.
- ☐ Use safety equipment.
- ☐ Plan your chores to ensure that you do not fall or hurt yourself.
- ☐ Only use undamaged tools.
- ☐ Enjoy a beer only after completing your chores.
- ☐ Wear a head lamp or use a flashlight in dark areas.

Working remotely at the cottage

- ☐ Check that your working environment is safe.

- ☐ Check that the charger cords are intact and the network connection is operational.
- ☐ Change your working position now and then.
- ☐ Take regular breaks.
- ☐ Ensure sufficient lighting for working.

Around the grill

- ☐ Keep children away from grills and open fires.
- ☐ Regularly check the condition of gas grill hoses and valves.
- ☐ Protect your grill from the wind.
- ☐ Make sure that the grill stays firmly in place and is located in a fire safe area.

With children

- ☐ Explain to the children where they can move on their own.
- ☐ Make sure that no one can fall into rain barrels or wells.
- ☐ Consider other possible risk factors, such as rocks or trees.

In the water and on the ice

- ☐ Constantly watch children when they are in the water or on the ice.

- ☐ Always bring a friend with you when going ice swimming.
- ☐ Check that the ice is thick and learn to recognise dangerous places.
- ☐ Prepare accordingly: learn to use ice picks and always go to the ice with a friend.
- ☐ Only walk on ice when sober.

Other notes

- ☐ Check that the cottage has appropriate first aid equipment.
- ☐ Take good care of your underlying health needs.
- ☐ Check that you have your prescription medication and other necessary non-prescription drugs with you.
- ☐ Ensure that you have the 112 Suomi mobile app if you are using a smartphone. Make sure that you know how to use the app.
- ☐ Make sure that you can call for aid in case of an accident even when you are alone at the cottage.
- ☐ Ensure the winter maintenance of roads so that rescue services or other helpers can access the location when necessary.
- ☐ Prepare for prolonged power outages.

Save on your phone

- **emergency number 112** or **the 112 Suomi mobile app** if you are using a smartphone. Can you use the app?
- **Poison Information Centre 0800 147 111 24 h** (free of charge)
- number of a health centre, health counselling or hospital emergency services
- numbers of family members



People only have one life

KOTITAPATURMA.FI

Do you have sufficient first aid equipment at your cottage and do you know how to use it?

Make sure that the smoke alarms work.

Ensure the snow removal and gritting of roads and paths.

Wear anti-slip guards, grip shoes or high-traction shoes during slippery weather conditions.