



## GOOD TO KNOW – MARCH 2018



### 68<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. YOUTH RALLY FROM 29 MARCH TO 2 APRIL 2018 at Campsite Terme Tuhelj – Zagreb – Croatia

**Registration:** the booking form can be downloaded from the new website [www.ficcyouthrally2018.com](http://www.ficcyouthrally2018.com) Fill it in and e-mail it to [ukh@camping-croatia.com](mailto:ukh@camping-croatia.com) or send by post to UKH, Trg Republike Hrvatske 3, 10000 Zagreb/Croatia.

#### Prices and rally booking fee:

The booking fee is €65 per person staying on the campsite. Extra days will be charged at €10 per person per day.

The Hotel Well costs an extra € 180 (65+180= € 245 – for one person for four nights in a twin-bedded room), everything included (breakfast, lunch, dinner and drinks). Each extra day in the hotel costs € 45.

It is possible to have a third bed in the room for a child at a 15% discount  
(€180-15% = € 154 + € 65 = € 218)

A single room costs € 228 extra (65 + 228 = € 293)

A bed in the hostel costs € 40 + € 65 = € 105 per person. Extra nights cost € 10 each.



All rally-goers staying on the campsite and in the hostel may have breakfast (buffet) in the hotel at a cost of € 7 per day. A buffet lunch in the restaurant of the Hotel Well costs € 15.

Transfers from Franjo Tudman airport (Zagreb) to Camp Terme Tuhelj

Taxi 1 person KN 375 (approx. 50 Euro)  
2 people 450 KN (approx. 60 Euro)  
4-5 people 550 KN (approx. 74 Euro)  
6-8 people 750 KN (approx. 100 Euro)  
30-35 people 1,200 KN (approx. 160 Euro)

Transfers may be reserved in advance by e-mailing: [ukh@camping-croatia.com](mailto:ukh@camping-croatia.com)

Further information

[http://www.terme-tuhelj.hr/gb/accommodations/campsite-terme-tuhelj-14557?](http://www.terme-tuhelj.hr/gb/accommodations/campsite-terme-tuhelj-14557?ga=2.69078745.950108200.1503929119-1063443765.1503929119)  
[ga=2.69078745.950108200.1503929119-1063443765.1503929119](http://www.terme-tuhelj.hr/gb/accommodations/campsite-terme-tuhelj-14557?ga=2.69078745.950108200.1503929119-1063443765.1503929119)

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



**Don't forget: booking deadline is 15 May 2018.**

**The rally fee will be subject to a 20% surcharge for bookings received after that date.**

### **Please note – CHANGE regarding the Post-Rally in Poland**

The Polish Camping and Caravanning Federation informs rally-goers that the Post-Rally will be held on Campsite N° 142 “Wisniowa Polana” in Miłków (Lower Silesia) from 4 to 8 August 2018. The campsite is about 300 kms from Berlin.

PFCC hopes that this Post-Rally will be just as successful as the previous ones organised there and that participants will return home with many happy memories.



## 88th INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY FROM 26 JULY TO 4 AUGUST 2019 in Châteaubriant/France



A dedicated website covering this event will shortly be accessible under [www.ficc2019.com](http://www.ficc2019.com)

The rally programme will include: excursions, visits, horse-racing, sampling regional produce, gastronomic meals, evening cabaret shows, musical events, dinner-dances with live music.  
All "Made in Châteaubriant!"

You can book already and obtain further information on: [www.ffcc.fr](http://www.ffcc.fr) or [info@ffcc.fr](mailto:info@ffcc.fr) or by telephoning 00.33 142 72 84 08

### Hiking in Brittany

The Grande Randonnée hiking trail in Brittany is acknowledged as being the most beautiful one in France and its 50 year existence is another cause for celebration. The Sentier des Douaniers (Path of the Customs Officials) is one of the best known footpaths in the country. It follows the Brittany coastline continually offering magnificent sea views for 1,800 kms from Mont Saint-Michel in the north to near Arzal in the south. The path was traced out in 1791 to protect the coast from smugglers and was given a new lease of life and upgraded in 1968.

Source: Kampeerauto (NKC-NL)

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





Booking fees are: Adults (over 23 years of age) 18.000 Yen / young people (13-22 years old) 15.000 Yen / children (6-12 years old) 9.000 Yen / Children under 6 years free of charge.

An interesting programme is being prepared.

**Results of the thermoluminescent dosimeter (TLD - radiation monitoring device)** worn by Norman Taylor, F.I.C.C.'s Rally Liaison Officer, during his visit to the Fukushima District of Japan. The dose rates of the device he wore personally showed Tld = 0.180mSv and the control device Tld = 0.172mSv.

