NEWSLETTER

JANUARY - 2025

WWW.FICC.ORG

F.I.C.C. Symposium « BACK TO NATURE » at the 20.02.2025 Fair in Essen/GERMANY

F.I.C.C. is organising a Symposium on the theme

BACK TO NATURE on 20.02.2025 within the framework of the Camping & Travel Fair in Essen / Germany

Further information on : https://congress.ficc.org

73rd International F.I.C.C. YOUTH RALLY

from 17 to 21 April 2025 on the campsite "Campeggio Club Adriatico" in Porto Recanati (Macerata)/ITALY

organised by Confederazione Italiana del Campeggiatori

PROGRAMME FROM 17 TO 21 APRIL 2025

BOOKING FEE : €70.00 PER PERSON

BOOKING DEADLINE 21.03.2025

Venue:
"Camping Club Adriatico" in Porto Recanati
(Macerata) – Marche – Italy Scarfiotti seafront, Scossicci street

(GPS N 43° 27'50.242" – E 13°38'19.017)

By road = A/14 E/45 motorway (GPS N 43° 27'50.242" – E 13°38'19.017)
By rail = state railway – either Loreto station or Porto Recanati station

By air = nearest airports: *
Falconara Airport – then by rail to either Loreto or Porto Recanati stations

Bologna Airport – than by rail to either Loreto or Porto Recanati stations

Pescara Airport – then by rail to either Loreto or Porto Recanati stations

* The campsite will provide a shuttle bus service from Loreto and Porto Recanati stations to Camping Club Adriatico. Return tickets cost € 5.00 per Person.

ACCOMMODATION POSSIBILITIES:

10 pitches for caravans/motorcaravans

80 pitches for tents for 2/4 or more people (no charge, included in the booking fee)

40 places in rental properties/bunglalows

(Cost not included in booking fee)

There is ample space for activities and the campsite also has a children's playground.

THE BOOKING FEE DOES NOT INCLUDE

- Breakfast, lunch, dinner (apart from the Easter Meal and packed lunches for the excursion, both of which are included in the booking fee);
- Shuttle bus transfers from the campsite to Loreto and Porto Recanati stations or by special request to the town centre at a cost of €5.00 per person (return trip);
- Entrance ticket for the Frasassi Grotto; bike rental;
- Early arrival for and/or late departure from the Rally;
- All other items/services that are not expressly stated as being included in the programme.

Additional information www.campeggioclubadriatico.it

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

WELCOME TO 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/

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.

Full information on

www.96ficcrallye.jimdofree.com

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

Date: 25 September to 4 October 2026 in the vicinity of Beijing

Organised by 21RV

21世纪房车
专 注 房 车 露 营 22 年

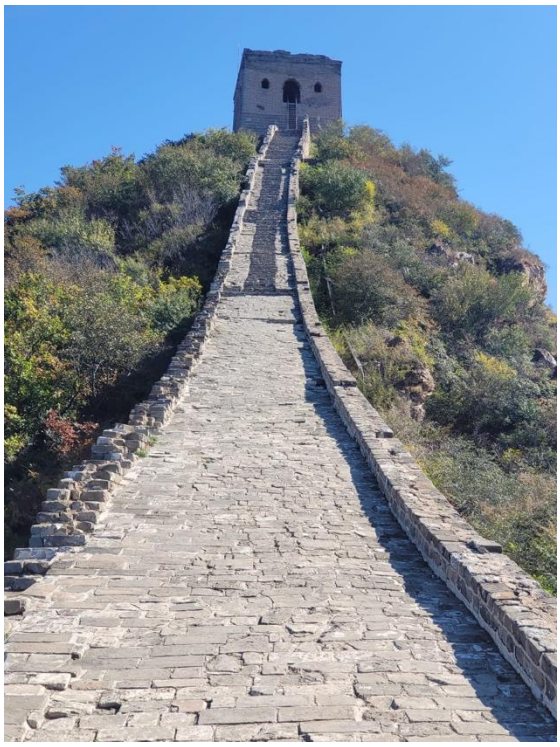


Photo: G. Vergouts

Camping/Caravanning/Motorcaravanning

Travelling in a motorcaravan or caravan reduces stress levels, so say 66% of Belgians. According to a study, travelling in a motorcaravan or caravan isn't just a means of transport to get from A to B, but it gives you a real sense of freedom and encourages you to reconnect with the essentials of life, far away from one's day-to-day existence. Two out of three Belgians reckon that these trips help them to re-fuel, breathe in fresh air and experience a sense of mental wellbeing, a unique solution for getting away from the daily grind and all its stress.

