



GOOD TO KNOW – SEPTEMBER 2020

SAVE THE DATE



The second F.I.C.C. World Congress on Camping, Caravanning and Motorcaravanning will be held on 28 and 29 October 2021 in VERRIERES-LE-BUISSON/Paris – France

You can find the link to the Congress website under www.ficc.org and congress.ficc.org gives you all the information you need about the programme, booking arrangements, hotel details etc.

The website will be updated regularly.



**70th INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. YOUTH RALLY from 1 – 5 APRIL 2021
in COIMBRA/PORTUGAL**

**NORDIC CAMPING RALLY from 5 to 9 July 2021
in Rauhalhti (Kupio) FINLAND
under F.I.C.C. patronage**



Further information at www.nct2020.fi www.visitrauhalhti.fi www.kupio.fi

**90th INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY from 18 to 27 June 2021
in A GUARDA-Galicia/SPAIN**

Pontevedra, only an hour's drive from A Guarda, is one of Galicia's four provinces.

Pontevedra is also the name of the capital of the province. The R. Lerez flows through the middle and the old town is on the south side of the river. Pontevedra is 60 km by road from Santiago de Compostela, Coruna Province, on the N-550 or AP-9 (toll road). There is an underground parking lot under the alameda (market square), ideal for visitors to the town: Pontevedra has a one-way system with rather complicated detours.

Pontevedra is a culturally rich historic town, with museums, secluded squares and architecturally interesting buildings. These include the famous pilgrim church Capela da Peregrina, the Sexto edificio (Museum of Art), the Mosteiro de Santa Maria da Armenteira (monastery) and the unique Iglesia de Santa Maria la Mayor (Catholic church).

There are lots of restaurants, bars and cafés and English is widely spoken by the local population.

The Santa Tecla Campsite (Rally venue)

Coordinates: N41°53'55.42, W8°50'49.01

This beautiful campsite in A Guarda/Galicia was completely renovated and modernised in 2017. It has 500 grass-covered pitches with electricity, 8 bungalows, 4 mobile homes, 4 guest rooms. The amenities and services include: restaurant and bar, cafeteria, terrace, sports grounds, swimming



pool, games room, play area, supermarket, two sanitary blocks (toilets, showers), clothes washers, areas with dump stations for emptying chemical toilets, telephone, internet and wifi.

Distance from Santa Tecla by car:

Madrid 620 km, Lisbon 423 km, Amsterdam 2,130 km, Paris 1,628 km, Rome 2,400 km, Vienna 2,850 km, London 2,020 km, Berlin 2,660 km, Brussels 1,980 km.

Nearest airports to A Guarda are Vigo (Spain) 65, km Porto (P) 125 km and Santiago (Spain) 110 km.

Nearest rail connections: Vigo (station) 55 km, Porto (station) 120 km and Santiago (station) 125 km

Access to campsite by road: From Tuy to A Guarda on the PO 550. Turn left, after 54 kms, at the traffic lights next to the San Roque church towards Mino River. The campsite is 800m further on and is signposted.

There is a ferry crossing to the town from Caminha (Portugal).

Planned excursions: Monte Santa Tecla and A Guarda (tour of the area) – Cies Island – Santiago de Compostela – El grove, La Toja, Cambados and Ribera Sacra.





91st INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY from 29 July to 7 August 2022 in MOSCOW/RUSSIA

92nd INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY 2022 from 18 to 27 September in SHANGHAI/CHINA

Camping/Caravanning/Motorcaravanning

Camper Clean has been around for 10 years. The fully automated emptying and cleaning station for cassette toilets can be found on many campsites and stopover places and constitutes a plus point in terms of hygiene.

Motorway tolls applicable to caravans in France

There are two categories.

Category 1: Private car and outfit with a total height up to two metres and up to 3.5 tonnes maximum laden weight including trailer (folding trailer, luggage trailer, pop-up trailer).

Category 2: Vehicle and trailer with a total height between two and three metres and up to 3.5 tonnes maximum laden weight.

The toll is calculated on the basis of 0.07€ and 0.14€ per kilometer travelled.



You take a ticket when you enter the motorway system and pay when you leave it. The number of kilometers travelled is the deciding factor.

However there are some stretches of motorway where there is a flat charge irrespective of the distance travelled.

