



NEWSLETTER – FEBRUARY 2024

**The 22nd F.I.C.C. ASIA-PACIFIC RALLY will take place
from 31 MAY to 10 JUNE 2024
in GOSEONG & SOKCHO CITY,
GANGWON Province/SOUTH KOREA**

Organised by
KCCF (Korea Camping & Caravanning Federation)



Address: 244, Jaembeori-ro, Toseong-myeon, Goseong-gun, Gangwon
Jamboree Training Center

Transport: Distance from Incheon Airport (Terminal 1) to the Jamboree Training Center – rally site
265 km (approx 3 ½ hour drive).

A direct bus link reserved for F.I.C.C. members (Incheon Airport Terminal 1 – Rally site) will operate
4 x a day (2 x mornings and 2 x afternoons) depending on reservation options on 30 May, 31 May, 6
June and 9 June

Cost: Adults 50€, teenagers 30€.

All members of F.I.C.C. affiliated clubs and federations may take part in this Asia-Pacific rally and are cordially invited to come and discover this beautiful part of South Korea.

Full information on <https://mohang01.cafe24.com/>

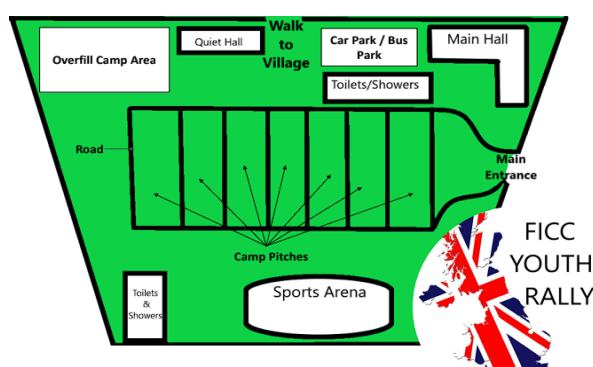


F.I.C.C. WORLD CAMPING FESTIVAL 2024 in ALICANTE/Spain

**from 26 June to 4 July
at the Alannia/Costa Blanca campsite**

A special edition of the F.I.C.C. Newsletter will be published in a few days, containing everything you need to know about the World Camping Festival.

72nd INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. YOUTH RALLY from 28 March to 1 April 2024 at the Black Isle Showground near Inverness/Scotland



The rally site is 20 minutes by foot from the village and has all the necessary infrastructure i.e. showers, toilets, electricity on the pitches, cooking facilities, a bar etc. etc.
There will be an excursion to Loch Ness, a haggis race/competition, highland games and numerous other recreational games and - competitions.
Airports: Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen.
The organisers can help with transport to the rally site.
The nearest railway station is 20 miles away but the organisers are prepared to collect rally-goers.
There is a direct coach from London to Inverness where the organisers can pick up rally-goers and take them to the rally site.

Booking via <https://ficc2024gb.co.uk/registration/>

Booking deadline is 18 February 2024

Further information on <https://ficc2024gb.co.uk/>

Or email: ficc2024gb@gmail.com



Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
	8am-9.30am - Breakfast	8am-9.30am - Breakfast	8am-9.30am - Breakfast	8am-9.30am - Breakfast
10am – Site Opens	10am-4pm – Optional Trip	10am-4pm – Trip to Loch Ness, Castles, Inverness	10am-1pm – Volleyball & Football Competition	12 noon – Site Closes
2pm-5pm – Football Zorbing			2pm-5pm – Highland Games	
5pm - 7pm - Evening Meal - Café Open	5pm - 7pm - Evening Meal - Café Open	5pm - 7pm - Evening Meal - Café Open	5pm-7pm – FICC Burns Supper with 'Address the Haggis' by Alex Cook, Toast the Haggis followed by Easter Meal – Haggis, Tatties & Neaps.	
7.30pm-9.30pm – Opening Ceremony & Welcoming Games – Come dressed in your International Colours	7.30pm-9.30pm – Fun Games – including Haggis Race	7.30pm-9.30pm Ceilidh Lessons – come and learn a couple of Scottish Dances for the Ceilidh tomorrow night.	7.30pm-9.30pm – International Ceilidh – come dressed in Tartan for the Closing Ceremony & Ceilidh	
9.30pm-Late – Disco	9.30pm-Late – Disco	9.30pm-Late – Disco	9.30pm- Late – Disco	