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

Germany: The trend continues: Germans still like camping

A quarter of all Germans like camping trips. That is the result of a survey by Paul Camper, a rental platform that consulted 5,017 people. It found that 27.2% said they could envisage taking a holiday in a recreational vehicle. What is particularly striking is the high interest among millenials. In the 30 to

39 age group, nearly a third of the respondents were planning or considering a camping holiday. The survey also showed that a significant proportion of families with children expressed interest in camping trips: 34.5% of respondents with children are interested in this type of travel compared with 25.5% with no children. By and large, camping trips are equally popular with men and women alike.

Source: Camping, Cars & Caravans

German holidaymakers in Sweden opt for camping

51 % of all German tourists stayed at a campsite when holidaying in Sweden between June and August 2024. Nature and the outdoor life are the attraction. The number increased by 12% compared with 2023 and the most popular destinations for the majority of camping tourists were Sweden's west coast, the east coast and the Skane region. Norwegians and Dutch were also very much attracted to camping holidays.

As the CEO of SCR SvenskCamping remarked, competition is fierce so Sweden is making international marketing a high priority. Furthermore, efforts are being made to create interest in Sweden as a camping destination and make it easier for international tourists to plan and book their journey and their stay.

Source: Fritidsmagasinet Caravan/SE

Practical tips – of interest to campers too

Once summer and autumn are over, insects tend to withdraw indoors to seek warmth. Small sachets of lavender will discourage moths from settling in wardrobes and drawers. Flies detest the smell of lavender too. Then there are the stink bugs and spiders who all love warm houses. Simply mix water, vinegar and washing-up liquid in a ratio of 4:2:1 and spray it on window and door frames and anywhere else where you find other creepy crawlies. And the carpet beetle! Once you have detected its presence, treat all woollen rugs and carpets with a steam cleaner. Ant trails are best dealt with by sprinkling a mixture of baking powder and sugar over them. They hate it!

Source: „Alte Hausmittel"

MISCELLANEOUS

Traffic

QR codes do simplify our lives but if you scan a fake QR code, than you may well end up on an internet site that will tap into your bank data or passwords.

Consumer advice centres advise that you only use QR codes once you are completely satisfied that you know where they are heading. It is essential to check the authenticity of all QR codes.

QR codes at e-charging stations are regularly targeted and pasted over by criminals who happily divert your payments to their own accounts – so take a very close look!

The **big European cities with the best road safety record** according to a survey carried out by "Urban Road Safety Index 2024 Cyclomedia" are the Estonian capital Tallin, followed by Saragossa (Spain) and Helsinki (Finland) . Bottom of the league are Milan, Rome and Athens.

Great Britain: The United Kingdom has introduced a new regulation regarding complete digitising of foreigners' visits to the country. Until now, this regulation has only applied to residents of countries in the Middle East. However, the ETA (Electronic Travel Authorization) became mandatory for all non-Europeans on 8 January 2025 and, from 2 April 2025, will also apply to Europeans who can submit their application from March onwards. The ETA can be obtained by means of an online form that must be filled in before you can enter the United Kingdom. There is an app that you can use. When completing the form, you need a valid passport, a photo, information on where and when travel is planned, an email address and a credit card. In addition there is a questionnaire to fill in. It will cost between 10 and 12 euros.

The reasons for this ETA measure is to avoid long queues at passport control and help the smooth implementation of a digitised border.

France: Since October 2024, the speed limit on the Paris ring road, the famous Boulevard Périphérique, has been reduced to 50 km/h, the idea being that traffic will flow more smoothly and will be accident-free. It is also part and parcel of the Paris city authority's climate plan. Exceeding the speed limit will result in a 135€ fine!

Source: KampeerToerist (VKCF/BE)

Winter tyre regulations in Europe

Germany: Proper winter tyres have an alpine symbol i.e. a snowflake. M+S marking does not count any more and these tyres are no longer recognised as winter tyres.

