



GOOD TO KNOW – MARCH 2017

INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. YOUTH RALLY EASTER 2017

Organised by The Camping and Caravanning Club (GB) in
La Haye-du-Puits/France from 13 to 17 April 2017



85th INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY from 17 to 26 May 2017 in Datça, Western Turkey



The websites www.ficcrally2017.com and kampkaravan.org.tr provide regularly updated information. Booking forms can also be downloaded on these websites.

86th INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY from 30 September to 9 October 2017 in Jhinshan (New Taipei City)/Taiwan





The rally registration fee (excluding excursions) is € 130 per adult (with their own camping equipment), € 100 for young people between 15 and 30 years of age (with their own camping equipment) and € 50 for children between 5 and 15 years of age. Children under 5 years of age = no charge.

These prices are valid for bookings received before 1 June 2017. There will be a 20% surcharge after this date.

Two excursions will be arranged during the rally at a cost of between € 30 and € 40 per person.

Transport possibilities from the airport to the campsite:

- taxi € 65
- bus € 9 per person
- car rental € 150 per day (it is advisable to book in advance)
- chartering a bus for a maximum of 30 people €450 (to be arranged via the organisers)

A 7-day post-rally through Taiwan will be arranged at the end of the rally. It will start in Jhinshan immediately after the rally and end in Taipei and cost € 700 per person.

The itinerary that goes from the north and west to the south and east of Taiwan will include Sun Moon Lake, Alishan National Park, Kenting National Park and Taroko National Park and any other sights worth visiting en route.

Information: <http://www.ficc.org.tw/viewforum.php?#24>

Rallies 2017 with F.I.C.C. Patronage

The Nordic Camping Rally with F.I.C.C. patronage organised by SF Caravan will take place from 9 to 15 July 2017 in Pitkääjini – Kokemäki/Finland.

A full programme is being arranged over 6 days in beautiful countryside.

Finland is celebrating 100 years of independence in 2017.

Registration fee € 220.50

F.I.C.C. members most welcome.

Further information under www.nct2017.fi

The “National Feast of Lanterns“ under F.I.C.C. patronage, organised by The Camping and Caravanning Club (GB), will be held at The All England Horse Jumping Course, Hickstead Place Estate/Sussex-Great Britain from 24 to 28 August 2017. No booking fee charged for children and young people under 18 years old. The programme is still being worked on but it will include the popular “Mardi Gras“ parade and “Lighting up“ – a sort of competition for the most beautifully illuminated pitch and caravan/motorcaravan.

This year’s motto is “A Day at the Races“.

F.I.C.C. members are welcome at this event too.

<http://www.campingandcaravanningclub.co.uk/newsandevents/national-feast-of-lanterns/>



F.I.C.C. Patronage for the GOLDEN RING RALLY in Russia

The Russian State Tourism Agency, CARAVANERS LEAGUE and the Suzdal campsite invite you to take part in the “International Festival of Automobile Travelers and Caravaners“ GOLDEN RING RALLY 2017 in Suzdal.

The Festival takes place from 24 to 30 July 2017 and will give you the opportunity to find out about the history, architecture and culture of Russia.

A special programme of excursions is being laid on.

Every day at the rally site for the duration of the Festival, there will be:

- Tourism exhibitions of the towns and regions in Russia’s Golden Ring
- Displays of souvenirs and national food products
- Russian handicrafts (you can make your own souvenirs)
- Restaurants serving Russian food and drink

A lot of volunteers will be helping out at the Festival offering assistance to participants both at the rally site and during excursions.

This event will be held on a well-equipped campsite with 250 pitches for tents, caravans and motorcaravans.

All participants will receive a Russian visa valid for 1 month.

This is a one-off chance to go to the Festival and to discover the history, culture and traditions of some of Russia’s finest towns and cities,.

After booking, all participants will receive a free invitation which is needed when applying for a visa.

All participants will be free to travel elsewhere in Russia for 14 days after the Festival.

Special trips and a special programme of excursions will be arranged for groups for the journey to Russia.

There will be opportunities to visit famous cities like Moscow, St. Petersburg, Novgorod, Pskov, Kostroma, Yaroslavl, Rostov Velikiy, Sergiyev Posad, Nizhny Novgorod, Kazan.

The organisers will do their very best to ensure that your journey to the Festival and your excursions and travels around Russia are pleasant, comfortable and safe.

All participants will be given comprehensive information and explanations about service stations, campsites and overnight stopovers (overnight parking areas) in Russia.

