



GOOD TO KNOW – MAY 2019



20TH ADRIA CAMPING RALLY
organised by Udruga Kampista Hrvatske (Croatia Camping Association) and
under the patronage of F.I.C.C.
on the campsite Cikat from 22 to 29 June 2019 in Mali Losink/Croatia

Further information under <https://www.camp-cikat.com/de/adria-camping-rally-2019.aspx>





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



Beautiful, excursions proposed by the organiser during the rally



Parliament in Rennes Photo: Julien Mignot



Mont Saint Michel Photo Alamoureux



Nantes Photo Frank Tomps

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 – registrations at www.ficc2019.com or via
registration form (on request)

Further information at: www.ffcc.fr or 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.



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



Practical information

When you land at Haneda International Airport you should take the monorail to Hamamatsucho (20 minutes), go through the automatic ticket door and take the JR train on platforms 1 and 2 to Tokyo station (6 minutes). Price: JPN 490+160 = JPY 650.
Or you can take a bus from Haneda International Airport to Tokyo train station (approx. 45 minutes) Price: JPY 930.

Most visitors from abroad fly into Narita International Airport and catch a train to Tokyo station, where they can take the Shinkansen (bullet train) to the rally site. The Narita Express N'EX leaves Narita International Airport every 30 minutes and the journey to Tokyo station takes one hour. Price JPY 3.020.

Alternatively you can take the Skyliner to Keisei Ueno station (approx. 45 minutes), then take the Shinkansen in JR Ueno station (next to Tokyo station). However this itinerary involves leaving Keisei Ueno station and walking to JR Ueno station (approx. 20 minutes). Price JPY 2.470.

The cheapest way is to take the bus from Tokyo station. Depending on the traffic, it takes around 70 minutes and costs 900 JPY.

Most rally participants from abroad will certainly arrive the day before the Opening Ceremony (28 September). Five (5) shuttle buses will operate a free service between Shinshirakawa station and the rally site (Hatoriko Highland Community Center) on 27 September.

Tokyo – Shinshirakawa

08.28 > 09.48 Nasuno N° 253
09.16 > 10.40 Nasuno N° 255
10.12 > 11.32 Yamabiko N° 207
11.08 > 12.32 Nasuno N° 257
12.12 > 13.36 Yamabiko N° 209
13.12 > 14.35 Nasuno N° 259
14.12 > 15.36 Yamabiko N° 211
15.12 > 16.36 Nasuno N° 261
16.12 > 17.36 Yamabiko N° 213
17.28 > 18.38 Yamabiko N° 151



At Shin-Shirakawa station you go through the ticket gate and then take the west entrance (on the right) where the shuttle bus will be waiting.

Shinshirakawa – Community Center

10.45 > 11.30

12.45 > 13.30

14.45 > 15.30

16.45 > 17.30

18.45 > 19.30



Buddhist Temples and Shinto Shrines

There are Buddhist temples and Shinto shrines in various parts of the country. While Buddhist temples and Shinto shrines look similar because they are both Japanese style buildings, they are very different in nature. Shrines are facilities dedicated to the practice of Shinto, a religion native to Japan. They enshrine a huge variety of gods referred to as yaoyorozu (literally “countless”), including those derived from nature, other phenomena and myths.

Temples are religious service facilities for Buddhism which is said to have reached these shores in 538.

Well-known temples and shrines:

Sanzen-in Temple in Kyoto Prefecture - Phoenix Hall at Byodo-in Temple/Kyoto Prefecture -



Yama-dera Temple/Yamagata Prefecture – Zenkoji Temple/Nagano Prefecture
Izumo Taisha Shrine/Shimane Prefecture – Meiji Jingu Shrine/Tokyo – Tsurugaoka Shrine/Kanagawa Prefecture – Motonosumi Inari Shrine/Yamaguchi Prefecture – Usa Shrine/Oita Prefecture – Arakura Sengen Shrine/Yamanashi Prefecture.
Source JNTO

The Japanese federation and rally organiser has produced a very good brochure with suggestions for overnight accommodation together with various prices and excursions. F.I.C.C. clubs and federations can obtain copies on request by contacting iac@autocamp.or.jp

Rally booking fees are as follows: adults (over 22 years of age) 18,000 Yen / young people (13-22 years of age) 15,000 Yen / children (6-12 years of age) 9,000 Yen / no charge for children under 6 years of age.