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



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

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

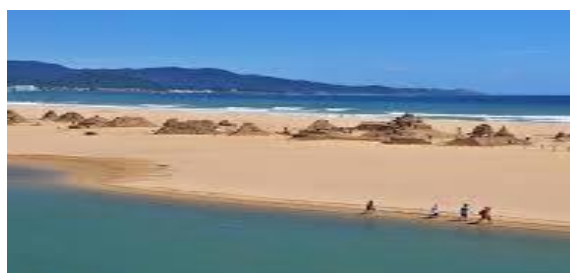
Full information on
<http://www.95thficcrally.com/>



Fulong Beach, a 3 km long stretch of sandy beach on the East China Sea, is rated as one of Taiwan's most beautiful beaches. The town of Fulong is in the Gongliao district of New Taipei City, about an hour by train from Taipei. There is an hourly train service that operates every day as well as a bus service but the journey takes over two hours. Road conditions are not always perfect and indeed can be difficult in the rainy season when some roads become impassable.

Take great care when crossing roads on foot. Motorbike and scooter riders take no notice of any traffic regulations – they drive fast and zigzag between obstacles. So it is advisable always to keep to footpaths, sidewalks, pavements and footbridges where possible.

Possession, trading and consuming drugs (including cannabis) is forbidden and is punishable by a heavy fine, a prison sentence or even the death sentence. Some medicinal drugs are also forbidden and special permission is required for which one should contact the Taiwanese embassy or consulate in one's home country.



96th INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY

Date 26 June to 5 July 2026

Venue: Karpfham/South Germany

Organised by the Deutscher Camping Club e.V.





Bad Griesbach in the Rottal is a very pretty little Bavarian town, 453m above sea level. It has a population of around 8,500 and is in the district of Lower Bavaria. It is well known for its spa holidays but also has six 18-hole golf courses, good hiking and nordic walking trails and its restaurants are very well-rated. Bad Griesbach is situated near the Austrian and Czech borders.

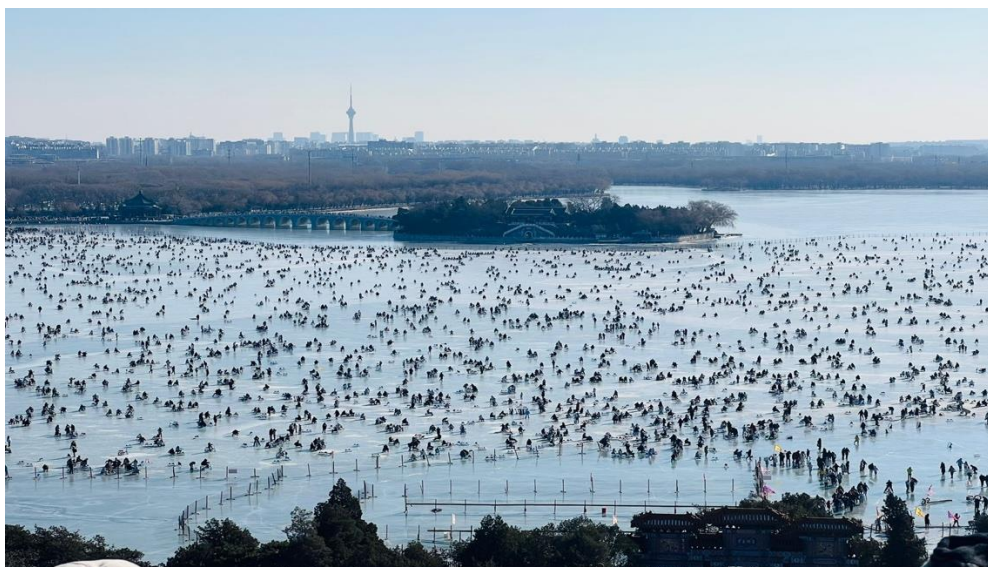
Karpfham is well known for its folk festival and Rottal fair (a popular open air agricultural show with farm machinery and implements) which is held annually at the end of August, ending with the horse award ceremony. There is also a flea market in the area that attracts lots of tourists. The actual dates of the event this summer have not yet been announced.

97th INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY 2026 in CHINA

Date: 25 September to 4 October 2026

Venue: Vicinity of Beijing

Organised by 21RV



Skating in Beijing
Photos G. Vergouts



Camping/Caravanning/Motorcaravanning

Caravanning in 2024 is following exactly the same trend as in 2023.