Further information and bookings for the Festival under WWW.RALLY.GTKSUZDAL.RU

or e-mail

info@rally.gtk Suzdal.ru



F.I.C.C. Patronage for the 8th Friendship Rally to be held from 6 to 10 December 2017 in Matera/Italy

Confederazione Italiana Campeggiatori is organising the 8th Friendship Rally in Matera, a culturally rich town in the Basilicata region – also known as Lucania – in southern Italy. Matera is famous for its cathedral and cave dwellings.

F.I.C.C. members are warmly invited to take part in this rally. Further information will be available in due course.

87th INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY from 27 July to 4 August 2018 in Paaren - Berlin/Germany



The brochure giving the programme can now be downloaded on <http://www.ficcrally2018.de>
All the information you need will be published and updated on the website including contact details.
Source: DCC (D)

Tip from the F.I.C.C. Secretariat:

Köpenick

Köpenick in south-east Berlin (also known as Berlin's "laundry" in the old days), is situated on an island at the confluence of the Dahme and Spree rivers.

It was the centre of Germany's film industry for a long time and it was here that the Eastman Kodak, Agfa and Defa Productions had their studios and factories. The halls and tower blocks are now listed buildings and some have been transformed into luxury apartments.

Treptow-Köpenick is the biggest of Berlin's districts in terms of area. It is renowned for its lush greenery and abundance of water which includes the Müggelsee through which the R. Spree flows. The old town of Köpenick has many beautiful restored houses dating back to the 18th century alongside the town hall and the St. Laurence church and the town's famous baroque castle.

"Der Hauptmann von Köpenick" (The Captain of Köpenick) is a very well-known film by Heinz Rühmann relating the mischievous exploits of one of the town's citizens.

In October 1906, Köpenick hit the headlines at home and abroad thanks to the daring exploit of one Wilhelm Voigt, an out-of-work 57 year old shoemaker. Wearing a captain's uniform that he had acquired, he masqueraded as a Prussian military officer and rounded up ten guards in Köpenick's



brand new town hall. He took the mayor and counter clerks into custody and seized 4000 marks 37 pfennigs from the almost empty municipal treasury.

The public at home and abroad were very amused by this daring feat which exposed the subservient spirit and slavish obedience of the Prussians. Voigt was found and captured ten

days after carrying out this prank. A former fellow prisoner (the shoemaker had already spent 27 years and 6 months behind bars on numerous counts of theft and forgery) had given the police a tip-off. Voigt was jailed for four years but, pardoned by the Kaiser, was released in August 1908.

Köpenick Museum

It is housed in "Schötzes Hof", an old half-timbered house dating back to 1665, with exhibits illustrating the town's history.

Address: Alter Markt – Berlin Köpenick

Müggelsee

An excursion to this, the largest of Berlin's lakes, is worth doing at any time of the year. Formed during the Pleistocene era along with the Müggelberg hills on its southern shores, the lake is 4.3 kms long, 2.6 kms wide and up to 8 m deep in places. The R. Spree flows through the lake at which point it is known as the Müggelspree. If you are on the lake and the wind gets up, sudden choppy waves should not be taken lightly. Many a helmsman in a small boat has been taken unawares and got into difficulties as the waves got higher. On a really cloudy day, the shores of the lake disappear from view and the lake resembles the open sea.

There are a number of places where one can stay around the lake and, for the most part, towns and small settlements such as Friedrichshagen, Rahnsdorf and Müggelheim have retained their village character. The Friedrichshagen waterworks on the northern shore still take much of their water from the lake. There are numerous deep wells located near the banks that are mainly fed by the bank filtrate and only a small amount comes from groundwater. Siphon pipes conveyed ground water to the waterworks. Clean water is obtained through slow sand filters. It is also a museum.

POST-RALLY 2018

Polska Federacja Campingu I Caravaningu will probably be organising a Post Rally in Mielenko, Campsite 107 "Ara" (West Pomerania) after the rally in Paaren/Germany. The campsite is situated right on the Baltic coast.

More information will be available in due course.

88th INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY IN JULY/AUGUST 2019 in Châteaubriant/France

F.I.C.C.'s Rally Liaison Officer will carry out the rally site inspection in April 2017.

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



Words and phrases you may find useful when you visit Japan

Kukou	Airport/Flugplatz/aéroport
Ei tiem	ATM (automatic teller machine/ Geldautomat/guichet automatique
Basu noriba	Bus stop/Bushaltestelle/arrêt de bus
Chikatetsu	Subway/U-Bahn/métro
Kippu uriba	Ticket counter/Kartenschalter/billetterie
Konbini	Convenience store/Tante Emma- Laden/magasin de dépannage/
Toire	Restroom/Toilette/toilettes
Byoin	Hospital/Krankenhaus/hôpital
Koban	Police box/Polizei-Zone/Zone de police
Kanko annaijo	Tourist information desk/Informationsschalter für Touristen/Bureau d'information pour touristes
Eki	Station/Bahnhof/gare
Kyo	Today/heute/aujourd'hui
Ashita	Tomorrow/morgen/demain
Hei/iie	Yes/no – Ja/nein – oui/non
Konnichiwa	Hello/Hallo/bonjour
Sayonara	Good-bye/Auf Wiedersehen/ au revoir
Arigato gozaimasu	Thank you/Dankeschön/merci
Sumimasen	Excuse me/Entschuldigung/excusez moi
Gomennasai	I am sorry/ tut mir leid/ je suis désolé
Oishidesu	It's delicious/das ist köstlich/c'est délicieux

