



NEWSLETTER – DECEMBER 2023

**THE 22nd F.I.C.C. ASIA PACIFIC RALLY WILL TAKE PLACE FROM
31 MAY TO 10 JUNE 2024 IN GOSEONG & SOKCHO CITY,
GANGWON PROVINCE /SOUTH KOREA**

Organised by
KCCF (Korea Camping & Caravanning Federation)

**All information under
<https://www.koreacamping.net/>**

**F.I.C.C. WORLD CAMPING FESTIVAL 2024 in ALICANTE/Spain
from 26 June to 4 July
at the Alannia/Costa Blanca campsite**

Check-in (arrival) is on 26 June, check-out (departure) on 4 July, i.e. a total of eight (8) nights.

The participation fee per adult (18 years and over) is Euro 155.00

Young people from 11 to 17 years pay Euro 77.50

Children up to 10 years: free of charge

Pets: Euro 2.50 per night. A maximum of two (2) pets are allowed on one pitch.

Electricity is included in the participation fee

The planned excursions are in preparation

The number of pitches for the festival is limited, so early registration is recommended.

The maximum occupancy of a pitch is six (6) people.

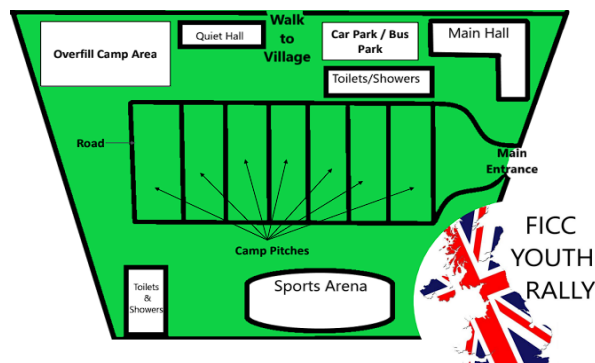


Caravans or motorhomes or tents or camper vans and a maximum of one (1) car are permitted on the pitch. Additional cars can be parked in the car park.

The pitch has water, electricity, waste water and television connections

The website is under preparation

72nd INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. YOUTH RALLY from 28 March to 1 April 2024 at the Black Isle Showground near Inverness/Scotland



The rally site is 20 minutes by foot from the village and has all the necessary infrastructure i.e. showers, toilets, electricity on the pitches, cooking facilities, a bar etc. etc.

There will be an excursion to Loch Ness, a haggis race, highland games and numerous other recreational games and - competitions.

Airports: Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen.

The organisers can help with transport to the rally site. The nearest railway station is 20 miles away but the organisers are prepared to collect rally-goers.

There is a direct coach from London to Inverness where the organisers can pick up rally-goers and take them to the rally site.



Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
	8am-9.30am - Breakfast	8am-9.30am - Breakfast	8am-9.30am - Breakfast	8am-9.30am - Breakfast
10am – Site Opens	10am-4pm – Optional Trip	10am-4pm – Trip to Loch Ness, Castles, Inverness	10am-1pm – Volleyball & Football Competition	12 noon – Site Closes
2pm-5pm – Football Zorbing			2pm-5pm – Highland Games	
5pm - 7pm - Evening Meal - Café Open	5pm - 7pm - Evening Meal - Café Open	5pm - 7pm - Evening Meal - Café Open	5pm-7pm – FICC Burns Supper with 'Address the Haggis' by Alex Cook, Toast the Haggis followed by Easter Meal – Haggis, Tatties & Neaps.	
7.30pm-9.30pm – Opening Ceremony & Welcoming Games – Come dressed in your International Colours	7.30pm-9.30pm – Fun Games – including Haggis Race	7.30pm-9.30pm Ceilidh Lessons – come and learn a couple of Scottish Dances for the Ceilidh tomorrow night.	7.30pm-9.30pm – International Ceilidh – come dressed in Tartan for the Closing Ceremony & Ceilidh	
9.30pm-Late – Disco	9.30pm-Late – Disco	9.30pm-Late – Disco	9.30pm- Late – Disco	



95th INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY 2025 in FULONG/TAIWAN from 25 April to 4 May 2025

The venue is Longmen campsite in Fulong/New Taipei City.

