



GOOD TO KNOW – APRIL 2021



Camping with FICC



is a YouTube channel to communicate not only with F.I.C.C. members, but also with all campers in the world, explaining or reminding them of the best camping practices before and also during their trip, so that everyone can enjoy this type of open-air tourism to the maximum.

Travelling, discovering the wide world, waking up in a different place every morning... whether alone or with several people, a trip in a motor caravan (camper) is always an adventure.

To ensure that this adventure does not end in disaster, here are the "10



practices to follow or advice to give before departure, recommended by F.I.C.C. (a film realised by the F.I.C.C. Motorcaravan Commission),

- 5/04 - Best Practice #1: Excellent driver?
- 8/04 - Best Practices #2: Aware of the functionality of all amenities?
- 10/04 - Best Practices #3: Loading correctly is important!
- 13/04 - Best Practices #4: Comfortable with the basic maintenance?
- 15/04 - Best Practices #5: Did you plan your trip well?
- 18/04 - Best Practices #6: Do you have breakdown cover?
- 20/04 - Best Practices #7: Everything you need on board in case of a problem?
- 23/04 - Best Practices #8: Do you have everything, really everything?
- 25/04 - Best Practices #9: Heard about the Camping Card International?
- 28/04 - Best Practices #10: Need help?
- 30/04 - Full video

Need help? Please contact your local club!

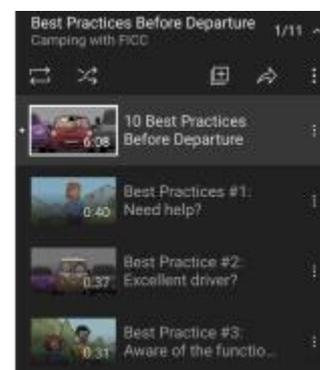
“Camping with FICC” is published. To access please use the link below:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIDBeAqa72QIJ96q-CPrp-Q>

To find your local club visit ficc.org.

The F.I.C.C. wishes you a wonderful journey!

A short film directed by the





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.



**90th INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY from 03 to 12 SEPTEMBER 2021
in A GUARDA-Galicia/SPAIN**



It is with great regret that the Federacion Espanola de Clubes Campistas (FECC) and the Organising Committee – in conjunction with F.I.C.C. – have cancelled the international F.I.C.C. Rally to be held from 18 to 27 June 2021 in A Guarda. The worldwide COVID pandemic has not abated, various travel restrictions are still in place and it is almost certain that people will not be allowed to gather in large groups for the next few months.

So it has been decided to postpone the rally until early autumn 2021 in the hope that populations worldwide will build up herd immunity following their countries' vaccination programmes thereby allowing people to move around freely and safely and travel further afield.

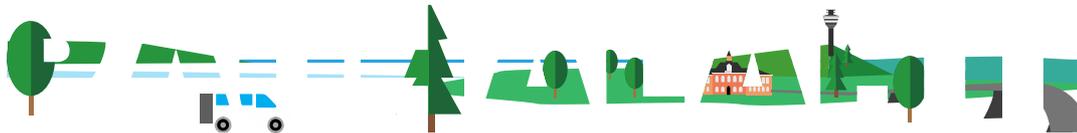
Further information and booking form <http://www.rallyficc2021.com>



NORDIC CAMPING RALLY 19 to 23 July 2021

in Rauhalampi (Kupio) FINLAND
under F.I.C.C. patronage

19.-23.7.2021 KUOPIO, FINLAND



NORDIC RALLY 2021

There has been a change of date for this rally, a decision originally made so that Scandinavian campers could 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. ASIAN PACIFIC RALLY from 8 to 12 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 member clubs in Europe.

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



THE 91ST F.I.C.C. RALLY IN RUSSIA
MOSCOW 29 JUL. – 7 AUG. 2022



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

Netherlands: Caravan/motorcaravan sales broke all records in 2020 with 2,450 new registrations. Sales increased by 17% compared with 2019. The most popular brand was Adria, followed by Hymer.



There are altogether 142,000 caravans/motorcaravans registered in the Netherlands, 137,000 being privately-owned. The remainder are waiting to be rented or sold.

