NEWSLETTER

AUGUST - 2026

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

that should have taken place from 17 to 26 September in Guizhou-Province

has unfortunately had to be cancelled by the organiser CRVC and will now be held from 30 April to 9 May 2027 at a venue to be announced.

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 imparted by the SACC President Jaroslav Misura at the Ordinary F.I.C.C. General Assembly 2026 is given below.

“Today, the historical city of Nitra is the fifth largest city in Slovakia and the rally venue is the nearby 220 hectare AGRO-complex, an exhibition site with sport and leisure facilities along with a well-equipped congress centre. The complex is not far from the city centre and a large shopping centre. There is also a good selection of hotels for hotel campers.

Rally liaison officer Emanuele Paolicelli and F.I.C.C. President Pereira carried out a site inspection in February.

Mr. Misura went on to explain that Slovakia is a country that boasts over 750 palaces, castles and manor houses and at least 100 sightseeing possibilities including a number of classified UNESCO World Heritage sites.

The following excursions are being planned for rally participants who want to explore some of the country‘s natural and cultural treasures:

Around the historic town of Komárno, situated at the confluence of the Danube and Vah rivers.

To mediaeval Banská Štiavnica, a former free royal town in the mountains of central Slovakia known for its special multicultural history.

There will also be a trip to Trnava, the oldest royal city with a long history, also known as “Little Rome“ on account of its many churches.

Finally there will be a visit to Bratislava, the capital of Slovakia, at the confluence of the Danube and Morava rivers, with its own rich history waiting to be discovered.

Pre and post-rallies are also planned, details of which are on the website www.ficcrally2027.sk“

99th INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY 2028

23 June to 2 July in the Veneto Region (Venice), i.e. in north-east Italy.

Organisers are Federcampeggio, ACTItalia and UCA

The rally venue ERACLEA is within easy reach of international airports, railway stations, ports and motorways.

The whole area is famous for its breathtaking natural beauty and, in addition to UNESCO World Heritage Sites, offers a host of other cultural and historical places of interest. It is also internationally renowned for its gastronomy and hospitality.

Moreover, the Venice region has recently gained experience of hosting international events such as the Winter Olympics and Para-olympics 2026 in Milan-Cortina.

This rally will foster friendship, cultural exchanges and international cooperation among rally-goers in the modern barrier-free venue of Eraclea.

Camping/Caravanning/Motorcaravanning

The **Firm Bürstner/Germany** has announced that it will stop designing and producing new caravans from 2027. Bürstner will be concentrating solely on the manufacture of motorcaravans and camper vans.

CamperStopsBelgium

Camping tourism has been steadily growing year by year and has turned into a very popular type of holiday. CamperStops Belgium is playing an increasingly important role as a trusted source of information on good quality, accessible campsites in the country. The platform doesn't rely solely on practical information but on people's experiences. Today's campers are looking for peace and quiet, authenticity and a connection with the environment.

CamperStop Belgium takes great care over its choice of sites and, instead of relying on huge data banks, it concentrates on quality and detailed descriptions of location, atmosphere and activities on offer so that users have access to the sort of information they are looking for. The platform also gives information about lesser known places thereby opening up opportunities for local businesses. CamperStop Belgium is also making an effort to boost campers' awareness regarding responsible camping by producing clear guidelines.

Source: VKT/VKCF/BE

The caravan of the future is called Skydream. It is 8,100 mm long, 2,300 mm wide, 2,836 mm high and weighs 2,900 kg. It charges up during travel or when you camp so there is less need for fuel or a generator. Hitching up, positioning and unhitching are fully automatic, obviously using voice control or with the app on your phone or ipad which also operates lighting, temperature, radio, TV/home cinema, robot vacuum cleaner etc.

The Skydream is fully electric and uses 1100-2200 watt solar panels and a 30-85 kwh battery pack. This caravan needs a very powerful towing vehicle. It is currently only on sale in America. It will be marketed in Europe in due course.

Source: De Caravan (NCC/NL)

This year the **camper federation WOHNmobil e.V**. Germany has planted 1,450 new trees in Lower Saxony and Hessen. The federation has been in existence for seven years and is very focused on nature conservation and climate protection.

All in Caravanning 2026, the best known caravan and motorcaravan trade fair in China, is held annually in Beijing. It is the central platform of the Chinese sector and takes the lead with new interactive formats setting standards for both trade visitors and the caravanning community as a whole. As a subsidiary of the Düsseldorf Caravan Salon, the biggest fair for caravans, motorcaravans and accessories so far, AIC has established its place as the relevant meeting point for the camping and caravanning sector in China in recent years. This trade fair attracts many leading international manufacturers.

An independent themed area, the "Outdoor Life Culture Festival" that reflects the multi-faceted nature of the mobile lifestyle is held during the fair.

Source: Camping DCC/DE

Practical tips for campers too

Wasps buzzing around generally or at the meal table are a nuisance. Hang a decoy wasps nest (mail order firm) in a nearby tree and the wasps disappear immediately. Alternatively lightly crumpled-up brown paper bags can help (no guarantee provided!)

MISCELLANEOUS

Traffic

Croatia is modernising its toll system and is introducing a digital solution this autumn. In future, passenger cars will be able to choose between automatic numberplate recognition and an electronic device. This means shorter queues and no need for ready cash at toll gates.

In Slovenia driving has become easier: tolls on the H5 motorway have been abolished since the beginning of 2026, in common with the vignette-free H6. But tolls still apply to heavy vehicles.