Italy: Every province has its own winter tyre regulations. In Tirol for example, winter tyres are mandatory between 15 November and 15 April.

Switzerland: No particular winter tyre regulations but you will be given a heavy fine if you cause a traffic incident or obstruction because you have the wrong tyres.

France: Winter tyres mandatory in mountain regions between 1 November and 31 March.

Czech Republic: Winter tyres mandatory everywhere between 1 November and 31 March.

Slovakia: Winter tyres mandatory dependent on road conditions.

Hungary: No general winter tyre regulations.

Slovenia: Winter tyres mandatory between 15 November and 15 March.

Croatia: No general winter tyre regulations.

Serbia: Winter tyres mandatory between 1 November and 1 April.

Bosnia-Herzegovina: Winter tyres mandatory between 1 November and 1 April.

Poland: No general winter tyre regulations.

Belgium: No general winter tyre regulations.

Netherlands: No general winter tyre regulations.

Turkey: No general winter tyre regulations.

Greece: No general winter tyre regulations.

With the exception of Germany, tyres with the M+S marking alone are still considered to be winter tyres even if they have no snowflake symbol.

Source: Freie Fahrt (Arbö/CCA)

Health

According to a Chinese study, **breakfast** is the most important meal and helps avoid gastrointestinal cancers.

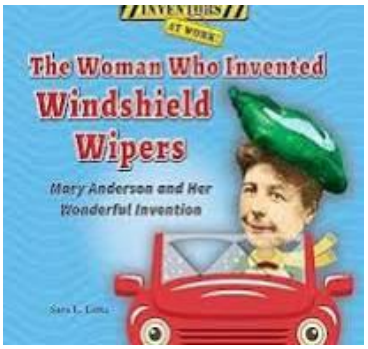
After the end-of-year festivities, is is a good idea to take up **Sport** again. The healthiest sports are swimming, tai-chi, resistance or weight training, walking and pelvic floor training.

Curious facts/Environment/Culture

The **snowiest place in the world** (180 metres of snow annually) is Mount Fairweather. It is 4,671m high and lies on the Canadian/Alaskan border.

The **TV remote control** was invented by Robert Adler (1913-2007) who was born in Vienna. He was an amazing inventor and filed 180 patents in his adopted country, the USA, including the remote control that he called "Space Commander" in 1956.

And it was a woman, one Mary Anderson (1866-1953) from Alabama/USA, who invented the first automatic **windscreen wipers** to be operated from inside a vehicle. She was an entrepreneuse and was unhappy seeing drivers stretch their neck out of their window to see where they were going whenever it rained.



Another woman by the name of **Rachel Ruysch** (1664-1750) wrote stories and was the first woman to become a member of the Confrérie Pictura, the Dutch Painter's Guild. She painted beautiful floral still lifes, gave birth to ten children and was court painter in Düsseldorf.

The **Antarctic fur seal** is incredibly well protected against the cold: first it has a thick layer of fat, then short curly fur and finally another layer of long fur.

The male weighs up to 210 kg, the female up to 55 kg. They can live for 25 years.

The **highest bridge in the world** (565m above the river) is in Beisanjiang/China and **the longest** (55km) **bridge over water** is between Hong Kong and Zhuhai/Macao-China.

The **longest suspension bridge** (530m) is over the Panama Canal (46km) and the **longest glass bottomed bridge** (430m long, 300m high) was inaugurated in China in 2016. It has been superseded since then by the Bach Long bridge (630m long, 150m above the earth's surface) in Vietnam : 630 Saint-Gobain glass sheets were used in its construction.

Don't forget the birds in winter – we should provide them with food outdoors. They love grains, seeds, raisins, oatflakes and don't forget fresh water. But never give them bread or leftover food, and certainly nothing spicey or salty!