Source: NKC (NL)

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

Heating

- ° Remove any dust from the heat exchanger, base plate and fan wheel of the heating system.
- ° Clean the fan wheel with a paintbrush or any other small brush.
- ° Decalcify the hot water tank regularly i.e. at least twice a year.
- ° Use suitable standard disinfectant, cleaning and maintenance products available at camping shops and outlets – avoid products containing chlorine.
- ° For Combi heaters, in addition to using the chemical method for eliminating micro-organisms in the appliance, it is worthwhile regularly heating up the water to 70°C.
- ° The safety outlet valve, often called frost control, should be operated regularly, at least twice a year, in order to eliminate limescale and to make sure there is no blockage.
- ° Check the state of the heating liquid in the water heating system's expansion tank every six months.
- ° Change the glycol mixture in the water heating system every two years because with time it loses its anti-corrosion and other properties.
- ° Check the bends or kinks in warm air pipes.
- ° If a wall chimney is installed under a window, check that it works properly.

Kitchen

- ° Regularly drain and clean the back of the fridge not forgetting to clean the ventilation grille.
- ° Check that the temperature sensor plug above the lamella evaporator inside the fridge is properly in place.
- ° Coat the rubber sealant on the fridge door with talcum powder once a year and check for tears in the expansion fold.
- ° Clean the filter on the extractor hood occasionally to eliminate greasy deposits. Use hot water and a little detergent.
- ° Use vinegar water to descale the shower head and tap filters but only if they are made of metal.
- ° Check ignition safety devices on all gas appliances – once the flame has gone out, the gas supply should cut out automatically after 60 seconds maximum.
- ° Make sure that the ignition safety sensor is properly adjusted. N.B. Do not move it! The tip of the sensor should be 5 mm from the burner. The sensor neck should not be more than 3 mm from the flame crowns.
- ° Clean gas stoves with a damp cloth. Make sure no water gets inside.
- ° Use either a standard household product or a special stainless steel cleaner for the sink.
- ° Check that push locks and lock catches are secure.

Water supply

- ° Rinse the drinking water tank out regularly with clean water.
- ° Clean the tank's sealing surface and lubricate with vaseline. Treat the tube gently when replacing it again.
- ° Clean out the water system regularly with a mixture of water and disinfectant.



- Clean out the waste water tank and check that the waste pipe is clear and leakproof.
- Check out the mains water supply – if available.
- Check that the plumbing fixtures work and do not leak.
- Check that the pump starts up and works properly when a tap (faucet) is turned on.
- Check that the tank drains and is leakproof.
- Check the outlet pipe under the vehicle for leaks and make sure it is properly positioned. It must be angled so that the downwards flow is continuous to avoid the risk of blockage.
- Check that the tank level indicator is in place and properly adjusted.

Gas supply

- Regularly check the high pressure pipe and gas bottle connections for leaks. There should be no cracks or porous spots.
 - Change the high pressure pipe at most ten years after the date of manufacture.
 - The flue pipe must be firmly connected to the heating and the flue chimney.
 - There should be no sign of deterioration on the exhaust pipe.
 - Make sure that the ventilation openings in the floor under the gas bottles are not covered.
 - When screwing on or unscrewing the high pressure tube use a screw aid to avoid damage from using the wrong implement.
 - Connect the high pressure tubes in such a way that they will not be crushed or damaged.
 - Check and clean any gas filters and change if necessary.
 - Check any outdoor gas sockets that might have been installed.
 - Check thermostatic safety devices on all gas appliances – the gas supply should stop flowing 60 second maximum once the flame has gone out. And don't smoke on the job!!
- Source: Camping, Cars & Caravans

Practical tips – for campers too

Stainless steel sinks can be cleaned with a mixture of vinegar and precipitated chalk, wipe dry and polish with a cloth. Comes up like new!

MISCELLANEOUS

Traffic

Fines for missing plaques (stickers) in France

Since 1 January this year, goods vehicles with a maximum weight of over 3,500 kgs must display stickers on either side of the cab and on the right hand side of the vehicle's tail. These stickers are 25x17cms and if they are missing you are subject to a fine of 135€. Several organisations, including FFCC (France) have protested against this measure. NKC (Netherlands) is against the introduction of these stickers because their function is far from clear, they are impracticable and contrary to European regulations.