Back in 2023, the results of a survey carried out by the German market research company, GfK, highlighted the values and attitudes of different age groups and their affinity for caravanning holidays. Its findings showed that in Germany at least, 50 to 65 year olds were among the most caravanning-minded groups of people.

It is the 50 to 59 year-olds who have the biggest number of leisure vehicles, followed by the 60 to 69 age group. The active lifestyle of these groups of people is a crucial factor and it encourages them to consider a mobile holiday. The 50 to 65 year-old baby boomers and the millennial generation i.e. 26 to 43 year olds – in comparison with the same age group 15 years ago – not only expect to live longer but are healthier and far more active in their free time.

Family, freedom, zest for life and friendship are eternal values that struck a chord with everyone in the survey. Moreover, the importance of being surrounded by nature and doing one's own thing individually is far more important now compared with 15 years ago.

Caravanning embodies and binds these elements together and this is what today's holidaymakers find so attractive.

Self-determination, contact with nature and flexibility are the prime reasons why many people opt for a camping holiday. But whereas older people attach more importance to being close to nature, simplicity and flexibility, younger people are looking for adventure.

These days people want to be flexible and independent when they travel and spend their leisure time outdoors. In addition, the pandemic and associated restrictions sharpened our awareness of our need of company, of freedom to travel and have the odd adventure.

Source: Camping, Cars & Caravans (CIVD)

Spain: in **December 2023**, 316 motorcaravans, 57 caravans and 249 campers were registered for the first time, 178 more than the previous year.

Source: FECC

Croatia finished its tourist season with record financial results and is expecting another record year in 2024.

Revenue was already €9.12 billion in the third quarter of the year compared with €8.47 billion in the same period in 2022.

Some 20.6 million tourists visited the country amounting to approx 108 million overnight stays.

The most popular areas were Istria, Split-Dalmatia and Kvarner with the highest number of overnight stays in Zadar, Dubrovnik-Neretv and Lika-Senj. But the capital, Zagreb, has also become a tourist destination. The majority of tourists were Germans, closely followed by Croatians and Slovenians, Austrians, Poles, Czechs, Italians, Hungarians, Slovaks and Dutch.

In December alone and during the Christmas/New Year festivities there were over 90,000 tourists – an increase of around 12% over the previous year.

China: The camping industry in China is showing extraordinary growth. With an increase in profits of 62.5% over the previous year, the market is growing rapidly. Thanks to rising demand, the first



camping conference was organised in Huzhou in the Province of Zhejiang in June 2023 as a result of which the town lost no time in setting the standard for safe camping in China.

As the Chinese are now seeing their disposable income rising steadily, experts are expecting ever increasing demand. Growth of up to 238.3 billion yen (3,215 billion euros) is expected in 2025. City-dwellers especially want to enjoy nature on Chinese holidays and booking one's campsite early is essential. The pandemic made camping in China more popular, so 2020 can be said to be the start of the camping boom in the country.

Source: Camping, Cars & Caravans (extract)

Practical tips – for campers too

The starch in potato peelings will make your **flower vases squeaky clean**. Simply cut the peelings up into small pieces, empty them into the vase and fill with water. Swirl the contents around and empty out once they have done the trick.

Spread **leftover crisps** that are a bit limp on greaseproof paper, place in the microwave on a medium heat for 20 seconds and they will recover their crispness!

MISCELLANEOUS

Traffic

Spain: In a major announcement by the Spanish Government, significant changes to driving laws have been introduced, aimed at enhancing road safety and driver training.

The key change permits individuals under 17 years of age to drive when accompanied by an adult over 24 with at least five years of driving experience.

Spain: Correction – information regarding toll charges given in our December 2023 issue were incorrect. Please note that

AP7 La Jonquera – Tarragona

AP2 Zaragpza – El Vendrell

AP7 Tarragona – Alicante

AP4 Sevilla – Cadiz

are all toll-free (no charge).

Changes for young drivers and motorcyclists

This initiative allows 17 to 18-year-olds to gain driving experience under supervision, a move Grande-Marlaska believes will 'improve the training of younger drivers.' Moreover, a significant shift in motorcycle licensing was announced. The B1 car license will no longer cover low-displacement motorcycles or mopeds. Instead, a mandatory course will be required for those wishing to drive motorcycles up to 125cc, addressing the distinct skills needed for different vehicle types.



