



GOOD TO KNOW – FEBRUARY 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

The organisers of the 70th International F.I.C.C. Youth Rally have informed us that this event is suspended due to the Corona Pandemic and therefore cannot take place next Easter.

Informations regarding a new date in 2021 or the cancellation of this camping rally will be provided shortly.

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



Message from the Rally Organisers

“Last summer a decision was taken to hold the 90th International F.I.C.C. Rally 2021 on the Santa Tecla Campsite in A Guarda (Pontevedra) from 18 to 27 June.

The Coordinating Team of the Spanish Camping Federation that was put in place to organise the event, set up the website www.rallyficc2021.com to supply all relevant information about the rally.

Campers who want to arrive a few days earlier or extend their stay on the campsite, may do so at a cost of 18€ per day between 10 June and 5 July. Campers should contact the campsite direct to make arrangements for their extension. Given all of the uncertainty at present surrounding the pandemic situation, current advice from the FECC Coordinating Team to F.I.C.C. clubs and federations is that they should only transfer booking fees after the Spanish local authorities have confirmed that the event can go ahead. If however some transfers have been made, then they will be refunded minus bank charges“.

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



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

19.-23.7.2021 FINLAND



NORDIC RALLY 2021

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**

Asia-Pacific rallies are organised by the F.I.C.C. Asia-Pacific Commission, comprising members 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**



SPORTS COMPLEX "LUZHNIKI" AND VDNH

Have convenient transport accessibility
as both by car and by public transport
from International Airports



**MOSCOW CENTRAL
DIAMETERS**

The largest transport project in Moscow and the Moscow region is the new ground metro, which combines the format of suburban trains and the metro in the capital



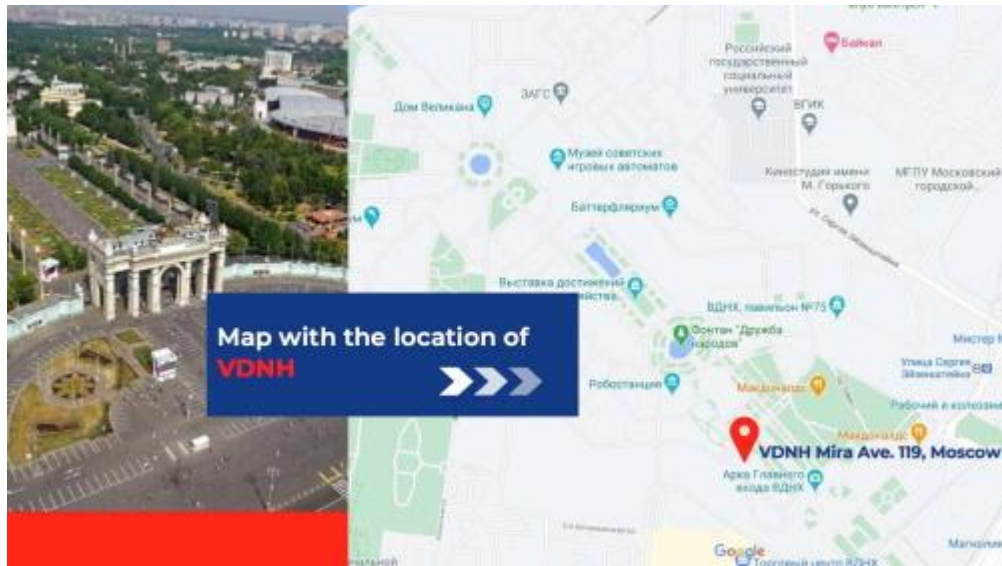
**MOSCOW ROPEWAY
ROAD**

It connects the two banks of the Moskva River



MOSCOW METRO

Largest transport hub in Moscow and Moscow region



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>

Perhaps it is a bit early, but when it comes to culinary matters it is never too early to start familiarising yourself with a country's typical food. **Pierogi** are traditional savoury Polish pasties that are filled with potatoes, cheese and bacon or with meat, mushrooms and cabbage.

There is also a sweet version filled with red fruit and berries.

You find Pierogi all over Poland and there are even dedicated Pierogi restaurants that have pasties with every imaginable filling on their menu.

Camping/Caravanning/Motorcaravanning/Tourism

Portugal: Since 1 January 2021, changes have been made to Portugal's road traffic legislation that also affect a regulation governing parking of, and overnight stops in **motorcaravans**. These may now only stop at designated sites. In other words, from now on, stopping in any parking areas is strictly forbidden unless it is expressly indicated that it is allowed.

