



GOOD TO KNOW – JANUARY 2021

SAVE THE DATE



The second F.I.C.C. World Congress on Camping, Caravanning and Motorcaravanning will be held on 28 and 29 October 2021 in VERRIERES-LE-BUISSON/Paris – France

You can find the link to the Congress website under www.ficc.org and congress.ficc.org gives you all the information you need about the programme, booking arrangements, hotel details etc.

The website is updated regularly.

70th INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. YOUTH RALLY from 1 to 5 APRIL 2021 in COIMBRA/PORTUGAL



**90th INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY from 18 to 27 June 2021
in A GUARDA-Galicia/SPAIN**



Further information and booking form <http://www.rallyficc2021.com>

**NORDIC CAMPING RALLY 19 July to 23 July 2021 in
Rauhalhti (Kupio) FINLAND
under F.I.C.C. patronage**



There has been a change of date for this rally to give Scandinavian campers the chance to attend the 90th International F.I.C.C. rally in A Guarda/Spain.
Further information under <https://nordicrally.fi/en/the-nordic-rally>



F.I.C.C. ASIA-PACIFIC RALLY from 15 to 19 OCTOBER 2021 in Robot Land Park, Changwon City/South Korea



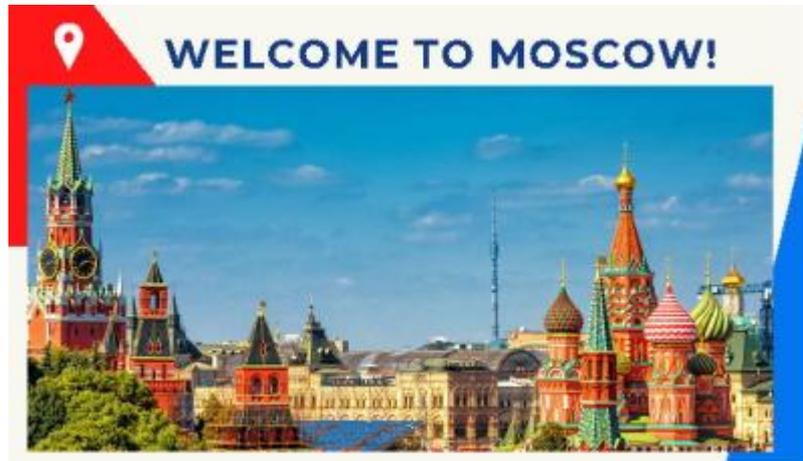
The rally venue, Masan Changwon Robot Land in Changwon, Gyeongsangnam-do, is situated on the south-east coast of the South Korean peninsula about 62 km from Gimhae International airport and 410 km from Incheon International airport.

Asia-Pacific rallies are organised by the F.I.C.C. Asia-Pacific Commission, the members of which are drawn from China, Japan, South Korea and Taiwan.

The organisers of these events are always happy to welcome campers from F.I.C.C.'s European member clubs.

91st INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY from 29 July to 07 August 2022 in MOSCOW/RUSSIA





The official website is www.ficcrally2022.com

92nd INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY 2022 from 18 to 27 September in CHINA



93rd INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY 2023 from 29 JULY to 7 AUGUST in KOZIENICE/POLAND





Official website:

English: <http://www.pfcc.eu/ang/files/gbfic23.pdf>

Deutsch: <http://www.pfcc.eu/niem/files/gbfic23.pdf>

Français: <http://www.pfcc.eu/franc/files/gbfic23.pdf>

Camping/Caravanning/Motorcaravanning/Tourism

The German Design Award 2021 has gone to Bürstner Home Light. This innovative and versatile light already received an award last year and the jury chose it again this year thanks to its many and varied uses.

Winter tyres – from O to O is the general rule

It is not a good idea to drive on summer tyres during the winter months. On the one hand there is the safety issue when driving and on the other hand your insurance company is not obliged to pay up in the event of an accident.

The generally accepted rule of thumb “Winter tyres from O to O (October to Ostern i.e. Easter) is not actually prescribed by law, but vehicles everywhere must always be both roadworthy and in a condition to operate safely on the open road so that they do not end up causing an obstruction or are a danger to anyone. So that would suggest that winter tyres are in fact a legal requirement at the very least when driving in slush, icy conditions and snow.

Anyone driving on summer tyres who causes a serious traffic hold-up or damage to the bodywork of a vehicle not only risks a fine but a disclaimer on the part of the insurance company.

As soon as the temperature falls below 8°C, it is advisable to change to winter tyres even if there is no snow on the immediate horizon.

The composition of summer and winter tyres is different. The rubber mixture of summer tyres hardens and stiffens when the temperature cools down which impairs their roadholding qualities. In wintry road conditions the tread profile on summer tyres compresses the snow resulting in a slippery and dangerous driving surface.

The deeper tread on winter tyres on the other hand is dynamic and picks up snow and slush giving better adhesion to the road surface.

Winter tyres should be replaced every four to five years because the rubber mixture can also age which affects the grip.

And keep an eye on the depth of the tyre profile, checking that it is within the legal limit.

