



**89th INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY
from 28 SEPTEMBER to 6 OCTOBER 2019
in Ten-ei Village (Fukushima Prefecture)/Japan**

Rally Commission visit to Ten-ei Village, Fukushima Prefecture, Japan

A site visit to Ten-ei Village, Iwase-Gun, Fukushima Prefecture, Japan, was carried out by the Rally Commission on the 11th – 13th November 2017, in preparation for the 89th International F.I.C.C. Rally, which will take place from the 28th September to the 6th October, 2019, subject to General Assembly approval.

For most international visitors to Japan, access to the site will be to fly into either Hanada or Narita International Airports, transfer to Tokyo Uono or Keisei Railway stations, and take the Shinkansen (Bullet Train) to Shin-Shirakawa, which is a one hour twenty minute high speed ride, and then 30 minutes on a shuttle bus to Ten-ei Village. It is possible to drive from Tokyo on the Highway, but you should allow at least three hours for the 220km journey.



The centre of the rally venue is the Hatoriko Lake Highland Communication Centre which has all necessary facilities and enough space for gathering for the opening and closing ceremonies. There is a large grassed outdoor area, where a stage will be erected, and an indoor area that can accommodate 250 people. It will house the Rally reception, information and administration offices on the ground floor, as well as the F.I.C.C. Secretariat on an upper floor. During the visit, the Commission was also shown an indoor area, closer to Angel Forest, the size of two tennis courts, which is another possibility for evening entertainment and where bar facilities could be provided.

There are two auto-camping grounds which are available for rally participants. One of them is called Angel Forest Nasu-Shirakawa, approximately 1.5 km north of Communication Centre, which has 77 camping pitches, 50 modern dome-shaped cottages for 2/4 persons, 50 wooden cottages for 4/8 persons, an Italian restaurant seating 250, a shop, swimming pool, tennis courts, lake for lure and fly fishing and two types of Onsen (hot springs). It is intended that all international visitors will stay here and they will have access to all the facilities of the site.

The other rally sites are also located within a radius of about 1.5 kilometers from the Hatoriko Lake Highland Communication Centre. They will be connected by a shuttle bus, but campers can comfortably walk the short distance. They can also rent a mountain bike to explore the surroundings.

Next to the Centre is the Michi-no-Eki (Roadside Station) "Hatoriko Lake Highland" which stocks special products produced in Ten-ei Village and some perishable foods are available. A sanitary block, open at all times, is available. One part of the large car park can be used for approximately 30 motor caravans.

To the north of the Communication Centre, a car park area can be used for approximately 50 motor caravans, although drinking water and a sanitary block will have to be installed.

Approximately 1.3km north of the Communication Centre is Hatoriko Lakeside Auto Camping Ground, with space for 45 tents, 12 bungalows and 3 cottages.

There are 10 locations for bed & breakfast in the area, between 0.5km and 2.3km from the Communication Centre, with a total number of approximately 300 beds, where breakfast and dinner will be available.

An entertainment programme is currently being explored, but it will include:

- a variety of traditional cultural events, food and wine as well as friendship events.
- sightseeing bus tours of the Aizu area, Sendai area and Yamagata area.
- a special tour visiting Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant.
- opportunities for outdoor activities such as golf, tennis, trekking or fishing as well as Onsen.

Following the site visit, successful individual meetings were held with the Mayor of Ten-ei, the Director General, Planning and Coordination Department, Fukushima Prefectural Government, and finally the Governor of Fukushima, which is the third largest prefecture in Japan. The Great East Japan Earthquake resulted in the Tsunami which killed 2,157 people in Fukushima Prefecture alone, destroyed 15,224 homes and partially damaged over 80,000. The resulting damage to the Dai-ichi Nuclear Power Plant made world news, and in the last six and a half years much had been done to rebuild the infrastructure and reduce contamination from the power plant.

Norman Taylor

Chairman, Rally Commission.

21.11.2017

On a personal note, having worked at a Nuclear Power Station for over 20 years and being the Environmental Safety Engineer responsible for Environmental Monitoring, I was surprised by the reductions in air radiation doses that have been achieved, given the enormity of the task. Following the disaster in 2011, dose rates of $2.74\mu\text{Sieverts/hr}$ were recorded in Fukushima City, in August 2017 that was only $0.15\mu\text{ Sieverts/hr}$.

At the Rally site there is an installed radiation monitor which, at the time of the visit was showing just over 60nanoSieverts/hr or $0.06\mu\text{Sieverts/hr}$, which would be lower than the radiation in air dose rates for many European cities and areas. I was most probably exposed to more radiation on my flight to and from Japan than in the whole time that I was there.

During my visit, I wore a radiation monitoring device which has to be processed to obtain the results at the end of this month and once I have them I will pass them on. NT.