Source: Françoise Petit from GIE Atout (Camping, Cars & Caravans)

Netherlands: Amsterdam City Campsite was closed down on 1 July 2020. The land will be used for a new housing project and unfortunately no alternative site has been found to accommodate another municipal campsite.

Source: Kampeerauto NCK(NL)

Is camping and caravanning ecologically-friendly?

One's immediate reaction is to say YES and up to now no serious study has been made that proves the contrary.

Ostfold Research, a Norwegian Institute, has taken up the challenge. The Institute researched the means of transport to various holiday destinations and – unsurprisingly – found that cruise ships are the biggest polluters because of their greenhouse gas emissions. Air transport's share of greenhouse gas emissions worldwide is 5%.

And even if calculations show that a plane and a car produce much the same amount of CO₂ per kilometer, the plane is the greater polluter because of the huge distances it travels.

A caravan and a mobile home – both requiring a car – are the least polluting of the three modes of leisure transport.

As far as traction is concerned, a caravan is likely to be more harmful for the environment than a motorcaravan. Once parked on its pitch, a caravan stays put, thus reducing its impact globally compared with a motorcaravan that travels around. And even if camping and caravanning are the least polluting means of travel, their ecological impact can be further reduced by choosing activities with sustainability in mind, carefully considering what equipment one needs and being a responsible consumer.

Source: Liaison FFCC(F)

Italy: The Italian government's Ministry of Cultural Heritage, Cultural Activities and Tourism has introduced a holiday voucher, the so-called Bonus Vacanze, worth up to 500€. This enables Italian families (3 or more people) on low incomes (fixed low income level) to have a holiday whether in a hotel, **at a campsite**, in a holiday village, on a farm or in a B&B.

80% of the cheque is immediately deductible by the holiday venue and the remaining 20% can be deducted against the beneficiary's tax bill.

It is valid from 1 July to 31 December 2020 and should boost the number of Italian families holidaying in their home country.

Practical tips – for campers too

Defrosting: if you want to defrost frozen fish, you should place it in a dish of milk and leave it in the fridge. The milk removes the freezer taste and the fat in the milk enhances the individual taste of the fish. After patting the fish dry, it is ready to be cooked in the usual way.



MISCELLANEOUS

Traffic

The VW Beetle – sales of which topped 21.5 million over a period of 85 years – is the most successful car ever and a true design icon.

Health

A bite by a pet can be dangerous. A small bite or scratch incurred while playing with your cat or dog can become infected and is one way that animal pathogens are transmitted to humans. Even a small harmless-looking wound should be disinfected immediately and if it becomes swollen or starts to exude pus, you should consult a doctor immediately.

Culture and other curious facts

Germany: The **Erwin Hymer Museum** reopened in May this year.

The “Duckomenta“ (allusion to the world famous Documenta in Kassel) is an exhibition in Hannover’s (D) state museum - currently also known as the World Duck Museum – that shows the history of the world exclusively from a duck’s perspective. A delight for fans of Disney’s comic ducks.

The exhibition runs from July 2020 to 11 April 2021.

The contemporary artist Katharina Grosse normally displays her work in the Museum of Contemporary Art (Gegenwartsmuseum) in Berlin. The historic hall of Hamburg Station in Berlin has undergone a change and until January 2021 will house the **Exhibition “It Wasn’t Us“**.

Belgium: There is a **very special church, quite unique in the world, in Borgloon** (near Maastricht): it is a transparent work of art that was constructed along Borgloon village cycle track in 2011 out of 30 tonnes of steel and two thousand columns. This optical illusion is called “Reading between the lines“ and is designed to be thought-provoking. You can visit this rather different church just about all year round.

Environment/science

Where do you find the **biggest muscles**? There are some 14,000 different types of muscles that thrive in our lakes, rivers, streams and seas. So far the biggest known muscle, the *Tridacna gigas* (giant muscle), has been found in the Indian Ocean. It is 1.40 m long and weighs 400 kg.

The **Steinhummel** was found to be the most prolific insect in Germany in 2020. Hoverflies and the Asian ladybird are next on the list.

USA: A court in the USA has recently decided that grizzlies (including those found in and around Yellowstone National Park) should be protected and hunting them is no longer permitted.

United Arab Emirates: The development and success of the Mars Mission “Hope“ in 2021 largely lies in the hands of women - 80% of the scientists involved in the project are women.