In 2025 The Camping Association of the Republic of China is celebrating its 50th anniversary



Full information on <http://www.95thficcrally.com>



96th INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY
Date: 26 June to 5 July 2026
Location: Karpfham/Southern Germany
Organiser: Deutscher Camping Club e.V.



Karpfham is located very close to Bad Griesbach im Rottal and not far from Passau. The area is also known as "Lower Bavaria's Tuscany". Bad Griesbach is known for its hot thermal springs and therefore has many spa facilities and hotels with wellness areas. The thermal water of the Rottal gushes up to 60°C to the surface and is said to stimulate blood circulation, relax the muscles and thus alleviate rheumatism and osteoporosis. There are numerous restaurants (culinary delights are a top priority), music events and cultural events. Programmes, excursions etc. are already in preparation. We will keep you up to date



97th INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY 2026 IN CHINA

Date: 25 September to 4 October 2026

Location: vicinity of Beijing

Organiser: 21RV



**Culinary delights:
Dried fruit - Lacquered Peking Duck**

Camping/Caravanning/Motorcaravanning

Is camping sustainable? Yes, camping is sustainable and climate-friendly. This is the conclusion of numerous studies including one carried out by ADAC. The issues addressed were: which type of holiday is least likely to have a negative impact on the climate, produces the lowest emissions, uses the least amount of energy and produces the least waste. Cruising, air travel and long-distance travel along with hotel holidays were used for comparison, all of which showed a higher carbon footprint.



The findings showed that hotel holidays produce up to ten times more CO₂ than camping holidays. Even if driving your caravan does add a bit to a camper's carbon footprint, this is more than offset by staying at a campsite in more or less undeveloped and unspoilt surroundings. Camping is a holiday in nature and both campers and campsite operators take care to use natural resources on campsites sparingly. Service water is treated and recycled for re-use and the installation of solar panels or other renewable energy sources has become the norm in camping these days. Many campers are committed to a clean environment, they separate their rubbish and are largely energy self-sufficient with their solar panels and modern battery systems.

Source: Camping, Cars & Caravans (Extract)

Sweden: Overnight guests are good for business.

The **Caravan Club of Sweden** is actively working to increase the number of pitches in the country. There are very good reasons for local councils to make more places available for campers since overnight guests tend to spend money wherever they are staying.

The **Caravan Club of Sweden** formed the organisation "Husbilsdestination Sverige", the aim of which is to ensure that motorcaravanners' wishes and demands relating to pitches and campsites are taken into account. In 2021 there were about 110,000 motorcaravans in Sweden, some 2.5 million in Europe as a whole.

The Vice-President of the Caravan Club of Sweden and his working group reported that their survey revealed that the key issues for motorcaravanners when they are looking for a pitch are safety, simple checking in and out procedures, easy access, emptying and filling facilities and a reasonable price.

Husbilsdestination Sverige found from the survey of 666 people (all active motorcaravanners) carried out in high summer in 2021, 2022 and 2023, that a boost to the local economy was perhaps the most interesting outcome and therefore a very good reason for local councils to provide parking spaces, parking areas etc for motorcaravanners.

In 2023, the daily expenditure of overnight guests in motorhomes amounted to 997 SEK: 25% was spent in restaurants, 19% on transport and 16% on food.

About 85% of those taking part in the survey stayed overnight on commercial campsites. The remainder camped in the wild or in a parking space. A few stayed with friends or relatives.

The money that ends up in the coffers of the local community every time motorcaravanners stop over is considerable. We hope therefore that more local councils in areas where there are perhaps no campsites will understand the importance of making provision for motorcaravanners and thereby attract more overnight guests.

Source: Fritidsmagasinet Caravan (Caravan Club of Sweden) Original text in Swedish: Kajsa Sandin

Practical tips – for campers too

Grime on gold rings and chains can easily be removed using a denture cleaner tablet.

Simply dissolve the tablet in a glass of water and drop the jewellery in. Once it is clean, rinse and dry. Polish with a small piece of chamois leather from time to time to restore the shine.