Greece: In built/up areas and narrow city streets the speed limit is 30kph even in the absence of speed limit road signs. There is always a 50kph speed limit on main roads. Using a mobile phone or drinking and driving will result in a very heavy fine, just like in **Italy.**

It has already been reported that the warning triangle has been replaced by the V/16 flashing light warning device. This rule applies to all vehicles registered in **Spain** as well as to hire vehicles.

Source: Freie Fahrt (Arbö /AT)

Health

Protection against sun will still be in the forefront of our minds over the next few months: one should apply high factor sun cream 30 minutes before going out or sunbathing on a beach so that the skin has a chance to absorb an even protective layer. Re-apply suncream every two or three hours.

Dermatologists recommend using sunscreen factor 50!

When there is an **emergency** every second counts but often first responders are afraid they might do more harm than good. Modern aids can now provide support. If you come across a person who is unconscious, you should summon help by calling the emergency number 112. Then gently tilt the

person's head and check breathing. If you feel no breath or movement, begin heart massage (CPR cardiopulmonary resuscitation). If available, use a defibrillator (AED), recognisable by a heart symbol on a green background. In the box you will find two cables with electrodes attached to white sticky pads and these give a controlled electric shock. If a person's heart stops beating, they have to be attached to the patient's bare skin. An in-built speaking device gives instructions on how to proceed.

There is also the "Heartbeat Revival" box invented by Nicole Oude (20€) that fits into a trousers pocket (ideal for campers, walkers and other people on the move) and which is activated by a single

slide switch. Audio instructions explain the most important steps for cardiac resuscitation. Instructions for using this device are currently only in German, the language of the country of manufacture. As ever, a first aid course run by the Red Cross for example is a really good idea and certainly has saved/will save innumerable lives.

Curious facts/environment/culture

In 1909, the Swedish-American mechanical engineer Gidon Sundback developed the first prototypes of the **zip fastener** so successfully that they became common in everyday use and could be used on all textiles and even leather. He filed his patent in Germany under the heading "Fastening for all manner of clothing".

Which is the best paid job? According to the online platform "Kununu", a company for the anonymous review of corporate culture, salaries and benefits, with partnerships in many countries - top earners in Germany at least are accounting auditors, followed by pilots, doctors (depending on their speciality) and lawyers.

Cyril Lancelin, a well-known French artist, has set up his work "Mille Miroirs" (thousand mirrors) in Wertheim Outlet Village in Frankfurt/DE. Art and shopping – why not!

The exhibition closes at the end of September 2026.

Until 3 January 2027, the **TATE Museum in London** has a wonderful exhibition of works by **Frida Kahlo,** a Mexican artist (1907-1954) who only became famous after her death and who inspired many a contemporary painter with her work.

Saying of the Month

The three phases of life:

Youth: you have time and energy

But no money

Adulthood: you have money and energy

But no time

Old age: you have money and time

But no energy

Moral: Enjoy what you have because you won't ever have everything at the same time!

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

F.I.C.C. has granted its patronage to the Caravan Salon (16 to 18 October 2026) and the Rally that is taking place simultaneously in Poznań/Poland. F.I.C.C. member Polski Zwiazek Motorowy is the co-organiser involved.

This Salon is one of the most important events for the caravanning industry in central and eastern Europe and brings together manufacturers, dealers, and representatives of various industrial sectors as well as thousands of caravanners and mobile tourism enthusiasts. It promotes caravanning generally and constitutes a platform publicising innovative ideas and solutions for travellers and their active lifestyle.

ISTO is celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Montreal Declaration in Montreal/Canada on 29 and 30 October 2026 with the theme “Towards a humanist, social vision of tourism“.

The programme includes a day of reflection, case studies, an exchange of best practices, visits to local sites in the company of members of networks in Quebec as well as participation in the the International Travel and Tourism Fair (SITV).

Discussions and celebrations will continue in Bologna/Italy on 26 and 27 November. The programme includes an event at Bologna University regarding the Montreal Declaration on 26 November, followed by a day of meetings, networking and exchange of experiences between organisations and professionals in the context of “AITR Incontra“ at DumBO on 27 November.

WORLD CAMPING DAY

This year, the Caravan Club of Southern Africa, that is interested in becoming a member of F.I.C.C., celebrated World Camping Day in its various regions and its magazine carried an article on the origin and importance of this special day.

South Africa

World Camping day 29 June 2026

EXHIBITIONS

Austria: Caravan Salon Austria, 14 - 18 October 2026 in Wels

Belgium: Mobicar, 1 - 4 October 2026 in Brussels

Czech Republic: Caravaning, November 2026 in Brno

Denmark: Autocamper Show, October in Fredericia

Finland: Caravan, 24 - 27 September 2026 in Lahti

France : Salon des véhicules de loisir, 26 September - 4 October 2026

Germany: Caravan Salon, 28 August - 6 September 2026, in Düsseldorf

Caravan Live, 1 - 4 October in Freiburg

Caravan Bremen, 6 - 8 November 2026 in Bremen

Touristik & Caravaning, November 2026 in Leipzig

Great Britain: The Western Motorhome & Campervan Show, 21 - 23 August 2026 in Malvern

Motorhome & Caravan Show, 13 - 18 October 2026 in Birmingham

Italy: Salone del Camper, 12 - 20 September 2026 in Parma

Netherlands: Kampeer & Caravan Jaarbeurs, 30 September – 4 October 2026 in Utrecht

New Zealand: Motorhome, Caravan & Leisure, 18 - 20 September 2026 in Hamilton

Poland: Caravan Salon, 16 - 18 October 2026 in Poznań

Spain: Salon Internacional del Caravaning, October 2027 in Barcelona

Sweden: Elmia Husvagn Husbil, 9 - 13 September 2026 in Jönköping

Switzerland: Caravan Salon, 22 - 25 October 2026 in Bern

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