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32 What Kind of RV Are You?

Life in a vehicle teaches you about yourself and what you value. Read about one man's RV journey of discovery-and learn what your RV says about you, from your style of life to your spirit animal.

by Marc Acton

# Where the South

Still Sings

With live music seven nights a week and the hospitality you'd expect from Nashville, the Grand Ole RV Resort is both a launching point and destination for Music City travelers.

by Mark Settle







Join us as we head west to Jackson Hole in a travel log that takes you to heart of the Tetons–with campgrounds, craft beer, and R&R that will make your three-day stay like no other.

by Jasmine Rochelle



#### **RV Spotlight**

Explore the luxury, fifth-wheel features of Alliance RV Paradigm and the ultra-light, space-age design of the Rize, the latest Class B from Thor Motor Coach. We dive into the details of why each model is commanding our attention.

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# **I•RVing**

#### **CREATIVE + OPERATIONS**

publisher + charlie echo oscar | Marc Acton executive creative director + unicorn wrangler Mark Gilchrist design director + master of pixels | Dustin McNeal managing editor + master of paragraphs | Mark Settle chief of staff + team mom | Torrey Swan communications + public relationista | Jasmine Rochelle junior designer + emoji slinger | Siani Lopez-Velazquez copy editor + comma commander | Matthew Acton director of sales/partnerships + doer of all the things I Kim Whitaker

integrated media sales + chief of the hustle | Laurie Zak director of finance + money maven | Kristen Humphreys accounts receivable + connoisseur of coin | Devon Barlettano contributor + solar authority | Eva Mitic contributor + tire authority | Michael Pescitelli

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Special thank you to Mark Shimabukuro our greatest editorial inspiration.

#### ALPHA/ECHO AGENCY + DIGITAL

partner + connor mcgregor doppelganger | C. Fric Elmouist digital team lead + 011001000110010101110110 | Jason Shores digital development + placer of 1s and 0s | Jennifer Yoo project director + herder of cats | Rebecca Sykes

#### NEXT VENTURES TEAM

NEXT ceo + maestro de vagar | David Petsolt cco + doer of deals, purveyor of partnerships | Adam Acosta director of client relations + wrangler of details Jessica Jiron

tech/seo consultant + digital guru | Dwayne Hogan digital editor + official world wanderer Robbie Pattersor

THANKS FOR JOINING US AT THE I HEART RVing VIRTUAL GLOBAL CAMPGROUND. PACK IT IN, PACK IT OUT EXTINGUISH ALL FIRES SORRY FOR WHAT I SAID WHEN I WAS TRYING TO PARK THE RV PLEASE RECYCLE THIS MAGAZINE (OR, PREFERABLY, GIVE TO A FRIEND!)

#### FINE PRINT/DISCLAIMERS

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Published by Alpha/Echo Agency out of Nashville. Tennessee in partnership with NEXT Ventures. I Heart RVing Magazine was founded in 2021 by a crazy bunch of dreamers, story makers, and idea tree shakers who iust want to watch the world read

Editorial offices located at 319 Hart Street, Nashville, TN 37210. For all subscription updates and inquiries, go to www.lHeartRVing.com and submit a Contact form with your details. To subscribe to the magazine, visit www.IHeartRVing.com/subscribe. To submit a story idea please contact editorial@IHeartRVing.com.

#### This magazine is a love letter. **Spoiler alert:** It's not to RVs. It's to you.

The first magazine I ever loved was Nintendo Power. The memory of our first meeting is burned hot into my brain. It was a steamy Florida afternoon after elementary school, and this magazine's pure existence rocked my world. Full disclosure, as a teacher's kid, I used to get my textbooks for the next year over the summer and read them before the school year started. I was a reader. And not the cool kind. Nintendo Power, though-this was something new. Cool kids could read this. Talk about love at first sight. I felt like it was made just for me-every page full of tips, tricks, and secrets that were going to lead to my best life.

You deserve to feel that special too. It's our hope that now, with this magazine you're holding, you can.

between magazine people and RVers. This magazine sits at that intersection. Nobody is going to tell me or you what to read any more than they're going to tell us what to drive, or how to spend our weekends, or how far out in the boonies is just the right amount of out in the boonies.

Some people say Americans only have an internet's-worth of attention span. Some say print is dead. And some say you shouldn't drive down the road with 50 gallons of poop water. This magazine ain't for those people. It's for you and me. Because popular culture doesn't drive us. We drive us.

62 The Teton Valley Resort, Victor, ID



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Check out our summe

soundtrack picks

SUMMER 2021

62





#### LETTER FROM THE PUBLISHER

There's a distinct crossover



photo by Stephanie Acton

#### **"This magazine ain't for** those people. It's for you and me. Because popular culture doesn't drive us. We drive us."

I Heart RVing magazine will help you learn, enjoy, and eventually, if you stick it out with us, master the lifechanging art of the RV lifestyle.

It's also a love letter, written just for you. Not the dreamers. Not the doers. The drivers. We've packed every tip, trick, and secret we could into every page, to steer you to your best RVing life. Because we also share that deeper, unquenchable drive for finding a new adventure around every bend in the road. Or, when the road's unavailable, around every page.

Get in. Together, we're going places. And it's definitely going to be a great ride.

XOXO Marc

Marc Acton Publisher

# **Mirror Check** A BRIEF LOOK AT THE RV NEWS AND COMMUNITY



# **The Award-**Winning Art of "Nomadland"

IF THE JOB OF ART is to reflect reality back to us in a way that makes us feel things then "Nomadland" may be the



greatest piece of visual RV art in history. Not because it won three Oscars. but because it captures something that all full-time RVers,

especially boondockers, know: the deep truth that the joys of life on the road (new friendships, relentless adventure) arrive side-by-side with its challenges, from finding a good place to park to scoring a good place to do

your business. Francis McDormand is one of only two recognizable actors

in the movie, with many of the main characters playing themselves, like real-life van dweller and occasional YouTube star, Bob Wells. Throughout the picture, director Chloé Zhao manages to be poetic without being sappy, and authentic without condescending-a true achievement.

See RV life reflected back to you like never before in the movie "Nomadland," now playing in select theaters and on a variety of streaming services, including Hulu and Amazon Video



#### A Better RV Tax Is Proposed

 Two congresswomen have proposed a new tax update that would roll back a previous mix-up in the tax code that inadvertently punished certain types of RV owners. U.S. Reps. Jackie Walorski (R-Ind.) and Dina Titus (D-Nev.) introduced the bill to bring more fairness to RV tax laws. Congresswoman Walorski says, "The RV industry supports tens of thousands of jobs in northern Indiana and across the country. These made-in-America products will play a vital role in our economic recovery, but one provision in the tax code is putting certain RVs at a disadvantage. This commonsense bill would fix that by restoring tax parity so all types of RVs-including travel trailers and campers-are treated equally."

Find the full legislative text at Walorski.House.gov/Issues/Economy

According to the RV Industry Association (RVIA), this is going to be a record-breaking year for the industry, even after enduring a two-month shutdown a year ago. The numbers are all way up. Only a shortage of raw materials and parts and pieces could slow down manufacturing, which is a real concern for many manufacturers.

#### MORE HISTORIC RV NUMBERS

INCREASE IN RV SAL<mark>ES,</mark> APRIL 2021



56,000,000 AMERICANS HITTING THE SUMMER

#### **New RV Park Openings**

• One black couple is building what they say is one of the largest black-owned RV parks in the country according to a story on RVTravel.com. Alicia and U.S. veteran Nathan Lawson are opening the Time Away RV Resort in Lincoln, Alabama with 100 pull-through sites, swimming pool, shower house, dog park, and more.

#### Learn more at TimeAwayRVResort.com

A new entry in RVC Outdoor Destination's nationwide network of parks also opened in Sevierville, Tennessee. Sevierville is right next to the fabulously kitschy and camper-friendly Dollywood, and Gatlinburg, which is basically the Disney of the South. Pigeon Forge Landing is tucked in the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains, which if you ask us is the greatest mountain range in America not named the Rockies.

See more on the Pigeon Forge Landing, one of our must-visits on Page 56

#### **Roads Are Infrastructure**



No matter how you feel about the package of infrastructure projects President Joe Biden has proposed, there's no doubt the \$621 billion he has earmarked specifically for transportation is likely to improve the drive for millions of RVers. Which begs the question: Does reliable Wi-Fi count as infrastructure? We can only hope.