Taking statistical error into consideration, the values are virtually the same and give the radiation levels in the areas visited – all normal at ground level. The dose rate was highest on the flights between Great Britain and Japan.

A TLD shows ionizing radiation exposure by measuring the intensity of visible light from a crystal in the detector when the crystal is heated. The intensity of light is dependent on the radiation exposure.

“The TLD went with me on my flights to and from Tokyo. Once I arrived in Tokyo, I wore this personal TLD all the time until I returned to the hotel whereas the control device stayed in the hotel. As mentioned above there was no significant difference in the results taking statistical error into account.”

## **90th INTERNATIONAL F.I.C.C. RALLY 2020 IN OSTIA/ROME (ITALY)**

The F.I.C.C. Rally Commission is due to inspect the rally site sometime in March/April 2018.

### **Camping/Caravanning/Motorcaravanning**

#### **Caravanning reflects the spirit of the times**

This type of holiday is attracting increasing numbers of independent travellers wanting to spend time close to nature in a state-of-the-art vehicle.

Caravanning stands for independence and freedom when travelling around which is why this type of mobile holiday suits people who like “doing their own thing” in an impromptu way. Travelling with your caravan or motorcaravan offers endless opportunities whether you are looking for relaxation, sporting activities or sightseeing. Enjoying the great outdoors is another reason for the growing popularity of caravanning. In addition, manufacturers are coming up with models that can be individually configured, are more comfortable and user-friendly.

Long queues at the check-in desk and going through security at airports, the same old light entertainment programme, not forgetting breakfast served at specific times – lots of holidays come with constraints that encroach on that relaxed holiday feeling. Caravanners and motorcaravanners have no such experiences and only know about them through other people. They just get up and go when they want to, stop where they want to - usually in the best spots - or carry on further if the weather is bad. Caravanning is like no other type of holiday when it comes to travelling at your own pace. More and more people want the independence to do their own thing and are less interested in standardized, ready-made products and services.



The options that a caravan holiday offers are vast: whether you are an active sports enthusiast and like hiking, cycling or water sports, or you prefer culture and sightseeing, caravanning is ideal for all sorts of leisure activities. And if you just want a relaxing break, you can certainly get value for money because there are advantageous deals to be had when travelling around in a caravan. Moreover a lot of campsites offer substantial reductions on spa and other leisure facilities.

Changing consumer behaviour and huge diversity are just two of the reasons why the number of caravanning enthusiasts are on the increase. Another is that in recent years, people have become more interested in discovering and enjoying the natural world. This outdoor trend is hardly surprising given advancing urbanisation.

### **Increasing comfort and easier usability of vehicles**

Manufacturers are producing a wide range from compact, practical vehicles up to the large luxury models so that all customers can find the model that suits their needs. Quality and equipment have made great strides forward too. Space-saving LED lights give the interior a nice cosy feeling, flat screens can be mounted easily and modern sound systems with their small speakers produce good sound. Using modern materials and installing useful electronic devices make for greater comfort and they are also user-friendly. Reversing cameras in motorcaravans and parking systems for caravans make life much easier, just two examples of many useful devices. There have been advances in connectivity in vehicles too with digital level indicators and gauges that give water tank levels etc., together with centralised control of heating, air-conditioning and hot water that you can even operate using your smartphone.

A number of on-line offers and apps help with route planning, finding campsites and parking and much more besides.

### **Compact vehicles and renting to get you started**

There is strong growth in demand for converted panel vans. These vehicles are a compact size but they are fully and properly equipped. They are easy to drive around town so are suited to everyday use too. Manufacturers are also targeting consumers who are looking for a “starter” model. The revival of caravans (36.2% growth since 2013) despite having been written off by some people, seems to indicate that the next generation of consumers is definitely enthusiastic about mobile holidays especially as it is often young families that are buying caravans.

The rental sector for recreational vehicles is also booming. Newcomers who are discovering this type of holiday for the first time welcome this flexible, non-binding arrangement.

Source: CIVD D

**Great Britain:** The maximum width allowed in England is 255 cms, as it is in central Europe. However there are parts of Cornwall in the south-west and also areas in the far north of the country where roads are very narrow indeed and people can have difficulty driving a caravan or motorcaravan measuring 2m50. There is no problem on motorways or main roads – just remember to drive on the left!