For further information and bookings <http://www.89thficcrally.com/>
and
<https://www.facebook.com/kazuhiro.akase.1>

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



Trevi Fountain (Rome) – a good source of revenue

Legend has it that throwing a coin over your shoulder into the fountain will bring you good luck (many people claim that it will ensure that you return to Rome one day). As much as €4,000 can accumulate in any one day throughout the holiday season. Up to now, the money has gone to the Catholic charity Caritas, but the Mayor now wants to claim it for the city, resulting in big demonstrations by the good citizens of Rome.

91st INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY 2021 AT NAAS RACE COURSE (Near DUBLIN) /IRELAND from 29 July to 7 August 2021

Tip from the F.I.C.C. Secretariat: Ireland and its gardens



The Emerald Isle has some wonderful gardens with a wide variety of plantlife, a veritable paradise offering rest and recuperation.

The following are certainly worth visiting:

- Lisselan Gardens near Clonakilty/West Cork

These gardens are laid out in the Robinsonian style of the 1850s. It also has a golf course which is quite unique.

- Bantry House (west of Cork)

Wonderful gardens – Bantry House is a hotel and also offers B&B accommodation.

- Garish Island (ferry service operates every 30 minutes)
- Mount Stewart gardens and temple, Newtownards/Ulster

Neoclassical style

- Botanical gardens in Belfast
- Rowallane gardens, Ballynahinch/Ulster

Famous for its splendid azaleas and rhododendrons. It is also home to the national collection of penstemons.

- National Botanical Gardens, Glasnevin-Dublin
- Powers Court Gardens, Enniskerry/Wicklow

Large estate (19 hectares) which boasts Ireland's highest waterfall.

Camping/Caravanning/Motorcaravanning

Obligatory checks on gas installations in Switzerland

In Germany and in Switzerland too now a camper might be denied access to a campsite if he/she cannot produce a certificate proving that their gas installation has been serviced. You might be asked to produce it on arrival at some campsites.

Campers from overseas usually just need to produce the certificate that was issued in their home country.

Source: Kampeer Toerist (VKT-B)

France: Tourist tax is being extended

Until now, the tourist tax (taxe de séjour) was only charged by hotels, campsites, rented holiday homes, youth hostels and holiday parks. From now on this tax will also apply to internet service providers such as booking.com, AirBnB, Abritel etc. The accommodation classification will determine the rate charged.

The rate for a three to five-star campsites can vary between €0.20 to €0.60 per person per day. Towns and "départements" are free to set their rates within this margin. Campsites that have no stars i.e. natural camping areas (aires naturelles de camping) and camping on farms (camping à la ferme) are rated as 1 or 2-star sites. Motorhome sites fall into the top camping category.

Source: Kampeer Toerist (VKT-B)

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

The Netherlands: Campers between the ages of 61 and 65 are today’s “big spenders“: on average their daily outlay on camping is €98. On the other hand, seventy year olds and upwards spend €50 per day.

Belgium: Sales of motorcaravans doubled in 2018 compared with 2017. Altogether new motorcaravans accounted for 12.2% of sales whereas the figure was just 6.3% in 2017. In the Netherlands the sales of new motorcaravans rose by 14.1%.

Source: NKC (NL)

The Netherlands: One of the most beautiful and environmentally-friendly campsites around

“De Papillon“ in Denekamp is a very special campsite and bungalow park near the German border. The campsite has been designed taking the environment very much into account and has a small biotope. The grass is “mown“ by sheep, the lake has high banks for the sandmartins and there are even kingfishers. At certain times of the year a naturalist takes groups of campsite visitors on a guided tour to explain about the various special plants or fauna that have made the campsite their home.

The campsite also has an amphitheatre, with disability access, that seats 300 people. It is beautifully cool there in summer thanks to its sunken position.

Special aquatic plants have been introduced to keep the recently installed swimming pool clean. The lake has two springs fed by gravity flow water that comes from Bad Bentheim in Germany situated higher up.





Washing machines use rain water which means no phosphates and less detergent.
Water from the swimming pool is used to flush the toilettes.
Showers are heated by solar panels.
Electricity in the public areas comes from solar power which also ensures a ready supply of hot water for washing up and general use in the restaurant's kitchen.

The 360 pitches are scattered over grass and heathland. There are cycle tracks and footpaths.

There is a playground and entertainment programme for children.
Sightseeing in the area includes the Museum Wonderrijck Natura Docet, Bentheim castle (Germany), Nordhorn zoo, Ootmarsum openair museum.

Information: www.depapillon.nl

MISCELLANEA

It's the same tale every year: watch out for ticks

These parasites (also known as wood ticks) do not, as is often thought, usually inhabit trees, but live in grass, bushes and undergrowth.