Learn more about how you should feel about the Biden infrastructure plan at your favorite partisan news outlet (good luck finding one that ain't)

#### Alabama RV Parks Can Now Evict

• Alabama Governor Kay Ivey has signed into law legislation that would allow RV Parks the same recourse as motels and hotels, who can request law enforcement remove unwanted, unpaying, or unruly guests.

Read more at ALReporter.com



▲ INSPIRATIONAL TRAVEL: @JOKOTRAVELS



▲ DREAM LIFE AND YOGA: *ASUMMERGINTHER* 

Share Your Photos and **RV Life Tips with Us** 

Tag us on Instagram and Facebook (@IHeartRVing) for a chance to have your photo featured in the magazine!



# **RV Social** Feed

Follow RVers with content worthy of your screen time. Here are four of our favorite accounts from Instagram's virtual campground.







# **Inside Loretta Lynn's RV-Friendly Ranch**

**ITUATED IN HURRICANE MILLS,** Tennessee, and nestled against a stunning backdrop of shady pines and a rolling creek, stands the 19th-century plantation home of country music legend Loretta Lynn. Once a private residence, the 3,500-acre complex is now home to tent, cabin, and RV campers throughout the year as well as events including motocross, chuckwagon races, Jeep and horse trail rides, and, of course, country, rock, and gospel concerts.

Ernie and Crystal Lynn, son and daughter-in-law to the queen of country herself, work the ranch year-round. We sat down with Crystal to talk favorite RVs, life on the road, and having an RV campground for a backyard.

#### When did you buy your first RV, and what type do you have now?

**CRYSTAL LYNN** Ernie grew up on the road traveling in Prevosts with his mom on tour. As for me. I started with a fifth wheel Forest River Sandpiper so that I could travel with my dogs for work back in 2008. We bought our first Class A diesel pusher together in 2017: an Entegra Cornerstone 45J. Last fall, we bought the Newmar King Aire 4553, which has been our favorite coach we've ever owned-even compared to every Prevost Ernie and Loretta have ever had.

## **UP NEXT FOR THE LYNNS**

> The Lynns plan to explore as many state parks as they can next and especially look forward to traveling with their two grandsons, Tru and Scout-continuing a long family tradition of making memories and sharing life on the road.

eft: Ernie and Crystal's Newmar King Aire, Below: Loretta Lynn's touring RV.



#### What is your favorite thing to do while traveling in an RV?

CL Sit still. Take in the surroundings.

#### You live on a ranch that has an RV camp in your backyard. What is it like living with that kind of experience year-round?

CL It is amazing. With everywhere we have been, there is still no place I would rather be than on the ranch. It doesn't get better than this place. To see people plan entire vacations and summers around coming to see us and to see what Loretta has built and to see our home? That's special. Loretta opened the ranch to share with her fans to say, "You gave this to me, now I want to share it with you." I wouldn't trade being a part of that experience for anything.

#### What are your favorite events at the ranch?

**CL** Chuckwagon [horse-racing], because I'm so animal-oriented. The Independence Day concert, and anything having to do with our freedoms. Tennessee Motorcycles and Music Revival is quickly becoming a favorite because they're just like RV folks. They find happiness and community traveling on the road, and they are all so nice and fun to be around.



# Splash Up Your Summer Soundtrack

GIVE YOUR GETAWAY THE RIGHT VIBES FROM THE GET-GO.



Jessamynn, "Gold" With a voice like silk and lyrics to spark instant introspection, Jessamynn pours a musical magic potion that will have you missing memories you haven't made, people you don't know, and places you haven't yet been.



#### Tayla Lynn, "Coal Miner's Daughter" Reimagining the Oueen of Country's biographical hit,

Loretta Lynn's own daughter and granddaughter, Patsy and Tayla, pay homage with a stunning blend of voices that does Loretta perfect justice.



#### Van Morrison, "Where Have All the Rebels Gone"

A campfire in the Mojave, the shores of the Colorado River, and a group of friends staying up way too late under a speckled sky. Yeah. Van Morrison still writes road trip classics.

#### Morgan Wade, "Wilder Days"

Not quite country, not quite rock, Wade provides a heady mix of commanding instrumentals and lyrics that demand attention. In fact, the entire Wilder Days album plays down the highway.

#### Lord Huron, "Not Dead Yet"



Haunting and ethereal, this deep track from the new album, Long Lost, takes a different turn and sounds like a mid-2000s Dan Auerbach number. Excellent rhythm for the road.



#### Lake Street Dive. "Know That I Know"

Ferris Bueller and his day off, Kirk and Spock, happy hour and five o'clock. AND a horns section? What more could you want? Know that we know that you'll love this one.

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# **Test Your** Knowledge, Newbie!

RV QUIZ

Camper culture has its own language. See if you can correctly define some of our favorite RV words. (Respect is your reward.)

#### A FULL HOOKUP is ... A BLUE BOY is ...

A. An RV dating app.

B. A deal exchanging work

for a free campsite.

C. A campsite with water,

electricity, and sewage.

points if you knew Option B. is a traveler. See Page 55. (Bonus

is the object of desire for many

Answer: C. The next full hookup

No.4

TAIL SWING is ...

newbie!)

**A.** Driving off and forgetting

**B.** The extra space an RV

requires for turns.

**D.** The sequel to Disney's

living space.

"TailSpin."

**C.** A motorhome feature that

expands to create more

1990s' animated series

to hitch your trailer (c'mon,

(`биідтря́том

D. An all-inclusive purchase

from an RV dealer.

A. That blue-water stain on

MIRROR CHECK >

- your shirt. **B.** A four-wheel portable
- waste tank. C. A Blue Ox anti-sway trailer
- hitch. **D.** An azure youth.

ұрап ғыағ. A. Even a newbie can do better Answer: B. Tell me you did not pick

#### No.2 **CHUCKING** is ...

- A. Unhitching on an uneven surface.
- **B.** Shaquille O'Neal shooting free throws.
- **C.** A spillover from your stinky slinky.
- **D.** A violent rocking motion while towing.

talking RVs here. not correct (in its way), but we're Answer: D. Hard to say that B is

#### (:tuoəbilz a si about you and that turn. (Option C. of RV, but no. Tail swing is all recreational" and "vehicle" aspects διαυές μαλ τουςή ου ροτή της Answer: B. Disney bears that fly

A WALLYDOCK is ...

- **A.** When you park your RV at Walmart overnight.
- B. A connection for DISH Network satellite receivers.
- **C.** Running power from a friend's house.
- **D.** Parking without putting down your wheel chocks.

Jeel better if you picked Option B. πολ səypu 11 əqλpu 1ng '1əmsur called Wally. Doesn't make it the μανε an HD satellite receiver Answer: A. DISH actually does

#### No.6

#### **BOONDOCKING is ...**

- A. Parking your RV lakeside.
- **B.** Camping without any external utilities.
  - **C.** Towing an RV trailer and another trailer behind that
- D. Vigilante justice against campground crime.

tow is the term for Option C.) poondocking, newbie. (Also, triple ιμε βοουάοςκ ζαιπές "τήαπ a, a campground, that's more the idea of Norman Reedus Answer: B. Although we like

#### No.7

- COACH is ...
- **A.** Another name for RVs, most often applied to Class As.
- B. Downgrading from a larger RV to a smaller one.
- C. An annual job hunter following football season.
- **D.** Someone on the ground helping you park.

#### (ˈſ]əsɯiy Saban's assistants than Saban (Maybe that's more for Nick

they should all just drive RVs! γιθμωαλ λεαι το γεαι, so maybe ο) Ιοοιραιι ςοαςμες οπι ου ιμε Answer: A. Option C puts a lot





INTO A LAND CUT BY ICE Hidden in the Northwest corner of Montana, Glacier National Park shows the height, beauty, and grandiose power of nature. Shaped by glaciers and covered in wildlife, the park spans over a million acres of land and offers 700 miles of trails to explore. Take a look at of our favorite views.





The Serenity of Baring Falls. Dropping 25 feet from a stone ledge, Baring Creek pours down from the Sunrift Gorge into Saint Mary Lake.

