



Booze and Balconies Don't Mix

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Fooling around on your balcony could cost you dearly. **With your life.**

Please use your balcony sensibly and safely to ensure the view you see won't be your last.

Your hotel balcony is there for relaxing on. It's not a shortcut to your mate's room or a diving board to the pool. So please enjoy the views and don't let them be the last ones you see.

Dozens of British holidaymakers die or are severely injured every year as a result of inappropriate behaviour on balconies, often after having a few drinks or taking drugs.

Stay safe:

- ✗ **Never sit or lean** over the balcony rail
- ✗ **Never stand** on balcony furniture
- ✗ **Do not try to pass items** to someone on another balcony
- ✗ **And never jump into the pool** from your balcony.
- ✗ **Do not attempt to climb** from one balcony to another

Don't take our word for it, read Jake's story at www.fco.gov.uk/jake



Jakes' story

“ I had been out for the night with the lads and had come back to the apartment to carry on drinking. I went out onto the balcony to smoke and shouted down to the people on the balcony below to see if they had a lighter. They threw one up but as I reached over to catch it, I was quite drunk and momentum took me and I tumbled over the edge, falling seven floors. I hit every balcony on the way down, as they jutted out like steps. I landed on a sun lounger which broke my fall and probably saved my life. I then remember coming to in complete agony. I fractured my skull, broke front teeth which pierced through my upper lip, snapped my right wrist and broke all the fingers on my right hand. I hurt my back which was excruciating and cut a considerable hole in my leg. Drinking most definitely affects your judgement. Had I been sober I'm sure I wouldn't have made the same decision to lean over for the lighter. Looking at the height I fell and my injuries I know I am lucky to be alive. But, the accident has changed my life – a year on and I have recurring problems with my back and right wrist and doctors have told me I probably always will. ”

Jake Evans,
19, from Liverpool