



GOOD TO KNOW – DECEMBER 2021

SAVE THE DATE

The second F.I.C.C. World Congress on Camping, Caravanning and Motorcaravanning
in VERRIÈRES-LE-BUISSON/Paris – France
will now take place from 26 to 28 October 2022



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





Exhibition site



Television tower



The F.I.C.C. Rally-website is <https://rustravelforum.com/en/rally/>

And inforally2022@russtravelforum.com

There you will find all necessary information which will be updated monthly.



92nd INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY 2022 from 28 September to 7 October in BEIJING/CHINA



Programme highlights: The Beijing Opera – Tai chi classes - Chinese paper cutting – Shadow theatre – Chinese calligraphy



Chinese practices and traditions

In China it is quite a tradition to give things one no longer needs a second life as summarized in the expression “zhuān sòng”. The thinking behind this practice is to pass on to others gifts one might have received but never used.



**71st F.I.C.C. INTERNATIONAL YOUTH RALLY from 6 to 10. April 2023
in the NETHERLANDS**



Where: NTKC campsite “Het Groene Hart” (The Green Heart) at Hazerswoude
Address: Voorweg 81

This campsite is mainly suitable for tent campers and can accommodate more than 400 participants. However, there are also pitches for caravans.
The participation fee is (as of 2021) Euro 65 per person (Easter dinner, one excursion, disco) included.

**93rd INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY 2023
from 24 JUNE to 3 JULY in KOZIENICE/POLAND**





Official website: www.pfcc.eu

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>

Polish: <http://www.pfcc.eu/pol/files/rally93.pdf>

The official rally website will be launched at the end of the year.

94th INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY 2024 in SOUTH KOREA

organised by

KCCF (Korea Camping & Caravanning Federation)

Rally motto: "Health and Harmony for all Campers"

Camping/Caravanning/Motorcaravanning

Preparations for overwintering your caravan or motorcaravan

Proper preparation is essential if you do not intend using your caravan or motorcaravan during the winter months.

- a) Your vehicle's bodywork and underside will need a thorough cleaning after your adventures on the road this summer. Water and a mild car shampoo are ideal - use a soft sponge and a brush, preferably one with a telescopic handle for the upper part of the bodywork.
- b) Once your caravan has dried off, it is worth applying a sealant and there are special waxes on the market that you can apply and finish off with a cloth. Talcum powder is one of the suitable products that is good for rubber seals.



- c) The entire drinking water installation, tank and fittings should be drained before the winter. This means waste pipes, syphons and the waste water tank. It is important not to replace the stoppers on the drinking water and waste water tanks after cleaning. This will allow residual damp to evaporate thereby preventing the proliferation of micro-organisms.
- d) The on-board battery is the main and indispensable source of energy for many caravans and motorcaravans while away on holiday. During the winter months the battery should not be allowed to discharge fully and should therefore be recharged at regular intervals. In modern vehicles however, depending on the location, the battery charger can remain connected all the time. In principle, batteries should be kept at an even temperature so that they discharge more slowly.
- e) Gas bottles must be firmly closed off at the end of the season, separated from the supply line and fitted with a protective cap. Covering outdoor sockets and outlets will discourage vermin from venturing inside. Be wary of ventilating your van on a regular basis but rather leave all cupboard doors open and stand cushions up. To be on the safe side install a dehumidifier. Coffee powder will help prevent musty smells.
- f) Increasing the air pressure slightly will protect your tyres – approx. 0.5 bar above the normal recommended tyre pressure for a caravan. Additionally, concave wheel chocks take the strain off the tyre structure. For caravans, lowering the supports. is also a good way of spreading the weight.
- g) Once the caravan is properly installed you can release the handbrake otherwise the brake blocks might stick to the drum or you could find that the brake cables do not respond at the end of the winter period. It is also essential to test the overrun brake in your caravan before setting off for the first time next year.
- h) Your caravan needs to be properly “garaged“ over the winter, ideally somewhere dry, in a car port, a barn or a hangar.

Source: A.C.C.W. (B)

Portugal: In recent times “wild camping“ has been tolerated for 48 hours in a good many places but not in special conservation areas such as Natura 2000 or on the coast.

Officially wild camping was banned in Portugal a long time ago although it was often tolerated in many areas. In the end wild camping got completely out of control to the extent that in the summer of 2020, 600 caravans were found to be parked in areas where they were not allowed to stay overnight.

The new regulations are better for campers. Caravanners may stay for 48 hours in any municipality provided that there is no local law forbidding this practice. How local authorities decide on the permissible length of stay and enforce these new regulations is not yet clear. However, camping overnight is absolutely forbidden in nature reserves or conservation areas such as Natura 2000 or on the coast unless one is at a proper campsite.

Source: NKC (NL)

In summary

Since 25 August 2021:

Parking during the day and at night (with people in the vehicle) for a maximum of 48 hours in the same municipality is allowed, with the exception of:

° Areas designated as Rede Natura 2000 (which is one third of Portugal).