Enhanced safety measures

The DGT plans to revise the points recovery courses, incorporating specific modules for motorcyclists focusing on safe and efficient driving. Additionally, the use of a full-face helmet and approved gloves will become mandatory for motorcyclists on the road. In response to ongoing concerns around impaired driving, Marlaska disclosed a 10 per cent increase in alcohol and drug controls. 'We will reach six million breathalyzer tests a year and 120,000 drug tests,' he stated, underscoring the importance of preventive measures.

Road safety statistics

Despite the progress, road safety remains a critical issue. Last year saw 1,145 deaths on Spanish roads, a slight increase from 2022, but with a 2 per cent rise in road traffic. Most fatalities occurred on conventional roads, and motorcyclists faced a significant rise in mortality. Marlaska called for greater driver responsibility, stressing that 'avoiding distractions, respecting traffic rules, and using safety systems' are key to reducing accidents.

These changes reflect a concerted effort to improve road safety in Spain, targeting both new and experienced drivers.

Source: Internet

Health

Too little sleep causes depression according to a study published by the University College of London based on data gathered from over 7,000 people whose average age was 65. People who sleep five hours or less are 2.5 times more likely to develop depressive symptoms within four to twelve years.

Culture/environment/general interest

One of the **European Cities of Culture 2024** is Tartu in Estonia. As the second largest city in the country it is considered to be the cultural heartland of Estonia.

Other designated cultural cities this year are Bodo in Norway and Bad Ischl Austria, both of which offer great programmes of shows and art exhibitions.

For 2025, Chemnitz has been designated European Capital of Culture.

The sea eagle (now rare) is a migratory bird from the vast expanses of Russia but as the severe winters there are too cold for it to survive, it flies south especially to Hokkaido/Japan, Korea and southern China. There they feel at home and can move around safely on the sea ice and snow thanks to their claws and there is an abundance of fish.



Paris La Défense is an open air museum with over 50 works of art that can be viewed while walking through this business district. Works on display by artists such as Calder and Miro, César, Moretti, Daniel Buren and Anthony Caro have either been specially commissioned or have come from various collections. A new, free, cultural destination.

Source: Camping, Cars & Caravans

Japan is the **snowiest country in the world** especially the Sukayu Onsen area on Honshu island that has 17 meters of snow. So far the thickest covering of snow has been measured on Mount Ibuki (over 11 metres).

The **biggest school in the world** is in the Indian town of Lucknow: 3,000 teachers teach approx 52,000 children in this “City Montessori School” from kindergarten to high school.

UPDATES FROM F.I.C.C. AND ITS MEMBERS



NORDIC RALLY from 7 to 14 JULY 2024 in Kiuruvesi/Finland under F.I.C.C. patronage.

Further information on: nordicrally.fi





Worth a visit: Kiuruvesi Museum

The artefact museum located in the museum area displays a variety of items relating to everyday life in the farmhouse. The museum's upper floor features the Koulun penkillä (In School) exhibition of old teaching materials and other items related to schoolwork in the past. The museum's Savonian yard includes the main building Hyvärilä as well as a cowshed, loft storehouse, smoke cabin, windmill, barn and a small raised shed. The cowshed houses the Maidon tie (Journey of Milk) exhibition, which provides information about the history of dairy farming.

[www.iisalmijatienoot.fi/fi_FI/iisalmi- ja-tienoot-kunnat/kiuruvedenkaupunki- kiuruvesi-matkailijalle](http://www.iisalmijatienoot.fi/fi_FI/iisalmi-ja-tienoot-kunnat/kiuruvedenkaupunki-kiuruvesi-matkailijalle)

www.visitkiuruvesi.fi/

www.kiuruvesi.fi/In-English



The 24th Adria Camping Rally organised by UDRUGA KAMPISTA HRVATSKE (UKH) will be held from 23 to 30 June 2024 at the Camping Amadria Park in Sibenik/Croatia. Further information from: ukh@camping-croatia.com





50 YEARS OF CARAVANNING IN THE POLISH MOTOR ASSOCIATION (PZM)

On January 20, 2024, supporters of caravanning tourism within the Polish Motor Association (PZM) involved in its many commissions and sub-commissions, representatives of automobile and other clubs connected with caravanning activity, personalities of PZM including President Michał Sikora and invited guests João Alves Pereira, President of F.I.C.C. and Marcin Zaradkiewicz, Member of the Board of F.I.C.C., all met in Warsaw to commemorate the 50 year jubilee of caravanning tourism in PZM. The meeting, organised by Dariusz Jajko, Chairman of the PZM Tourism Committee, and others was chaired by Stanislaw Reterski, Honorary Member of PZM. It opened with a welcome and speech by Michał Sikora, President of PZM, followed by the President of F.I.C.C. João Alves Pereira, who presented Michał Sikora with a commemorative statuette.

