



## F.I.C.C. NEWSLETTER – SEPTEMBER 2022

### SAVE THE DATE

**The second F.I.C.C. World Congress on Camping, Caravanning and  
Motorcaravanning  
in VERRIERES-LE-BUISSON/Paris – France  
will take place from 26 to 28 October 2022**



**All information on: [congress.ficc.org](http://congress.ficc.org)**



## **94th INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY 2024 IN GYEONGJU/SOUTH KOREA**

Organised by  
KCCF (Korea Camping & Caravanning Federation)

**Under the slogan: “Health and Harmony for all Campers”**

## **95th INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY 2025 in FULONG/TAIWAN from 25 April to 4 May 2025.**

The venue is the Longmen Campsite in Fulong/New Taipei City.

The Camping Association of the Republic of China is celebrating its 50th anniversary in  
2025

### **CAMPING/CARAVANNING/MOTORCARAVANNING**

#### **PARKING ON THE ROADSIDE AND UNGUARDED OVERNIGHT STOPOVERS**

#### **TEN IMPORTANT SAFETY MEASURES FOR PARKING ON THE ROADSIDE AND ON OTHER UNATTENDED STOPOVER SITES**

(F.I.C.C. Motorcaravan Commission (2013))

1. Park in a well-lit area after checking that motorcaravans are authorised to do so on this spot. Darkness is the great “ally” of thieves.
2. Also check that there are no restrictions on parking your particular type of vehicle.
3. Once parked, do not set up an awning or any camping equipment and make sure that you do not take up more space than the perimeter of your vehicle.



4. Make sure you lock your doors – secure all windows, trailers and boxes even when you are resting or sleeping.
5. If you are stopping overnight it is advisable not to leave your parked vehicle at all; if you need to stay longer than one night you should look for a site that is attended.
6. Never leave valuables of any sort visible on the windscreen ledge or on a table top; avoid encouraging thieves to break in.
7. If you are carrying a bike or motorbike behind your motorcaravan, make sure it is properly attached and locked in place, even if you are only parked.
8. If your motorcaravan has a fixed ladder, we advise you to replace it with a folding one that can be removed when not in use. This way no unauthorised person can climb up on to your vehicle.
9. Write down the address and/or exact location of your parking spot; in an emergency it is much easier if you need to contact the police or seek medical assistance.
10. When you are travelling, especially when going abroad, keep a notebook with useful numbers that can be contacted in an emergency including your country's consulates and your own family members.

**Regarding freestanding camping** (free camping e.g. pop-up camps)

No problem generally speaking, but courtesy demands:

- that you only park where you are allowed to do so;
- that you keep the spot clean and tidy and leave it clean and litter-free;
- that you respect other campers and local residents too;
- that you commit to protecting nature;
- that you do not empty chemical toilets in the countryside;
- that you only light fires in designated places;
- that you keep your dog on a lead and do not let it run around unchecked, pick up any excrement and dispose of it in a bin.

Read in Camping, Cars & Caravans

We would like to add:

- that you respect other people's right to peace and quiet during the day and at night, avoiding unnecessary noise (playing a radio or TV at high volume, engine noise etc);
- that you sort and recycle your rubbish, placing it in the appropriate bins;
- that you do not empty grey water in open country but use the dump stations provided;
- that you observe usual campsite regulations;



- that you do not park at viewpoints;
- that you give assistance to any campers who need help (breakdowns, first aid etc.)

### **Tips on cleaning awnings**

Modern awnings are made from scratch-resistant PVC and usually consist of 5 separate layers. They are far more robust than the former acrylic fabrics, but should still be cleaned with an appropriate cleaning product. On the odd occasion they can be folded up or rolled up wet. But if this happens, the awning should be opened up immediately on arrival at your next destination and allowed to dry off, otherwise damp spots, fungi or even mildew will quickly appear on the wet fabric. Always take your awning down if there is high wind because the term “storm strap” is misleading. If the wind is blowing at gale force 9, the only safe solution is to “take it down”.

