



## GOOD TO KNOW – APRIL 2019

**88th INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY in Châteaubriant/France  
from 26 JULY to 4 AUGUST 2019**



**CHÂTEAUBRIANT**  
88<sup>e</sup> F.I.C.C. INTERNATIONAL RALLY  
26.07 > 04.08.2019

### **Tip from the F.I.C.C. Secretariat : en route to Châteaubriant**

The Robert Tatin Open Air Museum is in Cossé-le-Vivien (Mayenne). Robert Tatin was born in Laval in 1902 and died in 1983. He devoted the last 21 years of his life to creating a museum that falls into the category of modern naive art. He bought an old house in Cossé-le-Vivien in 1962 and started his arcane collection of sculptures, bas-reliefs and buildings all set in beautiful gardens. Cossé-le-Vivien is roughly 73 kms from Châteaubriant.

Practical information: GPS:47°43'15.413"N-1°22'34.406"O

Available on site: bakery, various shops – supermarket nearby –

Several bars, fast food restaurant, music shows, cabaret, regional products, W-Lan

Further information at [www.ficc2019.com](http://www.ficc2019.com) – registrations at [www.ficc2019.com](http://www.ficc2019.com) or via registration form (on request)

Further information at: [www.ffcc.fr](http://www.ffcc.fr) or [info@ffcc.fr](mailto:info@ffcc.fr) or by calling 0033-142 72 84 08

There are two recommended hotels in Châteaubriant:

Hotel La Ferrière, rue Winston Churchill - 44110 Châteaubriant

and Hotel Le Châteaubriant, rue du 11 Novembre – 44110 Châteaubriant

There are no caravans available for hire, only motorcaravans.

See <https://ficc2019.com/infos-pratiques/> and on the reverse side of the booking form.



**89<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY FROM 28 SEPTEMBER TO 6 OCTOBER 2019 in Ten-ei Village (Fukushima Prefecture) /Japan**



### **Different kinds of accommodation**

As alternative accommodation a tent set has been added. The set consists of mats, sleeping bags, table, chairs, burner, lamp, cooking utensils, cutlery and tarp. The price is JPN 43.200 for two people for the whole rally period. JPN 8.640 for each additional person. Consumables such as fuel, food etc. must be purchased at the shop.





## INTERESTING MUSEUMS

There are many interesting museums dedicated to art and other themes all over Japan. In addition to their permanent exhibitions, they hold travelling exhibitions throughout the year. The buildings themselves, designed in each case by famous architects, are very distinctive. Visitors who wish to learn more about the history and culture of this country are encouraged to visit its national museums.



**National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation/Tokyo**  
**National Museums in Tokyo, Nara, Kyoto and Kyushu** (in Dazaifu City, Fukuoka Prefecture)  
**The National Art Center in Tokyo**  
**21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art in Kanazawa** (Ishikawa prefecture)  
**Fukui Prefectural Dinosaur Museum** (Fukui Prefecture)  
**Towada Art Center** (Aomori Prefecture)  
**The Hakone Open-Air Museum** (Kanagawa Prefecture)  
Source: JNTO (J)

**Tips from the F.I.C.C. Secretariat:** There are sometimes problems with the website and so the Japanese Association and Rally Organizer will print a booklet with accommodation, prices and destinations. You may obtain this booklet on request from [jac@autocamp.or.jp](mailto:jac@autocamp.or.jp)

The booking fees for the F.I.C.C. International Rally are as follows: adults (over 22 years old) ¥ 18,000 / young people (13-22 years old) ¥ 15,000 Yen/ children (6-12 years old) ¥ 9,000 / children under 6 years old free of charge.

For further information and registration, go to <http://www.89thficcrally.com/>  
and  
<https://www.facebook.com/kazuhiro.akase.1>

## **90<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY 2020 IN OSTEIA/ ROME (ITALY) from 24 July to 2 August 2020**



## **91st INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY 2021 IN NAAS RACE COURSE (Near DUBLIN) /IRELAND FROM 29 JULY TO 07 AUGUST 2021**



## CAMPING/CARAVANNING/MOTORCARAVANNING

### An overview of road toll provisions in the major European travel destinations:

**Slovenia:** Car/caravan combinations and motorhomes under 3.5 tons need a vignette (toll sticker). Lightweight motorhomes under 3.5 tons are classified under the private car category depending on their height, i.e. in vignette category 2A. In the case of car/caravan combinations, the vignette category depends on the height of the towing vehicle: car/caravan combinations with a towing vehicle under 1.3 metres in height at the front axle are also classified under category 2A. If the height of the towing vehicle is over 1.3 metres, the road toll will be higher, i.e. in accordance with category 2B. However, there is no separate toll for the unit being towed. Heavy motorhomes over 3.5 tons have to pay a toll depending on the distance. This used to be possible by paying cash or via credit card at the toll booth but, as of April 2018, payment can now only be made via a transponder by the name of “DarsGo unit”.

