



GOOD TO KNOW - MAY 2016

MISCELLANEOUS

Italy: If you are caught drinking and driving in Italy, you could end up with an 18 – 25 year prison sentence so beware....

Info: ARD (D) 16.03.16

Slovakia: The country's vignettes are now only available on-line. Motorway stickers have ceased to exist in Slovakia since January 2016. Drivers must now buy their e-vignette over the internet, or with their Smartphone or at an official outlet for which a receipt or confirmation of payment will be delivered. One can also check the expiry date or make changes to registration details on-line. As with the old stickers, e-vignettes are valid for 10 days, 30 days or a year. For further information and to purchase an e-vignette: www.eznamka.sk

Source: Camping (DCC-D)

Austria: Electrically operated powerboards need a permit before they can be used in traffic. For the most part however they are not allowed on the open road. Users who are found contravening this regulation will be fined and, should they be involved in an accident, they are far more likely to be considered responsible.

Source: Freie Fahrt (Arbö-CCA - A)

Your good health!!

12 reasons for drinking beer

Beer is the oldest drink on the planet and was even consumed by the Egyptian pharaohs.

The first beer brewers were women!

- 1) Beer keeps your kidneys healthy (lowers the risk of getting kidney stones by 40%)
- 2) Beer is good for the digestion, especially dark beer
- 3) Beer helps reduce "bad" cholesterol
- 4) Beer increases your vitamin B levels (B1, B2, B6 and B12)
- 5) Beer is good for one's bones (silicium)
- 6) Beer helps insomnia (lactoflavine and nicotinic acid)
- 7) Beer offers protection against heart attacks
- 8) Beer impedes the formation of blood clots
- 9) Beer improves one's memory
- 10) Beer alleviates stress
- 11) Warm beer is good for colds
- 12) Beer makes your skin healthy



Convinced? So...

- Two beers for your memory
- Two beers for your digestion
- Another one for your bones
- Another one again for your kidneys
- and the rest to fight off colds

just so that you stay on tip-top form, OK?

Spain – Did you know that

- Spain has over 13,000 tapas bars.
- All Spaniards eat a grape every time the clock strikes at midnight on New Year's Eve. And if you are wearing red underwear you know for certain that you will have a good year.
- In Spain a birthday child has his ears tweaked. That is how people say Happy Birthday!
- It is quite common in Spain to see a lot of "waste" (nutshells, paper etc.) on the floor in a tapas bar. It shows that this tapas bar is a great favourite and better than any of the others. So one tends to avoid "tidy" tapas bars.
- 63% of Spaniards speak Spanish only and no other foreign language.
- Garcia is the most common surname.
- It was the Phoenicians who gave Spain its name. They called the peninsula Hispania, a Carthaginian word that probably meant "Land of the Rabbits".
- The real name of DJ Tiësto in Spanish is DJ Blumentop.

Source: De Caravan (NCC-NL)

CAMPING, CARAVANNING, MOTORCARAVANNING

What happens when a leisure vehicle is struck by lightning?

Many caravans already caravans have built-in lightning protection given that vehicles that have an aluminium frame behave as a Faraday cage if lightning strikes, as indeed does a private car. However manufacturers are increasingly using synthetic materials for the roof and walls because they withstand hail better and carrying out repairs is much easier. But what happens as regards the Faraday cage effect?

The caravan that was given the European Innovation Award 2016 has a glass fibre reinforced plastic roof (GfK), but its walls have a sheet of aluminium and the manufacturer is also putting aluminium on the inside of the roof. This will ensure that any electric charge is conducted to the vehicle's chassis.



Tests carried out by the University of Stuttgart have proved that this sandwich system does create a Faraday cage: the experimental lightning did not get through to the interior so lives would not be put at risk. Nevertheless the high voltage did play havoc inside the mobile home. No control device could withstand such a high charge.

A second experiment also showed that lightning that strikes directly above the skylight spreads out or scatters and seems to seek out the aluminium so, again, people would survive. This would not happen in a caravan made entirely from synthetic materials which is dangerous. All caravans have aluminium profiled sections now. A caravan with a purely synthetic roof can be made lightning-proof if steps are taken to ensure that the roof is interlinked, i.e. making sure that the profiled section is linked to the chassis by means of a some sort of metal strip or "railing".

According to experts, the risk of anyone inside a leisure vehicle being struck by lightning is extremely low. It is a bit more precarious though if the vehicle that you are driving is hit. But only because of the shock-element, the failure of assistance systems and on-board computers and the possible release of airbags.

