NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER - 2025

WWW.FICC.ORG

74TH F.I.C.C. YOUTH RALLY at

Medina-Sidonia, Cadiz – Andalusia/Spain

From 1 to 6 April 2026

Organisation: Federación Española de Clubes Campistas | Clube Aire Libre Cádiz

Detailed information soon

96th INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY

Dates: 26 June to 5 July 2026

Venue: Karpfham-Bad Griesbach/Southern Germany

Organised by Deutscher Camping Club e.V.

Full information and booking forms

www.ficcrallye-2026.com

2018 at Paaren/Germany

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

Dates: 25 September to 4 October 2026 in Guizhou

Organised by CRVC

Some of the choosen excursion destinations

Xijiang Thousand Household Miao Village

Zhenyuan Ancient Town – A 2000 year old riverside town blending Han and minority architectural styles

Huangguoshu Waterfall – Asia's largest waterfall, offering breathtaking cascades and karst landscapes

Fanjing Mountain Mushroom Stone – A UNESCO World Heritage Site, featuring unique rocki formations and Buddhist culture

98th INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY 2027

IN NITRA/SLOVAKIA

Organised by Slovenska Asociacia Campingu a Caravaningu

from 26 June to 5 July

Information from www.ficcrally2027.sk

Camping/Caravanning/Motorcaravanning

The Bulli campervan (Volkswagen) T1 is 75 years old. It began its life as an in-factory panel transporter at the VW Beetle assembly plant and towards the end of 1949 the first prototype of a standard model was unveiled to the general public. The "Bulli" was improved on and evolved into the Bulli campervan that was used, and still is used, for camping holidays. There are many oldtimers

around to this day dating back to 1954 and now and again, owners of these iconic campervans organise get-togethers in various countries.

Illustration: Internet.

Dog-friendly campsites exist for people wanting to travel with their dog (and that includes just about all dog-owners) and dog-friendly is the be-all and end-all for them when choosing where to book.

When looking for a suitable campsite, one should make sure that dog showers, swimming in the sea, a river or lake, dog waste bags and a waste disposal site, putting up a fence round one's pitch and above all, exercise and walking possibilities are all available.

Wild camping – is it OK?

In most countries wild camping is forbidden or at least very restricted although there are some legal exceptions such as the "right of public access" in Scandinavia (Sweden, Norway, Finland) or bivouacing in the Alpes, that is generally allowed above the tree line if you arrive late and depart early. Some local authorities do tolerate it here and there (i.e. in France or Scotland but even here only tents are allowed).

Important: Always check local regulations and bi-laws (e.g. national parks, dunes or coastal regions).

And "leave nothing behind you", respect nature and be friendly towards farmers, forest rangers and local people, always asking for permission. Then more often than not they will spontaneously say yes and allow you to stay on their land.

2024 was another record year for German campsites with exactly 42,861,907 overnight stays registered, 1.4% up on 2023.

Source: Camping, Cars & Caravans

Netherlands: Bookings on campsites in 2024 were up by 39% on 2024.

Source: NKC/NL

Campers too can protect the environment in everyday life

- Use jute bags or folding cartons rather than plastic or paper bags when shopping
- Recycle bags as rubbish bags
- Take your own coffee mug when buying "coffee to go"
- Use refillable water bottles rather than plastic bottles and refill them from the tap
- Look for a shady pitch to avoid having to run the air conditioning at full speed and thus use less electricity
- Foot off the accelerator: travelling slowly saves fuel (as does correct tyre pressure and a lighter vehicle – e.g. less luggage and minimal water in the water tank)
- Be minimalistic: on holiday you tend to spend more freely and make ill-considered purchases – and your newly acquired "stuff" is never used at home or may even end up in the rubbish. Much better to think beforehand: Do I really need this? Quite often the answer is: No!

Source: Camping, Cars & Caravans

Practical tips – useful for campers too

Make sure you use **sunscreen** on your skin even in September/October.

- You should apply sunscreen even in the shade because water, sun and sand reflect UV rays.
- Always choose a high sun protection factor.
- Re-apply sun cream frequently and generously – it cannot give protection for the whole day.
- Sunburn can damage your skin which leads to skin cancer. Dermatologists recommend using protection factor 50.
- Sunglasses protect the eyes and should provide at least UV 400 protection.

When **airing your caravan/motorcaravan** (best way is to create a through draught), don't forget to open your cupboards which can harbour damp and stuffy heat.

MISCELLANEOUS

Traffic

Ruta 40 Argentina: The most beautiful route in South America

With a length of 5,224 km, Ruta 40 runs northwards from the Atlantic coast in the „Tango land „ along the Andes to La Quiaca in the north on the border with Bolivia. Originally, Ruta 40 Argentina served as a link between a few sparsely populated towns in the strategically important border area with Chile. Today, it is a popular travel route, known worldwide for its beauty. Along this route, travellers discover some of Argentina's most breathtaking sights, mystical cultural sites such as Ruta de los Siete Lagos, national parks, local restaurants and impressive landscapes such as the Perito Morena Glacier.

Source: Freie Fahrt (Arbö/CCA/AT)

New traffic regulations in 2026

The most important traffic regulations for 2026 are: **In Belgium**, a new, comprehensive traffic licensing law will come into force on 1 September 2026, replacing the old road traffic regulations and officially regulating the Reddingsstrook for motorcycles in traffic jams, as well as introducing a seat belt requirement for all passengers. **In Spain**, the warning triangle on motorways will be replaced by an electronic warning light (V16) from 2026. **In Switzerland**, there will be a new motor vehicle tax from 2026, with passenger vehicles taxed according to weight. **In Germany**, new car models will be required to comply with the second stage of the Euro 6e standard from 1 January 2026.