- ° Remove large debris such as branches, twigs, buds and leaves with a broom or soft brush.
  - ° Small spots can often be removed with a sponge or microfibre cloth dipped in surfactant-free multi-purpose cleaner and warm water. Avoid using rough scouring pads or a hard brush.
  - ° Do not use a high pressure cleaner – this could damage the fabric.
  - ° There are special cleaning fluids for stubborn stains: take a damp cloth, apply some cleaning fluid, leave to react on the fabric for a short time then dab, rather than rub the marks away. Rinse well and leave to dry.
- If there are bird droppings don't wait long. They are quite corrosive and can attack the fabric so act quickly.
- ° Resin stains from pine needles are especially stubborn. Special tree sap or resin removers are also commercially available but make sure you read the directions for use first! Better still: avoid getting resin stains on your awning in the first place by using an extra tarpaulin.
  - ° After using any of these cleaning fluids or resin removers, you should waterproof your awning to make sure it remains water repellent.
  - ° There are special repair kits with transparent adhesive strips to deal with minor rips.
  - ° If the damage is more severe then the only thing to be done is to replace the entire awning.

Source: Camping, Cars & Caravans

### **Practical tips – for campers too**

What should you do if you have a smoking battery? Batteries are found in many electrical appliances, smart phones, drills etc. If they get damaged, batteries can become dangerous and even burst into flames so you have to act quickly. First unplug the charger from the mains and immediately drench with water for quite a long time. Even when you think that the fire is extinguished, remove it to a place of safety (preferably still in a water-filled receptacle) so that there is no chance that the fire will re-ignite.

## **INTERESTING NEWS FROM F.I.C.C. AND ITS MEMBERS**



**FFCC (F)** will be present at the “Salon des Véhicules de Loisirs”, taking place from 24 September to 2 October 2022 in Le Bourget/Paris. There will also be an FFCC presence at the “Salon des Véhicules de Loisirs” in Douai – from 29 October to 7 November 2022.

**DCC (D)** will still be organising enjoyable rallies in beautiful locations in Germany via its regional federations and local clubs throughout September/October/November this year.

During the Caravan Salon in Düsseldorf, **CIVD** (Caravanning Industrie Verband e.V. ) celebrated its 60th anniversary with a successful reception to which F.I.C.C. President Joao Alves Pereira was also invited.



President Joao Alves Pereira also visited the impressive exposition stand of its member **Deutscher Camping Club e.V.** (German Camping Club).





## Good to know

### Traffic

As from the beginning of 2022, all motorists are obliged by traffic legislation in **Germany and abroad** to carry a first aid kit in their vehicle which, since the corona pandemic, must include two face masks that cover the mouth and nose.

According to the **third EU Directive on Driving Licences** (Directive 2006/126/EC of the European Parliament and the European Council on driving licences), all EU driving licences issued before 19.01.2013 had to be exchanged for the new EU driving licence by 19 January 2022.

### Health

The ancient Greeks were the first to introduce **sign language** (of which there are 150 different variations) as a means of communication using hand gestures and signs. Over time, these primitive sign languages evolved into a universal form with the addition of body movements and facial expressions. In common with spoken languages, sign languages also have their own dialects.

People usually realise that they have a hearing problem when they are in a noisy setting. The spoken word and background noise merge into a confused buzz. Researchers have now come up with a revolutionary technique that enables a person to understand better when, for example, someone mumbles. They use directional microphones and the algorithms from hearing aids. The signal-to-noise ratio improves with each succeeding generation of hearing aid but the big breakthrough appears to be nearer than ever. This is good news indeed for the hard-of-hearing who are not in fact exclusively older people, but also include children and young people who have ruined their hearing with very loud music etc. using the infamous ear buds.

### Curious facts/Environment/Culture

The **hottest place ever on earth** is Furnace Creek in Death Valley (USA) where a temperature of 56.7°C was recorded back in 1913.

Perhaps you have noticed that IKEA has jazzed up its catalogue with **paintings and sculptures** from Antwerp's Office Baroque temporary art gallery. What a great idea!

The **most expensive material in the world** is Californium 252. Just one gram costs 25 million Euros. It is an important chemical element used in measuring moisture when drilling for oil.

**When were time zones first introduced?** Originally towns kept their own time based on the movement of the sun. At the end of the 19C, Sanford Fleming, a Canadian, had the idea of dividing the world up into 24 time zones centred on the prime meridian, 0°, in Greenwich (UK). The USA and Canada were the first countries to introduce the system in 1884 but other countries were quick to follow.