A Faraday cage offers very good protection so in an electrical storm it is advisable to stay in your car and park it next to a flagpole, a high tree or a building. That is where the lightning will strike, not your car.

Source: Extracts Camping, Cars & Caravans.

Parking San Fermin Pamplona/Spain



Dear Campers:

We are a school campus that is trying to help our town's dwindling finances by means of a rather special commercial venture.

We have seen from Internet forums that motorcaravanners who have travelled to Pamplona for the San Fermin festival always encounter problems if they want to park their vehicles in and around the town. Local bye-laws are very clear: the parking of vehicles on the street or in public spaces is strictly forbidden.



To help address this problem, our school has decided to make the school car park and adjoining open area available for parking motorcaravans. We are offering this possibility to all motorcaravanners who want to park somewhere near the town centre with a good bus link to the festivities. This way visitors can enjoy an anxiety-free stay in Pamplona.

In the same block as the school and within a 200m radius, the users of our parking area will find all the amenities they need such as shops, bars, banks, pharmacies and much more besides.

Also, directly opposite there is a public park with green areas and lots of trees where one can relax in the shade.

The parking area is 1 km from the Plaza del Castillo in Pamplona, i.e. less than 20 minutes from the town's historic centre. It will be open from 4 to 15 July with round-the-clock security arrangements.

We have made provision for various services for your members, but one has to realise that it is basically just a parking lot. It is possible to stay overnight in a motorcaravan, but people may not set up awnings, tables and chairs or install any other camping equipment.

You will find the dates and other relevant information on our website: (we recommend Google Chrome)

<http://parkingsanfermin.mariaanasanz.es>

Other useful indicators as to how you can find us:

Maps: 42.825400 to 1.631852

GPS: 42° 49 '34 0,4 N - 1 37 '54,7 W

If you have further questions or need more information please call the following phone number between 8 am and 3 pm: 0034.848 43 05.30

Parking mobile: 00.34.649 22 36 60

Email: reservas@mariaanasanz.es

We also have a number of special deals.

We are looking forward to hearing from you and welcoming you to our Centro Escolar.

INTERESTING SNIPPETS FROM OUR MEMBERS

The Deutscher Camping Club awarded the 2016 DCC Safety Prize to Niesmann+Bischoff for its Arto range at the CMT held in Stuttgart.

The Bulgarian Association for Camping and Caravanning/Bulgaria has informed us that its Chairman, Prof. Dr. Stefko Pargavelov, will be stepping down this May. BACC was founded under his leadership five years ago and is now a member of F.I.C.C.



We thank Prof. Pargavelov for his commitment and hard work developing camping in Bulgaria and also the interest he showed when it came to international cooperation in this domain. We wish him many more years of happy camping.

Fédération québécoise de camping et de caravanning (FQCC/Canada)

FQCC is organising a "Camping Week in Quebec" from 23 to 29 May 2016 on the theme "Discover, experience, share and enjoy."

Further information under www.semainecamping.com

A very special birthday

Royal Camping & Caravanning Club de Belgique (R.3C.B) honoured its oldest club member, Mr. Hoste, when he celebrated his 100th birthday in the company of his camping friends.



The birthday cake



The certificate from F.I.C.C.



édération Luxembourgeoise des Campeurs, Caravaniers et Camping-Caristes (Luxembourg) presented F.I.C.C. Honorary President Camille Olinger with the Federation's highest honour, a Gold Laurel Wreath Pin.



President FLCCC Raymond Schmit, Mrs. Anny Lordong (Vice President FLCCC,
F.I.C.C. Honorary President Camille Olinger

WE HAVE PLEASURE INTRODUCING: SLOVENIA

Caravanning Club Slovenija (CCS)



“Caravanning Club Slovenije (CCS)” was founded in Valburga in Medvode on 24.4.2001 on the initiative of Mr. Andrej Sedej, who wanted a club for all fans of caravanning in Slovenia to offer them a new way of spending their free time. The first official name and logo of the club was CKS (“Caravanning Klub Slovenija”).

The first President of the club was Mr. Marko Čadež who dealt with the legal formalities to register the club as “Caravanning Klub Slovenija”. The first club General Assembly was held in 2001 in Domžale, and the first official meeting of club members was held the same year in the Zbilje. At the meeting in Rogla in 2002 there were already 30 motorhomes, which justified establishing the club. Club news was published under the Caravanning appendix in the magazine “Horizont”.