There are a number of large towns in the Fukushima region: Fukushima itself, the regional capital, and Koriyama, the city with the highest population density. Since the Shinkansen (bullet train) has been operating in the area, Fukushima prefecture has seen a steady increase in the number of visitors.

Fukushima is situated in a beautiful area and boasts a lot of hot springs. The region also has a good reputation for its gastronomy and culture.

Camping/Caravanning/Motorcaravanning

Daniel Onggowinarso is the new Managing Director of CIVD

Daniel Onggowinarso, a well-known and respected expert in the caravan industry, became the new Managing Director of the German Caravan Industry Federation (CIVD) on 1 March 2017. He replaces Hans-Karl Sternberg who died unexpectedly last September.

As Managing Director of the Federation, Daniel Onggowinarso will be representing the interests of all branches of the caravanning industry.



The Federation represents virtually all of the German and European recreational and leisure vehicle manufacturers together with their suppliers and contractors vis-à-vis German and European policy-makers, authorities and institutions.

Mr. Onggowinarso who has a Master's in Engineering and an MBA, has a lot of international experience. He joins CIVD from the V-Group in China where he was Chief Investment Officer and Deputy Secretary of Joint Ventures. He also represented CIVD vis-à-vis the Chinese authorities during his professional stay in the country.

Prior to that position, the 39 year-old was in CIVD's technical department in Frankfurt where he was much appreciated for his expertise in technical and environmental matters.

Source: CIVD

Caravanning captures the mood

People are increasingly attracted to caravanning because it is all about individuality, proximity to nature and state-of-the-art vehicles.

Unlike other types of holiday, caravanning equates with truly independent travel. This mobile holiday format fulfils people's desire for freedom and individuality. Travelling in a caravan or motorcaravan has so much to offer whether one is looking for relaxation, sport or sightseeing.

The "back to nature" trend is another reason why this type of holiday is increasing in popularity.

Recreational vehicle manufacturers have made their contribution to this boom too by producing custom-made models that are much more comfortable and user-friendly.

You can go off travelling whenever you feel like it, stop where you want to in beautiful surroundings, go a bit further if the weather is bad – this is the only type of holiday where it is the holidaymaker who dictates the pace. It fulfills the consumers desire for individuality and freedom. We are beginning to see a drop in consumer interest in ready-made products and services in all areas. Caravanning has captured the mood of the times and has therefore become a popular type of holiday at all levels of society.

The opportunities that caravanning offers are wide-ranging: whether sports like hiking, cycling or watersports are on the agenda or one prefers culture, sightseeing and city tours, caravanning fits the bill for every leisure activity. And you can have a very good time if all you want to do is relax because caravanning is also a good way of to help you slow down and a number of campsites are now offering comprehensive wellness and relaxation deals.

Changing consumer habits and the wide-ranging choices on offer are just two of the reasons why more people are becoming camping enthusiasts.

One other reason is that in recent years there has been growing interest in getting close to nature. Enthusiasm for discovering the natural world and the general trend towards the great outdoors is hardly surprising when you consider the pace of urban life.

Caravanning and enjoying nature go together perfectly. You don't even have to do without anything because when you are in your caravan or motorcaravan, you have everything you need - it is a home from home!

Source: CIVD



MISCELLANEOUS

Tips for campers

Old newspaper makes a cloudy vase clear again

Do you have a glass vase that looks unattractively cloudy? You can clean it by filling it up with torn up strips of newspaper and cold water. Leave to stand for two days, then empty out the contents - and your vase will be as new!

Be careful when buying fruit

Look at the labels

- 1) If the label has four digits, any that begin with 3 or 4 means that the fruit was intensively grown i.e. chemical fertiliser was used.
- 2) If the product has five digits and the first is a 9, this indicates that the product was grown in the traditional way i.e. no pesticides or fertilisers were used.
- 3) If the product has five digits and the first is an 8, the product has been genetically modified and you should put it back.

