



FIGG INFO

GOOD TO KNOW – January 2013

The Fédération Internationale de Camping, Caravanning et Autocaravaning is 80 years old!

In 2013, F.I.C.C. is celebrating its 80th anniversary. More details to follow in the next issue.

REVIEW OF THE 78th INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY 2012 IN MONTMAGNY/CANADA

“The camping way of life contributes towards building a better world“. So said F.I.C.C. President Joao Alves Pereira in his opening address at the 78th International F.I.C.C. Rally 2012 in Montmagny-Quebec/Canada.

Joao Pereira again made reference to the achievements of the Organising Committee despite the difficulties they confronted when the final arrangements were overshadowed by the tragic and untimely death of FQCC's President, Louise Saindon. Nevertheless, EVERYONE was fired by the same spirit that inspired her and the rally was a resounding success.

Special mention should be made too of the wonderful support and commitment of the town of Montmagny – especially the Mayor, Jean-Guy Desrosiers – who declared on behalf of his Council just how proud and delighted the town was to be hosting this 10-day international event.

An international F.I.C.C. Rally is, on the one hand, a once-off opportunity for overseas delegations to introduce the host country to different aspects of their culture and lifestyle. And on the other hand, for the host country, Canada and the Province of Quebec in particular, it is a chance to show the world what they have to offer and prove to visitors that Quebec is high up on the list of great international tourist destinations and convince them that they must come back again.



FIGG INFO

The Taiwanese delegation, for example, was very visible in Montmagny thanks to the size of the group (30 people) and to their active participation. They organised a reception where they served typical Taiwanese food and exotic drinks all of which were very enthusiastically received. It was a fun opportunity for people to learn about and sample Taiwanese gastronomy.

Many of the visitors are considering a trip to this wonderful and very interesting island where they can get to meet its extremely hospitable people.

The Parade of Nations wound its way from the rally site through the streets of the old town of Montmagny and back again in brilliant sunshine. Many participants had donned their national costumes much to the delight of the spectators lining the streets and the national dress of Korea in particular attracted much attention.

Four superb horses and riders headed the Parade escorted by Quebec's security police, limousines with F.I.C.C.'s and FQCC's officers followed by the "Eclairs de Québec" brass band whose music added much to the happy mood of the procession.

Peeling bells accompanied this cheerful international parade through the town whose population, young and old, came out in force and applauded enthusiastically.

There was wide coverage of this event in the media. Regional and national journalists reported on the various programmes, events, excursions etc. and there were a number of interesting interviews too with campers from all over the world.

It should be pointed out that this was the third international F.I.C.C. rally that FQCC has organised, the first in Bromont in 1992, and the second in St. Jean sur Richelieu in 2002. Now it was the turn of the delightful town of Montmagny whose inhabitants, and more especially the Mayor, Mr. Jean-Guy Desrosiers, did everything possible to ensure that everyone had a memorable holiday in their town.

Our grateful thanks of course go to FQCC and its ad interim President Daniel Beaudoin, the many volunteer helpers and the FQCC staff for the wonderful time we were able to enjoy with like-minded people in Quebec, Canada.

Source: Journal du Rallye 2012 – FQCC members/staff,
edited by the F.I.C.C. Secretariat





FIGG INFO

79th INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY FROM 6 TO 14 AUGUST 2013 IN SLAWA/POLAND

Booking forms are ready and rally brochures (in pdf format) can be viewed or downloaded in English, French and German on www.79ficcrally/pl

Bookings through: Polska Federacja Campingu i Caravanningu

E-Mail: biuro@pfcc.eu

<http://www.pfcc.eu>

F.I.C.C.'s Rally Liaison Officer has visited the rally site in Slawa i.e. Campsite N° 261 Sloneczny, where the 79th International F.I.C.C. Rally will take place. The campsite is wooded with birch and pine trees and has good views over the lake. There is a beach and a specially designated area for swimming.

The campsite opens at 12 noon on 6 August 2013 and closes at 12 noon on 14 August. The campsite has 500 pitches each of 100 sq.m.

The Opening Ceremony will be held at 5 pm on 7 August and the Closing Ceremony at 2 pm on 13 August.

The General Assembly takes place at 9 am on Saturday 10 August.

There is a hotel nearby and the campsite also has bungalows/chalets, all of which have a fridge, but no cooking facilities.

The roads on the campsite are good, around 6m wide and lead to flat grassy or sandy pitches. Mobile sanitary facilities will be added to the existing sanitary blocks for the duration of the rally. In addition, more drinking water supply points and waste water disposal points will be installed and a dump station for caravans provided. Separate facilities will be available for washing dishes and for rinsing chemical toilets.

Electricity voltage is 230V with 16 amp power points.

There are no telephone booths or bank on the site, but these are available 700 m away in the town.

Professional security guards, local authority officials and PFCC volunteers will between them patrol the site round the clock, a task made easier by the fact that there is only one entrance/exit.

The office in the main building will be open from 8 am to 12 noon and from 2 to 6 pm.

The authorities will put up signs to direct traffic to the rally 30 kms from the venue.

For people arriving by air, there are two airports – Poznan and Warsaw – both about 120 kms from Slawa. There are hourly rail connections, a bus service and intercity trains from Lesno to Slawa.



FIGG INFO

The infrastructure for the rally consists of a permanent shop, a restaurant, several cafeterias, refilling/exchange points for LPG, a fire service and first aid post.

The evening entertainment programmes will take place in a big marquee erected on the lake shore.

Interesting excursions are being planned that can be booked either when registering or on the spot.

