



GOOD TO KNOW – MARCH 2021

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 is updated regularly.



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

CANCELLED

Federação de Campismo e Montanhismo de Portugal (FCMP) has informed us that the 70th Youth Rally due to be held in Coimbra/Portugal from 1 to 5 April 2021 has had to be postponed because of the Covid-19 pandemic and all of the associated restrictions.

It is the intention of the federation to hold the 70th Youth Rally at a later date depending on the evolving situation and subject to F.I.C.C.'s approval.

The new dates will be communicated as soon as they are known.

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



Message from the Rally Organisers

“Last summer a decision was taken to hold the 90th International F.I.C.C. Rally 2021 on the Santa Tecla Campsite in A Guarda (Pontevedra) from 18 to 27 June.

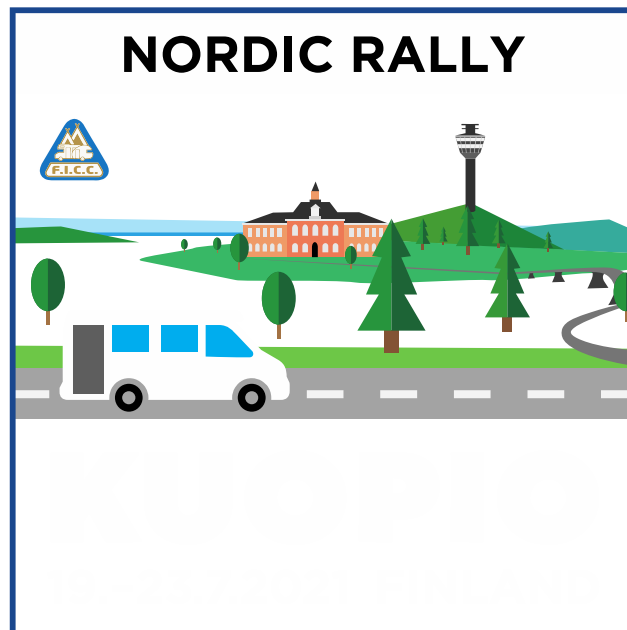
The Coordinating Team of the Spanish Camping Federation that was put in place to organise the event, set up the website www.rallyficc2021.com to supply all relevant information about the rally.

Campers who want to arrive a few days earlier or extend their stay on the campsite, may do so at a cost of 18€ per day between 10 June and 5 July. Campers should contact the campsite direct to make arrangements for their extension. Given all of the uncertainty at present surrounding the pandemic situation, current advice from the FECC Coordinating Team to F.I.C.C. clubs and federations is that they should only transfer booking fees after the Spanish local authorities have confirmed that the event can go ahead. If however some transfers have been made, then they will be refunded minus bank charges“.

Further information and booking form <http://www.rallyficc2021.com>



**NORDIC CAMPING RALLY 19 July to 23 July 2021 in
Rauhalhti (Kupio) FINLAND
under F.I.C.C. patronage**



There has been a change of date for this rally to give Scandinavian campers the chance to attend the 90th International F.I.C.C. rally in A Guarda/Spain.

Further information under

<https://nordicrally.fi/en/the-nordic-rally/>

**F.I.C.C. ASIA-PACIFIC RALLY from 15 to 19 OCTOBER 2021 in
Robot Land Park, Changwon City/South Korea**

Asia-Pacific rallies are organised by the F.I.C.C. Asia-Pacific Commission, comprising members from China, Japan, South Korea and Taiwan.

The organisers of these events are always happy to welcome campers from F.I.C.C.'s European member clubs.



**91st INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY from 29 July to 07 August 2022
in MOSCOW RUSSIA**



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



**93rd INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY 2023 from 29 JULY to 7 AUGUST
in KOZIENICE/POLAND**



Official website:

English: <http://www.pfcc.eu/ang/files/gbfic23.pdf>

Deutsch: <http://www.pfcc.eu/niem/files/gbfic23.pdf>

Français: <http://www.pfcc.eu/franc/files/gbfic23.pdf>



Camping/Caravanning/Motorcaravanning

Netherlands: Rates in all caravan parks have increased over the past year by 2,8% and by over 5% in 6.6% of them.