° areas designated as POOC (Plano de Ordenamento da Orla Costeira) - a large part of the coastline



° Municipalities where the mayor has issued a ban on parking of mobile homes.

The government will set up a system for locating mobile homes (through geo-referencing), where mobile home owners will have to register in advance to be located and know if they are staying in the same municipality for more than 48 hours.

Source: CCA Journal (A)

Snow chains: Put them on properly and adapt your driving

It often happens that you need chains for the final leg of your journey on snow-covered side roads or steep access roads. So put your chains on in advance and don't wait until your vehicle gets stuck. After driving for a few metres, stop and tighten the chains again.

Warning: Driving with chains changes the steering behaviour of your vehicle. When you brake in a front-wheel drive car, the rear will slide and swerve because the rear wheels have no lateral guidance. Rear-wheel drive cars will tend to "wobble" rather than drive in a straight line because the steering does not operate as efficiently.

Tip: An old pair of gloves and an old bit of carpeting are very useful when it comes to putting chains on.

Source: Freie Fahrt (A)

Practical tips – for campers too

Give yourself more **hanging space in a cupboard** by dint of a clever coat hanger trick: slipping a ring pull from a canned drink on the hook of a coathanger enables you to attach a second coathanger.

Source: Seen in „Freizeit Revue“

PocDoc is an intelligently designed first aid kit plus app-based digital health platform that provides first aid advice for adults, children, babies and even cats and dogs.

There are easy-to-follow illustrations and short instructions in 13 different languages to assist you at every step of treatment. The app was developed in collaboration with doctors and offers over 300 separate treatments. It is available on iOS and Android operating systems. The first aid kit contains everything you might need and much more besides. www.pocdoc.eu

Source: Extract from Camping, Cars & Caravans

MISCELLANEOUS

Traffic

E-cars: People in the know are not unreservedly enthusiastic about e-cars because they say they contribute to depleting mineral reserves. Compared with a car that runs on petrol, an e-car needs 53 kgs of copper (instead of 22 kgs), 25 kgs of manganese (11 kgs) and up to 66 kgs more lithium, cobalt and nickel.

Source: seen in Bunte (D)



Germany: From 2023, Germany will no longer be supporting or promoting palmoil-based biofuels. People want to see an end to the practice of clearing forests, draining moors and marshland and generally destroying nature in the interests of biofuels. The government will progressively introduce fuel made from garbage and residual materials.

Austria: On 13 December, Austrian railways are introducing an overnight train from Paris to Vienna via Munich. Comfortable sleeper compartments with shower facilities and breakfast service provide a climate-friendly alternative to flying or driving.

Health

Tai chi is good for one's flexibility. In China it is a popular sport that is often practised in public squares and parks. This form of exercise with its fluid movements corrects faulty posture and improves flexibility, especially in older people.

Important: early treatment of a sprain or bruising

Rest: the foot needs to be rested for a few days after which you can gradually put weight on it.

Ice: ice packs (not directly on the skin but wrapped in a towel) or a cold compress will ease the pain.

Compression: an elastic compression bandage will reduce the swelling.

Elevate the leg to reduce the blood flow to the injured foot.

Source: Apotheken-Umschau(D)

October 29 is **World Stroke Day**. It is intended to make people aware of symptoms of a stroke and the importance of urgent access to appropriate medical care.

19 November is World Men's Day.

Fun fact: A study revealed that men own an average of 21 pairs of pants and produce stress levels equivalent to those of a fighter pilot while shopping.

Read in a newspaper

Curious facts/Environment/Culture

According to a recent study, it is the people from the East Frisians and not the British who drink the **most tea** in the world. This works out at around 300 litres/year per head of population. Turkey comes next with 283 litres, then Great Britain with 210 and Germany with a mere 28 litres per year.

United Arab Emirates: Expo 2020 opened in Dubai in October 2021. It is the first world exhibition to be held in Arabia and lasts until the end of March 2022. Twenty-five million visitors are expected.

Venice Livio De Marchi's 12m50 long, 4m wide violin boat has been sailing along the Canale Grande in Venice illustrating the fact that the city has re-opened for business following the pandemic.

According to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, **a wood** must cover a minimum area of 5,000 sq.m., a tenth of which at least must be covered with trees.



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

F.I.C.C. welcomes new members

Amici Siculy in Libertà (Italy)

Kemperij Klubas Lithuania (Lithuania)

CDP Associacao de Caravabismo de Portugal (Portugal)

Nationwide Association of Automotive Tourism and Caravanning (Russia)

Camping Club Serbia (Serbia)

Nordic Camping Rally is re-named the Nordic Camping Festival.

Every year, the Scandinavian member countries of Sweden, Norway and Finland, organise the Nordic Camping Rally (**NCR**) that will henceforth be known as the Nordic Camping Festival.