# Nearest Parking Lot Coordinate: 48° 67' 85" N 113° 59' 55" W



 $\widehat{\mathcal{R}}$ 

Hiking Through Logan Pass. At an elevation of 6,647 feet, Logan Pass sets travelers on the Continen-tal Divide in an open landscape flush with beauty and active wildlife.

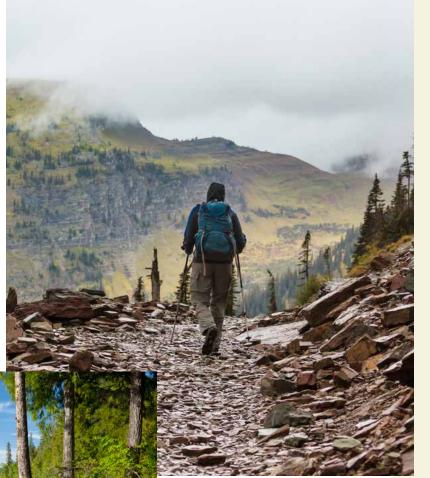
Nearest Parking Lot Coordinate: 48° 69' 66" N 113° 71' 82" W



#### Forging Your **Own Path Across** a Glacier-Carved Landscape

Mountain trails offer stunning views of geologic grandeur. Glacier-fed lakes like Grinnell Lake (top right) and Lake McDonald (above, bottom left) lay like giant, blue-green gemstones across the landscape. Visitors can expect to spot local wildlife, like mountain goats, bighorn sheep, elk, bears, and bald eagles in their natural habitat. While some spectacular views can be seen from an RV, Glacier National Park's greatest treasures will be found on foot, making it important for RVers to plan routes and parking spots ahead of time.









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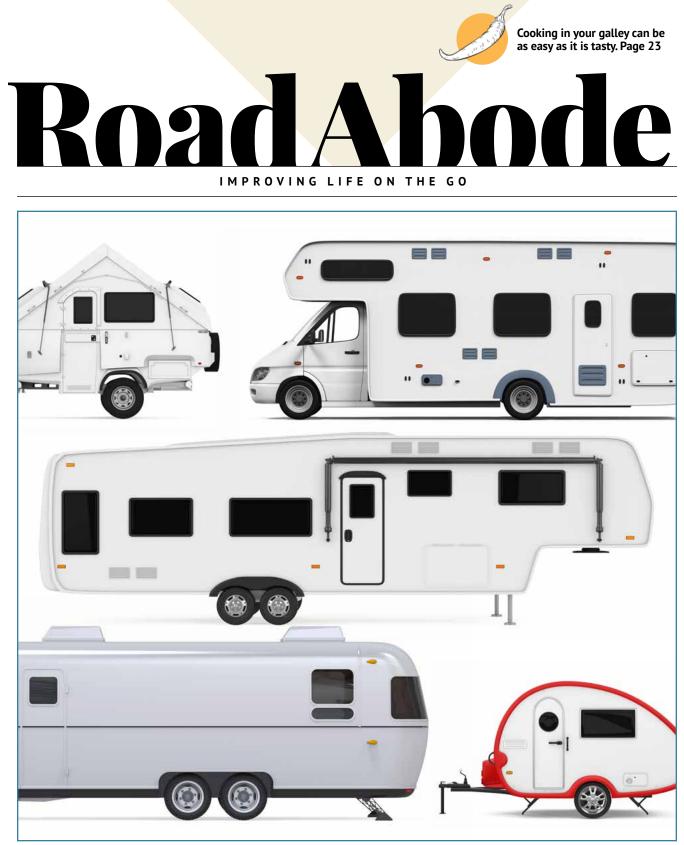


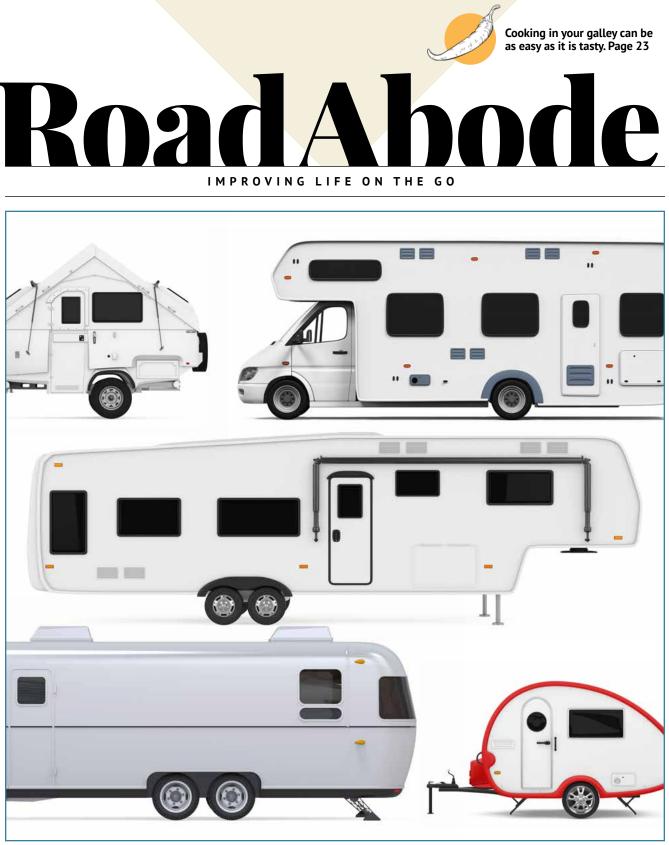
#### Stay longer, enjoy more

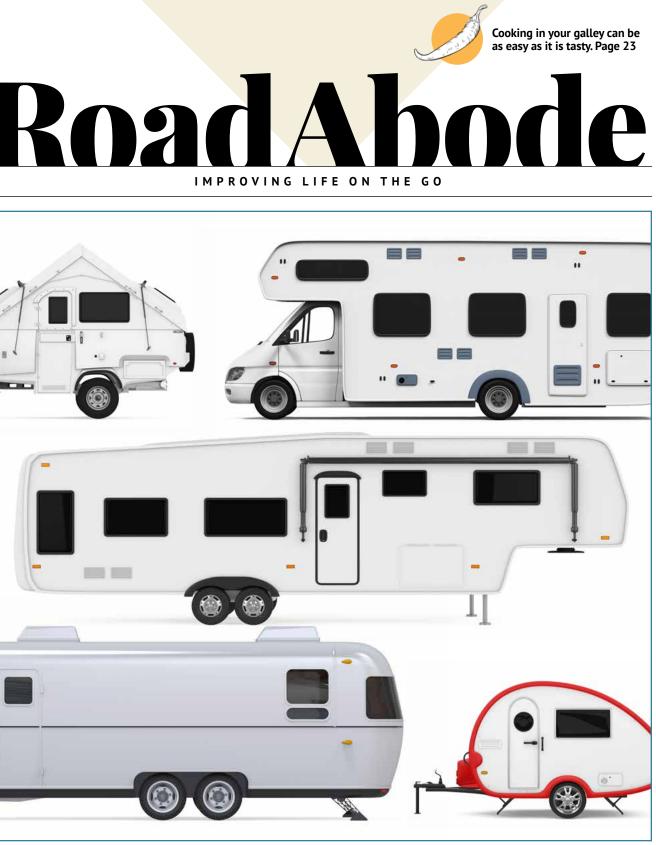
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YOUR RV MAKES A STATEMENT The world can tell a lot about you based on your RV of choice. Wondering what your toy hauler says about your taste for adventure? Or how your Class A boasts an aura of independence? On Page 32, discover the statement every RV makes, from your style of life to your spirit animal.

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# **A Rental Checklist**

#### You can make some extra dough renting your RV, but check these boxes before you hand over the keys. by Torrey Swan

SUMMER VACATIONS ARE IN FULL SWING! And like many RV owners, you may be thinking about renting out your RV to a family member or friend who's looking to enjoy the open road. (Heyo, free money!) But don't rush to send them on their way until you've talked through these pain-preventing details.

#### **Find out if your** renter has any experience driving an RV.

Driving an RV is not like driving a car. If they don't have experience, it's not necessarily a deal breaker, but they may just need a quick lesson from you first.