At the General Assembly held at the Bohinj rally in May 2002, there was a change of leadership and Mr. Miran Lužar took over. That year the membership increased and by May 2004 it exceeded 100 and there were 50 motorhomes at the meeting in Lendava. Around that time Mr. Andrej Sedej set up a company “AS-Press d.o.o.” which published a magazine entitled “4x4 & Caravanning”, in which one page was devoted to club news. The Club changed its name to “Caravanning Club Slovenije (CCS)”.



In 2003, a representative from Slovenia attended the 42nd Europe-Rally in Hungary and then, accompanied by two other club members, the Camping Rally in Croatia. These were the first steps towards a happy relationship with F.I.C.C.

A General Assembly and elections for the club leadership were held in Otočec in September 2004 when Mr. Miha Lotric was elected President. New leadership and new enthusiasm led to revising the statutes and the changes made when turning this new page are still applicable today for the most part. Between 2004 and 2006 the club made significant progress in terms of innovation and development. It started to attend travel and leisure fairs at home. The club was now organising and attending a variety of events both at home and abroad and soon became a member of F.I.C.C. Increasing numbers of club members were attending more and more international events happening in Slovenia and abroad. The number of participants in motorhomes was now nearly 300 which shows what a successful activity for the club this promised to be in the future. The club started participating in trade fairs and exhibitions and had stands for motorhomes.

In April 2006, the club organized the first caravanning rally across Slovenia. The aim was to show the Slovenian public that autocamping was a good way of spending one's free time and that it should be considered equally with other branches of the tourism industry.

In September 2006, at a meeting of the General Assembly in Šempeter near Celje, Mr. Bojan POTOČAR, was elected President, but, due to unforeseeable commitments, only stayed in office for one month and Vice-President Alfijo Glavic took over temporary management of the club. On January 2007 a General Assembly was convened in Dolenjske Toplice, and Mr. Alfijo Glavic was elected President of the club. The new leadership made a start by reorganising the way in which club affairs were managed. This made a great difference and the improvements satisfied club members. The CCS website was activated and visited by many people and thereby enabled a quicker flow of information to members and others. Members of the management team shared the workload and club activities were more transparent.

The 2009 General Assembly was held at the Ježica in Ljubljana. The Club's membership elected Potočar Bojan as President and he stayed in office until 2010. During this time there were a good many events and rallies both at home and abroad. Members attended international events and went on caravan tours in the Czech Republic. It was at this point that the Club began to get involved and enjoy a presence in international trade fairs in Celje and Ljubljana.

Thanks to a change of direction in the Club's management, the Club was without a President or Acting President until February 2011. At the General Assembly in San Simon Izola, Club members elected Mrs. Irena Sedej as their new President. She remained in office until 2014 and under her successful leadership, the website was redesigned and a CCS forum set up. At the same time, a lot of really good meetings and successful camping and caravan events were held. A large number of Club members joined in on motorcaravan tours of Montenegro, Serbia and Vojvodina and went to a number of friendly events that were held in neighbouring Italy and Croatia.

Miran Rožman was elected President at the 2014 General Assembly in Lipica. He stayed in office until 2015. Marjan Krempl took over the Presidency at the General Assembly held in Črnomelj. Certain areas of the CCS needed restructuring or developing and the Club's objectives had to be properly thought through to include meetings, tours, rallies and other events for members not only in Slovenia but also with camping friends abroad. The Club has risen to the challenge though work in some areas is still ongoing.



FAIRS & EXHIBITIONS

Germany: Caravan Salon Düsseldorf 27.08 – 04.09.2016, in Düsseldorf

France: Salon des Véhicules de Loisir, 28.09. - 04.10. 2016, in Paris-Le Bourget
SETT, 03.11. - 05.11. 2016, in Montpellier

Netherlands:

Kampeer en Caravan Jaarbeurs, 14.10 – 18.10.2016, in Utrecht

Switzerland:

Suisse Caravan Salon, 22.10. - 26.10. 2016, in Bern

Italy: Il Salone del Camper, 12.09. - 20.09. 2016, in Parma

Belgium: Brussels Travel Expo, 09.12 – 10.12.2016, in Brussels

Sweden: Elmia Fair in Jönköping from 07 to 11 September 2016

Norway: Camping Fair in Lilleström from 15 to 18 September 2016

Finland: Finnish Caravan Fair from 16 to 18 September 2016 in Lahti
(www.lahdenmessut.fi/en/node/193?p-english)

F.I.C.C Secretariat
rue Belliard 20,
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