**Italy & Croatia:** A distance-related toll is payable on motorways. The amount in Croatia is determined for both car/caravan combinations and motorhomes by the maximum permissible weight and the number of axles. In Italy, the toll is calculated according to the latter (regardless of the total weight). The charge has to be paid at the toll booths when leaving the motorway. Numerous Italian city centres have limited traffic zones, known as “Zona Traffico limitato” (ZTL), which can only be entered with a special permit.

**Germany:** In Germany, there are no toll charges on the motorways. A special feature are the so-called environmental zones, which now exist in more than 50 German cities. The only vehicles allowed in these environmental zones are those displaying an environmental sticker indicating that they do not exceed a particular exhaust emission limit. The criterion for entry into most zones is the “green” environmental sticker. This means, for example, that diesel vehicles have to comply with Euroclass 4 at least.

**Austria:** On motorways/freeways, the vignette (toll sticker) is compulsory for vehicles (including motorhomes) up to and including a maximum permissible weight of 3.5 tons. Units towed by these vehicles are not subject to the vignette. Vehicles over 3.5 tons come under the distance-related toll charge regulations (“GO-Box” truck toll system). A digital vignette can be purchased as an alternative to the toll sticker.

**Switzerland:** Car/caravan combinations up to 3.5 tons require a vignette on Swiss motorways. In the case of car/caravan combinations, a separate vignette is need for the unit being towed. It is more difficult for heavy motorhomes and car/caravan combinations over 3.5 tons because they have to pay a flat-rate heavy vehicle charge on all roads.

**Hungary:** All vehicles require an e-vignette. The vehicle registration number is recorded before driving onto the motorway, so there is no vignette to stick on the windscreen. Car/caravan combinations up to 3.5 tons are classified under category D1 as passenger cars. If the towing vehicle has more than seven seats, however, a category U vignette then also has to be purchased



for the unit being towed. Motorhomes need a category D2 e-vignette regardless of their gross weight.

**Serbia, Macedonia & Greece:** A distance-related toll charge has to be paid at the toll booths for using the motorways in all three countries. For car/caravan combinations, the amount of the charge is calculated according to the overall height. For motorhomes, the cost is determined according to the maximum permissible weight in Serbia, according to the number of axles in Macedonia and according to the overall height of the vehicle in Greece.

**Czech Republic:** Car/caravan combinations and lightweight motorhomes under 3.5 tons require a vignette. There is no additional charge for the unit being towed. A distance-related toll is charged for motorhomes over 3.5 tons via an electronic transmitter. Additional routes travelled by these are also subject to a toll charge.

**Slovakia:** In Slovakia, the e-vignette is applied by recording the vehicle registration number. If the gross weight of the car/caravan combination is under 3.5 tons, a vignette is only needed for the towing vehicle. As soon as the combination of the towing vehicle and the unit being towed exceeds 3.5 tons, the unit being towed then needs its own vignette in addition. Motorhomes always require a vignette, regardless of the gross weight.

**Spain:** In Spain, a distance-related charge has to be paid on the privately operated motorways “autopistas”. The amount depends on the number of axles. In contrast, the state-run “autovias” are toll-free.

**France:** A distance-related toll charge is payable on all motorways. For both car/caravan combinations and motorhomes, the toll charge is higher from an overall height of more than 3 metres. Environmental zones have been set up in several French cities and only vehicles that display a sticker indicating that a certain exhaust emission limit is not exceeded may enter these zones.

**Norway:** Numerous motorway routes, tunnels and bridges are subject to toll charges, though the charges are not higher for either car/caravan combinations or motorhomes than for passenger cars. Payment is fully electronic, with the vehicle registration number recorded at the toll booths and a bill for the charges to be paid sent by mail. Cash payment is not possible. Motorhomes over 3.5 tons require a mandatory “AutoPASS Chip” to pay the charges.