This measure has been introduced because Portugal's rich cultural heritage makes it such a popular destination and there has been a huge influx of caravans and motorcaravans into the country in recent times.

In the event of non-compliance the authorities, police (GNR) and local councils, are now handing out hefty fines that can be anywhere between 200€ and 36,000€. So wild camping is very much a thing of the past in Portugal.

Europe's best campsite is in Germany

173,000 campers voted Kühlungborn Camping Park (Mecklenburg/Vorpommern) as the best campsite out of 23,000 campsites in 44 European countries.

Source: Camping Business



Useful tips and tricks for optimum maintenance and operation of your caravan chassis

- To avoid white rust forming and even to help eliminate it, wash all galvanised surfaces with clean water.
- If galvanised parts are affected by white rust, use a zinc cleaning product.
- Clean and grease moving parts in the trailer coupling locking mechanism, whatever the make.
- Friction linings of the mechanical stabilizing device should be dirt and dust-free, so clean off grease or paint dust resulting from abrasion on the trailer device.
- Also make sure that the overrun coupling and shock absorbers as well as the parking brake including the pneumatic spring are undamaged.
- Lubricate the overrun coupling device. Clean and oil the jockey wheel so that it moves freely.
- All links of the braking system must be free and lubricated. It is also important that the deflection element is rust-free.
- The brake linkage should not be slack. If it does sag, it is time to have your caravan serviced.
- Brake rods and Bowden cables must be free and not show signs of wear, damage, cracks, splits or corrosion.
- Clean off and lightly grease the connector pin on all four corner steadies on a regular basis.

Source: Camping, Cars & Caravans – to be continued

Practical tips – for campers too

Digital glossary

WLAN: Wireless Local Area Network is a network that allows appliances (cellphones, tablets etc.) to connect wirelessly. Also known as Wifi.

LTE: Long Term Evolution is a third generation mobile communications standard. A newer version is known as LTE-Advanced or 4G. It enables cellphones and tablets with integrated SIM cards access to the internet. LTE allows faster downloads and uploads than previous mobile communications standards.

5G: Is the fifth generation mobile communications standard and succeeds 4G and related technologies. It is based on the LTE standard. Increasingly widespread since 2019. The 5G standard allows even faster uploads and downloads than LTE.

SIM (Subscriber Identity Module) card: A small card containing an integrated circuit (chip) that stores data used in cell phones, tablets, hotspot etc. Used to identify and authenticate subscribers on all mobile devices.

Router: A network device that routes data from a LAN (local area network) to another network connection and connects directly to a modem by a cable. A router communicates with your home wifi network using built-in antennas. As a result, all of the devices on your home network (cell phones, tablets) can surf the internet.

MIMO antenna: Multiple Input Multiple Output. MIMO communication sends the same data as several signals simultaneously through multiple antennas utilising a single radio channel. Denotes an antenna that uses multiple transmitting and receiving elements resulting in much improved quality of reception. Powerful MIMO antennas get the internet via mobile telephony (LTE, 5G) or a local on board WLAN network.

Source: Camping, Cars & Caravans (D)



Annoying creases in shirts (despite careful packing) can be magic-ed away if you button up the top part of the shirt and stuff a cushion inside. Dab the crease(s) with a clean damp cloth and dry with a hairdryer on cold or a very low setting.

MISCELLANEOUS

Traffic

Austria raised its vignette prices on 1 December 2020.

There are 10-day, 2-month and annual vignettes. An annual vignette is valid for 14 months i.e. from 1 December of the previous year until 31 January of the following year.

The 2021 vignette is apple green.

Switzerland - new measures from 1 January 2021:

17 year-olds are entitled to apply for a **learner driver's licence** but they may not take the driving test until they are at least 18 years old.

Motorway service stations can serve and sell alcoholic drinks again for the first time since 1964.

Merging lanes: the "zip principle" is mandatory, i.e. when a motorway lane is closed, drivers in open traffic lanes must allow drivers from a closed lane to merge.

One may now **drive at 100km/h on Swiss motorways while towing a caravan that weighs no more than 3.5 tonnes** rather than at the former maximum speed of 80km/h.

The Sunday driving ban applicable to **veteran cars** has been lifted.

Children aged 12 and under are allowed to cycle on footpaths and pavements in the absence of dedicated cycle lanes or cycle tracks.