Iceland: Iceland is home to the creepiest museum ever

The small Icelandic coastal town of Holmavik has the world's creepiest museum: the Museum of Magic and Witchcraft. Skeletons in strange attire, books of spells and tricks and relics that can make you disappear are just some of the magic artefacts that one comes across within its walls. The most fascinating object of all is the replica of "nabrok", a pair of trousers that were made from the skin of a dead man. Legend has it that whoever wears these trousers and has a gold coin stolen from a widow permanently in his possession will never be short of money. Before the owner dies, another person must be found to wear the trousers!

Source: Metro (B)

The Netherlands

Keukenhof with its huge variety of gaily coloured tulips and other spring flowers will open its doors this year between 23 March and 21 May, from 8 am to 7.30 pm.

Entrance for adults is €16, and €8 for children between 4 and 11 years of age. There is no charge for small children under 3.

Italy

Italy has drastically increased fines for traffic offences since 1 January 2017. In addition, using a mobile phone unless it is a hands-free device will in future result in you losing your driver's licence for up to two months. For holders of a foreign driver's licence, this would amount to a ban on driving in Italy.

France

Clean air stickers in France – order yours in good time.

Anyone wanting to drive their car in a city centre in France will need a clean air sticker from now on, just like Germany. After Paris and Grenoble, Lyon has now been declared an environmental zone. France is expected to add another 20 towns this year. Anyone wanting to visit one of these cities by



car from 1 April will need to display a Crit'Air sticker on their windscreen. You can order one on line from www.crit-air.fr

You need to fill in your family name, first name, street name and number, post code, town, country and your vehicle registration number.

To complete the process, apart from your e-mail address, you need to give details of your ID, and the date of registration and make of your vehicle. All of the data given must correspond to the information on the vehicle registration document.

The Crit'Air sticker will only be sent to the address given on the vehicle registration document. Old vehicles registered before 1.1.1997 will not qualify for a sticker at all. Payment is by credit card only or by pre-payment and the sticker will be sent to you by mail.

Source: Camping, Cars & Caravans

Germany

Don't forget the emergency lane

For decades now, it has been compulsory in Germany to make way for the emergency services on a multi-laned highway when traffic is at a standstill. This invariably proved to be problematic in practice, so the regulation in § 11, paragraph 2 of the Highway Code has been simplified. As the holiday season is about to start, we would ask all campers to heed this regulation which states:

“As soon as traffic on a motorway or a road outside an urban area with at least two lanes in each direction slows down to walking pace or comes to a complete standstill, vehicles must move over to the extreme left and the immediate right lanes in order to form an emergency lane to allow police cars and other emergency service vehicles to pass.”

This regulation should ensure that the police and emergency services can drive freely through the traffic.

Source: Federal Ministry for Transport and Digital Infrastructure (D)

Vignette Austria/Switzerland

Austria has put up the cost of its motorway vignette slightly for 2017. An annual vignette for a passenger car now costs € 86.40, a two-month vignette € 25.90 and a ten-day vignette € 8.90.

In Switzerland the annual vignette for private cars and motorcycles is CHF 40 i.e. €38.50. Unlike Switzerland, Austria does not require an extra vignette for trailers or caravans towed by a passenger car.

Car drivers caught without a valid vignette in Austria are fined €120 on the spot. In Switzerland the fine can be as much as CHF 200. Even displaying a vignette in the wrong place can result in a fine.

The correct place for sticking a vignette is on the inside of the windscreen, either at the top left hand side or in the rear mirror area. The windscreen should be clean and dry and not colder than 5°C. It should not however be stuck on the tinted band.

Source: Extract ARCD

FAIRS & EXHIBITIONS

Germany: Caravan Salon Düsseldorf 26.08. to 03.09 2017, in Düsseldorf

Hamburger Caravantage: 14 to 19 September 2017, in Hamburg

Bremen: Caravan from 3 to 5 November 2017, in Bremen

Stuttgart CMT (50th anniversary) from 13 to 21 January 2018



The Netherlands: Kampeer en Caravan Jaarbeurs from 11 to 15 October 2017, in Utrecht

Italy: Il Salone del Camper from 9 to 17 September, in Parma

France: Salon Mondiale du Tourisme 16 – 22 March 2017, in Paris

Destinations Nature 17 – 20 March 2017, in Paris

Salon des Véhicules de Loisirs from 30.09 to 08.10. 2017 in Paris, Le Bourget

SETT from 7 – 9 November 2017, in Montpellier

Spain: Expovacaciones from 5 – 7 May 2017, in Bilbao

Madrid Caravaning Xanadu outlet & occasion, in Madrid

China: All in Caravaning from 23 – 25 June 2017, in Peking

Switzerland: Suisse Caravan Salon from 27 – 31 October 2017, in Bern

Sweden: ELMIA from 6 - 10 September 2017, in Jönköping

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