Where is the **oldest tree in the world**? Currently a pine tree “Old Tjikko” claims this title in Fulufjället National Park in the Swedish province of Dalarna, also known for its gaily painted wooden horses. According to a test carried out on its roots, the tree is 9,550 years old.

He who plants a tree will go to heaven.
Confucius

WHAT IS LUXURY?

They made us believe that luxury was the rare, the expensive, the exclusive, everything that seemed unattainable...

Now we realise that luxury is in those little things that we did not know how to value when we had them and now they are gone, we miss them so much....

Luxury is being healthy. Luxury is not stepping into a hospital. Luxury is walking along the seashore. Luxury is going out into the street and breathing without a mask.

Luxury is meeting with your whole family, with your friends.

Luxury is in looks. Smiles are luxury.

Luxury is hugs and kisses. Luxury is enjoying every sunrise.

Luxury is the privilege of loving and of being alive.

All this is luxury and we did not know it....

Stay blessed, stay grateful.

Source: Author unknown – came from the Lebanon

INTERESTING TIDBITS FROM F.I.C.C. AND ITS MEMBERS

Austria: We have learnt from the CCA Journal (**Campingclub Austria-A**) of an initiative in the country entitled “From farm to farm with your caravan” i.e. caravan owners can park on a farm and stay overnight free of charge. The advantage for the farmer is that he will reach a new range of clients.

The farmer makes a parking space available for 24 hours maximum and the guests in turn learn all about farming and the food produced on the land.

A parking guide in book form is published in the autumn that lists the participating farms.

Further information: www.bauernleben.at

France: Together with CLS and UNIVDL, our member **FFCC** has produced a sticker entitled RESPECT. Everyone who displays this sticker on his/her vehicle commits to the following:

- ° respects the environment
- ° avoids grouping
- ° parks properly in the right place
- ° supports local businesses
- ° is polite and discreet
- ° communicates with others
- ° fulfils his/her obligations.



These obligations or duties are to be found in the Campers' Charter (campers in tents, caravanners, motorcaravanners, those who own or rent a mobile home, holiday chalet or bungalow) in the form of 12 points that cover good behaviour and lifestyle, considerateness and care of the environment.

ISTO (International Social Tourism Organisation) voted in its new lady President on 8 July 2020. Mrs. Isabel Novoa took up her post on 1 August and will play her part in bringing about projects to ensure that social tourism develops as an economic driving force, that small and medium-sized businesses are involved in tourist activities and will be promoting the policy of "Tourism for all".

ISTO is asking Europe to postpone the new online rules of payment. Along with over 60 other public and private organisations belonging to the European Tourism Manifesto Alliance, ISTO has expressly asked the European Commission to allow the sector to postpone the deadline of 31 December 2020 for implementing the new online rules of payment by one year to avoid endangering the recovery of the tourism sector.

F.I.C.C. is a member of this organisation.

EXHIBITIONS

Austria: Caravan Salon Austria 14 - 18 October 2020, in Wels
Ferienmesse Vienna 14 - 17 January 2021

Belgium: Salon des vacances 4 - 7 February 2021, in Brussels

France : Salon des Véhicules de loisirs 26 September to 4 October 2020, in Paris
Salon Mondial du Tourisme 18 - 21 March 2021, in Paris

Germany: CMT in Stuttgart 20 – 31 January 2021

Caravans & Camping 21 - 24.1.2021, in Hannover

Reise + Camping 24 - 28 February 2021, in Essen

Freizeit, Touristik & Garten 3 - 7 March 2021, in Nürnberg

Great Britain: Caravan & Motorhome Show 14 – 17 January 2021, in Manchester

Caravan, Camping & Motorhome Show 20 - 28 February 2021, in Birmingham

Italy: Turismo & Outdoor 4 - 7 February 2021, in Parma

Netherlands: Caravana 21 – 26 January 2021, in Leeuwarden

Portugal: Nauticampo 20 - 24 February 2021, in Lisbon

Spain: FITUR 20 – 24 January 2021, in Madrid

Caravaning 4 - 7 February 2021, in Alicante

Sweden: Elmia Camping & Caravaning 8 - 12 September 2021, in Jönköping

Switzerland: Caravan Salon 22 - 27 October 2020, in Bern

F.I.C.C. Secretariat
rue Belliard 20, bte 15
B-1040 Brussels/Belgium
Tel: 00.32 2 513.87 82
Fax :00.32 2 513 87 83
Email : info@ficc.org
Website : www.ficc.org