The braking distance on snow with winter tyres is approx. 28m, at 50 km/h.

The braking distance on snow with summer tyres is approx. 43m at 50 km/h i.e. 53% more.

Also important in winter: check your windscreen wipers and replace if need be. They are also made from rubber that hardens over time, especially in winter. Once you have filled up the windscreen washer bottle with water and anti-freeze, you will have the wherewithal to ensure good visibility at all times.

If your vehicle is covered with frost, make sure that you clear the windscreen and the side and rear windows before you drive off.

Source: ACS (CH)

Winter tyres are necessary therefore in snowy and icy conditions, black ice, heavy frost and slush.



Snow chains are mandatory in mountain regions as soon as road signs are put in place. Snow and ice must always be removed from headlights, the windscreen, all windows and number plates.

Winter awnings (porches) have to contend with very different conditions from ordinary camping awnings that are only used in summer

When buying an awning pay attention to the position of your caravan's entrance door, windows and service flaps. The vertical seal between the awning and caravan is of vital importance when it comes to protecting against the onslaught of wind and bad weather.

For a short trip away an inflatable airtent will do. But you will have problems with wet snow or a heavy fall of snow.

There is very limited choice when it comes to airtents that are suitable for winter camping. Most materials used in winter awnings are flexible even at -40°C. This is important too for roller blinds and tent fabric.

Winter awnings are made mainly from double-sided coated fabric or PVC. Disadvantage: this material cannot breathe. Warm, damp air, wet floors, rain and the presence of people all give rise to the formation of condensation in the tent, a phenomenon that is often mistakenly attributed to leaky seals. The build-up of droplets often occurs along seams because that is where water collects.

So if you want to buy a winter awning/airtent make sure you choose one with good ventilation. A dehumidifier can also help i.e. a receptacle with special granules that absorb damp, condensation and ambient musty smells.

Source: Camping, Cars & Caravans

The craziest **German residential campsite** is to be found outside the rooftops of Hamburg in the "Speicherstadt" or warehouse district. A hotel on Sandtorkai has made its terrace useful and accessible for guests by installing caravans for rent. They have become real designer items that are bookable for 65€ per night. There are comfortable bathroom facilities across the little courtyard but the disadvantage is that on a rainy day one can get rather wet crossing it – but that's camping for you!

Source: Camping, cars & Caravans

Netherlands: Motorhomes are used by some people as a workplace but of these only 27% are parked in front of their house, 41% are a drive away and 32% are over the border.

Source: NKC (NL)

Italy: Mrs. Ludovica Sanpaolesi became the new President of the Italian Federation of Caravan and Motorcaravan Manufacturers (APC) in September 2020.

Practical tips – for campers too

Rusty bicycles: To avoid rust forming on bicycles (spokes, chains, frame), smear with Vaseline that will repel water and dirt.

After the festivities: leftover biscuits or cookies that have become hard will soften up if you put them in a tin with a slice of apple.



CORONA-19 Repercussions on tourism worldwide

Tourism in 2020 suffered a loss of **over 70%** compared with 1990.

Data from the UNWTO (World Tourism Organisation) shows that tourism fell by 72% in the first ten months of 2020 due to travel restrictions, a drop in consumer confidence and the worldwide fight against COVID-19. This makes 2020 the worst year ever in the “history of tourism”.

According to UNWTO statistics, there were approx. 900 million fewer international tourists between January and October 2020 than in the same period in 2019. This means a loss of 935 billion US\$ in terms of export receipts from international tourism i.e. over ten times more than the loss recorded in 2009 at the time of the world economic crisis.

Despite the roll-out of vaccination programmes, it will be a long time before tourists are confident enough to start travelling again.

Tourism has been one of the sectors most badly affected by the pandemic.

Overall tourism could drop to the level of 30 years ago and record a total loss of US\$ 1.1 trillion in international receipts from the tourism sector and an economic loss of US\$ 2 trillion.

Despite some improvement in a few markets, spending on international tourism reflects the very weak demand for foreign travel.

It is only the big markets like the USA, Germany and France that have shown any hopeful signs of picking up in recent months.

Domestic tourism is continuing to grow in some markets, notably in China and Russia.

Consumer confidence will grow as vaccination programmes expand worldwide, so that soon – perhaps even by the middle of 2021 – one can anticipate an upturn and the green shoots of a recovery in the tourism sector. As far as international arrivals are concerned, a return to the heady days of 2019 could take between two and a half and four years.

Source: UNOMT (Extract)

MISCELLANEOUS

Traffic

From 1 January 2023 no old cars will be allowed on the road in Wallonia/Belgium

Initially, this only applies to motor vehicles Euro standard 0 or 1 that were built before 1996 that are now banned from driving in the low emission zone/environmental zone. But from 2024, Euro standard 2 motor vehicles will be banned and from 2025, vehicles that were built before 2005 will no longer be welcome. From 2026 onwards, the ban will apply to motor vehicles built before 2010 and from 2028 to diesel-powered vehicles Euro standard 5.