Source: NKC (NL)

Useful tips and tricks for optimum maintenance and operation of your caravan

- Check the underbodyprotection and restore. Regularly use lasure, wax or some other underbody protection to seal the floor of the caravan.
- Repair damaged underbody with appropriate material immediately whether it is made of wood or GfK.
- Do not apply spray oil to surfaces that have been coated with an underbody protective substance.
- Treat window and door seals with an acid-free silicon spray, glycerine or talc.
- Only use a gelcoat cleaner on GfK surfaces and, if necessary, finish off with a special polish. This way you will avoid a yellowing of the add-on parts and the sealing will remain intact.
- Lubricate cylinder locks on doors and storage space flaps with graphite dust
- Do not clean acrylic glass windows with a dry cloth because specks of dust caught in the cloth can cause damage. Always use a soft cloth and a large quantity of warm water with a squirt or two of washing-up detergent.
- Never use a glass or bodywork cleaner containing chemical or abrasive additives or an alcoholic solution on caravan windows. Embrittlement and cracking of the windows will result if you do.
- Smear door and flap hinges with an acid-free and resin-free grease.
- Check window mounting and treat with silicon spray.

Interior

- Wash furniture surfaces, knobs and handles along with all synthetic surfaces in the bathroom and living areas and finish off with a woollen cloth. Add a gentle cleaning agent to the water.
- Treat all wood surfaces with furniture polish.
- Use upholstery-specific dry foam to clean upholstery or a mild washing detergent.
- Do not wash upholstery fabric – simply sponge marks off.
- Protect upholstery and cushions from direct sunlight so that they do not fade.
- Clean artificial leather covers at least once a week with neutral soap and water using an absorbent cloth or sponge. Rinse off with a small amount of clear water.
- Always use detergent to wash curtains and net curtains. They can go in the clothes washer.
- Where necessary, use a special foam cleaner on fitted carpets and vacuum the residue.
- Brush off blackout blinds with a soft brush or use the soft brush attachment on the vacuum cleaner.
- Remove grease or stubborn dirt on blinds with a mild solution of soapy water (30°C).

Source: Camping, Cars & Caravans – to be continued

Practical tips – for campers too

A **disposable razor** can be made ready for re-use in a flash if you clean off the blades and the space inbetween with a small brush (e.g. an old tooth brush). Rinse off and leave to dry.



Important: Do not hang face masks on a rear-view mirror

According to Dekra, the audit firm, you should not hang a face mask on your car's inside rear-view mirror because the protective covering reduces the driver's view of the mirror. The brain also gets used to the constant to-ing and fro-ing movement in its field of vision and this tends to slow down one's reactions to other road-users which could lead to an accident.

MISCELLANEOUS

Traffic

As already reported, the **Austrian 2021 vignette** is apple green. The annual vignette for a car costs 92.50€, €27.80 for 2 months and 9.50€ for 10 days. The cost for motorbikes is 36.70€. If you order vignettes on-line they are only valid from the 18th day after the date of purchase.

Source: Freie Fahrt (CCA-A)

Switzerland: The annual vignette costs 38.50€, i.e. 40 CHF.

Slovenia: The annual motorway toll costs 110€, one month costs 30€ and seven days is 15€.

Hungary: A 10-day vignette is 10.80€, 1 month is 14.75€ and 1 year costs 133€.

Czech Republic: Vignettes cost 12€ for ten days, 17€ for one month and 57€ for one year.

Slovakia: The 10-day vignette costs 10€, one month costs 14€ and one year 50€.

Bulgaria: there is a weekend vignette that costs 5€, a 7-day vignette costs 8€, 1 month is 15€, 3 months is 54€ and one year is 50€.

Source: Camping, Cars & Caravans

Austria (and elsewhere):

Driving habits: lots of irritated partners.

When couples drive together, 57% of them are likely to end up having a row. Comments on the driver's driving from the passenger seat (14%) and turning the air-conditioning up or down (10%) are the main reasons that spark off an argument. Parking or loading up the vehicle (to go on holiday) are rarely bones of contention.

According to the study, women are bothered if their other half drives aggressively on the motorway, swears, goes too fast or takes risks.

Men on the other hand get annoyed when their womenfolk are not ready to set off on time, need too many toilet breaks and drive too cautiously.

According to the survey, the most harmonious excursions are undertaken by couples in the early days of an amorous relationship (logical!!)

Source: Dating Plattform Parship

The longest tunnel in the world is line 3 of the South Chinese underground network in Guangzhou that was opened in 2005. It is exactly 67.3km long and is totally underground.

Next comes the 57.1km long Gotthard base tunnel/Switzerland that runs through the Alps and was opened in 2016.



