



**NEWSLETTER – AUGUST 2023**  
**90th ANNIVERSARY OF F.I.C.C.**

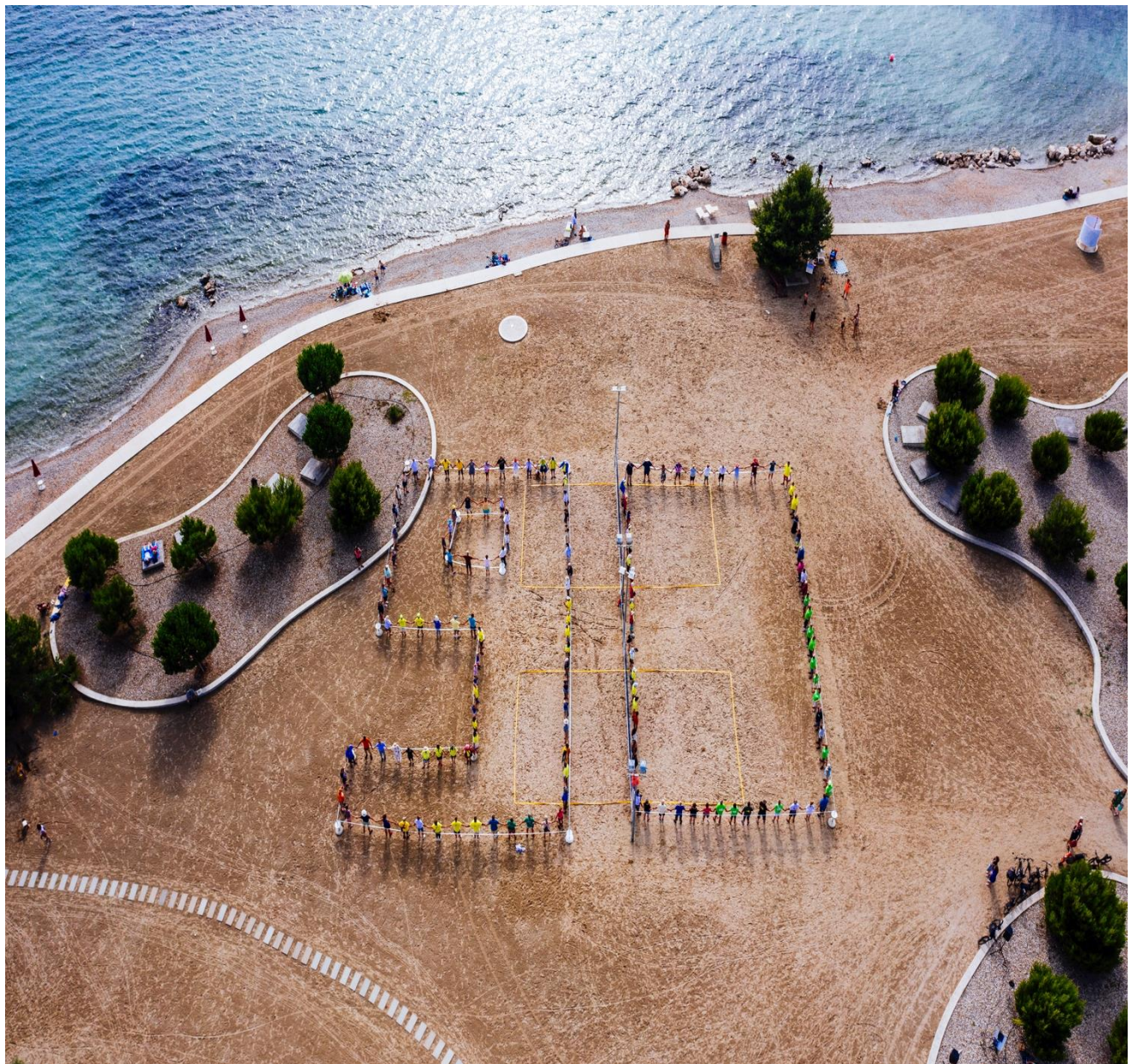


Photo: Zaton Holiday Resort: Stipe Surac



## F.I.C.C. WORLD CAMPING FESTIVAL 2023 AT ZATON HOLIDAY RESORT/CROATIA



The World Camping Festival took place at the Zaton Holiday Resort, Zadar, Croatia from the 23rd of June to the 1st of July 2023 and was organised by the F.I.C.C. in cooperation with Touristhotel group to replace the cancelled 93<sup>rd</sup> F.I.C.C. International Rally, which had been due to take place in Poland at a similar time. 584 Adults and 102 young people from 23 countries took part. Members were offered the opportunity to stay in their own units, holiday homes or apartments.

