



GOOD TO KNOW – JUNE 2019

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



H.Nevu-DCrotrie - Châteaubriant castle

N.B: The deadline for rally bookings has been extended to 15 June with no extra charge



OT GuGrande – Mont St. Michel

For information and bookings go to

www.ficc2019.com

and

www.ffcc.fr oder info@ffcc.fr or Tel: 00.33 142 72 84 08

There are no caravans for hire, only motorcaravans. See under <https://ficc2019.com/infos-pratiques/> and the back of the booking form.

**GPS 47°43'14.74"N-1°12'10.81"W. N and W (Westen, west) for German and English.
For French "N" and "O" – (O = ouest = west)**

89th INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY in Ten-ei Village (Fukushima Prefecture) /Japan from 28 September to 6 October 2019





Beautiful excursions





INFORMATION

To avoid any problems, the Organiser is asking non-Japanese participants (from Europe, Taiwan, China, Korea etc) to register for the rally by filling in and mailing the printed form and to pay via a bank transfer. Because of this change in registration procedure, the booking deadline has been extended to 31 July 2019.

Further important information under

jac@autocamp.or.jp and

<http://www.89thficcrally.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/kazuhiro.akase.1>

70th INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. YOUTH RALLY IN COIMBRA/PORTUGAL

from 8 to 13 APRIL 2020

Information under www.70youthrallyficc.com



90th INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY 2020 IN OSTEA/ ROME (ITALY) from 24 July to 2 August 2020



Mobile homes may be rented on the Capitol Camping site in Ostia, the venue chosen for the 2020 F.I.C.C. Rally – www.campingcapitol.com

There are two categories: “Mobile economy house” “Baya Blu” (for 4 people), costing €700 for the duration of the rally (incl. 1 x bed linen and hand towel) and “Baia Sardinia” (for 6 people), costing €900 (including 1 x bed linen and hand towel) .

There will be an extra charge of €36 per dog or cat staying in a mobile home.

The so-called “tourist tax” is charged extra on arrival at the campsite. The amount is fixed by the city authorities and is as yet unknown for 2020.

91st INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY at Naas Racecourse near Dublin/Ireland from 29 July to 7 August 2021



**91ST INTERNATIONAL
F.I.C.C. RALLY
DUBLIN 2021**

On 7th May 2019, a site visit was carried out by the Rally Commission to the proposed venue for the 91st F.I.C.C. International Rally, Naas, Ireland.

Naas Racecourse is 900 metres from the centre of Naas and only 32km from the centre of Dublin. The main point of entry to Ireland will be via Dublin port or airport, although new ferry routes, favourable to those coming from France, Spain and Portugal may be introduced, following Brexit. The Organisers will have the full use of Naas Racecourse for the duration of the rally. Full catering and bar facilities are available, while internet is available to all within all the buildings in the racecourse.

It is intended that camping areas will be inside the Racetrack, with water being piped to these areas. A hard road leads to the entrances to the camping areas.



Showers and sanitary blocks will be provided to augment those in the permanent buildings, as per F.I.C.C.'s guidelines. Tanks will be provided for black effluent and grey water along the hedgerows. 150KVa generators (Silent Run) will provide 6 amps power to those booking it, but people not booking it will find themselves in a separate area from those who do. People with medical needs will have access to a greater supply of electricity and they will be accommodated closer to the buildings.

Total site capacity with 10m x 10m pitches is in excess of 1000 units.

A large marquee will be erected beside the restaurant which will be used for evening entertainment from 8.00pm to 10.30pm. From 10.30pm entertainment will be in the grandstand bar (adults only). There are medical facilities on site and police, fire and ambulance services in the town.

There are 2 hotels close by the site. The nearest is about 400 metres away and the second hotel (Lawlors Hotel) is in the main square of Naas which is 900 metres from the site entrance. This hotel is to be upgraded with an additional 70 plus bedrooms. Work will be completed and the hotel re-opened by Easter 2021. Work on upgrading the hotel will begin middle of this year and must be completed and the hotel fully open by Easter 2021.

A wide selection of tours will be arranged direct from the rally site and frequent bus services are available from Naas direct to the centre of Dublin.

Norman Taylor

F.I.C.C. Rally Liaison Officer

Camping/Caravanning/Motorcaravanning

Practical tips – for campers too

Use a flower pot to sharpen blunt knives

You can sharpen up your blunt knives very nicely on the rim of a clay flower pot.

Nutmeg keeps the moths away

Everyone has nutmeg in their larder or store cupboard. Putting a couple of nutmegs in any of your cupboards will keep moths away because they don't like the smell.

Safety rules for cyclists (don't forget)

- ° Have lights at the front and the back of your bike
- ° Keep your lights on when cycling in daytime
- ° Wear a helmet, even for short bike rides
- ° Wear a high visibility vest (it is better if you can be seen)
- ° Have the mechanics of your bike checked regularly
- ° Refresh your memory on road signs
- ° Refresh your memory on the highway code
- ° Consider going on a cycling training or refresher course.