O If vou're renting a trailer, ask what kind of vehicle and hitch they have.

Verify that their vehicle and hitch have the capacity to tow your trailer before signing on the dotted line.

#### O Determine how many passengers will be on board.

Knowing how many people they plan on bringing will help you plan ahead. For example, how many towels and extra linens will you need to provide? You also want to make sure that they don't overcrowd.

Ask if they are planning on bringing any pets.

Decide in advance what your pet policy is, and then ask if they plan on bringing Fido along for the ride

**O** Take a look at their route and where they plan on staying.

Knowing how many miles they plan on putting on the odometer will give you an idea of the wear and tear that they will be putting on your RV. In addition, consider whether you will be charging a flat fee or by-the-mile.

O See if the campsites they are planning on visiting have full hookups.

Many state parks do NOT have RV hookups available, so make sure they are aware of what their campsites have to offer.

#### O Discuss insurance coverage in the event of an accident.

No one wants to start a trip thinking about the possibility of an accident, but it's important to have a plan. Check your policy because not all of them would be thrilled about you putting someone else behind the wheel

> O Decide on your cancellation policy. Will there be a nonrefundable deposit? What

An even easier way to rent. Set your own rates and safeguard your RV with insurance. Find out how easy renting can be at Outdoorsy.com.

if they have to come home early? Know how you want to handle these situations before they arise.

#### O Inform them about their maintenance responsibilities.

Another unpleasant but critical question. Failure to maintain the sewer system could end up costing you thousands, so it's important to let them know this is a job they'll need to perform.

O Help them think through mechanical contingency plans. Just another great exam-

ple of why it's important to know where they are headed. You may be able to identify some trusted mechanics along their route that you can refer them to in the event of a breakdown

#### O Be clear what you expect them to clean before they return your RV. If you don't tell renters

what they need to clean. they probably won't. Do they need to strip the sheets? Empty the trash? Make your expectations black and white

The RV **Cooking Bible** 

Everything you need to use, make, and try in the galley to create some truly righteous meals.

by Marc Acton • illustrations by Sianiris Lopez-Velazquez

UCKLE UP FOR A RIGHTEOUS ROMP through our top culinary commandments. Read and commit to each of these, and thou shalt not settle for bad food. And don't worry-this list is all dos and no don'ts. It's a combination of our best tips, tricks, techniques, and tantalizing tastebud tempters. Because your mouth deserves a little flavor on the road too.

#### **ROAD ABODE >** IN THE GALLEY



#### MAKE YOUR OWN SIGNATURE SEASONING BLEND.

Save space and time, and be king of your own mobile castle by consolidating your spice jars into premixed Signature Blends. Make your own with basics like salt and pepper, garlic salt, and onion powder. And toss in some interest with unexpected spices like smoked paprika or chipotle chili powder. Or, in a pinch, leave it to the pros and try a blend like Emeril's Original Essence.

#### MISE EN PLACE. THE COMMERCIAL KITCHEN'S SECRET.

Unless you're an RV fulltimer, don't waste precious time at the campground chopping and slicing. Nearly everything you cook with can be peeled, pruned, sliced, and diced ahead of time. Commercial kitchens call it mise en place, but we call it more campfire time. Bonus: This typically saves tons of trash too, because you can leave all the peels, seeds, cores, and more at home.

#### **ROAD ABODE**



PERK UP YOUR

PREMADES.

There's no shame in opening

a can of something. But thou

shalt not stop there! Most

premade food is made to be

pretty mediocre. Try adding

a pinch of hot sauce or even

canned goods. Premade soups

lemon juice. And in our ria, we

never put a cooked veggie on

the table without butter, lemon

FAT AND ACID.

SALT EVERYTHING.

balanced mix of these three

primary tastes, with sweet and

spicy often mixed in. The mys-

terious taste of umami is also

products (even ketchup!), aged

important, found in tomato

cheeses like parmesan, or

products like ranch dressing

butter or any kind of oil. And

or sov sauce. For fats, you want

acids are vinegars, lemon juice,

or anything pickled. As you're

cooking, be sure that all three

of the majors are represented.

Every great dish has a

almost always need a little

more tang, which can come

from a dash of vinegar or

juice, and salt.

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"In our rig, we never put a cooked veggie on the table without butter, lemon juice, and salt."

#### GO ZIPLOCK OR GO HOME.

Plastic bags are versatile. lightweight, and easy to store. A box of sandwich-sized and gallon-sized freezer bags can easily fit even in the most compact kitchens. Don't skimp on the quality. The difference between low- and high-guality bags is noticeable; but the price usually isn't. (And a bag tear can lead to absolute RV kitchen disaster.) Use Ziplocks to replace Tupperware when holding leftovers, your custom seasoning mix, and more.

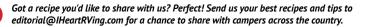


#### TAKE PAPER COPIES OF RECIPES.

You never know when you'll be out of reach of the internet. Print out any necessary recipes (or directions!) ahead of time to make sure you don't get stuck without sweet, delicious data when you need it.

#### MAKE IT ONCE. EAT IT TWICE.

Soups, stews, chili, casseroles, pasta, rice-these dishes all hold up as leftovers extremely well. Consider doubling recipes so you can count on leftovers the day after. And, typically, the day after that too.



# **USE TWO SKEWERS** INSTEAD OF ONE.

This sneaky tip for campfire cooking makes everything from sausages to smores just a little easier to handle. It has also saved many a toasty dog from falling onto my foot, into the campfire, or somewhere other than where it belongs: my mouth.



#### **RECIPES ARE JUST A** STARTING POINT.

Thou shalt not let anyone tell you how to eat. Recipes are made to be broken. Use a little extra of this. a little less of that, and grab your culinary life by the horns. You've earned it. Eat your way to your best life.

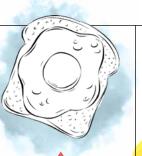
#### fancy, use brie or goat cheese and pear slices. Give the tortilla a light spray of oil and toss on a pan or griddle. (Perfect for tiny kitchens that are also living rooms.) **RV PUNCH** Save some primo fridge

grown-up drinks, great with any spirit. Try a 50/50 mix of ginger beer and just about any fruit juice, and then adjust to your own taste. (Or, for bonus points, your significant other's.) And if you fancy, add some fresh mint to your cup before you pour.

MAKE THESE THINGS MASTER EL ARTE OF THE OUESADILLA.

OK, the quesadilla is basically just a Mexican sandwich: a little of your favorite meat, a little of your favorite cheese, a little whatever you feel like, wrapped in a little bit of carbs. Here's an extra 'Merican version: cheddar cheese with hot dog slices, topped with ketchup and relish. Or, if you

space by making a gallon of my wife's favorite premixed punch: juice and ginger. This pulls double duty as a quick refresher after a hot day of exploring, or as a mixer for

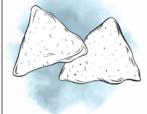


#### EGG IN A HOLE

RV breakfast is a special kind of fresh heaven. When it happens all in one large skillet, saving both cleanup time and burner space, it's a winner in our rig. Egg in a hole is RV easy, and with a large skillet, you'll have space for a couple slabs of bacon beside it. Put a hunk of butter down on medium heat, cut a hole in a piece of bread, put the bread on the butter, and crack an egg in the hole. Salt. Flip once. End of recipe. Start of breakfast.

#### **CAMPFIRE NACHOS**

Nachos are the quesadillas of snacks: infinitely customizable, exceptionally easy, extraordinarily delicious. Here's the recipe: Put some chips on something flat, put some stuff on the chips, then heat it all up. Over a fire, a grill, a cooktop, or even in a microwave! Meat and cheese are the go-to topping, and a small can of pickled jalapenos adds spice and acid. Also try sprinkling some of your custom seasoning on top and mixing up your cheese types for variety.



#### HOT DOG WRAPS

RV meals should be fun. Trading your buns for a wrap, like a small tortilla pulling double duty from your quesadillas is just the right amount of whimsy (and also cuts

the carbs!). Kids love it, and nothing says perfect-for-thecampground like a meal that requires no silverware.

TRY THESE

THINGS

#### FANCY OILS

Truffle oil on fries: truffle fries. Truffle oil in your ranch: truffle ranch. Truffle oil on your nachos: truffle nachos. (If you like truffle fires, trust us on this one.) There's a world of flavored oils out there, and most do just fine without refrigeration, packing a fantastic flavor-to-storage space ratio.