After the opening ceremony, it was time to present the jubilee medals. These were awarded to people who have contributed to the activities and development of caravanning in the PZM. During the dinner, Dariusz Jajko and Marcin Turko showed films about caravanning tourism in PZM and the whole event took place against the backdrop of an exhibition of chronicles and archive material relating to the club's caravanning activities. It was noteworthy that the oldest of these date back to 1970. The official part was rounded off with refreshments including an anniversary cake, followed by several hours of reflections on the events of past years but also discussions on the future of caravanning tourism within the PZM.



F.I.C.C. President João Alves Pereira and Michał Sikora, President of PZM



Messrs. Stanisław Reterski, Alves Pereira, Marcin Zaradkiewicz







Federação de Campismo e Montanhismo de Portugal



Colloquium with Stories: Camping and Mountaineering in Portugal

The Portuguese Federation of Camping and Mountaineering (FCMP) celebrated its 79th anniversary on January 6th. To commemorate this significant founding milestone, a colloquium on the history of camping and mountaineering in Portugal was held the following morning. The event took place at the Justino Valente Auditorium, located in the FCMP Training Center in Monte da Caparica. Since the fifty on-site seats were fully booked, the event also offered online participation through Zoom and Facebook platforms.

The "Colloquium with Stories" comprised two thematic panels. The first panel focused on the past, providing a privileged view from the dean of the Portuguese camping and mountaineering movement, Justino Valente. It was moderated by Pedro Cuiça (mountaineering) and João Valente (camping). The second panel addressed the future of camping and mountaineering, featuring speakers Maria Roque (mountaineering) and João Pereira (camping), moderated by Paulo Sousa.

In the first panel, the historical analysis unfolded in three phases: (1) "The Dawn" (until the end of the 19th century), highlighting the significance of the Scientific Expedition to Serra da Estrela in promoting camping and mountaineering in Portugal; (2) "Associativism: the Pioneers" (first half of the 20th century), detailing the emergence and development of associative movements through the creation of various groups and clubs; and (3) "Associativism: Democratization" (second half of the 20th century), witnessing the expansion and structuring of associativism. This panel itself became a historic event, with first-hand testimonies from Comrade Justino Valente, who, at 101 years old, started camping in 1939, held positions as President and Secretary-General of FCMP, and continues to follow the evolution of camping and mountaineering movements in Portugal. The second panel focused on the 21st century and the future of camping and mountaineering in Portugal and worldwide. This panel proved highly interesting due to the quality of both speakers' interventions and the revelation of various indicators of the potential development of both sectors – camping and mountaineering – while acknowledging the short-term difficulties and challenges that the future holds.

The participants' various interventions during the event, posing questions and providing relevant comments on the evolution of camping and mountaineering practice, especially on adopting strategies to strengthen associativism, are also noteworthy.

The event concluded with remarks from João Bernardino (President of the Portuguese Confederation of Culture, Recreation, and Sports Collectivities) and João Queiroz (President of FCMP), followed by a reception with birthday cake in the adjoining room, where a small exhibition showcased camping and mountaineering equipment and books published in Portugal.



Justino VALENTE and Joao QUEIROZ President of F.C.M.P.

The World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), the Madrid-based UN agency, announced in January that it is changing its name to UN Tourism, in order to make its connection with the United Nations more visible and better identified by the general public. The new name, unveiled at the opening of the Fitur International Tourism Fair, which runs until Sunday in Madrid, is accompanied by a new logo depicting a human figure in motion, and a new slogan: "Bringing the world closer together". It allows the agency to "move away from acronyms" such as UNWTO and make its image "more accessible" to the public, the institution asserts in a press release, created in 1974 to develop and promote tourism worldwide.