Source: ACS (CH)



Caravanning statistics for Europe

The European caravanning industry had an extraordinarily successful year in 2018.

There were exactly 202,611 new registrations of recreational vehicles in Europe in 2018, up 6.7% on the previous year. The 200,000 threshold was exceeded for the first time since 2007 although there were many more caravans in those days.

Germany was the European frontrunner once again last year, with 71,186 new registrations of motorcaravans and caravans and the market once more recorded strong growth of 12.5%. With 35,743 new registrations of leisure vehicles, Great Britain remained the second biggest national market in Europe although the figure did represent a drop of 6.2%.

France, the third largest European market, recorded 32,002 vehicles, an increase of 8.6%.

As a result of these encouraging results, the industry is forecasting increasing exports again in 2019. Despite Great Britain, the second biggest European caravan market, leaving the EU, none of the exporting companies are expecting their business to suffer.

Source: Camping, Cars & Caravans (D)

Biggest Lego caravan

The biggest Lego caravan is made up of 288,630 separate pieces. Up to now the record was held by Lego-T@b using 215,000 pieces. This latest caravan comprising all these brightly coloured bricks is a life-size replica of a 1973 Australian Viscount Royal caravan and is complete with a stove, fridge, washbasin, chessboard, drawers with cutlery and even a tub of Vegemite all made out of Lego tiles. Ben Graig, who built the caravan, inadvertently managed to lock himself in his workshop on one occasion and had to spend the night on the Lego bed. His caravan had its première last year at the Queensland Caravan Camping and Touring Supershow.

Germany: Caravan sector in numbers

° There were 71,000 new registrations of caravans and motorcaravans recorded in 2018, the highest number ever

° over 3 million Germans from all age groups and social classes go on holiday in a recreational vehicle

° RV manufacturers' turnover in 2018 was a record 11 thousand million euros.

German campers still find that it is good value to spend the night in their own country (according to ADAC). Despite a price increase of about 1€ compared with the previous year, on average it only costs a family in Germany €30.31 per night in 2019. Germany is therefore a country that still offers good value to European campers.

The most expensive camping destination in Europe this year is Italy where it costs €48.35 per night. There, the price increase of over 4% means that this Mediterranean country has now overtaken Switzerland which was always the most expensive camping destination in recent years.

A nationwide comparison in Germany reveals that **Bavaria** is the N° 1 camping area with nearly 6.2 million nights (up 9.9%). Mecklenburg-Vorpommern with 5 million overnight stays, Lower Saxony with 4.9 million and Baden-Württemberg with 4.6 million have also made their mark.

German campers accounted for around 86.1% of all overnight stays on campsites in 2018 (+11.2%). Of the 4.7 million overnight stays by foreign campers (+12.9%), one half came from the Netherlands, followed by Switzerland (14.9%), Denmark (5.9%) and Belgium 5.4%.

Source: Camping, Cars & Caravans



MISCELLANEOUS

Great Britain:

Anyone wanting to drive their own car in London has had to dig deeper into their wallet since 8 April 2019 if their vehicle does not comply with the latest emission standards. Following the introduction of the so-called “congestion charge”, a T-tax has now been introduced for older, more polluting vehicles, in order to improve air quality.

Since April, driving in an Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) costs £12.50 per day (24hours) instead of £10. For the moment both zones cover the same area i.e. just the inner city, but from October 2021 the ULEZ zone will be extended.

Source: Kampeertoerist VKT/VKCF (B)

Before embarking on a trip to London it is worth checking for up-to-date information with your own automobile club or tourist office.

Austria/Slovenia

Better connections in the south east

The new, two kilometre-long ring road round Scharnitz on the German-Austrian border between Munich and the Tirol has eased traffic jams in the area and spares motorists hours of waiting around in long queues.

The showpiece of this engineering project is the one kilometre-long Porta Claudia tunnel. The ring road is especially appreciated by holidaymakers who want to take the German A95 south west via the Karwendel mountains or via the Zirler Berg to Innsbruck.

On the A4 in **Slovenia** the last six kilometres between Podlehnik and the Macelj border crossing have been completed. It means that there is a motorway all the way from Graz in Austria to Zagreb. This will also make a difference to traffic travelling to and from Serbia and Dalmatia.

Source: KampeerToerist (VKT/VKCF-B)

D-day Festival

2019 is exactly 75 years since the largest seaborne invasion in history took place. It was the beginning of the liberation of western Europe in the Second World War.

Many events are being organised between 25 May to 16 June culminating in D-day celebrations on 6 June. Firework displays will be held on the most important beaches where there were the biggest landings took place. There will be numerous ceremonies and events marking the liberation including an international military parade with several hundred soldiers in Saint-Mère-Eglise and a giant picnic on Omaha Beach.

