NEWSLETTER – NOVEMBER 2024

73rd International F.I.C.C. YOUTH RALLY
from 17 to 21 April 2025 in Porto Recanati (Macerata)/ITALY
organised by Confederazione Italiana del Campeggiatori.

Further information will be available shortly

The working group of the F.I.C.C. Youth Commission Ryan Martin and Eliania Santos and Joao Alves Pereira, F.I.C.C. President, visited the rally site in the presence of Mr Giovanni Grassi, President of the Italian member association Confedercampsggio and Emanuele Paolicelli, Italian F.I.C.C. Administrative Council member.
The campsite fulfils the F.I.C.C. criteria, is managed by a friendly and efficient team, has good sanitary facilities and nearby restaurants.
The website is under „construction“

95th INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY 2025 from 25 APRIL to 4 MAY 2025 in TAIWAN

The venue is Longmen Campsite in Fulong/New Taipeh City.
In 2025 The Camping Association of the Republic of China is celebrating its 50th anniversary

Full information under
http://www.95thficcrally.com/

WELCOME TO TAIWAN

The Camping Association of the Republic of China (CAROC) is hosting and organising the 95th International F.I.C.C. Rally in 2025 that will bring campers together from all over the the world on the beautiful island of Taiwan.

Welcome to Fulong – Taiwan
Welcome to the 95th International F.I.C.C. Rally

This is the fourth time that camping enthusiasts will be coming to Taiwan for a rally where, between 25 April and 4 May 2025, they can discover the land and people for the first time or re-acquaint themselves with the island.

The event is being held at the Longmen Campsite on the north-east and Yilan coast of the National Scenic Area. Participants will have the chance to explore the beautiful countryside, small fishing villages and beautiful beaches, and also to experience the all-embracing friendliness of the country and its people.

I am certain everyone will be delighted with the rally venue, and appreciate the great support of the local authorities and the rally programme that is being put together.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank CAROC for organising this Rally during which the federation will be celebrating its 50th anniversary.

I also know that the friendliness of our Taiwanese camping, caravanning and motorcaravanning friends “will touch our hearts“ as it says in the song "Taiwan will touch your heart" and that we will all experience wonderful, interesting and very special moments together.

I wish every one of you an unforgettable stay in Taiwan.

Joao Alves Pereira
F.I.C.C. President

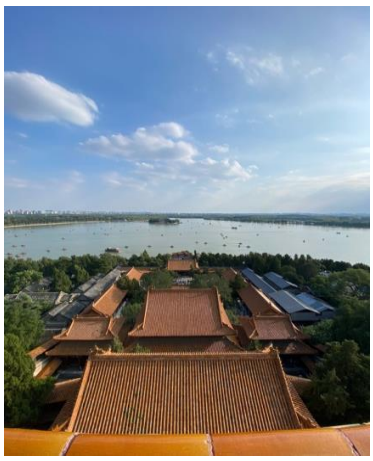
96TH INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY

Date 26 June to 5 July 2026
Venue: Karpfham-Bad Griesbach/Southern Germany
Organised by the Deutscher Camping Club e.V.

Further information

www.96ficcrallye.jimdofree.com

97th INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY 2026 IN CHINA
Dates: 25 September to 4 October 2026 in the vicinity of Beijing
Organised by 21RV



Photos: G. Vergouts

Camping/Caravanning/Motorcaravanning

Germany: Gas emission tests have been included in the German Road Traffic Licensing Regulations (STVZO) so owners of any vehicles that are subject to registration (including privately registered camper vans and motorcaravans) must have their liquified gas installations tested at their own expense in compliance with "Technical Rules Sheet DVGW G 607 (1). This applies to installations with a maximum consumption of 1.5 kg/h that do not serve to power the vehicle. Tests must be carried out:

- Before the vehicle's initial entry into service,
- Before the vehicle's recommissioning following modifications requiring inspection, and
- During repeat inspections every 24 months.