Leftover food should not be warmed up in plastic containers **in a microwave oven**, because just three minutes can release millions of tiny plastic and nano particles.

Scientists advise that all foodstuffs and especially dairy products should be heated up on a china plate or in a ceramic bowl.



MISCELLANEOUS

Traffic

En route to Alicante/Spain: In built-up areas the speed limit is 30 km/h and 20 km/h on unmarked one-way streets in town centres.

The limit is 50 km/h on streets with two or more lanes in either direction in built-up areas and 90 km/h maximum outside a built-up area. The speed limit on motorways (Autovia, or A for short) is 120 km/h.

Wearing a seat belt is mandatory. Vehicles on roundabouts always have right of way. Spain also operates priority on the right and right of way applies to anyone driving on a tarmac road. However a dirt track or unsurfaced road does not have priority if it comes from the right. Winking traffic lights mean that you may turn right even if the lights show red for straight-through traffic. A stop sign means you come to a complete halt and check for pedestrians.

Documents that you need to have with you include the vehicle registration certificate or vehicle licence. Gas stations are called “gasolineras” and are usually open round the clock on motorways. Payment can be made with a valid credit or debit card.

Parking is not allowed on roads with yellow markings along the kerb. Parking is usually free on parking spots with a white border, a green border indicates local residents’ parking spots. There is a toll charge for privately run motorways in Spain. A fine for illegal parking can be between 80€ and 200€.

The blood alcohol limit is 0.5 and the breath test limit 0.25. But for drivers with less than two years’ driving experience, the limits are 0.3 and 0.15 respectively.

Telephoning while driving is forbidden. Safety vests are obligatory as are two warning triangles.

A load that juts out must be indicated by a 50x50cm red and white hatched warning sign.

Accidents must be reported to the police and in the event of material damage the “European Accident Report” form has to be filled in.

Low emission zones have been introduced with restricted access in/to large towns.

Camping vehicles and trailers (towing vehicle + caravan)

Unbraked trailers must also be attached to the towing vehicle by a safety cable or chain. The trailer hitch must not touch the ground if the trailer coupling disengages, so that you can still drive away from the danger area.

A loop over the ball neck of the towing attachment is adequate but a proper slip guard is recommended.

Dimensions:

Outfit: width 2.55m – length 18.75m

Motorcaravan: width 2.55m – length 12m

Trailer with drawbar: width 2.55 m. - length 12m



Wider vehicles require a special permit from Dirección General de Transportes por Carretera/Madrid

Source: Internet/ADAC

Health

Mankind only accounts for 0.01% of the total **biomass** on earth. Fish for example far outnumber us – they, together with arthropods, make up 71% of animal biomass.

Magnesium deficiency is often the cause of night cramps in your calf: it is very painful and can really disturb your sleep. Magnesium deficiency can also cause rapid heart beat and tension in other muscles. A lot of food contains magnesium including broccoli, whole grain bread, natural rice, nuts, pulses and potatoes!

Stretching the muscle can help. While seated simply draw your toes upwards or stretch out your leg and point your toes towards your body.

We are always being warned about ticks, but **deer flies** are equally dangerous and are found in woodland from October onwards. It is a sort of flying tick that can attach itself to your skin and suck blood. The bite can become inflamed because these flies carry bacteria. If you have been bitten and develop a rash, a discharge with pus or even run a slight temperature, it is advisable to seek medical attention. This parasite does not usually bite humans – its main host, as its name implies, is deer.

Curious facts/Environment/Culture

Gustave Eiffel died 100 years ago. As a memorial to honour his memory, in January 2024 the city of Paris is organising an exhibition devoted to his works in the Cité de l'Architecture & Patrimoine right next to the Eiffel Tower.

The longest pedestrian suspension bridge in the world is in the Harz mountains, Germany, and spans the Rappbode valley. The "Titan RT" is 483 m long, weighs 118 tonnes and visitors cross it at a height of 100m.

How hot is a candle flame? Amazingly just above the flame the temperature can read 1400°C and at the top of the wick it is still 600°C. So take care when you extinguish candles on a birthday cake.