Norman Taylor

Wieliczka

Anyone who is interested in staying on longer in Poland might like to hear about a rather special place to visit. The small Polish town of Wieliczka is about 457 kms from Slava, but not far from Krakow, and houses a real treasure that is classified as a World Heritage Site. It is a salt mine, or more precisely, the oldest functioning salt mine in the world. It was started in the 13C and mining has continued uninterrupted ever since.

There is even a beautiful chapel, St. Kinga's Chapel, 101 metres underground. It is basically a big underground church cut out of the salt and Mass is celebrated there several times a year on important occasions. One can even be married there.

St. Kinga's chapel is the most beautiful "place" in the mine. It is 54m long, 15 to 18m wide and 10 to 12m high and, since the end of the 19C, various sculptors have decorated the roof. All of the ornamentation in the chapel is carved in salt, from sculptures, bas-reliefs and other embellishments to floor tiles. Concerts are also held there in addition to religious services.

There is a salt lake too and a number of artificial lakes. At a depth of over 120m, the mine houses a sanatorium (because of the clean salty air), a restaurant and a museum.

Visitors descend 378 steps down the mine shaft to a depth of 64m. Then you walk about two kilometers through chambers, galleries and down steps until you reach the lift/elevator that whisks you 136m back up to the surface.





FIGG INFO

63rd INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. YOUTH RALLY 2013 POZNAN/POLAND AT EASTER

Full information on this event is available under <http://ficcyouthrally2013/pl>

The International Friendship Rallye from 1. to 5. May 2013 in Carinthia/Austria under the patronage of the F.I.C.C.

In the beginning of May 2013 Confedercampeggio once again organizes the Friendship Rally taking place at Hermagor/Austria. You will receive the program and more information from Federcampeggio E-Mail segreteria@federcampeggio.it or from Schluga Camping Welt A-9620 Hermagor-Vellach
Tel: 00.43.4282/2051

A very interesting program in a beautiful environment is waiting for you!

14th ADRIA CAMPING RALLY from 22 to 29 June 2013 in Nijvice on the island of Krk/Croatia organised by Udruga Kampista Hrvatzke under the patronage of F.I.C.C.

The Nijvice campsite is in a small fishing village on the west coast of the island of Krk. The campsite has been established recently and now has wi-fi internet connection. The 7-day stay costs €85 per person, teenagers pay half and there is no charge for children up to 12 yrs. Registration closes on 1 April 2013. One can rent caravans for the duration of the rally at a cost of €469 for 5-6 berths. Bookings under reservation@kampnijvice.hr It is also possible to extend one's stay at the reduced price either before or after the rally (from 13 April - 22 June and 29 June - 05 July = - 20%).



FIGG INFO

Parking in Calais: France

Parking areas near the ferry terminal at Calais harbour are for ever changing with the result that long-stay parking is very limited. So you should bear this in mind when planning your channel crossing.

Source: The Caravan Club (GB)

Italy

According to an ADAC questionnaire, Italy is the second favourite holiday destination for Germans, after holidays in their home country. Croatia lies in third place followed by Austria. German campers remained faithful to their usual holiday destinations in 2012: Italy, Germany, Croatia, France and Spain.

ENVIRONMENT

FEE (Foundation for Environmental Education)

F.I.C.C. is a member of this Foundation that is gaining increasing influence worldwide and whose objectives are in line with F.I.C.C.'s.

FEE has now been registered as a charitable foundation in Great Britain.

2012 was the third year that LEAF organised a special tree-planting event on 21 September, UN World Peace Day. 579 schools from 16 different countries took part in the campaign this year i.e. 31,900 children have planted 21,200 trees. Romania planted the greatest number.

The tree is a symbol for F.I.C.C. too and its many members scattered around the world. It reminds us, as campers, of nature and the importance of protecting the environment.

The campaign, as symbolized by the tree, is a clarion-call to make children more aware of the environment. It also symbolizes co-operation between schools around the world thereby supporting cultural diversity and tolerance.

Extracts from FEE Newsletter





FIGG INFO

MANY CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MEMBERS ON MILESTONE ANNIVERSARIES:

Fédération Française de Camping et de Caravanning: 75 years

Deutscher Campingclub e.V. : 65 years

Dansk Caravan Klub: 55 years

Caravan Club of Sweden: 55 years

Turkiye Kamp ve Karavan Dernegi: 45 years

Slovenska Asociacia Campingu a Caravaningu: 20 years

Federation of Camping and Caravanning of the Czech Republic: 20 years

The Russian Club of Caravanners: 5 years

TRADE FAIRS AND EXHIBITIONS

Italy: Caravanning and Camping Window VINCENZA from 21 to 24 March 2013;

Great Britain: Caravan & Motorhome 2013, 17 to 20 January in Manchester;
The Spring Caravan & Camping Show, 19 to 24 February 2013 (NEC) in Birmingham;
Scottish Caravan, Motorhome & Holiday Show, 7 to 10 February 2013 in SECC Glasgow;
Holiday World Show, 18 to 20 January 2013 in Belfast /Northern Ireland;

Ireland: Holiday World Show, 25 to 27 January 2013 in Dublin.

In Memoriam

We have just read the sad news in the Camping and Caravanning Club (GB) magazine that Geoff Timberlake has passed away.

Geoff Timberlake had been a very enthusiastic camper since 1970 and represented his club on various commissions and committees over many years.

Geoff Timberlake was also a very active member of the F.I.C.C Tent Commission and was later a member of the Environment Commission.

We send our deepest sympathy to his family. He will be remembered with affection not only by his British friends and colleagues but also by many international campers.