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

OUR CONGRATULATIONS TO

Associaçao de Caravanismo de Portugal	**10 Jahre/years/ans**
Caravaners League Russia	**15 Jahre/years/ans**
Camping Club Serbia	**20 Jahre/years/ans**
Hymer Club International	**35 Jahre/years/ans**
Ustredni Automotoklub Ceske Republiky UAMK	**35 Jahre/years/ans**
International Automobile and Touring Club UAE	**40 Jahre/years/ans**
Association des Campeurs et Caravaniers Athois et de Wallonie (A.C.C.A.W.)	**40 Jahre/years/ans**

Korea Camping & Caravanning Federation	**40 Jahre/years/ans**
Klubi Eesti Karavan	**45 Jahre/years/ans**
The Camping Association of the ROC	**50 Jahre/years/ans**
Federacion Espanola de Clubes Campistas	**60 Jahre/years/ans**
Magyar Camping es Caravanning Club	**60 Jahre/years/ans**
The Israeli Camping & Caravanning Club	**60 Jahre/years/ans**
Norsk Bobil og Caravan Club	**65 Jahre/years/ans**
Confederazione Italiana de Campeggiatori	**75 Jahre/years/ans**
Polski Zwiazek Motorowy	**75 Jahre/years/ans**
Federacao de Campismo e Montanhismo de Portugal (F.C.M.P.)	**80 Jahre/years/ans**

Federacao de Campismo e Montanhismo de Portugal (F.C.M.P.) has a new President.

Mr. Paulo SOUSA has replaced Mr. Joao QUEIROZ, who presided over the Portuguese Federation for many years and with whom F.I.C.C. enjoyed an excellent working relationship. We wish Mr. Sousa every success as he takes on his new responsibilities and look forward to working closely with him.

Winter poem

The Snow Man

One must have a mind of winter
To regard the frost and the boughs
Of the pine-trees crusted with snow

And have been cold a long time ;
To behold the junipers shagged with ice,
The spruces rough in the distant glitter

Of the January sun; and not to think
Of any misery in the sound of the wind,
In the sound of a few leaves,

Which is the sound of the land
Full of the same wind
That is blowing in the same bare place

For the listener, who listens in the snow,
And, nothing himself, beholds
Nothing that is not there and the nothing that is.

Wallace Stevens (1879-1955) American attorney

EXHIBITIONS

Austria: Ferien-Messe Wien from 16 to 19 March 2025, in Vienna

Urlaub & Ausflug from 4 to 6 April 2025, in Wels

Caravan Salon Austria from 15 to 19 October 2025, in Wels

Belgium: Salon des vacances from 30 January to 2 February 2025, in Brussels

Finland: Caravan Helsinki from 17 to 20 January 2025

France: Destinations Nature from 13 to 16. March 2025, in Paris

Salon Mondial du Tourisme from 13 to 16 March 2025, in Paris

Germany: Tourisma & Caravaning from 4 to 6 January 2025, in Magdeburg

Reisen & Caravaning from 12 to 14 January 2025, in Chemnitz

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

Caravan Salon from 29 August to 7 September 2025, in Düsseldorf

Camper & Vans from 26 to 29 September 2025, in Fulda

Caravan Messe from 31 October to 3 November 2025, in Erfurt

Auto Camping Caravan from 28 November to 1 December 2025, in Berlin

Great Britain: Caravan & Motorhome Show from 16 to 19 January 2025, in Manchester

Caravan, Camping and Motorhome Show from 18 to 23 February 2025, in Birmingham

Ireland: Caravan & Camping Show from 24 to 26 January 2025, in Dublin

Italy: Il Salone del Camper from 13 to 21 September 2025, in Parma

Netherlands: Vakantiebeurs from 9 to 12 January 2025, in Utrecht

Caravana from 29 January to 2 February 2025, in Leeuwarden

Kampeer & Caravan Jaarbeurs from 2 to 6 October 2025, in Utrecht

Spain: Fitur from 22 to 26 January 2025, in Madrid

Feria de Valencia from 11 to 19 January 2025, in Valencia

Expocamp in March 2025, in Avilés

B-Travel from 28 to 30 March 2025, in Barcelona

Sweden: Elmia from 10 to 14 September 2025, in Jönköping

Switzerland: FESPO from 30 January to 2 February 2025, in Zürich

Suisse Caravan Salon in October 2025, in Berne

Turkey: Kamptalya Outdoor ve Motordrom from 12 to 16 February 2025, in Antalya

USA: Boston RV & Camping Expo from 17 to 20 January 2025

F.I.C.C Secretariat

rue Belliard 20, bte 15 B-1040 Brussels/Belgium Tel: 00.32 2 513.87 82 Fax : 00.32 2 513 87 83

Email : info@ficc.org Website : www.ficc.org