**Which plant only blooms once?** Bamboo, a plant that is increasing in popularity in Europe. The plant takes 80 to 100 years to produce a single bamboo flower, after which the grasses die off.



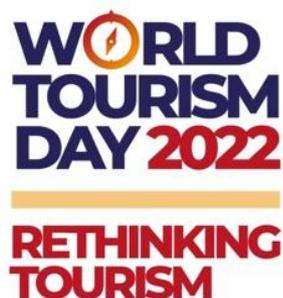
The stations on the new **underground (tube) Elizabeth line** in London (UK) are veritable art galleries with works by artists such as Simon Periton, Sonia Boyce, Richard Wright, Chantal Joffe, Spencer Finch to name but a few.

### **International Days instituted by the United Nations, UNESCO, UNICEF, FAO etc.**

- 08 September: International Literacy Day
- 10 September: World Lung Cancer Day
- 20 September: International Children's Day
- 21 September: World Alzheimer's Day
- 23 September: International Day of Sign Languages
- 24 September: World Day of the Deaf
- 25 September: World Pharmacists' Day
- 29 September: World Maritime Day.

And on September 27 UNOMT/UNWTO celebrates the World Tourism Day with the theme

## **RETHINKING TOUVRISM**



As an affiliate member of this organisation, F.I.C.C. supports this action and encourages its members to use this day for camping trips, to explore new places, to discover new countries – because travelling educates, enriches the visitor and the host



## EXHIBITIONS

**Austria:** Camper Van Summit in Tirol from 29 September to 3 October, in St. Martin  
Caravan Salon Austria from 19 to 23 October 2022, in Wels  
Ferien Messe Wien from 16 to 19 March 2023, in Vienna  
**Belgium:** Salon des vacances from 24 to 27 March 2023, in Brussels  
**China:** All in Caravanning 2022 is programmed from 23 to 25 September 2022, in Beijing  
**Czech Republic:** Caravanning from 3 to 6 November 2022, in Brno  
Caravan planned in November 2022, in Prague  
**Finland:** Caravan from 20 to 22 January 2023, in Helsinki  
**France:** Salon des véhicules de loisirs from 24 September to 2 October 2022, in Paris-Le Bourget  
and from 29 October to 7 November 2022, in Douai  
SETT from 8 to 10 November 2022, in Montpellier  
Salon Mondial du Tourisme from 17 to 20 March, in Paris  
**Germany:** Caravan Bremen from 4 to 6 November 2022, in Bremen  
Touristik & Caravanning from 16 to 20 November 2022, in Leipzig  
ABF Caravan & Camping from 1 to 5 February 2023, in Hannover  
Reise & Camping from 22 to 26 February 2023, in Essen  
ITB from 10 to 12 March 2023, in Berlin  
**Great Britain:** NEC from 18 to 23 October 2022, in Birmingham  
Caravan & Motorhome Show from 12 to 15 January 2023, in Manchester  
Caravan, Camping and Motorhome Show from 21 to 26 February 2023, in Birmingham  
**Hungary:** Caravan Salon in February 2023, in Budapest  
**Italy:**  
**Netherlands:** Kampeer en Caravan Jaarbeurs from 16 to 24 October 2022, in Utrecht  
Caravana from 25 to 29 January 2023, in Leeuwarden  
**Poland:** Caravan Salon from 21 to 23 October 2022 at Poznan  
**Portugal:** Nauticampo in October 2022, in Lisbon  
**Spain:** FITUR from 18 to 22 January 2023, in Madrid  
Expocamp from 18 to 20 March 2023, in Avilés  
**Sweden:** Scandinavian Caravan Show (Elmia) from 7 to 11 September 2022, in Jönköping  
**Switzerland:** Suisse Caravan Salon from 28 October to 1 November 2022, in Bern  
**USA:** RV Show programmed for January 2023, in Pittsburgh  
Boston RV & Camping Expo programmed for January 2023, in Boston

Subject to change

F.I.C.C Secretariat  
rue Belliard 20, bte 15  
B- 1040 Brussels/Belgium  
Tel: 00.32 2 513.87 82  
Fax : 00.32 2 513 87 83  
Email : [info@ficc.org](mailto:info@ficc.org)  
Website : [www.ficc.org](http://www.ficc.org)