The subject has been brought to the attention of the European Commission but to date the Commission has failed to comment.

Source: NKC (NL)



Czech Republic: This year, the Czech motorway sticker that used to be displayed on a vehicle's windscreen has been replaced by an electronic sticker. It can be bought on line www.edalnice.cz as well as from the usual suppliers. Details of new rates were given in our March edition. Czech e-vehicles, hybrid and hydrogen-powered vehicles are all exempt from toll charges. But in the case of foreign vehicles, an application must be made following which a decision on exemption (or not) will be made.

Source: Freie Fahrt (Arbö-CCA)

Health

How to treat hypothermia: hypothermia sets in when the temperature of one's entire body drops dramatically. It leads to agitation and shivering and can result in a loss of consciousness and the emergency services should be called.

Until help arrives move the person into a dry area not too close to a source of heat and help him/her to warm up gradually.

First aid: If possible remove wet clothing immediately and replace with dry garments. Loosen tight-fitting clothes. If the person is shivering, cover with a blanket or coat, but no hot water bottle – bad for the heart!

A hot sweet drink (tea) is good but no alcohol.

Medication should never be sent by mail because its efficacy can be impaired by changes in temperature, cold in winter or heat in summer, especially if delivery takes several days.

Curious facts/Environment/Culture

UAE/Abu Dhabi - The Mastaba was created by Christo and Jeanne-Claude in Abu Dhabi's desert between 2012 and 2015. It is a gigantic sculpture made out of 440,000 multicoloured barrels and took just ten days to construct. The Mastaba can only be viewed from the exterior. It is the artists' only permanent large-scale work (albeit unfinished) and almost rates as the eighth wonder of the world.

The otter has been nominated as Germany's "**Wild animal 2021**".

This magnificent swimmer however does not like swimming under bridges so leaves the river, runs across the road and rejoins the river the other side of the bridge. This is why the German Wild Animal Foundation wants to build special otter bridges. An otter's coat comprises around 140 million hairs!

Spain: In 1974, Salvador Dali (1904-1989) transformed the theatre in his home town Figueres (Catalonia/Spain) that was destroyed during the Spanish civil war, into a museum. The "Theatre-Museum" proposes online shows together with a virtual visit that works like a computer game. The famous artist is buried in the crypt under the stage.
(salvador-dali.org)



Where is the world's favourite forest? According to Hashtags (social media photo platform), the Black Forest (Germany) claims first place ahead of the Amazon Forest (Brazil).

Ants/wasps/mosquitoes – unwelcome guests

Wasps: Put 1 or 2 teaspoons of ground coffee on a small heat resistant plate. Set it alight very carefully – it will give off a pleasant aromatic smell of coffee but the wasps do not like the smoke. This works very well out-of-doors where the smoke can dissipate easily. (F.I.C.C. has tried this – and it works).

Mosquitoes: Mix neutral wine vinegar and water in equal parts, dip a cloth in the mixture and dab the bites. The itching will disappear.

Ants: Vinegar is also useful for stopping an ant colony that is set on streaming through your awning. Mix vinegar concentrate or another neutral vinegar with water and spray it round the window or across the path of the colony. They absolutely hate it and will find another route.

Source: DCC (D) Extract

The World Leisure Day will be celebrated on April 16 each year

EXHIBITIONS

Finland: Caravan Fair 21 to 23.01.2022, in Helsinki

Caravan Fair 16 to 19 September 2021, in Lahti

Caravan Show 22 to 24 April 2022, in Turku

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

SETT 2 to 4 November 2021, in Montpellier

Germany:

Caravan Salon 27 August to 5 September 2021, in Düsseldorf

Freizeit, Touristik & Garten 28 April to 2 May 2021, in Nürnberg

Caravan Bremen 6 to 8 November 2021, in Bremen

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

Reise + Camping 16 to 20 February 2022, in Essen

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

Netherlands: Vakantiebeurs 8 to 11 April, in Utrecht

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

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

FITUR 19 to 23 May, in Madrid

Salon Internacional del Caravaning 2 to 10 October 2021, in Barcelona

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

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

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