I recently read that one can now **send a parcel to the moon**. You simply pack up a "Moonbox" and DHL will deliver the package (no bigger than 2.5 cms) to the moon by rocket in collaboration with the US firm Astrobotic – Cost 420€.



The **kakapo** is a nocturnal, ground-dwelling bird endemic to New Zealand and is the only type of parrot that cannot fly. It is mainly found on Codfish Island.

Belgium: The exhibition “**ABBA 1974-2024 – From Waterloo to the World**” is on in Waterloo, Belgium, from 23 September 2023 to 18 May 2024. Daily opening times : 10h00 to 18h30. Venue: Domaine de la Bataille de Waterloo 1815, route du Lion 1815, 1420 Braine-l’Alleud.

It is the Japanese and not the Germans who buy **the most presents at Christmas** and at other times of the year. They buy and offer gifts on average 26 times a year. This is why there are 25 different words for “gift” in Japanese.

- 01 December World Aids Day
- 02 December International Day for the Abolition of Slavery
- 03 December International Day of Persons with Disabilities
- 09 December International Anti-Corruption Day
- 10 December Human Rights Day
- 11 December International Mountain Day
- 18 December Arabic Language Day
- 20 December International Human Solidarity Day

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

NORDIC RALLY from 7 to 11 JULY 2024 in Kiuruvesi/Finland under F.I.C.C. patronage



Further information on: **nordicrally.fi**.

www.kiuruvesi.fi/In-English



Traffic regulations for travellers in Finland

In Finland vehicles drive on the right but on multi-lane roads one may overtake on the right. Trams always have right of way. Vehicles entering a roundabout have right of way. Lights must be left on all day outside built-up areas.

Finnish police use automatic traffic monitoring/surveillance devices on busy streets and in urban areas. These streets are indicated by a yellow road sign with a camera. Most roads in Finland are straight and traffic is generally light. In winter drivers are legally obliged to fit winter tyres or spiked tyres.

Speed limits for passenger cars are:

Built-up areas	50 km/h
Motorways	120 km/h
Out of town	100 km/h

The Finns run a “day fine“ system that is linked to an offender’s daily disposable income. The more drivers are over the speed limit, the greater the number of day fines they will receive: if an offender’s income is 50€ for example, the fine will be 500€, calculated on the basis of 10 day fines.



Exceeding the speed limit by 20 km/h	200€
Exceeding the speed limit by more than 50 km/h	*14 DF+
Passing a red light	*10 DF+
Using a mobile phone	100€
Non use of seat belt	70€
Illegal parking	20–80€
Drink driving	*15 DF+

*DF+= Day Fine (minimum)

If you drive a passenger car and tow a braked trailer, the trailer must also have **suitable tyres**. So that you do not infringe **traffic regulations in Finland**, you should make sure that the **minimum tyre profile is at least 3mm**. The recommended tyre profile is actually **5mm**.

As in other European countries the **maximum blood alcohol level in Finland is 0.5 g/litre** for drivers. If you exceed this limit and thereby **infringe Finnish traffic regulations**, you can count on **fairly hefty sanctions**.

Accidents in Finland

If the accident happens outside a built-up area, you must wear a high visibility vest as soon as you get out of your vehicle. If you ignore this regulation in Finland you risk being fined.

What is the emergency phone number in Finland?

The number for the emergency services in Finland is **112** which puts you in touch with fire and ambulance services as well as the police. In Finland it is always advisable to inform the police in the event of an accident.

How does the claims settlement work in the event of an accident in Finland?

Any claims settlement is always dealt with in the country where the accident happened. Thus the level of damages or compensation are defined by Finnish law.

Motorcaravans/Camping

Motorcaravans may not exceed 100 km/h, if this is the speed given on the manufacturer's documents. A vehicle towing a lightweight caravan up to 750 kg may travel at 100 km/h.

There are about 350 campsites in Finland and overnight fees vary according to a



campsite's location and infrastructure. Cost can vary between 5€ and 30€ per day per family.

Electricity supply is 230V. Thus during your camping holiday you can use all of your electrical appliances that have a Euro plug.