There is a new symbol for **electric vehicle charging stations**. Parking bays with charging stations will be painted green.

Denmark/Faroe Islands: On 19 December 2020, the Eysturoyartunnillin (tunnel) between the islands of Streymoy and Eysturoy was re-opened thereby linking the towns of Runavik and Strendur. This undersea tunnel is about 10kms long and comes complete with a roundabout, a sculpture, music and an interesting multicoloured light show.

Tourism has gained in popularity thanks to this newstyle tunnel connection between the islands.

Health

Dry heating air irritates one's **respiratory tract**. Regular ventilation (intensive short-term ventilation known as rush-airing is best) will regulate the air humidity in a room. One should also drink a lot because that helps prevent the mucus in the respiratory tract from drying out.

Researchers in Harvard Medical School (USA) and Toronto University (Canada) have demonstrated that antibody reaction following the dreaded **corona virus** infection is maintained for at least 90 days. They believe that patients are protected for at least three months before they are likely to be re-infected. Seven hundred volunteers took part in the study.

Cleaning your hands: the lingering smell of onions, garlic, fish etc on your hands can easily be rectified. Mix 2 tbs bicarbonate of soda in a little water until you have a smooth paste. Rub into your



hands and rinse off. Sodium bicarbonate neutralises the smell and leaves your skin wonderfully soft and smooth. A useful tip in these corona virus times when we are constantly disinfecting our hands.

Curious facts and culture

Brazil: Sao Paulo is home to the “Edificio Copan” where 5,000 tenants share a living area of 116,000 sq.m. This residential block is 140m high, has 32 floors and was built in 1966. 100 employees maintain the upkeep of this, the world’s biggest residential building.

Italy: In Naples the dell’Arte subway is worth a ride. It is 18km long (15 stops) and lined with fantastic art which makes it one of the biggest museums or art galleries in the world.

In Rome there are plans afoot to install a movable floor in the Colosseum. The original state of the edifice will be maintained but it can be used for theatre productions and concerts without impacting on its appearance in any way.

Norway: The new Edvard Munch Museum that will house the largest collection of the artist’s works is opening in Oslo in the spring this year.

Environment/Science

Squirrels scurry around searching for food in the autumn to see them through the long, cold winter months. Each one collects about 10,000 nuts and acorns and stashes them away in various caches out of sight of other creatures. What doesn’t get eaten germinates and becomes part of the forest.

The Nepalese and Chinese have remeasured **Mount Everest**, the Roof of the World, and found that it is precisely 8,848.86m. i.e. 86 centimetres higher than was previously thought.

From 3 July 2021, disposable plastic packaging will be banned throughout the EU.

On 4 December 2021, a rare event will take place in the Antarctic region (Weddell Sea area): a total solar eclipse. It will be visible everywhere in that part of the world.

Shield your cellphone from the cold: Low temperatures impair the performance of smart phones because the battery’s life reduces quickly when the temperature falls below 10°C. If it gets even colder the screen sometimes disappears. It is best to use a headset to phone and to keep your cellphone next to your body or else use a protective cover made of neoprene.

TRADE FAIRS & EXHIBITIONS

Belgium: Belgium Travel Expo on 1 March 2021, in Nivelles

Finland: “Caravan” Fair from 21 to 23.01.2022, in Helsinki

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

Salon des véhicules de loisirs from 25 September to 3 October 2021, in Paris-Le Bourget

SETT from 2 to 4 November 2021, in Montpellier

Germany: Reise + Camping 24 - 28 February 2021, in Essen

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

Caravan Salon from 27 August to 5 September 2021, in Düsseldorf

Caravan Bremen from 6 to 8 November 2021, in Bremen



Touristik & Caravaning from 18 to 22 November 2021, in Leipzig

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

Italy: Il Salone del Camper from 11 to 19 September 2021, in Parma

Netherlands: Vakantiebeurs from 8 to 11 April, in Utrecht

Kampeer en Caravan Jaarbeurs from 6 to 10 October 2021, in Utrecht

Portugal: Nauticampo 20 - 24 February 2021, in Lisbon

Spain: Caravaning y Camper del Levante from 6 to 9 May, in Torre Pacheco, Murcia

FITUR from 19 to 23 May, in Madrid

Salon Internacional del Caravaning from 8 to 12 September 2021, in Barcelona

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

Switzerland: Suisse Caravan Salon from 28 October to 1 November 2021, in Bern

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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