Source: Kampeerauto (NKC-NL)

Health

Don't forget to drink enough during the day

Every afternoon you should check whether you have drunk enough during the day. If you are a bit dehydrated you will feel tired and lack concentration. Headaches and achey joints, dry eyes and a dry mouth are also signs that you have not drunk enough. If you experience any of these symptoms



then it is high time that you drink some water or unsweetened tea. The recommended amount that you should drink in any one day is between one and two litres.

Culture and other interesting tidbits

Spectacles or “eye glasses“ were invented in Italy towards the end of the 13C but a simple form of lens existed back in antiquity.

This might work (depending on your computer and your mouse)

A tip to make reading e-mails easier – especially for people who no longer see so well. Press the Ctrl key and at the same time rotate the small ball in the mouse – and you can make the text bigger or smaller depending which way you turn it.

Belgium: Brussels is hosting an exhibition entitled “Intimate Audrey“ (Hepburn) until 25 August 2019 where around 1,000 photos and personal items belonging to the actress will be on display. The collection has been lovingly put together by her son, Sean Ferrer.

Info: www.intimateaudrey.org

The Netherlands: Mysteryland Music Festival is being held in Haarlemmermeer (Haarlem’s lake) near Amsterdam.

Information www.mysteryland.nl

Art is not a luxury, it is a necessity.

Lyonel Feininger (1871-1956)

Environment

Do wolves hunt in water too?

Canadian sea wolves can swim for miles and miles. They can often be seen on small Pacific islands and they hunt herring, salmon and sometimes even small seals. They are descended from the common North American grey wolf that lives on the North American continent but, according to biologists, they have evolved genetically.

Are there trees that can withstand fire?

Yes, the giant sequoias or redwoods in north-west America can grow up to 100m and live for 1,500 years. Their bark is fireproof which is unique in the realm of trees. If there is a forest fire, it is only the uppermost branches that burn, the rest of the tree is protected by the bark, which secretes a liquid that congeals to form a second very tough skin on the trunk.

4 kgs of microplastics per person find their way into the environment every year in Germany alone, making a total of 33,000 tonnes.

Source: Fraunhofer-Institut für Umwelt-, Sicherheits- und Energietechnik
(and it is a similar story in other countries too)



The Netherlands: Environmental zones/low emission zones are to be introduced as follows:

1 January 2020 The Hague (will apply to the greater municipal area)

Leiden: for all polluting mopeds and motorbikes

Maastricht: from 1 January 2020 a low emission zone will be introduced for diesel cars in Euroclass 3 and below.

Nijmegen: A trial low emission zone is currently in operation in the Nijmegen region, not just the town itself.

Low emission zones have existed in Amsterdam, Arnhem, Rotterdam and Utrecht for many years.

Portugal: In Lisbon low emission zones are in operation on working days between 7am and 9pm. Generally speaking one may drive everywhere with a Euroclass 3 vehicle.

Czech Republic: Prague has restrictions for goods vehicles but motorcaravans do not fall into this category. In the event of a smog alert, public transport is free – for tourists too.

Sweden: There are low emission zones in Stockholm and Göteborg as well as a “congestion charge“. The ban is in operation between 6.30am (6am in Göteborg) and 6.30pm but not at weekends, on bank holidays or in the month of July. Cameras are used for number plate recognition. The bill is sent on afterwards.

Spain: Spain has low emission/environmental zones with environment stickers in different colours. Madrid is a permanent environmental zone for diesel cars below Euroclass 4 and for petrol cars under Euroclass 3. There are more stringent conditions if the air is very polluted. Barcelona only operates an environmental zone if there is heavy pollution.

Italy: Italy has introduced environmental zones “zone a traffico limitato“ (ZTL) in a number of cities. Visitors to the city may not enter these zones. Cameras are used for registration recognition and log any vehicles disregarding the ban. If you are staying in a hotel in one of these zones, you must give the hotel your registration number so that you can use your vehicle freely.

Denmark: Cities like Copenhagen, Aalborg, Aarhus and Odense operate environmental zones for buses and goods vehicles. Motorcaravans and caravans are not included in these regulations.

France: Drivers are already familiar with the Crit’Air vignette.

Full information under www.certificat-air.gouv.fr.

Source: De Caravan (NCC/NL)

There are always flowers for those who want to see them

Henri Matisse (1869-1954) Artist

EXHIBITIONS

Belgium: Brussels Travel Expo in December 2019

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

Germany: Caravan Salon Düsseldorf from 30.08. to 08.09.2019, in Düsseldorf

Reisen & Caravan Messe from 31.10 to 03.11.2019, in Erfurt

Italy: Il Salone del Camper in September 2019, in Parma

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

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

SETT from 5 to 7 November 2019, in Montpellier

Spain: Madrid Caravanning Xanadu in October



Switzerland: Suisse Caravan Salon from 24.10. to 28.10.2019, in Bern

Austria: Caravan Salon Austria from 16.10 to 20.10 2019, in Wels

Sweden: Elmia Husvagen Husbil 2019 from 11 to 15 September, in Jönköping

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