From 2030 motor vehicles Euro standard 6 will be banned in Wallonia. This ban however will not apply to vehicles that drive less than 3,000km per year, whatever their age and Euro standard. Special regulations will be introduced for vintage cars.

Source: NKC(NL)



The **very first traffic lights** were designed by John Peake Knight in 1868 and installed in London. This innovation consisted of a gas lantern with red and green lights but it exploded shortly after it was brought into operation. More than 50 years then elapsed before traffic in Great Britain was once more regulated by a signalling system.

Health

Brushes and combs can be cleaned very easily using shaving foam. Simply spray it on, leave for a few minutes then rinse in clear water. As good as new!!

The effects of alcohol are felt more quickly in an aeroplane not because of your blood alcohol level but because reduced cabin pressure means that less oxygen is released to the brain with the result that you feel light-headed or drunk more quickly than if you had consumed the same amount at ground level.

Curious facts and culture

When and where did the first **TV commercial** appear? In America in 1941 when the Bulova Watch company advertised its clocks and watches.

Who painted the most expensive painting? Leonardo da Vinci – the picture “Salvator Mundi” was sold to Saudi Arabia for 450 million US dollars.

Olafur Eliasson (born 1967) is a Danish-Icelandic artist who has built a 410m long alpine trail on the Grawand ridge of the Hochjochferner glacier in Schnaltal (South Tirol) that takes you through nine arches to a monument made of steel and glass. The object of the exercise is climate change awareness.

Environment/Science

The **deepest point on earth** is the Mariana trench that descends to 11,000 m below sea level in the Pacific. It was named after the Spanish queen Maria Anna of Austria.

Potted plants love camomile tea. Make a pot of camomile tea, leave to cool and pour over. The brew prevents rot and decay.

Female moles are intersexual. Nevertheless, according to latest research, they are easily identifiable: female moles build and maintain orderly burrows whereas male moles live in chaos.

Why don't polar bears feel the cold? They have a protective layer of dense curly hair that means their body retains heat. In addition their black skin absorbs heat from the sun's rays and a 10cm thick layer of fat provides added protection from the cold.

Denmark chose the Kattegat island of Endelave situated south of Horsens Fjord in Jutland as “**Island of the Year 2020/2021**“. It is only 13 sq.km. and is known for its famous 20km long “NaTour“ bike trail.

Source: DCC (D)



INTERESTING NEWS FROM F.I.C.C. AND F.I.C.C. MEMBERS

The **Deutscher Camping Club's Camping Prize 2020** went to Mr. Gerhard Reisch (+) for the market launch of Holiday Clean Dump Station. The DCC Prize is awarded for services to the world of camping.

DCC's Technical Award 2020 went to Outdoordeck's tecklift.

This is an electrically operated lift that raises and lowers bikes on to a bike rack fixed to the tail of your vehicle.

Nederlandse Caravan Club (NCC-NL): Mr. Wim LORJE was voted the Club's new President.

Magyar Camping es Caravaning Club (MCCC-Hungary) also has a new President: Mr. Laszlo PATAKI

Polska Federacja Campingu e Caravaningu (Poland), organiser of the International F.I.C.C. Rally in Poland (see above), saw its campsite in Ciechocinek awarded second place in the category "Best Campsite in Poland" in the 2020 contest.

This means that the campsite will hold the title of MISTER CAMPING 2020 for a year. Since the contest was started in 2016, this is the fifth time that one of the federation's campsites has received an award.

Camping Ciechocinek Nr. 17 is a 3-star campsite and is open all year round. It is only 2km from Exit 13 on the A1 highway.

Ciechocinek lies on the left bank of the Vistula river and is Poland's largest and therefore best known spa town located within the historic region of Kuyavia. It is 25 km from Torun (Nicolaus Copernicus City) and 37 km from Wloclawek.



EXHIBITIONS

Austria: Ferienmesse Vienna, 14 - 17 January 2021

Belgium: Salon des vacances from 4 to 7 February 2021, in Brussels

France : Salon Mondial du Tourisme 18 - 21 March 2021, in Paris

Germany: CMT in Stuttgart 20 – 31 January 2021

Caravans & Camping 21 – 24 January 2021, in Hannover

Reise + Camping 24 - 28 February 2021, in Essen

Freizeit, Touristik & Garten 3 - 7 March 2021, in Nürnberg

Great Britain: Caravan & Motorhome Show 14 – 17 January 2021, in Manchester

Caravan, Camping & Motorhome Show 20 - 28 February 2021, in Birmingham

Italy: Turismo & Outdoor 4 - 7 February 2021, in Parma

Netherlands: Caravana 21 – 26 January 2021, in Leeuwarden

Portugal: Nauticampo 20 - 24 February 2021, in Lisbon

Spain: FITUR 20 – 24 January 2021, in Madrid

Caravaning 4 - 7 February 2021, in Alicante

Sweden: Elmia Camping & Caravaning 8 - 12 September 2021, in Jönköping.

All dates are subject to change because of the corona virus pandemic and the continuing changing regulations in the various countries.

Take care and stay safe!

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