Campsites have star ratings. There are also a lot of log cabins for campers to rent. When planning your trip in a motorcaravan, it is useful to know that service areas/gas stations remain open until 9 pm.

You may erect a tent anywhere. You may also spend the night in your motorcaravan or any other vehicle by the roadside and at rest stops. However this right also brings with it big responsibilities. You are required to behave responsibly and be respectful of nature.

Fishing permits are required for all **angling and fishing activity** except for pole rods and ice fishing. In Finland anglers between the ages of 18 and 64 pay a state fishing management fee and need to have permission from the regional authority. Children and young people can fish free of charge.

Finland operates on **eastern European time** i.e. an hour ahead of most other EU countries but the clocks do change between winter and summer.

Public holidays in Finland

New Year's Day (1 January)

Epiphany (6 January)

Good Friday and Easter Monday

May Day (1 May)

Ascension Day

Midsummer (20/21 June)

All Saints (1 November)

National Independence Day (6 December)

Christmas (24 - 26 December)

(all information supplied without liability)



**24. Adria
camping
rally**

www.camping-croatia.com

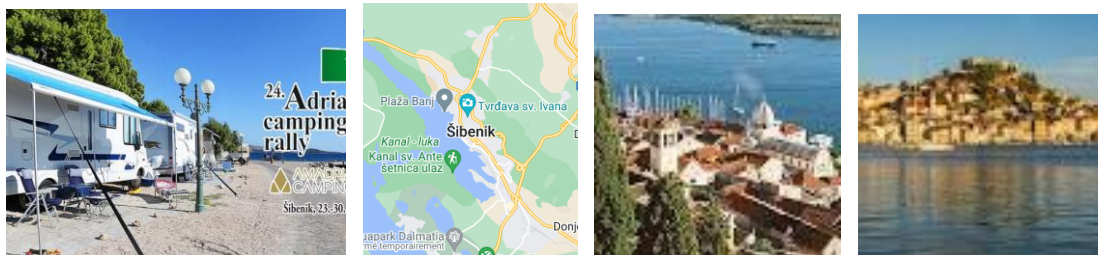
 UDRUGA
KAMPISTA
HRVATSKE

 AMADRIA PARK
CAMPING

Camping AMADRIA PARK
Šibenik, 23.–30. lipnja 2024.

The 24th Adria Camping Rally will be held at the Camping Amadria Park in Šibenik/Croatia from 23 to 30 June 2024, organised by UDRUGA KAMPISTA HRVATSKE (UKH)

Registration and further information: ukh@camping-croatia.com
or Adria Rally 2024



Following the death of Bohumil STARY, the Federation of Camping and Caravanning of the Czech Republic elected Mr Pavel HLAVAC as its new president.

Nicolas Dayot , President of the Fédération Nationale de l'Hôtellerie de Plein Air (FNHPA),

has been re-elected for a further three-year term of office. He was re-elected on 12 October 2023 during the 49th National Congress of the FNHPA during the Atlantica Salon in Niort.



ISTO is celebrating its 60th anniversary



ISTO (International Social Tourism Organization) celebrated its 60th anniversary in Brussels between 28 and 30 November 2023.

The organisation was founded in 1963 under the title of BITS (Bureau international du tourisme social).

ISTO's aim and purpose is to be represented on national and international tourism bodies, to disseminate information (news and academic research), to network its members (events/organisations and member area on the website) and to support and participate in projects.



F.I.C.C. President Joao Alves Pereira and Ms Isabel Novoa, President of ISTO



Speech of F.I.C.C. President Joao Alvs Pereira at the UNWTO Affiliate Member Meeting in Samarkand/Uzbekistand

Good morning,

I would like to congratulate UNWTO and Uzbekistan government to give us the opportunity to visit Samarkand and this beautiful country.

I am the President of the FICC, Fédération Internationale de Camping, Caravanning et Autocaravanning, a non-profit organisation with headquarter in Brussels – Belgium and founded in 1933.

Our aim is to promote camping, Caravanning and Motor-caravanning as open-air tourism in the nature, create bridges between the different cultures all over the world and thought our activities contribute for the local economy and to a sustainable tourism.