A few tips if you go walking in woodland:

° Wear sensible clothes: long-sleeved T-Shirts, long trousers, socks and closed shoes (not sandals).

° After your walk, have a shower and check yourself over. Ticks do not start feeding immediately, they need a few hours before choosing to settle in a suitably soft area of skin e.g. behind your knees, in the crook of your arm (inside of your elbow), on your chest, stomach or even your groin. You should also check your head and neck.

° Insect sprays will help keep these creatures away.

° Consider being vaccinated against tick borne encephalitis (TBE) – especially in areas at risk.

° Just be aware and on the lookout because one in three ticks carries Lyme disease or borrelia. This is an infection that has very unpleasant symptoms (tiredness, pains in your



joints, paralysis even) but is treatable with antibiotics. If you have any of the aforementioned symptoms, seek medical advice immediately.

And now there is a new species of super-tick (hyalomma ticks). These come from Asia and Africa and are five-times bigger than local European ones. They have long stripey legs and can move very quickly.

You need to take the same precautions as those outlined above. No-one knows yet whether they cause TBE, but in the tropics they are considered to be carriers of the dangerous Crimean Congo Haemorrhagic fever.

If a tick has become embedded, then remove it very carefully with tweezers and disinfect the area with alcohol.

The best cities to live in

Vienna/Austria tops the list for the tenth time running, followed by Zürich, Helsinki, Berne (all in joint second place), then come Auckland, München and Vancouver (third place). In sixth place we have Düsseldorf (D) and Frankfurt (D), Copenhagen (DK) comes eighth, Geneva (CH) is ninth and Basel (CH) is in tenth place. Sydney und Amsterdam share eleventh place – Paris and London are 39th and 41st respectively. Brussels (B) has dropped to 28th place. Baghdad (Iraq), Bangui (Africa) and Sanaa in Yemen come bottom of the ratings.

Source: Mercer/Metro

A piece of advice which might spare you a lot of trouble

When you draw money out of an ATM it is advisable to press the CANCEL button twice before putting your card in the machine.

This will erase any configuration that someone might have previously set up in the machine to spy out your pin number.

If you do this automatically every time, you may well save yourself a lot of trouble!

Source: R3CB

Belgium: Pairi Daiza has been named as Europe's best zoo/animal theme park for the second time.

Health

Taking medication:

What does before, during or after a meal actually mean?

Before = 30 to 60 minutes before a meal. After = two hours after eating.

With which liquid? It is best to take medication with a glass of water.

Milk should definitely be avoided (especially if you are taking antibiotics), as should alcohol and grapefruit juice that can change the effectiveness of some medication by up to 70% which is obviously dangerous.

When and how often?: Once a day means you should always take your medication at the same time every day.

Twice a day: leave a gap of 12 hours in-between.

Three times a day: mornings, afternoons and evenings when you go to bed.

If you forget to take your medication – never take twice the dose next time.



Culture and other interesting tidbits

Perahera is celebrated in **Sri Lanka**. It is a sort of carnival when people decorate or dress up elephants. Parahera is the “Festival of the Tooth” and takes place over ten days in July/August featuring parades, music and dancing.

The Netherlands: From 18 April to 8 September the Amsterdam Museum is the venue of an exhibition entitled “Fashion Statements” Today’s and yesterday’s fashions feature – a total of 75 historic costumes from the beginning of the 18C up to the 20C together including modern fashions from designers such as Ninamounah, Art comes First, Patta, Karim Adduchi etc. etc.

Source: NKC (NL)

Environment

Do pandas roar? Pandas communicate differently from other bears, they bleat like goats, trumpet, hiss or bark to make themselves understood by others of their species – often rather loudly.

Practical tips – for campers too

Red wine stains will disappear with champagne or sparkling wine because these are acidic. Just pour a few drops over the spot, let it soak in and then rub or dab the damp spot dry. Moral: Always have a bottle of sparkling wine or champagne with you in your caravan/ motorcaravan even if you only use it as a spot remover!!

You can remove lint and fluff balls from a **sweater** with a shaver, but do so carefully...!

School holidays

Lithuania: 14 July to 31 August 2019 Summer holidays
28 October to 1 November 2019 Autumn break
27 December 2019 to 2 January 2020 Christmas holidays
(No guarantees on the information supplied)

The only way to get rid of a temptation is to yield to it... I can resist everything but temptation (Oscar Wilde)

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

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

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 - 28 October 2019, in Berne

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

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

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
Website: www.ficc.org