The validity of a repeat inspection expires at the end of the 24th month and a fine is imposed once the inspection deadline has passed.
Source: DCC (DE)

Spain: Application of the Spanish law introduced on 2 January 2023 regarding extended storage of personal data that should have come into force on 1 October 2024, has been postponed again. Proposed new regulations for registration of visitors to campsites and other tourist accommodation due to be introduced on 2 December 2024 have received little support from Spanish campsite operators or internationally.
Royal decree 933/2021 obliges tourism-related sub-sectors such as accommodation (hotels, guest houses, hostels), car hire, travel/tourist agencies, campsites and motorhomes, holiday apartments etc to provide certain data relating to their customers. For many campsites, this means extra work because this data collection has to be done by hand since it relates to methods of payment, credit card details, mobile phone numbers etc that do not appear in official papers.
Source: Internet

75% of all campers are happy people. So claims a consumer research body and this percentage is 11% higher than in the general population. Their happiness is largely due to the fact that campers spend so much time in nature, not only when on holiday but also during most of their spare time.

It is true that winter is knocking at the door but … campers are already planning their next holidays and **roof tents** have proved to be popular for several summers now.
There are a few points to remember not least the roof load of one's vehicle.This should not be exceeded when you are travelling because overloading the roof of your vehicle can adversely affect your vehicle's centre of gravity resulting in an increased risk of skidding and rollovers. Depending on your vehicle, the permitted roof load is between 50 and 200 kg for buses and vans. Information on the roof load is not given in the vehicle registration document, but is in the user's manual of the relevant vehicle.
Roof tents are not an integral part of the vehicle and can be removed so they count as part of the load. So – alongside the maximum roof load - one also needs to keep an eye on the maximum permissible weight of the vehicle. In addition, the permitted axle loads of the front and rear axles must be respected. In the event of overloading, you are not only likely to incur a fine but will not be allowed to continue your journey until some of the load has been removed. Maximum speed should not exceed 130 km/h.
Source: CCA-Journal (AT)

Practical tips – for campers too
Ball point pen stains can be removed by first using an eraser and then rubbing the spots with fluoride toothpaste. Then it is ready for washing!

MISCELLANEOUS

Traffic

Switzerland: New vehicles must now be equipped with an accident data recorder and the new driver assistance system.
Electric bikes must keep their lights on during the day and new bikes with pedal assistance up to 45 km/h must have a speedometer to help riders observe the speed limit. By 2027, all electric bikes that can travel up to 45 km/h must be fitted with a speedometer.
When crossing a roundabout, (Stop, Give Way, Right of Way), road signs do not apply, but there are exceptions of course.
Signs for Zone 20, Zone 30 and "General Limit 50" do apply after crossing an intersection. In conclusion, one can say that unless there is a speed restriction of 40 or 60 in place, the general rule is 50 km/h speed limit in built-up areas and 80 km/h outside built-up areas.
Also in Switzerland : an emergency corridor must automatically be created as soon as vehicles slow down or when traffic comes to a standstill on the motorway. This corridor must be made between the far left lane and the one immediately to the right of it.
Source: ACS (CH).

Health

Soothe **tired or inflamed eyes** by putting warm, damp black teabags on your eye lids. The tanning agent helps calm inflammation and the warmth relaxes muscles round the eyes.

Researchers in London, Göttingen and Kassel have developed a new blood test that could detect **Parkinson's** seven years before the onset of the disease. Eight proteins, so-called biomarkers, indicate likely onset of the disease later in life. This means that patients can be treated with medication that will slow down or even prevent the disease. This research isn't conclusive and tests are ongoing.

Curious facts/Environment/Culture

Europe's biggest aquarium is in Boulogne-sur-Mer/France and has opened a brand new permanent exhibit "Journey into the Abyss" enabling visitors to see six new species from the deep ocean. These include a gigantic meat-eating isopod, a giant spider crab and a boar fish whose snout resembles that of a pig. Boulogne-sur-Mer is on the Côte d'Opale, approx. 100 km from Lille and has three good campsites.

The greatest concentration of road bridges i.e. eight altogether, are to be found on an 8.3 km stretch of the Norwegian Atlantic coast road between the towns of Vevang and Karvag which is situated on an island. This road has been open since 1989 and appears in the James Bond film ”No Time to Die” (2021).

The Art Basel Hongkong Exhibition and Art Central (artcentralhongkong.com) that attracts art collectors and enthusiasts from the world over every year, will be held from 28 to 30 March in 2025. Asian tradition and western avantgarde works are found side by side and as you explore the town, you will discover the very best of street and urban art.