For more information, please contact your automobile club.

Health

Japanese interval walking is all the rage now but it is not so much the number of steps one takes as the intensity of the movement. You accelerate the pace for three minutes and then relax the intensity for three minutes. One should keep on interval walking for at least half an hour.

The **tiger mosquito** is on the rise thanks to climate change. It is already widespread in Italy and is forging its way further north. The insect's bite is dangerous and transmits a whole host of exotic viruses such as dengue fever, zika or chikungunya.

Chemical mosquito sprays offer some protection against bites but it is essential to avoid accumulating water in your garden that offers tiger mosquitos an ideal breeding ground.

Putting your feet up not only relaxes your legs but improves the bloodflow to your heart and therefore reduces heart problems.

Curious facts/Environment/Culture

The longest road in the world is**: Carretera Panamericana (from Alaska to Argentina).**

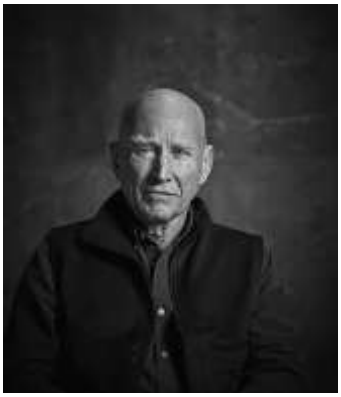
It runs through 17 countries, crosses four climate zones, passes through six time zones covering 30,000 km making it the longest road in the world. It links the icy world of Alaska with the sunny south of Argentina. This gigantic dream originated in the 1920s but it was only thanks to the Panamerican Convention in 1936 that it became reality.

Source : Freie Fahrt (Arbö/AT)

In many cultures, pigs are a symbol of usefulness, wealth and money which is why, about 800 years ago, the Chinese started producing hollow ornamental pigs with a slit for coins. The first **piggy banks** appeared in Europe in the Middle Ages and can still be found everywhere today.

The smallest horse in the world, **the falabella**, was first bred 100 years ago in Buenos Aires/Argentina. It is smaller than many dogs and is mainly seen in a zoo or circus.

EXPO AMAZONIA, an exceptional exhibition is taking place in **Brussels (Tour et Taxis)** until 3 November 2025. Exhibits include over 200 of Sebastio Salgado's photographs, a talented Brazilian photographer who died in May 2025.



Background music includes sound effects of Amazonia, rustling trees, animal calls, twittering birds, rushing waterfalls and an original Jean-Michel Jarre soundtrack, a 77 year-old French composer, singer and record producer specialising in electronic music.

In Sweden, the new Nämdöskärgarden Marine National Park was inaugurated on 5 September 2025.

It is located in the Baltic Sea and is now Sweden's first marine national park on the east coast. The park covers 25,000 hectares and consists of 97% water. Situated about one hour southeast of Stockholm, it has over 1,000 islands, rocks and skerries, which together form one of the largest contiguous archipelago landscapes in the Baltic Sea.

Source: Fritidsmagasinet (Caravan Club of Sweden/SE)

In Manchestr/Great-Britain artist Marina Abramovic shows interesting performances with dancers, musicians and singers. The presentations of Balkan Erotic Epic take place from 9 to 19 October in Social & Warehouse.

Saying of the month

The best thing

About telling the truth

Is that you don't have

To remember what

You said

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

F.I.C.C. has granted its patronage to Polski Zwiazek Motorowy/Poland for the club's Camping/Caravanning Rally held in conjunction with the Caravan Salon (2 to 5 October 2025) in Poznan.

Camping Club Austria (Freie Fahrt/Arbö) informs us that the former Wien West campsite has now been renamed "Micampa Wienerwald", following a costly make-over and has set itself new standards in terms of sustainability, comfort and service.

CCA – Camping und Caravaning Club Austria (AT) will once again be represented at Caravan Salon Austria from 15 to 19 October in Wels. The CCA team will be on hand to provide information about club trips, member benefits and current promotions.

A happy reunion between F.I.C.C. President Joao Alves Pereira and Jidong Wang, President of 21RV/China, at the Caravan Messe in Düsseldorf.

We welcome our new F.I.C.C. member the Camping Association of Montenegro

Kamping Asocijacija Crne Gore

EXHIBITIONS

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

Belgium: Busworld Europe, 4 to 9 October 2025, in Brussels

Mobicar returns in 2026

Finland: Caravan Finland 2025, 25 to 28 September, in Lahti

Caravan Fair, 16 to 18 January 2026, in Helsinki

France: Salon des véhicules de loisirs, 27 September to 5 October 2025, Le Bourget/Paris

Germany: Caravan Salon, 29 August to 7 September 2025, in Düsseldorf

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

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

Touristik & Caravaning, 19 to 23 November 2025, in Leipzig

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

CMT 17 to 25 January 2026, in Stuttgart

Messe Essen 26 February to 1 March 2026, in Essen

Reisen & Caravaning, 5 to 8 February 2026, in Hamburg

Great Britain: The Motorhome & Caravan Show, 14 to 19 October 2025, in Birmingham

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

Netherlands: Kampeer & Caravan Jaarbeurs, 1 to 6 October 2025, in Utrecht

Spain: Cultourfair, 28 to 30 September 2025, in Seville

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

Switzerland: Suisse Caravan Salon in October 2025, in Bern

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