Source: Camping, Cars & Caravans (D)



## MISCELLANEA

### Tips for a fit and happy traveller

#### High mountains

If you intend spending your holidays in the mountains, give yourself plenty of time to adjust slowly to the lower level of oxygen, otherwise you will get breathless and could even suffer from altitude sickness. If you have any heart or lung problems, it is essential that you consult your doctor to discuss your plans before setting off. Headaches, dizziness and vomiting, a dry cough and generally feeling unwell, shortness of breath, a swollen face, hands and/or feet are all signs of “altitude sickness“. They are an indication that you should not continue or climb any higher. If possible you should descend 500m and spend a day resting and recovering. Then try going up to a medium height and check your heart rate. Drink lots of water even if you do not feel thirsty and avoid alcohol. Your doctor can prescribe medication which will help you to acclimatise more quickly. If the symptoms persist you must return to the valley floor without delay and seek medical assistance.

#### Dehydration

Diarrhoea, vomiting, sensitivity to heat, high temperature, intensive activity, immoderate ingestion of a dehydration agent to lower blood pressure... Any of these can rapidly lead to your body losing a lot of water along with mineral salts such as potassium or sodium. Lost fluids must be replaced very quickly otherwise a person could end up in a coma or even die and this is especially true of babies and the elderly who do not necessarily feel thirsty or the need to drink. If you find someone has fallen into a deep sleep, has become confused or is losing consciousness, it is time to call the emergency services and, pending their arrival, move the person to somewhere cool.

You can protect yourself from dehydration by drinking a mouthful of water (or more if necessary) every 20 minutes, take a rest during the hottest time of the day, seek the shade, take a shower to cool down and wear light clothes.

Source:A.C.C.A.W.(B)

#### More low emission zones (LEZ)

**Belgium** : In Belgium, it is compulsory to have your vehicle registered to travel in low emission zones. In addition, older vehicles need a “green“ sticker. Antwerp has already implemented a low emission zone, followed by Brussels on 1 January 2018. Ghent, Willebroek and Malines/Mechelen have all decided to introduce low emission zones too.

Cameras check that vehicles display the sticker on their windscreens. If they do not, they will get a fine.

For details of these regulations, go to [www.lez-belgium.be](http://www.lez-belgium.be)

**France** has also introduced more low emission zones – six new ones in November 2017 alone. Some are temporary zones that only come into operation if there is heavy pollution.

The internet site [crit-air.fr](http://crit-air.fr) gives details of new low emission zones, the day-to-day emission situation and interactive maps that indicate possible detours.

Source: Camping, Cars & Caravans

In 2018, the speed limit on secondary roads in **France** has been reduced by 10 km/hour. It concerns all national and departmental roads that have two lanes but no central barrier i.e. the majority.

In **Europe** this limit is already in operation in Switzerland, Norway, Finland, the Netherlands, Denmark and in **France in rainy weather**.



A reminder that in Flanders (Belgium) the speed limit is 70km/h.

### **The importance of a clear all-round view in winter**

Temperatures can fall below zero at night even in March/April when you can still come across peephole drivers on the roads who not only put themselves at risk but endanger other road-users.

According to the highway code, one must have unimpaired all-round visibility when driving so all of the windows, including side windows and mirrors must be free of ice and snow. You should also be aware that the engine should not be left running while you are scraping the ice off.

If there is snow or ice on a vehicle, this too has to be cleared before setting off so that vehicles driving behind are not endangered by flying snow. You should not forget to clear snow or ice off windscreen wipers, indicator lights and rear lights as well as the bonnet (*hood US*), roof, license plate and boot (*trunk US*). If other road users suffer injury or harm because of your negligence, there is provision for such offences in the penal code. What is more, if you cause an accident by flying snow, iced-up windows or impaired all-round visibility, your insurance company may pay out less depending on the seriousness of the situation.

Source: Auto (ACS-CH)

**Belgium:** We have already reported on this once – but again this year the Belgian café “Tegen de Grote Dorst” in Eizingen (Flemish Brabant) has been elected the best beer café in the world on the RateBeer international beer website. This café is only open on Sundays from 10am to 8pm and after funerals. With a choice of 250 different beers, the café specialises in regional beers (Pajottenland), especially Geuze, Lambiek and vintage Kriekbier (beer with cherry juice). The café first opened in 1842 and has already been voted the best café in the world three times through RateBeer.

The Antwerp café Kulminator is among the top five beer cafés in the world, then come the highly rated De Heeren van Lidekercke in Denderleeuw (13th place), Oude Schooltje van de Struise Brouwers in Oostvleteren (14th place) and the Cantillon Brewery (20th), Moeder Lambic Fontainas (22) and Moeder Lambic in Saint-Gilles (all in Brussels).

Source: Metro (B)

### **Travelling first aid kit for dogs**

Many campers like taking their dog with them on holiday but the health and well-being of our four-legged friends must not be overlooked.