For the fifth time, a survey has shown that Vienna is still the **most livable city in the world**. Reasons given include good health care, education, infrastructure and culture along with security and stability. Melbourne/Australia held first place for many years.

The **Ballet Festival Week** will be held in the Bavarian State Opera house in Munich from 10 to 16 April 2025. One is advised to book tickets well in advance.

The European Capitals of Culture 2025 are Chemnitz/Germany with over 1000 planned events, Nova Gorica in Slovenia and the neighbouring Italian city of Gorizia.

A major **Van Gogh exhibition** entitled ‘Poets and Lovers’ is being held at the National Gallery in London until 19 January 2025. The 200th anniversary of the museum will be celebrated at the same time.

In the historic La Gaité Lyrique **in Paris, the LEGO Group** has opened the ‘Superpower Studios’ art space, where original works created by well-known artists using Lego bricks are on display. Colourful and interesting, admission is free for families.

And finally, a retrospective dedicated to the **painter Henri Matisse** (1869-1954) at the **Fondation Beyeler in Basel/Switzerland**, with more than 70 major works - collected from all over the world - on display until 26 January 2025.

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

F.I.C.C. is granting its patronage to the 25th edition of the **Adria Rally 2025.**
It is being organised by Udruga Kampista Hrvatske from 22 to 29 June at the Amadria Park Camping in Trogir/Croatia.

Trogir

Touring Club Suisse (TCS) has informed us that online booking is now open for all TCS Campsites for 2025 i.e. since the beginning of October.
Here is the link https://www.tcs.ch/de/camping-reisen/camping/

IN MEMORIAM

We have just learnt from the SF camping brochure, that Seppo Pietiläinen died on 25 July 2024 after a long illness. Seppo was 86 years old. He was President of SF Caravan ry/Finland between 1991 and 1999 and became an international camping personality following the beautifully organised and extremely interesting International F.I.C.C. Rally 1994 in Joensuu (FIN). His wife Sirpa and his boxer bitch accompanied him on many a camping event in Europe and he and his wife also attended international camping rallies in Asia, Canada, etc. but without his dog.
Seppo and Sirpa were true nature-lovers - they adored caravanning and long hikes.
We offer our heartfelt condolences to his wife and family.
As Lars Dahlberg, F.I.C.C. Honorary President said: “We have lost a good and experienced camping friend.“

Photo: Silvia Brohl (personal)

AUTUMN

Leaves fall, they fall as from a distant place,
As if far gardens withered in the skies;
They fall with a denying attitude.

And in the nighttime falls the heavy world
Out of all stars into the solitude.

We all are falling. Falling, here, this hand.
And look at others: it is in them all.

Yet there exists One who all of this falling
Forever softly holds within his hands.

Rainer Maria Rilke (1875-1926) Bohemian-Austrian poet and novelist.

(translation by Donald Mace Williams)

EXHIBITIONS

Austria: Ferien-Messe Wien from 16 to 19 March 2025, in Vienna
Belgium: Salon des vacances from 30 January to 2 February 2025, in Brüssel
Brazil: Expo Motorhome in November 2024, in Novo Hamburgo
Czech Republic: Caravaning Brno in November 2024, in Brno
France: Destinations Nature from 13 to 16 March 2025, in Paris
Salon Mondial du Tourisme from 13 to 16 March 2025, in Paris
Germany: Caravan Bremen from 8 to 10 November 2024, in Bremen
Touristik & Caravaning from 20 to 24 November 2024, in Leipzig
CMT from 18 to 26 January 2025, in Stuttgart
Reise & Camping from 19 to 23 February 2025, in Essen
Freizeit, Touristik & Garten from 12 to 16 March 2025, in Nüremberg
ABF Caravaning & Camping from 18 to 23 February 2025, in Hanover
Great Britain: Caravan & Motorhome Show from 16 to 19 January 2025, in Manchester
Caravan, Camping & Motorhome Show from 18 to 23 February 2025, in Birmingham
Netherlands: Vakantiebeurs from 9 to 12 January 2025, in Utrecht
Caravana from 29 January to 2 February 2025, in Leeuwarden
Spain: Fitur from 22 to 26 January 2025, in Madrid
Expocamp in March 2025, in Avilés
B-Travel from 28 to 30 March 2025, in Barcelona
Turkey: Kamptalya Outdoor ve Motordrom from 12 to 16 February 2025, in Antalya

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