A full programme had been organised and included many of the elements normally found at an International F.I.C.C. Rally, although some were missing due to the difficulties of organising the event on a commercial site. All the usual activities, that were provided by Zaton, were available to members.

When attendees booked in at the site reception they received a “goody bag”, containing a drinks flask, to commemorate World Camping Day, and a frisbee, to mark the 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday of F.I.C.C., and a site map to direct them to their allocated pitch.

On Saturday, many members took the opportunity to visit the historic city of Nin, founded in the 9<sup>th</sup> century BC, which was an important municipium in Roman times.

The Parade of Nations took place on Sunday evening, led by local drummers, and culminated in a large Amphitheatre which accommodated all the participants for the opening ceremony and evening entertainment, which followed.

Excursions had been arranged and included: a half day trip to Zadar, a full day excursion to Krka National Park and boat trips to Kornati National Park and Silba Island.

Evening entertainment took place nightly, either in the Amphitheatre or at the beachfront bar.

The General Assembly took place in the Saturnus Disco on the Wednesday and later that afternoon, members were invited to take part in a photograph to celebrate the F.I.C.C.'s 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> of June was International Camping Day and a ceremony was held with International and local dignitaries present.

The Closing Ceremony and Farewell Party, on Friday evening which were due to take place on the beach, were disrupted by the only inclement weather of the Festival when they had to be moved at short notice to an undercover area due to a threatening thunderstorm, which despite increased winds never arrived.

Norman Taylor



## THE PARADE







Photos Zaton Holiday Resort: Stipe Surak



## F.I.C.C. WORLD CAMPING FESTIVAL – STATISTIC STATISTIK/ STATISTIQUE

COUNTRY /LAND/PAYS	ADULTS ERWACHSENE ADULTES	CHILDREN KINDER ENFANTS
Japan/Japon	1	
Hungary/Ungarn/Hongrie	81	15
Estonia/Estland/Estonie	95	25
Sweden/Schweden/Suède	16	0
Slovakia/Slowakei/Slovaquie	51	12
Romania/Rumänien/Roumanie	48	22
Spain/Spanien/Espagne	14	0
Poland/Polen/Pologne	31	3
Czech Republik/Tschechien/Rep. Tchèque	32	12
Lithuania/Litauen/Lituanie	4	0
Finland/Finnland/Finlande	9	3
Great Britain/Grossbritannien/Grande- Bretagne	29	0
Belgium/Belgien/Belgique	10	0
France/Frankreich/France	13	0
Netherlands/Niederlande/Pays-Bas	2	0
Germany/Deutschland/Allemagne	38	1
Slovenia/Slowenien/Slovenie	17	6
Luxembourg/Luxemburg	10	0
Italy/Italien/Italie	21	1
Switzerland/Schweiz/Suisse	27	0
Portugal	3	0
USA	1	0
Taiwan/ROC	29	1
Croatia/Kroatien/Croatie	3	1
<b>Total/Insgesamt</b>	<b>585</b>	<b>102</b>



**PELEMELE of wonderful moments with camping friends  
from all over the world**











## F.I.C.C. Ordinary General Assembly 2023

### The new F.I.C.C. Honorary members



**Michael LIN / Taiwan**



**Lars Häll / Sweden  
presented to Mr. Andersson**



**Norman Taylor / Great Britain**







## 29. JUNE – WORLD CAMPING DAY



### Speech of the F.I.C.C. President Mr. Joao Alves Pereira

Dear Guests,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Today, 29 June 2023, F.I.C.C. celebrates for the first time the World Camping Day, whose official recognition has not only been confirmed by UNWTO but also endorsed as one of the trendiest forms of tourism.

Why 29 June? It is the name day of the apostles Peter and Paul. Paul or Paulus was a tentmaker and – for that time – a world traveller. He embodies the flexibility of campers, their deep connection to nature, the camaraderie among themselves.

Since then, the camping movement has developed and prevailed and has now become a significant factor in leisure and holiday planning, making the dream of living in the great outdoors come true.

Camping in a tent, caravan or motorhome is now more than ever part of the holiday offer and has become a significant source of economic income and an industry that provides jobs for thousands of people.

The **World Camping Day** should be a day of joy for children, young people and adults of all social classes all over the world, celebrated by all friends of outdoor life and all nature-loving people actively in clubs, during special events, during rallies or festivals, festive club evenings or



simple encounters among camping friends, underlining friendship, peace among and understanding for other cultures.



The **World Camping Day** will also serve as a framework of communication to build the foundations for the faster recovery of leisure and open-air tourism. In these very special times, the outdoor activities, especially camping and thus the campers by their respectful behaviour towards each other and interest in other cultures, do show that this amazing kind of tourism is one of the best ways to travel and meet friends from all over the world.