#### **ROAD ABODE >** IN THE GALLEY



I can't stress enough how important caffeine is to me. If that's you too, you have to give a French press a try. It steeps the arounds in the water instead of filtering them, giving a surprisingly distinct taste, perfect for camporound mornings. Check out Page 44 for our favorite pick.



#### SINK-TOPPERS (CUTTING AND DRYING)

One of the most functional gadgets in an RV galley is the sink topper, which plugs up the top of your sink for bonus counter space. They come in a few styles, including cutting boards and dish racks, and most either fold or roll up for easy storage. Extra counter space for the big win.

#### PUDGIE PIE MAKER

A pudgie pie maker is a weird metal contraption made to put in a campfirean oddity to camp cooking that's worth exploring. Basically, you put a sandwich in it, and then fry the sandwich. If it sounds weird, it is. If it sounds delicious, it is. Which really sums up RV cooking at its best, doesn't it?



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# Keeping Your Cool

Make the right moves in your RV to stay unfazed by the blaze.

by Torrey Swan

SUMMER IS OUR FUN-LOVING relative. We can't wait for summer's arrival, but man, once summer is here, it is a full-tilt, nonstop, sizzle of activity. And no matter how much you love the fun, the heat, and the sweat of summer, chances are you will soon (and often) be seeking the crisp, cool interior of your RV. But is your RV prepared to keep summer outside, where it belongs?

For any newbies out there (learn some new terms on Page 12), there are some great tried-and-true tricks: parking in the shade, avoiding cooking during

# Summer's **Polar Opposite**

Nothing sticks it to summer like downing a cold one. And if your fridge is on the fritz, it might be time to do better. Like Norcold-Polar-series better. Sleek with hidden hinges, recessed door handles, a large storage capacity, and two crispers, this refrigerator achieves maximum cool-for your thermostat and style.

#### **ROAD ABODE**



the day, cranking the AC to full capacity, or just heading to a cooler climate. But sometimes your RV simply needs to put on more muscle. Because sweating ain't cool, here are a few renovation tips to give your RV a better beach bod.

#### **BLOCK THE HEAT, KEEP THE VIEW**

You want to block the heat, but traditional shades and materials like Reflectix also kill your view. Fortunately, there are several good products out there to solve this problem, like EZ Snap, Blindsgalore®, Dual Roller RV Shades, and solar screens-but our favorite is Magne Shade. The Magne Shade System blocks 90 percent of harmful UV rays and heat, is custom cut to fit your windows snuggly, and mounts easily with small, powerful magnets. Best of all, installation requires no ladder or drilling, and can be done in minutes for motorized and towable units. And taking it one more level of cool, your shades can be customized with the image of your

choice, whether that's an American flag or your favorite vista from Glacier National Park. (See Page 13)

Scan OR codes with your phone to watch instructional video



See how to measure for a custom Magne Shade.



#### **PROTECT THAT SOFT UNDERBELLY**

You can't see your undercarriage, but man, heat gets trapped down there like a mouse in a snake belly. Many folks only think to insulate their undercarriage in the cold months (to prevent pipes from bursting), but skirts also help keep cool air from escaping into the heat. There are multiple RV skirt options from DIY types to custom RV drape skirts, but AirSkirts

stand out for the ease of setup and efficiency. These RV skirts use air as a natural insulator and are durable, made with heavy duty PVC and military grade valves. AirSkirts deploy in under 20 minutes, and best of all, require no modification to your RV.

Take a look at an AirSkirts setup.



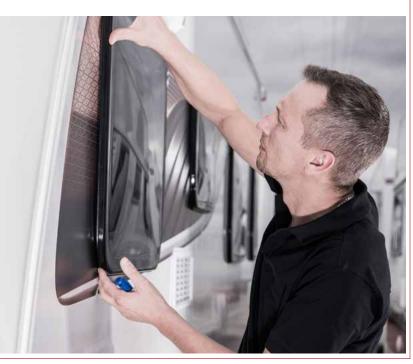
compartments (if needed) and replace any worn-out weather stripping.

► Apply reflective insulation to the top and back walls of cabinets and cupboards located on exterior walls.

► Cover the RV door window, especially if it's not shaded by an awning.

Increase roof vent covers to increase air circulation. Whether it's increasing the number of vents, opening windows, or finding a road-friendly portable fan, keeping air flow up keeps temperatures down.

Swap incandescent light bulbs for LEDs. Traditional incandescent bulbs actually generate a fair amount of heat-a big difference in a small space.



#### **BRING OUT THE COOL**

With your RV buttoned up, be prepared to extend the kingdom of cool a bit further. Open that awning up, buy some comfy chairs and make a space that you want to spend time in. You can cool the outdoor space even more by hanging



some sunscreens to block the sun and add a portable fan to create your own breeze. Then top it off with a touch of the deluxe: a Dometic CFX3 portable refrigerator freezer. Powered by AC (110-240), DC (12/24 V) or DC solar power, these little fridges are user friendly, weatherproof, durable, and easy to carry. Built with two compartments with dual-zone technology, the Dometic CFX3 allows you to set either compartment for refrigeration or freezer. Just as cool, Dometic added a mobile app that allows you to control and monitor the temperature right from your phone. So those craft beers can achieve the perfect cooljust like you.♥

# **Unsure About RV Insurance?**

#### Get the quick lowdown to answer every what-if.

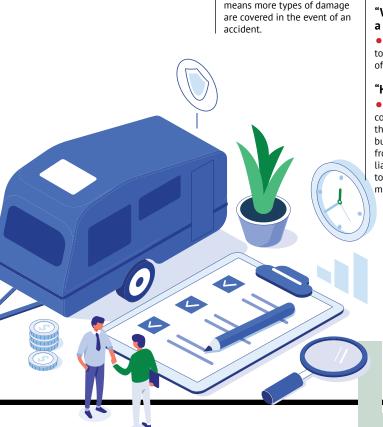
**LEAVING HOME** without the insurance you need is like hitting the road without your hitch locked. You might get lucky and make it home unscathed-but hit the wrong bump and your investment is toast. However, RV insurance might be even more confusing than regular insurance, which is to say that it can be very confusing. So save your time and energy with some quick answers to your insurance questions.

#### COMMON **OUESTIONS AND** WHAT-IFS:

"Is insurance required?" • Not every RV has to have insurance, and every state regulation is different. Doublecheck your state's requirements before any trips.

#### "What are my options?"

• Like car insurance, you can get liability coverage or comprehensive coverage, which means more types of damage are covered in the event of an accident.



#### **IMPROVE YOUR AIRFLOW SYSTEM**

Your air conditioner, the king of cool, does some pretty heavy lifting in the summer months. So if your AC is struggling, first make sure its maximum efforts aren't being wasted on other inefficiencies. That can be forgetting to clean your AC filter, which you can wash in soapy water and let air-dry. But there's another key efficiency that you can optimize with a small installation: airflow. Using a specially designed module that installs between the bottom of your AC unit and the cover plate, RV Airflow Systems capture 100 percent of the discharged air and direct it smoothly into your RV's existing duct work. Nonelectrical and nonmechanical, the module removes air friction and turbulence to allow your roof-mounted AC to work at full capacity, which can improve efficiencies on average by 40 percent. Which is a very cool percentage.

Watch an RV **Airflow System** install.





#### "Do I need liability insurance?"

• There are three times you typically must carry liability insurance: 1) if you're driving a motorized RV, 2) if you still owe on a loan for the vehicle, or 3) if you're driving a rental.

#### "What if I still owe on a loan?"

• You probably will have to carry full coverage because whoever owns the title will want to be compensated if you have a total loss.

#### "What if I own a towable trailer with no loan?"

• You might not have to carry insurance depending on what state you live in.



you should. And don't forget, if you get in an accident, you're probably on the hook for any damage you cause as well.

#### "What if I'm renting using a credit card?"

• Check with your card issuer to see whether your program offers additional insurance.

#### "How much will it cost?"

 Just like a car, insurance costs vary widely based on the vehicle and the driver, but can range anywhere from \$125 annually for some liability-only policies and up to \$1,000 annually for nicer motorhomes.