The organisers are expecting 800 to 900 outfits to turn up in Falun (Sweden) in 2022, whereas there were only a mere 200 last time in Lillehammer (Norway). It is hoped that by re-branding the event, more visitors will be attracted to come to the Lugnet ski stadium venue in Falun between 6 to 11 July 2022. There is much to see in the area that includes Mora, Rättvik and Leksand. The programme is being prepared.

Organiser is Caravan Club of Sweden.

CAMPING WITH FICC

is a YouTube channel, where you can communicate not only with F.I.C.C. members but with all campers across the world and share their camping tips, experiences and memories before setting off on a camping trip, and even while you are away. This enables everyone to get maximum pleasure from this type of outdoor tourism.

Travelling, discovering the wider world, waking up in a different place every morning...

Whether you travel alone or in a group, a trip in your caravan is always an adventure. But so that this adventure does not end in disaster, F.I.C.C. recommends checking out the video "Ten best practices before departure" that was made by the F.I.C.C. Motorcaravanning Commission.

"Camping with FICC" is accessible via the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIDBeAqa72QIJ96q-CPrp-Q>



F.I.C.C. e-Book

The **Camping Card International website** was totally updated in October last year with new functions and user-friendly instructions and descriptions of the advantages available to CCI users.

In order to gain access to the detailed information, the user/camper must register on the website www.campingcardinternational.com although all of the benefits associated with the CCI are apparent without registration.

Once users/campers have registered and shown that they have a valid CCI, they have access to the CCI e-book listing all of the discounts by country plus specific tourist information that will ensure that they enjoy their camping holiday to the full.

As a registered user, give your email/password and select the country of your choice in order to download the e-book as a pdf file (available in English only for the moment).

You will also find the CCI app in Apple Store and Google Play that is simpler to use on your mobile device.

F.I.C.C. and your CCI team wish you a wonderful, relaxing camping holiday!

“Silent night! Holy night!” is the best loved, most famous and most often sung Christmas carol in the world and is listed by UNESCO as part of Austria’s Intangible Cultural Heritage. It has been translated into 320 languages and dialects and performed by countless famous singers.

The words started out as a poem written by a priest, Joseph Mohr, in 1815 and the music was composed by Franz Xaver Gruber an organist and teacher, in 1818. The carol was sung for the first time on 24 December 1818 in the the small parish church of Oberndorf

In a roundabout way, the new song reached the master organ builder Karl Maurischer in Fügen (Zillertal) and the Tyrolean singing society farmers who toured all of Europe in winter as travelling merchants.

They spread the song far and wide with missionaries playing a part too, and it eventually turned up on the continent of America.

One Christmas, something miraculous happened on the western front in World War I: thousands of soldiers of all nationalities came together, laid down their arms, took off their helmets and sang carols from their homelands including “Silent night!” A short and unique interval of peace because ever after, such fraternization was forbidden under pain of death.

UNESCO added this carol to its Intangible Cultural Heritage list in 2011.

Source: Freie Fahrt (CCA-A)



*We wish you a Merry Christmas
and a happy, healthy New Year*



EXHIBITIONS

Austria: Ferienmesse Wien from 7 to 9 May 2022, in Vienna
Belgium: Salon des vacances from 2 to 6 February 2022, in Brussels
Bulgaria: Camping & Caravanning Expo in May 2022, in Sofia
Finland: "Caravan" Fair from 21 to 23 January 2022, in Helsinki
France : Le Bourget from 25 September to 4 October 2022
Germany: CMT from 15 to 30 January 2022, in Stuttgart
Reise + Camping from 16 to 20 February 2022, in Essen
Tourismus & Caravanning from 1 to 4 July 2022, in Magdeburg
Reisen & Camping from 7 to 9 January 2022, in Leipzig
Freizeit, Touristik & Garten from 28 April to 2 May 2022, in Nürnberg
CMT from 15 to 24 January 2022, in Stuttgart
Caravan & Camping from 2 to 7 February 2022, in Hannover
Camping & Caravanning from 18 to 21 March 2022, in Rostock
Great Britain: Caravan & Motorhome Show in January 2022, in Manchester
NEC Motorhome & Caravan Show from 22 to 27 February 2022, in Birmingham
Northern Ireland: Caravan & Motorhome Show from 14 to 16 January 2022, in Belfast
Italy: Turismo & Outdoor from 3 to 6 February 2022, in Parma
Salone del Camper from 10 to 18 September 2022, in Parma
Netherlands: Caravana from 26 to 30 January 2022. in Leeuwarden
Portugal: Nauticampo from 3 to 6 February 2022, in Lisbon
Spain: Caravanning y Camper del Levante from 6 to 9 May 2022, in Torre Pacheco, Murcia
Madrid Caravanning from 3 to 6 February 2022, in Madrid
FITUR from 19 to 23 May 2022, in Madrid



Sweden: Scandinavian Caravan Show (Elmia) from 7 to 11. September 2022 in Jönköping
Turkey: Camp & Caravan from 19 to 27 February 2022, in Istanbul

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