inferno

[ın'fɜ:n|əv] n (pl -os [-{ın'fɜ:n}əvz]) ит. ад

the inferno of war - ад войны

inferno

in·ferno [inferno infernos] BrE [ɪnˈfɜ] nə] NAmE [ɪnˈfɜ] rno] noun usually

singular (pl. in·fernos)

a very large dangerous fire that is out of control

• a blazing /raging inferno

Word Origin:

mid 19th cent.: from Italian, from Christian Latin infernus 'below, underground', used by Christians to mean 'hell', on the pattern of inferni (masculine plural) 'the shades' and inferna (neuter plural) 'the lower regions'.

Example Bank:

- The flames quickly turned the house into a raging inferno.
- Three men managed to escape from the inferno.

inferno

in fer no /ɪn'fɜ nə \$ -3 no BrE AmE noun (plural infernos) [countable]

[Date: 1800-1900, Language: Italian, Origin: 'hell', from Late Latin infernus; ⇒ [†]inferna]

1. an extremely large and dangerous fire - used especially in news reports

raging/blazing inferno

Within minutes, the house had become a raging inferno.

2. *literary* when someone has very strong feelings that are difficult to control:

She was desperately trying to calm the inferno raging within her.

... THESAURUS

• fire flames that burn in an uncontrolled way and destroy or damage things: In April, a fire at the school destroyed the science block. | a forest fire

• flames the bright parts of a fire that you see burning in the air: The flames from the burning building were lighting up the night sky.

blaze written a large and dangerous fire – used especially in news reports: Firemen fought to keep the blaze under control.
inferno written an extremely large and dangerous fire which is out of control – used especially in news reports: The entire building was on fire and hundreds of people were trapped in the inferno.

• conflagration /,konflə'greifən \$,ka n/ formal a very large fire that destroys a lot of buildings, trees etc: The conflagration spread rapidly through the old town.

inferno

12500 11338^{MCW} 15000 9418^{COCA} RANGE: 11k INFERNO ⁸⁰⁶ inferno ⁴⁴⁹ infernos ²⁷ infernal ³³⁰ COCA 500k Unlemmatized ₃₇₅34543⁴³⁵ *nn1* ₁₁216880¹⁴ *nnu* Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

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