#### "Are discounts available?"

 Many insurance providers give discounts if you carry multiple policies. At a minimum, you should get a quote from your current automobile insurance company.

#### "Is insurance the same for full-timers?"

• You might want to consider a special policy designed for folks who use their RV as a full-time residence. This typically includes some extra coverage.

#### "Is the RV the only thing covered?"

• There are almost always extra things you can pay for, like pet injury coverage, cost for hotels during an emergency, vacation liability, and more.

#### "Are there RV-specific policies?"

 Most major insurance providers offer RV insurance. A great example is GEICO, which has several RV-specific policies to cover motorhomes and towables 🤎

#### Important Insurance **Premium Factors**

- The provider you are using
- Type and size of your RV
- How often you use your RV
- Custom equipment
- Who is driving your RV
- Discounts you may qualify for

### **How to Pick Your Provider**

▶ It's fine to pick the cheapest provider if you're looking to pinch pennies. But, consider that if a major loss occurs, it will be a significant emotional event. And the quality of your provider will make a big difference in how you'll make it through. That's why we suggest starting with a provider you know and trust.

#### **ROAD ABODE** >•THE BACK SEAT



# **Roadschooling 101**

When you homeschool on the road, you're the teacher. These 4 tips will set you-and your kids-up for success.

> **CONGRATULATIONS:** You've escaped the monotonous routine of life-and brought your brood along with you. In doing so, you've joined a record number of young families trading the daily grind for the spontaneity of the RV lifestyle. You're officially part of a movement that endorses, well, movement. Which is a great example for your kids. Because life itself is learning, and it's important to get the kids out there living.

But you might be asking: Once we're all *out there* this fall, how do I keep up with the kids' formal education? Good question, but don't sweat it-you're not the first family to take on the challenge. There are lots of helpful resources for your family to make roadschooling a normal part of the adventure.

Here are four things to keep in mind as you rock the role of teacher in your RV schoolhouse.

#### SUPPLY YOUR STUDENTS

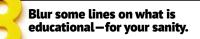
Yeah, yeah. You know your self-spawned pupils need folders, notebooks, glue, scissors, markers, crayons, pencil sharpeners, a good attitude, et cetera. But don't forget these:

#### Accept that you may not know what you're doing (at first).

Especially if you're new to homeschooling. Taking on this responsibility takes time, and you're allowed to show yourself some grace. Try new things, see what works, and forget what doesn't.

#### Don't feel like you need to replicate a school dav.

Probably one of the biggest advantages to homeschooling is that it doesn't have to be an 8-hour day trapped at a desk. (Can I get an "Amen?!") If you are able to fit a day of education into two hours, all the better. Call it a day and maybe try your hand at another family activity. Like nap time.



Kids are sneaky-we know this. And they can sense weakness. If you always tip them off on which experiences are meant to be "school," they may not express ... well ... a zeal for learning. So be as sneaky as your kids: Break the monotony with educational activities, or adventures, when possible. If they're anything like their parents, they'll appreciate the change of pace, which reduces pressure on you-and prevents potential tears from them.

#### Prepare as much as you can before hitting the road.

If at all possible, choose a curriculum and have a plan before setting out. You will have a better idea of what supplies are needed, what your schedule is going to be, and how much your children will need from you. You also may be traveling in the vicinity of historic sites or cool science museums-all of which happen to be out *there*. Your preparation will make the roadschooling experience more interactive for the whole family, which is really what the RV lifestyle is about anyway.

Homeschooling on the road shouldn't be a drain. (Of course, we cannot say the same of those goofball kids.) But, so long as you plan ahead and embrace the uncertainties that are inherent with a nomadic lifestyle (you already do this), we know that you'll be voted Teacher of the Year in no time! At least by your tiny student body.♥



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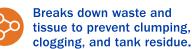
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# WHAT KIND OF ARE YOU?

# **ROAD ABODE**



JUST ABOUT EVERY KIND OF RV there is. My journey has taught me about all kinds of things, like the magic of blue water, and the importance of being your own chieftain, and a possible reason behind my odd sleeping habits.

I'VE SLEPT IN

Some of my fondest memories of childhood are of sleeping in weird places. My family never had money to go places or do things, but one summer our house was getting renovated; so there was an extra couch in our living room. Turned on their sides and pushed together in just the right way, the space between the two couches made a fort, wherein I put a small battery-powered lantern and a blow-up camping mattress. Forty years later, I can still remember closing myself up in that tiny space, zipping my sleeping bag, curling up with a book that was surely either Calvin and Hobbes or the Hardy Boys, and shutting out the world. The lamp's glow on the greenish yellow felt of the couch was adventure at its finest, as far as I knew it then.

I think that every RVer has felt and embraced, at some level, that thrill of oddness. Laying your head in a new place is always an experience. It can't not be-you've never been here before, wherever your new here is, and you may never be here again. It took something to get to this particular



parking space, and, for those who live and love the RV lifestyle, that's worth something. And how you arrive at that moment says something not only about who you are, but where you are in life.

The RV bug first hit me around the age of 10, when my aunt and uncle parked their motorhome outside my parents' house for two weeks. It's important to this story for you to know that the same uncle had once brought an actual unicycle to the house. Both held the same level of novelty. Both were vehicles, both built for recreation. Both had the thrill of oddness. The RV just had it on a much larger scale. This was a house. That you could drive. For a 10-year-old without much experience in the world, this was mind-boggling. Even more mind-boggling? There was a bathroom in it, too. I had no idea how it worked, but the blue water in the toilet might have been magic for all I knew. (It didn't smell like magic.)

There's a novelty to RVs that never goes away. Every new parking space is an opportunity for growth, where we can meet a new friend or see a new sight. New parking spaces mean new adventures, and, if you try hard enough, some of them are indeed magical.

The first RV I ever slept in was a Class A (although I remember this one being light on the class). But it had walls that moved-at the flip of a switch. This was

major. Thinking back, it was probably an old Winnebago Chieftain. It was after my freshman year of college, and my old childhood room had been surrendered so that younger sisters could have their own space. The rig was borrowed from yet another RVloving uncle, and it was parked out behind my

parents' Florida house. At that time, it meant that I had my own space during the couple weeks' visit to home. It was an older unit, and it smelled older, to the point that sometimes when you got out of it you smelled older too. But I was the returning, older, wiser brother now. I deserved my own space after all and felt



# "Live in a vehicle with other humans and there is no getting around the learning, about yourself and your fellow passengers."

like a budding chieftain in my own right, having seen more of the world and done more of the things. It gave me a sense of power, confidence, and self-sufficiencyold smell and all.

Google tells me it was Confucius who said, "Wherever you go, there you are." With an RV, wherever you go, you bring some of your own space to that place. And you deserve it, after all. You've earned that right to be the chieftain of your own teepee. Even if you have to drive the teepee all the

way there, park the teepee, pull out of the parking space and try again to park the teepee, level the teepee, hook up the teepee to a power source, and make sure the teepee's black water gets changed. The first time I ever

The RV life

those who

adventure,

it brings

are in the

driver's seat

of life, with

a world of

ahead.

possibilities

embrace the

isn't for everyone. But

> lived in a vehicle was a couple years later when I was traveling the country with a small singing group from my college. It wasn't an RV but, rather, full-time van living. We'd typically be in a different zip code each day, often swinging into a town, singing at a local church, and then hitting the road to get to the next state over. As a kid who didn't do too much or go to too many places, van life was a revelation. I met people who didn't sound or look like me, and I shared stories, a campfire, or some tunes with them.

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#### **ROAD ABODE >** WHAT KIND OF RV ARE YOU?

Some of them I even shared the van with, and this was the best part of van life-there's a forced intimacy found in nomadic cohabitation. We crossed deserts and state forests, north and south, from sea to shining sea, or at least from sea to shining Mississippi River. When you see things with people, you also see those people differently. As we traveled, we learned. Live in a vehicle with other humans and there is no getting around



fellow passengers. Some of the things you learn, you'll never forget. Some, you'll wish you could. But you'll never be the same.

There is a reason that we read so many stories these days about families calling it quits on the never-ending corporate rat race and hitting the road together full time. Folks in the RV community get it. There's adventure out there, and we'll never see it, touch it, taste, or even smell it until we hit the road. And, like it or not, there's intimacy to be found on the way.