Health

So who was it who first discovered inoculation? It was the Briton Edward Jenner in 1796. As a young boy he noticed that people who became infected with the harmless cow pox never died from the dreaded smallpox. He trained as a doctor, did some research and 33 years later injected a patient (a child) with cowpox virus for the first time. It was a successful experiment and he was proved right.

Chewing gum helps a dry mouth: Continually wearing a face mask can mean producing less saliva. This in turn can encourage infection and tooth decay. Chewing sugar-free gum stimulates the flow of saliva.

Ticks are also around in winter: There is a risk of being infected by the FSME virus during the coldest season of the year. Ticks in riverside woods seek out a “victim“ when the temperature is around 4°C and adult ticks manage to live through mild winters.

Curious facts/environment/culture

Who invented the zip fastener? It was an American, Whitcomb Leonard Judson (1846-1909) from Chicago.

Where was the first planetarium? In the garden of Gottorfer castle (Germany). Duke Friedrich III of Schleswig-Holstein-Gottorf had a walk-in globe constructed in 1650 in which the planets circled around visitors. Tsar Peter the Great was so taken with the idea that he took it to St. Petersburg where it is still on display to this day.

Russia: The V-A-C Foundation in Moscow has transformed a former power station into a mega venue for visual and performing arts. It is due to be inaugurated this summer.

Australia: The digital art of Refik Anadol, born in Istanbul in 1985, is on display in the National Gallery of Victoria in Melbourne until 18 April 2021.

Flies: These insects also have a purpose in nature even if we often find them tiresome. You should always close your rubbish bin (trashcan) properly, never leave pet food out and keep fruit and vegetables in the fridge in the summer. Dirty crockery, pots and pans attract flies as do empty beer bottles (rinse them out with water before discarding). Flies hate vinegar – a few small bowls of white vinegar left on a window sill will keep flies away. Aromatic herbs such as basil, mint, eucalyptus, geraniums and citronella also act as a deterrent. Another useful tip is to cut an onion or lemon in half, stud both halves with cloves and leave them strategically placed where flies tend to get in. And finally what they really detest is a draught!



INTERESTING NEWS FROM F.I.C.C. AND F.I.C.C. MEMBERS

IN MEMORIAM

We received the sad news that Mr Tjabel Nieuwenhuizen, our member from the Netherlands newly appointed to the F.I.C.C. Council in September 2020, passed away suddenly and unexpectedly on 25 February 2021.

Mr Nieuwenhuizen was a well-known and much-loved figure in the camping world, bringing with him 50 years of experience in scouting, tent camping and mountaineering. He was active in leading institutions for 40 years, including NTKC, Stirn, NKBV and ultimately F.I.C.C..

He was particularly interested in environmental protection and related "green camping". Tjabel had many ideas for his term on the F.I.C.C. Council, which he did not have the opportunity to implement.

We would like to express our deepest sympathy to his wife and family and wish them much strength for the time ahead.

DCC Europa Prize 2021: The Deutscher Camping Club e.V. first awarded the Platinum Europa Prize in 2014. The Platinum Prize goes to campsites that have already received the Europa Prize but over the years have spared no effort in continuing to improve their visitors' camping experience. This year's winners are campsites in Germany, Croatia, France, Austria, Italy and Spain.

EXHIBITIONS

Finland: "Caravan" Fair 21 to 23.01.2022, in Helsinki

France : Salon Mondial du Tourisme 18 - 21 March 2021, in Paris

Salon des véhicules de loisirs 25 September to 3 October 2021, in Paris-Le Bourget

SETT 2 to 4 November 2021, in Montpellier

Germany: Caravan Salon 27 August to 5 September 2021, in Düsseldorf

Caravan Bremen 6 to 8 November 2021, in Bremen

Touristik & Caravaning from 18 to 22 November 2021, in Leipzig

Reise + Camping 16 to 20 February 2022, in Essen

Italy: Il Salone del Camper 11 to 19 September 2021, in Parma

Netherlands: Vakantiebeurs 8 to 11 April, in Utrecht

Kampeer en Caravan Jaarbeurs 6 to 10 October 2021, in Utrecht

Spain: Caravaning y Camper del Levante 6 to 9 May, in Torre Pacheco, Murcia

FITUR 19 to 23 May, in Madrid

Salon Internacional del Caravaning 2 to 10 October 2021, in Barcelona

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

Switzerland: Suisse Caravan Salon 28 October to 1 November 2021, in Bern



All dates are subject to change because of the corona virus pandemic and the continuing changing regulations in the various countries.

Take care and stay safe!

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