The year 2023 is a very special date for us in F.I.C.C. as we are celebrating our 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary and also for the first time in the history of camping the first World Camping Day.

Croatia is one of the most popular camping destinations in Europe and its central location is sure to attract many camping enthusiasts to spend their holidays.

The honour of hosting this event was given to the first Croatian Super Camp Zaton Holiday Resort in Zadar near the historic city of Nin and the energy and passion they gave to the organisation of the FICC World Camping Festival and World Camping Day show why thousands of guests choose this fantastic Holiday Resort to spend their free time.

Sustainability is our first priority for which we are committed to mother nature, to our children and future generations.

As described by the UN in 1987 sustainable development is a development that meets the needs of current generations without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Therefore, the presence of a distinguished representatives at this celebration is great and it underline our efforts to confirm the messages of the F.I.C.C. and UNWTO in action.

We are living this experience and hosting the first **World Camping Day** together with the director of UNWTO, Republic of Croatia representatives and many other distinguish guests present here.



The **World Camping Day** award 2024 will be given to:

Mr Kresimir Milisic - Zaton Holiday Resort Manager

Mr. Ion Vilcu – Director of the Affiliate members of the World Tourism Organisation

Mr. Robert Pende, delegate of the Ministry of Sports and Tourism of the Republic of Croatia

And now in the presence of the UNWTO and the Republic of Croatia government, as well as so many distinguished guests,

I declare open the **World Camping Day** in the fantastic Zaton Holiday Resort in Nin – Zadar – Republic of Croatia.

#### Speech of Mr. Ion Vilco UNWTO



- ✓ *Dear President of FICC, Mr. Joao Alves Pereira*
- ✓ *Dear representatives of the Ministry of Tourism and Sports of Croatia*
- ✓ *Dear representative of Zadar County*
- ✓ *Local Authorities*

It is my pleasure to convey, on behalf of the World Tourism Organization, our sincere congratulations to the host and to the organizers of this amazing World Camping Festival 2023, as well as our warm greetings to all of you the enthusiastic participants.

- This is not simply a new edition of the Festival, but a special one, as it is coincident with **the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary** of the International Federation of Camping and Caravanning – which is an outstanding and very active affiliate member of UNWTO.



Therefore, I am pleased to extend our warm congratulations to the management of the International Federation and to all its members and supporters on this significant anniversary.

- It is also extremely pleasant to underline that, thanks to the efforts of your Federation, today we are celebrating the very first **World Camping Day**, which is a great example of successful initiative to raise awareness globally on the rich connection of tourism with nature and on its potential to contribute to a more sustainable tourism sector.

From UNWTO we always welcome such relevant activities organized by our Affiliate Members. And today I am here to bring our institutional support to your valuable initiative to celebrate this great event, which is offering to all of us an excellent framework to exchange views and experiences, contributing in this way to the much necessary debate on how to better adapt tourism to the new challenges.

The World Camping Festival is for UNWTO an extremely relevant global tourism event, and for this reason was included in the UNWTO Affiliate Members Programme of Work for 2023.

#### Tourism current situation and forecasts

This Festival is taking place in a very **encouraging context** for the tourism industry. According to our most recent data the global tourism achieved strong and promising results in 2022, with **international arrivals reaching almost 65% of the pre-pandemic levels** and Europe strongly leading this recovery process. Furthermore, 2023 started on a very strong dynamic, as the international tourist arrivals reached globally, during the first quarter of the year, 80% of the pre-pandemic level.

And we look ahead with optimism, as our forecasts anticipate for 2023 levels closed to or even higher than those recorded in 2019, despite the geopolitical and economic challenges that we all know.

#### Integrating sustainability into tourism strategies

The huge impact of the crisis on tourism has put us in front of a great challenge, which is at the same time a big opportunity: to relaunch tourism on a stronger and more sustainable basis, by embedding in the new strategies and business models the main lessons learned from recent crisis and current new challenges.

And one important lesson is that the tourism sector have probably changed permanently, as travellers have become more discerning and concerned about the positive impact of their travelling choices on local communities, climate and environment. Therefore, governments and tourism private businesses must reassess how they respond to the changing expectations of their customers.

And in this journey towards long-term sustainability which tourism sector must undertake, the contributions of each segment – like the camping one- are essential, and each actor with solid experience and knowledge have an important role to play. The contribution of your International Federation is extremely important.



### **UNWTO and its partnership with Affiliate Members**

And you can count on the firm and permanent support of the World Tourism Organization. As most of you know, our UN Agency has the institutional mission to promote the sustainable and responsible development of tourism. And in addressing this mission we consider the private sector a key partner. Because UNWTO has the institutional specificity of having as members not only the Governments, but also tourism private entities and local administration, universities, professional tourism associations etc, providing them with an effective global platform to engage in dialogue, share information and establish partnerships.