So, today, what would my RV of choice say about me? I'm a Coachman Clipper, ultra-light kind of guy. I like the flexibility that the smaller towable gives. It's easier to put in a parking spot on the first try and makes the boonies more accessible to whimsical wandering. Our very-scientific chart says this makes my RV spirit animal the bear, which actually may explain some of my strange hibernation habits. What that says about me overall is that I like to go places and do things, and my omnivorous interests mean I don't need a lot to make me happy. Or that's what I think it says, because I'm still learning things about me. And, if you're an RVer, you're still learning things about you, too. RVs are great places to do that. They're vehicles of change, in you and in your surroundings.

For me, the RV life isn't about what kind of rig you're hanging your hat in. I guess by now I've laid my head down in just about every kind of RV there is. What I've

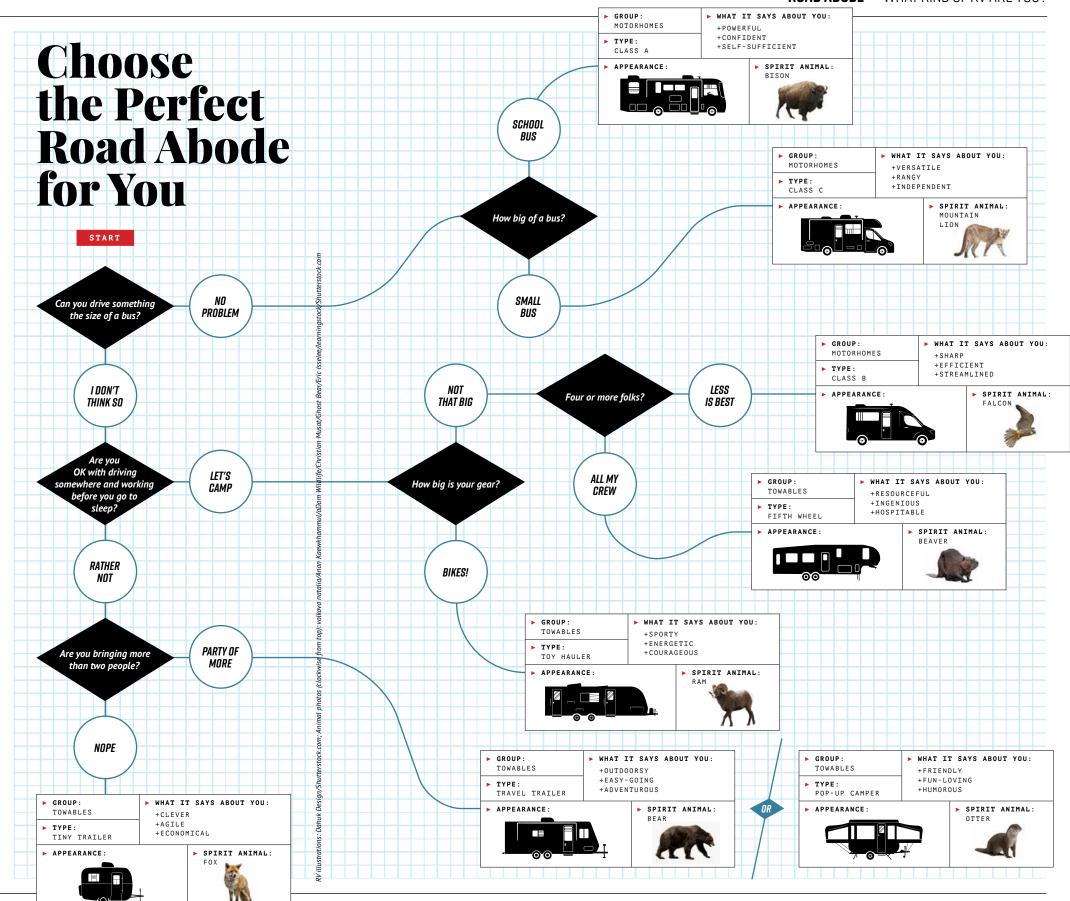
"What I've found is that there is no perfect RV. If anything, the perfect RV is simply the next one. The one that defines a phase of life you haven't experienced yet."

anything, the perfect RV is simply the next one. The one that defines a phase of life you haven't experienced yet. The one that will take you to your next adventure. And, the longer you hang around the RV community, the more you'll find that picking an RV is a lot like picking a favorite pair of shoes. They're your favorite until they're not, and you can always trade them in for a new one. And it's really less about the shoes and more about the journey they take you on that matters.

found is that there is no perfect RV. If

In this way, RVs let us explore our own humanity. They're where we grow closer to our senses, to nature, and to our families. This dynamic you're probably familiar with—it's what really fuels the RV lifestyle. It's what makes it magical. And if we've ever seen enough places, and met enough people, then I suppose we can hang up the keys, finally

turn in that propane tank and get that deposit back, and have no need for a recreational vehicle. If that happens, then wherever we go, there we will stay. But for now, at least, I want to keep learning. There are plenty more weird places to sleep in, after all.









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Luna Sands is located about 30 minutes from beautiful Daytona Beach and a little over an hour from Orlando. The weather is beautiful all Winter and so close for all of your entertainment needs. Whether you enjoy NASCAR or Mickey Mouse you are right in the middle of things. Then head back to our beautiful resort; shoot a game of pool, go swimming or relax around the campfire.

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amenities that makes us a premier Georgia Lake Country destination. Call today to ask about a campsite or cabin vacation stay. We have plenty of space for your next event or vacation. Come see what North Shore resort has to offer.



# E D G E O F T H E M A P

FROM THE HIGHWAY TO THE CAMPGROUND







#### MUSIC SWEEPS ACROSS THE CAMPGROUND

With live music seven nights a week and the hospitality you'd expect from Nashville, the Grand Old RV Resort is both a launching point and destination for travelers. On Page 49, read about the campground where music plays at twilight and the resort treats you like family.



photos by Abigail Bobo

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**EDGE OF THE MAP >** ROUTE PLANNER

# Pushing Through the **Peach State**

Navigate your northbound journey through Georgia to hit the sweet spots and steer clear of Atlanta traffic.

YOU MAY HAVE SPENT THE WINTER on Florida's sunny coastline; but winter is gone, and spring is past. Now it's time to cut back into the mainland to see the country. Whether Nashville's country music paradise is your destination (see Page 49) or you're just sprinting north while you can, you'll likely have to cut through Georgia. Interstate 75 slices through the Peach State like a knifeand yes, my friend, there is a hard pit in the center: Atlanta traffic. Here's everything you need to know to negotiate the road ahead.

#### Atlanta Traffic Laws and Patterns

Atlanta has a reputation for a lot of great things: incredible sports venues, history-rich soil, international travel, a vibrant art scene. You'll note traffic is not on this list. And while the city is a Southeastern icon, it's more akin to the Wild West on the road, which frankly makes Georgia's Hands Free law an applicable bit of legislation. What that means for you is this: You can't hold your cellphone or support it with your body while driving. (Not even in your lap.) You can, however, push one button, which means a Bluetooth sync or cellphone mount are essential if you need to use your phone to

navigate or make calls while driving.

Also, remember how we mentioned Atlanta was known for sports? That can also affect traffic-in a big way. We recommend checking the athletic schedule, especially for Atlanta Braves baseball in the summer.

#### Georgia on My Mind ... and My Windshield

Georgia has a lot of pollen. We're gonna say this again: a LOT of pollen. Whether it's the tree pollen (March through June) or the grass pollen (June through August), you can expect to leave Georgia a bit more ... golden.



# MAP KEY













RV-Friendly Gas Stations with:
RV Parking/Lanes/Dump
Bulk Propane Bulk Propane

## A Learning Adventure

Sneak in a little learning for the kids at the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge, where you can scout the swamp for gators in one won't even notice they're

Okefenokee RV Park

252 Bowery Ln Homeland, GA 31537 912-496-2220



# RVers, we get you. Now you can get us too!





# **11 Essentials** for Next-Level Glamping

A few purchases before you go can make boondocking with style as easy as Amazon.