Numerous regional offices

The UN institution, headed up since 2018 by Georgian Zurab Pololikashvili, has 160 member states and regional offices in Japan, Saudi Arabia, Brazil and Morocco, in addition to its headquarters in the Spanish capital. It regularly publishes estimates and forecasts of tourist numbers by region and country.

According to its latest barometer, published on Friday, 1.3 billion tourists travelled abroad last year, or 88% of the level for 2019, the last year before the Covid-19 pandemic, while revenues generated by international tourism reached \$1,400 billion.



EXHIBITIONS

Argentina: Expo Rodantear in October 2024, in Buenos Aires

Australia: Victorian Caravan, Camping & Touring Supershow from 21 to 25 February 2024, in Melbourne

Caravan Camping Holiday Supershow from 16 to 21 April 2024, in Sydney

Austria: Tiroler Frühjahrsmesse from 14 to 17 March, in Innsbruck

Ferienmesse Wien from 14 to 17 March 2024, in Vienna

Urlaub und Ausflug (Holidays and Excursions) from 5 to 7 April 2024, in Wels

Freizeit Messe from to 7 April 2024, in Klagenfurt

Caravan Salon Austria from 16 to 20 October 2024, in Wels

Belgium: Motorhomesalon (second hand) from 9 to 10 March 2024, in Antwerp

BCCMA-Mobicar in October 2024, in Brussels

Brazil: Expo Motorhome in November 2024, in Novo Hamburgo

Bulgaria: Camping & Caravanning Expo May 2024, in Sofia (date to be confirmed)

Canada: The Outdoor Adventure Show from 23 to 25 February 2024, in Toronto

Salon du VR from 29 February to 3 March 2024, in Montreal

China: All in Caravanning 19 to 21 April 2024, in Beijing

Czech Republic: Caravan Expo from 15 to 17 March 2024, in Prague

Caravanning Brno in November 2024, in Brno

Denmark:

Finland: Caravan Show from 19 to 21 April 2024, in Turku (cancelled)

Caravan Finland from 26 to 29 September 2024, in Lahti

France: Salon Mondial du Tourisme from 14 to 17 March, in Paris

Destination Nature from 14 to 17 March 2024, in Paris

Le Camper Van Week-End from 26 to 28 April 2024, in Angers

Salon des véhicules de Loisirs from 21 to 29 September 2024, in Paris-Le Bourget

Germany: Reise & Camping from 28 February to 3 March 2024, in Essen

ITB from 5 to 7 March 2024, in Berlin

Freizeit, Touristik & Garten from 22 to 26 Marz 2024, in Nürnberg

Caravan Salon from 31 August to 9 September 2024, in Düsseldorf

Caravan Bremen from 8 to 10 November 2024, in Bremen

Touristik & Caravanning from 20 to 24 November 2024, in Leipzig

Great Britain: Caravan Camping & Motorhome Show from 13 to 18 February 2024, in Birmingham

National Motorhome & Campervan Show from 14 to 16 June 2024, in Coddington

The North Motorhome & Campervan Show from 19 to 21 July 2024, in Norwich

Motorhome & Caravan Show from 15 to 20 October 2024, in Birmingham

Italy: Il Salone del Camper from 14 to 24 September 2024, in Parma

Japan:

Netherlands: Kampeer & Caravan Jaarbeurs from 2 to 6 October 2024, in Utrecht

New Zealand: Motorhome, Caravan & Leisure Show from 18 to 19 May 2024, in Christchurch

COVI Motorhome Caravan & Outdoor Supershow from 15 to 17 March 2024, in Auckland

Poland: Warsaw Caravanning Festival 11-12. May 2024 in Warschau

Caravan Salon Poland from 3. to 6. Oktober 2024 in Porznan

Portugal:

Sweden: Elmia Husvagn Husbil from 11 to 15 September 2024, in Jönköping

South Africa: Caravan Show 23 to 25 February 2024, in Gauteng



South Korea: Camping & Picnic Fair from 29 February to 3 March 2024, in Goyang

Spain: B-Travel from 24 to 26 March 2024, in Barcelona

Feria de Caravaning from 5 to 7 May 2024, in Santiago de Compostela

Expo Camper & Caravan from 18 to 22 September 2024, in Madrid

Switzerland: Suisse Caravan Salon from 24 to 28 October 2024, in Berne

USA: Portland Fall RV & Van Show from 12 to 15 September 2024, in Portland

(All information given without guarantee)

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