We are proud to count on a powerful network of around 500 Affiliate Members -which are leading tourism entities, a network which represents for UNWTO a permanent source of support, projects, and innovative ideas, as well as an excellent channel to bring the perspective of the private sector in the current strategic debates.

### **FICC – leader in promoting camping and caravanning tourism**

And the International Federation of Camping and Caravanning is precisely such outstanding partners of UNWTO.

When we refer to promotion of the camping and caravanning activities, we are talking about an increasingly dynamic segment of tourism, with optimistic forecasts. One of the key factors driving this dynamic is the desire of travellers to reconnect with nature and enjoy new, authentic, healthy, green and enriching experiences.

Furthermore, due to the inflation and increase of transportation and accommodation costs, tourists increasingly look for more affordable travel options, and camping could offer such attractive alternative to the let's say "traditional" travel options.

The pandemic has also added an important factor in this equation. While international travel restrictions were put in place, many people turned to domestic travel options, with camping and caravanning providing a safe way to explore new destinations. And once travel restrictions were gradually lifted, this segment tends to maintain this dynamic and is expected to continue growing in popularity and attractiveness.

At the same time, camping is becoming a tourism specific pillar that can help destinations to diversify their offer and reduce seasonality, as well as encourage tourists to visit less known rural destinations. For so many destinations outdoor activities are now more than ever part of their holiday offer and represents a true opportunity to diversify their products and foster local economic development.

Our host -Croatia and specifically this amazing region of Zadar- are excellent example of how to successfully transform outdoor tourism in an added value of your brand.

In the process of promoting this tourism segment the role of the International Federation of Camping and Caravanning is crucial. The FICC has been a pioneer in raising awareness and developing this segment of travelling, and is being valuable partner and contributor to all the UNWTO initiatives in this field.





Within this context, I think this is an adequate opportunity for UNWTO to congratulate the President of the International Federation, Mr. Joao Alves PEREIRA for his bet on outdoor activities and for his permanent and successful efforts to promote camping and caravanning as an extremely suitable way to travel, as well as for his solid commitment in partnering with our organization.

Our most sincere appreciation for your great work!

### Collaboration with host Croatia

As this Festival is hosted by Croatia, here in the beautiful Zadar region, I would also like to take this opportunity to highlight the excellent collaboration UNWTO has with Croatia, and specifically the Croatian solid commitment and leading role on strengthening the public-private cooperation and partnership. It is not by chance that Croatia is the country with the fourth highest number of Affiliate Members in Europe.

And within this approach it is worth underlying the commitment of the Croatian Ministry of Tourism and Sport, as well as of the entire tourism promotion institutional network in this country with **sustainability**, and very particularly with the virtuous connection between Tourism and Sports, between Tourism and outdoor activities.

Distinguished Croatian authorities and hosts, I am pleased to express the gratitude and congratulations of UNWTO for your firm commitment towards sustainability, by encouraging and supporting healthy and environmentally friendly activities - camping and sports very specifically- as you clearly have demonstrated it few weeks ago, in this same magnificent region of Zadar, on the occasion of our joint World Congress on Sports and Tourism, and you are proving it again these days by hosting this important World Camping Festival 2023.

I end my intervention by congratulating our distinguished hosts - the beautiful Zadar Region and this amazing Zaton Holiday Resort- and the organizer, our outstanding Affiliate Member the International Federation of Camping and Caravanning and its President Mr. Joao Alves Pereira, for this very opportune initiative and thanking them for counting with UNWTO engagement and participation in this special event – the World Camping Festival 2023 – and **significant celebrations: the very first World Camping Day and the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of your Federation.**

Our sincere congratulation on this special day to each of the members from the 36 countries that are part of the International Federation of Camping and Caravanning.

I hope you will enjoy this anniversary day and the rest of the Festival!





**Mr. Ante Sjaus & Mr. Robert Pende**



Photos: Zaton Holiday Resort: Stipe Surac





**During the afternoon of the World Camping Day: Boat Excursion to the island UGLJAN and visit of the village Preko (Opposite)**



Photo: Zaton Holiday Resort: Stipe Surac





Photos: Johnny Cheng/Taiwan – Diana Albert (D) – Udo Hunstiege (D) – Kessler-Gifhorn (D) Silvia Brohl (B) Monique Eiffling

**For the participants two souvenirs :**  
**An environment friendly aluminium reuse bottle to refill for the World Camping Day**  
**and a Frisbee to remember the F.I.C.C. 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary**





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