We always had a great support from UNWTO/AMD and this year in the scope of our World Camping Festival that took place in Zadar – Republic of Croatia, we also celebrated our 90th anniversary and for the first time the World Camping Day, on 29 June, with the presence of his Excellency Director Ion Vilcu giving us the opportunity to create more awareness for our Camping open-air activities and his presence was very appreciated by the authorities, our members and above all was a recognition of the UNWTO of this kind of important and growing form of sustainable tourism.

I would like once again to thank for this excellent cooperation between FICC/UNWTO/AMD and wish that grows even more in future.

I hope to see you all next year on 29 June for the celebration of the World Camping Day in Alicante – Spain.



F.I.C.C. President Joao Alves Pereira, Ms Mar de Miguel Colon, Chairwoman Affiliated members and Ion Vilcu (Director Affiliated members UNWTO)



Joao Alves Pereira and the Portuguese delegation, Secretary of State for Tourism and Directors of Turismo Portugal

Poems of the month

**Christmas is for ever, not for just one day,
For loving, sharing, giving, are not to put away
Like bells, and lights and tinsel, in some box upon a shelf.
The good you do for others is good you do yourself.**

Norman Wesley Brooks

SayingImages.com

Give

gifts big or small,
but always dignified.
When the thoughtful
weigh the gifts,
let your conscience be clear.

Give heartily and freely.
Give away
what lives within you
in terms of opinion, taste and humor,
so that your own joy beforehand
rewards you richly.

Give with spirit without cunning.
Remember
that your gift
is yourself.

Joachim Ringelnatz (German poet and painter 1883-1934)



Silvia Brohl and Susan Drescher at the F.I.C.C. Secretariat wish you a happy holiday season and all the very best for the coming year

EXHIBITIONS

Austria: Tiroler Frühjahrsmesse from 14 to 17 March, in Innsbruck
Ferienmesse Vienna from 5 to 7 March 2024, in Vienna

Belgium: Salon des vacances from 1 to 4 February 2024, in Brussels

Bulgaria: Camping & Caravanning Expo May 2024, in Sofia (date unknown)

Canada: The Outdoor Adventure Show from 23 to 25 February 2024, in Toronto

Denmark: Camping from 10 to 12 January 2025, in Aalborg

Finland: Caravan from 19 to 21 January 2024, in Helsinki

France : Salon Mondiale du Tourisme from 14 to 17 March, in Paris

Salon des véhicules de Loisirs from 18 to 22 September 2024, in Paris-Le Bourget

Germany: CMT from 13 to 21 January 2024, in Stuttgart



ABF Caravan und Camping from 31 January to 4 February 2024, in Hannover

Reise & Freizeit from 27 to 28 January 2024, in Greven

Reise & Camping from 28 February to 3 March 2024, in Essen

ITB from 5 to 7 March 2024, in Berlin

Great Britain: Caravan Camping & Motorhome Show from 13 to 28 February 2024, in Birmingham
Caravan and Motorhome Show from 19 to 21 January 2024, Titanic Exhibition Centre in Belfast (Northern Ireland)

Italy: Il Salone del Camper from 14 to 24 September 2024, in Parma

Kazakhstan: Tourism & Travel (ITECA) from 24 to 26 April 2024, in Almaty

Netherlands: Caravana from 14 to 28 January 2024, in Leeuwarden

Vakantiebeurs from 11 to 14 January 2024, in Utrecht

Portugal: Nauticampo from 1 to 4 February 2024, in Lisbon

Spain: FITUR from 14 to 28 January 2024, in Madrid

Caravaning from 1 to 4 February 2024, in Alicante

B-Travel from 24 to 26 March 2024, in Barcelona

Feria de Caravaning from 5 to 7 May 2024, in Santiago de Compostela

Expo Camper & Caravan from 18 to 22 September 2024, in Madrid

Switzerland:

USA: RV Show from 6 to 14 January 2024, in Pittsburgh

Tacoma RV Show from 18 to 21 January 2024, in Tacoma/Washington.

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