**Sweden:** A City Toll has to be paid when driving into the cities of Göteborg and Stockholm. There is no charge for the use of motorways. Those wanting to use the Öresund Bridge from Denmark to Sweden for their journey to Scandinavia should not underestimate the charges: a one-way trip costs €100 for motorhomes and car/caravan combinations.

Source: Camping Revue (A) and F.I.C.C. Motorcaravan Commission

**A fire in a caravan or motorcaravan** generally ends in disaster sooner rather than later. In just a few minutes a caravan can become engulfed in flames and there is no chance of saving anything - except oneself.

A very detailed article on such fires was published in Kampeerauto (NKC-NL) along with tips on how one can reduce fire risks in the first place.



- Have your gas installation serviced every two years
- Clean the burner on your fridge every two years
- Replace gas tubing and pressure reducers in your gas tank regularly
- Have a qualified electrician carry out work on your electrical installation
- Do not use a crown stone heating arrangement or electric terminal connectors
- Do not leave cables coiled up under your caravan/motorcaravan
- Have a foam fire extinguisher to hand and change it every 10 years
- Buy a fire blanket
- Install a smoke alarm with a long life battery in your caravan/motorcaravan

### **Camping in Denmark**

The Camping Key Europe camping card is no longer necessary if you want to camp in Denmark: the requirement to buy the Danish camping card was abolished in 2017.

Denmark does not allow wild camping – you have to camp on an official campsite. But there are lots of natural camping locations for people who want to camp in the midst of nature. Official campsites are often just a stone's throw apart.

Source: VisitDenmark

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

### **Health**

#### **Juniper oil for back pain**

Juniper oil (available from pharmacies) can alleviate back pain such as sciatica or lumbago. You simply massage the painful spot gently with the oil. It is also recommended for arthritis.

#### **Is sleep more restorative before midnight?**

Not necessarily. Studies have discovered that it is the first 240 minutes of sleep that count, irrespective of whether it is before or after midnight.

#### **Culture and other interesting tidbits**

This year Cologne is celebrating the **200th anniversary** of the birth of one of the city's famous sons, **the composer Jacques (Jacob) Offenbach**, with a grand festival of music. The highlight is a two-week programme of concerts and performances on Cologne's Offenbach-Platz and in surrounding chateaux and parks from 9 to 26 June. Jacques Offenbach is reckoned to be the founder of operetta and lived in Paris for most of his life.

Source: Extract from Camping (DCC/D)

**The first tram** was built in 1881 by Werner von Siemens (1816-1892). It operated originally in the Lichterfelde district of Berlin and it was this invention that really put the town on the map.

#### **500th anniversary of the death of Kaiser Maximilian**

The "last knight" of the Habsburgs and the "first European", Kaiser Maximilian I turned Innsbruck into a thriving town in the mountains. Remnants of his golden age are still very apparent even today. 2019 marks the 500th anniversary of his death and the Tirol is honouring its former cultured and artistic leader with a number of exhibitions, guided tours and other events. These will be centred around Innsbruck along with special exhibitions until 31 October.



Source: Freie Fahrt (CCA-A)

### **Where does the name “Greenland“ come from?**

The world’s biggest island that lies between the North Atlantic and the Arctic Ocean has been shaped by and is largely covered by ice and snow but it is nevertheless called “Greenland“. The story goes that 1,000 years ago when the Vikings first landed, the island was covered with fertile soil and the southern part was like an “oasis“.

### **Environment**

#### **Proof that plastic has turned up inside humans**

We have always known that bits of plastic have been found in fish and birds but, according to Austrian scientists, we humans also have microplastic residues inside us now that come from cosmetics, bottles and other receptacles.

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

##### **Avoid mildew spots on your shower curtain**

Put the curtain in the clothes washer every few weeks. Then leave overnight in a clean bucket of salty water (2 tablespoons of salt to 10 litres of water) and hang up to dry. The salt prevents a build-up of mildew.

##### **Revive herbs in sugared water**

Fresh herbs wilt very quickly. But if you cut the bottom of the stems and put the herbs in a glass of sugared water, you will find that they revive very quickly.

**Australia:** Since the introduction of a ruling making the wearing of helmets mandatory for cyclists in Australia, the number of fatal accidents has fallen by 50%. Moreover, the number of cyclists on the road in Sydney has risen since the ruling was introduced that is designed to protect against severe head injuries.