It is useful to have a first aid kit and a few remedies for minor eventualities:

- Poultice, disinfectant for wounds
- Sterile saline solution for cleaning wounds
- Ointment or coconut fat (for sore pads)
- Gel/ointment for insect bites
- Codliver oil or zinc cream (for superficial grazes)
- Calcium ampoules (allergic reaction or swellings especially in brachycephalic breeds such as bulldogs, pugs etc.)
- Charcoal pills (if there are signs of poisoning or severe diarrhoea)
- Medication for travel sickness or agitation
- Ear cleaners (especially on beach holidays)
- Parasite repellent
- Gauze compresses, bandages and blunt-ended scissors
- Self-adhesive dressings and adhesive tape
- Shoes/socks
- Disposable gloves, swabs, cotton buds



- ° Tick tweezers, magnifying glass, torch
  - ° Claw clippers, thermometer and tweezers for removing splinters
- Source: Camping, Cars & Caravans

### **Germany: New winter tyre regulations**

Since 1 January 2018, regulations on winter tyres have been tightened up. Winter tyres marked simply M + S are no longer allowed and all new winter and all-season tyres must also carry the obligatory so-called snowflake symbol.

From 1 January all new winter tyres mounted for winter use must have this symbol.

M+S means slush and snow but now the snowflake symbol (Alpine) is required too.

This new ruling in Germany does not apply to tyres manufactured before 1 January 2018 even though they are still being used beyond this date. Germany is also considering making the minimum depth of tread 4 mm mandatory on all winter tyres.

Source: De Caravan (NCC-NL)

## **INTERESTING SNIPPETS FROM OUR MEMBERS**

**The DCC (Deutscher Camping Club) Technical Award 2018** went to Truma for developing the Truma LevelControl. By making this award, the Club distinguishes and honours products in the wide range of equipment and accessories that give the camper added security when on holiday. The Truma LevelControl measures the amount of gas in a gas bottle ultrasonically and sends the reading to your smartphone.

Source: Camping, Cars & Caravans(D)

**Caravan Club of Sweden** is organising NCT 2018 (Nordisk Camping Meeting) from 8 to 14 July in Kristinehamn/Sweden.

### **Interesting study by NKC (Nederlandse Kampeerauto Club – NL)**

#### **How and where do the Dutch spend the winter**

Most motorcaravans spend the winter “inside” although a good many can be seen out and about these days. One out of every five campers seeks sunny climes in the winter months. City visits and wintersports are popular too.

#### **19% spend the winter elsewhere**

Top destinations are Spain (44%), Portugal (15%) and France (15%).

74% of these sun-seekers travel around – 26% stay put on a campsite.

The most popular months to spend away are: November (18%), December (24%), January (41%), February (56%), March (55%) and April (12%).

#### **81% opt not to go away in winter**

75% of those who do not go away do not use their motorcaravan at all in the winter months;

19% however use their motorcaravan for short trips;

6% go on winter sports holidays in their motorcaravan.

#### **Winter storage**

71% of campers who decide not to use their motorcaravan in winter will pay for garaging under cover, 17% keep it on their own property, 2% with family/friends and 10% use their motorcaravan all year round.



2% of motorcaravans are kept abroad, 25% are stored outside under cover, 75% are stored inside. Garaging costs are on average €435 a year.

41% use electricity when stored, 8% of motorcaravans go into winter storage in September, 52% spend more than six months a year in storage, 60% of parked motorcaravans are taken off the road. Source: Kampeerauto (NKC-NL)

## EXHIBITIONS

**Belgium:** Mobicar from 12 to 16 October 2018, in Brussels

Brussels Travel Expo from 10 to 11 December 2018, in Brussels

**Germany:** Caravan Salon Düsseldorf from 28.08. – 02.09.2018, in Düsseldorf

Caravan Salon Bremen from 9 to 11 November 2018, in Bremen

**Netherlands:** Kampeer en Caravan Jaarbeurs from 10 to 14 October 2018, in Utrecht

**France:** Salon des Véhicules de loisir from 29.09 to 07.10.2018, in Paris le Bourget  
SETT in November, in Montpellier

**Spain:** Madrid Xanadu Outlet & Ocasión from 10 to 14 October 2018, in Madrid

**Italy:** Il Salone del camper from 8 to 16 September 2018, in Parma

**Switzerland:** Auszeit Luzern (Reise- und Ferienmesse), from 02.05 to 06.05.2018, in Lucerne  
Schweizer Caravaning Salon from 25.10. to 29.10.2018, in Bern BEA Expo

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