### **School holidays**

#### **Portugal (Lisbon) – Slight differences in the regions**

06.04.-24.04 2019 Easter holidays

22.06 – 15.09 2019 Summer holidays

14.12.2019 – 01.01.2020 Christmas holidays

#### **Italy (Venice) - slight differences in other regions**

18.04 – 25.04 2019 Easter holidays

09.06 - 11.09 2019 Summer holidays

24.12.2019 - 06.01 2020 Christmas holidays

#### **Hungary**

17.04.- 23.04 2019 Spring holidays

15.06. – 31.08 2019 Summer holidays

15.12.2019 – 01.01.2020 Christmas holidays

#### **Russia**

08.04 – 14.04.2019 Spring holidays

01.06. – 31. 08.2019 Summer holidays

31.12.2019 – 07.01.2020 Christmas holidays

#### **Malta**

17.04. – 25.04. 2019 Spring holidays



29.06. – 25.09.2019 Summer holidays

24.12. 2019 – 03.01 2020 Christmas holidays

**United Arab Emirates (Dubai)**

01.07. -02.09.2019 Summer holidays

16.12.2019 – 06.01.2020 Winter holidays/Christmas holidays

(No guarantees on the information supplied)

## LATEST NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS

**Our Turkish member UKKF ( Usual Kamp ve Karavan Federasyo )** has a new President Mrs. **Leyla ÖZDAG**.

**The Camping and Caravanning Club (GB)** also has a new Chairman: Mr. **Bob TALBOT**

Mr. **Robert Louden MBE** (Director General of The Camping and Caravanning Club-GB) is taking well-deserved retirement after 12 years as the Club's DG. F.I.C.C. and Robert Louden have worked extremely well together for many years, and F.I.C.C. is grateful to the Club and its departing DG for this productive collaboration. We wish Mr. Louden all the very best and trust that he will enjoy many years of happiness and good health in his "retired life".

We welcome Ms **Sabrina Voysey** as the Club's new Director General and are certain that we will enjoy a similarly good working relationship with her. We send her our best wishes in her new position.





Once again the **Deutsche Camping Club (DCC)** has awarded its Europa Prizes at the “Reise + Camping“ exhibition in Essen (D). The awards are presented to outstanding campsites in Germany and Europe. Since 1996, and with the backing of the Essen exhibition, the German camping federation has made awards to selected campsites that offer a variety of excellent services to their campers.

In 2019 the DCC Platinum Award went to: Nordsee Camp Norddeich (Germany) and Esterel Caravanning (Agay-Saint-Raphael/France).

Both of these campsites have succeeded in maintaining, and improving on, very high standards over a ten-year period.

The DCC Europa Prize 2019 went to: Camping Allweglehen (Berchtesgaden/Germany), Camping Cala Gogo (Calonge/Spain), Aminess Maravea Camping Resort (Novigrad/Croatia) and Thermalcamping Papa (Pap/Hungary).

The cups were presented by DCC President Andreas Jörn during an award ceremony attended by both DCC Vice-Presidents Dieter Albert and Michael Woltmann, Joao Alves Pereira, President of F.I.C.C., Rudolf Jelinek, Mayor of the city of Essen and Oliver P. Kuhrt, the Director of the Essen exhibition.

**During the Essen Fair also F.I.C.C. awarded some diploma to representatives of special campsites who were not able to be present at the F.I.C.C. World Congress in November in Lisboa/Portugal. participate in**



## Fairs and exhibitions

**Belgium:** Mobicar from 3 - 7 October 2019 in Brussels;  
Brussels Travel Expo in December 2019

**China:** All in Caravanning 14.06. – 16.06.2019 in Beijing

**Germany:** Aachener Caravan & Camping Messe from 18.05. to 19.05.2019 in Aachen Caravan Salon Düsseldorf from 30.08 to 08.09.2019 in Düsseldorf  
Reisen & Caravan Messe from 31.10 to 03.11.2019 in Erfurt



**France:** Salon des Véhicules de Loisir from 28.09. – 06.10.2019 Le Bourget/Paris

SETT from 5 to 7 November 2019 in Montpellier

**Italy:** Il Salone del Camper from 14 to 22 September 2019 in Parma

**Netherlands:** Kampeer & Caravan Jaarbeurs from 09.10 to 13.10.2019 in Utrecht

**Austria:** Caravan Salon Austria from 16.10 to 20.10.2019 in Wels

**Spain:** Madrid Caravaning Xanadu in October

**Switzerland:** Suisse Caravan Salon from 24 - 28 October 2019 in Berne

**Sweden:** Elmia Husvagen Husbil 2019 vom 11. bis 15. September in Jönköping

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