> MY FATHER ALWAYS TOLD ME that anything worth doing is worth doing better than everyone else. And whether you're rocking the pull-behind pop-up or cruising in a roomy Class A, you can still fill it with luxury, especially when you're out in the wild. Get your well-coifed paws on any of these 11 products to put more glam in your glamping.

Subscribe Here



Set a when you subscribe today.

IHeartRVing.com/subscribe \*offer subject to change



#### **Everdure Cube<sup>™</sup> Grill** by Heston Blumenthal



 Designed by a U.K. celebrity chef who's actually more chef than celebrity, this charcoal grill is slightly bigger than a couple six packs, and it's stunning. Because the only thing better than cooking over an open campfire is cooking over a charcoal grill that makes you look like James Bond flipping burgers. \$200, amazon.com

#### **OWNN<sup>™</sup> Solar Lantern** and Mobile Charger



• Glampsites are easy to track by night from the glow of their hanging lights-and we love 'em. But glamping better than everyone else requires lighting that's better than everyone else's. The QWNN's built-in solar panel with mobile charging station is up to the task. \$110, solight-design.com

#### **1 Box of Your Finest** Wine, Please



• Sometimes it's worth plunking down the cash for that spendy vino label. But wine is all about context. And nothing says perfect-for-the-glampground like a box of the good stuff. Smaller carbon footprint? Check. Less wine to go sour after you pass out in the camp shower? Check. Pro tip: Ditch the box, and you've got a bag of wine-way easier to stuff in your backpack. \$25 (3L), La Vieille Ferme Rose

#### **DISH Outdoors**



Nature's oh-so-natural glamour adds to any weekend getaway, but it doesn't have to subtract from your entertainment options. At least not with the DISH Outdoors service from DISH Network. Connect an antenna that's easy to install on a simple tripod to an easy-to-use receiver, and you'll have nationwide coverage that gives you access to all your favorite DISH channels, pay-per-views, and live sports. no matter how deep in the boonies you are. No more need to worry about a Wi-Fi signaljust which new Olympic sport you're going to get into or how many campground friends you're going to invite to your college football tailgate. There's also a DVR upgrade available so you can bring up to 100 hours of HD content with you. Bonus: Unlike most entertainment options, you don't have to sign a contract, and can turn the service on and off as needed-perfect flexibility for part-time glampers. Equipment bundles start at \$350.



Double bonus: I Heart RVing readers get a special deal on DISH Outdoors. Visit DishOutdoors.com/ IHeartRVing to grab one before your next trip.



# **IT'S ALL RIGHT HERE AT CANOPY OAKS!**

**Central Florida's Newest Destination Resort** 

200 Acres of Green Space Luxury Cottages Full-Service Tiki Bar Pizza & Sandwich Shop Coffee Shop Ice Cream Parlor Arts & Craft Center Stocked Fishing Ponds And More!

#### **Book Today and Save!** (407) 630-7000





#### **EDGE OF THE MAP >** GLAMPING ESSENTIALS

#### **Better Undies**



Truth be told. Lots of glampers aren't seasoned outdoorspeople. Better underwear can make the difference where it counts - in the comfort zone. And when you're 5 days in on a 7-day glamp session, it's going to count. MeUndies can shape a perfect cut for your butt. \$18-\$32. meundies.com

#### A Posher Mattress



 There is one really great reason not to sleep in your space-friendly rig: the splendor of the night sky. Still, there's no reason to skimp on the place you put your weary heiny down for the night. Do yourself a next-morning favor and pitch your tent with the Aria twin inflatable air mattress, so vou can fall asleep under the stars and also not wake up with your neck on a tree root. \$78, amazon com

#### **Bauer NE Bluetooth**



• A big part of glamping is stretching your legs. After all, you have some pretty sweet vistas to see. So

when you head out for that Instagram-worthy hike, make locking up all that sweet, glamping gear easy. The Bauer NE Bluetooth can pair with your mobile device to lock/ unlock your RV at the touch of a button. \$240, bauerproducts. com

you're glamping. You've got

jomocoffee.co

all the time in the world. \$34,

Zodi ZIP<sup>™</sup> Hot Shower

Just because vou haven't

Motor Coach you've had your

eye on (see Page 72) with a

shower the size of my pantry

doesn't mean you can't enjoy a hot shower outdoors. Heated

with propane and a hose for

water source, Zodi's ZIP Hot

fresh and clean-clean. \$140,

A Bitchin' Playlist

zodi.com

limitless supply from a natural

Shower gets you back to being

Glamping is really a state of

mind. And we've got you (and

your mind) covered. Listen to

our I Heart RVing playlist on

Spotify for the classiest road jams this side of the Appalachian Trail (whichever side

you're on).♥

upgraded yet to that Thor

#### Benchmade 140 Nimravus®



• When you're heading out into the wild, leave your fancy spring-assisted every day carry blade at home. Instead, you'll want a fixed-blade, full-tang model for reliability in a wider range of applications. Benchmade's 140 Nimravus is equally ready for a 12-ounce Kobe filet, a freshly snared woodland creature, or a fresh Vidalia onion to go with either. Because even when glamping, you need to stay sharp. \$210, benchmade.com

#### **JOMO French Press**



• Sure, your Breville espresso machine doesn't fit in the Airstream, but you don't have to sacrifice your familiar wake-me-up. Complete with silicone sleeve and travel bag, this posh French press makes a dang good cup of joe. Sure, it'll take more time than Folger's instant coffee, but hey,

Check out a snippet of the set list on Page 11.





# Smarter Tire Systems for Safer Travel

Performing 5 checks and purchasing 2 tools can help you avoid that dreaded blowout.

#### by Michael Pescitelli

ire safety has come a long, long way since it became mandatory in 2007. That year, our cars were required to have tiny sensors inside the tires to

tell us when the tires needed air. Dummy lights became the popular name for these built-in systems, because (like your check engine light) they really don't give you much information-outside the fact that something's wrong.



#### EDGE OF THE MAP

Advances in tire safety have since closed that information gap, especially in the RV industry. For good reason: Tires are the touchpoint between your RV and the road. With that in mind, performing five checks and two tools can be the difference between a memorable road trip and a roadside crisis. Choose wisely.

#### EDGE OF THE MAP > SMARTER TIRE SYSTEMS



#### TECHNOLOGY **FROM THE TIRE SAFETY** REVOLUTION

 Differences between systems include: sensor weight, battery life, signal boosters, smartphone compatibility, pressure accuracy, warranty, and price. Compare these features when selecting your TPMS. (And remember: a good TPMS measures pressure and temperature.)

#### **TIREMINDER A1AS** TPMS

TireMinder.com

**EEZ RV E618 TPMS** 

EezRVProducts.com

#### TIRE-SAFEGUARD **6-TIRE MOTORHOME** TPMS

TireSafeguard.com

#### TT-600 / 6-WHEEL TIRE MONITORING SYSTEM

TireTraker.com



# KEY CHECKS BEFORE YOU HIT THE ROAD

#### No.1

#### PROTECT YOUR TIRES FROM CRACKING

and UV damage. One of the easiest things you can do to extend the life of your tire is to regularly clean them. All you need is an off-the-shelf tire cleaning solution. Regular cleaning helps prevent cracking caused by dirt and dust during travel. To reduce UV damage, use tire covers. They are quick and easy, both to throw on and to stow, and they greatly reduce the risk of UV damage. If you're storing your RV outside, tire covers should be used. If your tires show any sign of cracking-also known as dry rot-it is time to replace those tires. Dry-rotted tires pose a significant catastrophic blowout risk.

**CHECK YOUR TIRES' AGES.** Most tire manufacturer's state a 10-year maximum usable lifespan for tires. However, most RV tire warranties end after five years, or when tread wear becomes visible. To determine the age of your tire, look at your tire's sidewall. You will find a fourdigit code that correlates to the month and year the tire was manufactured.

#### **INSPECT VALVE STEMS AND EXTENDERS.**

If you have a tire, you have a valve stem. In some RVs, especially in the travel trailer category (see Page 36), rubber valve stems can be a point of failure. You can inspect your valve stems by seeing if they can be easily moved and swayed with your fingers. If they have visible signs of wear, such as cracks, consider replacing them. A faulty or worn rubber valve stem can cause a blowout.

Fortunately, replacing a rubber valve stem on your travel trailer is a lot easier now due to user-replaceable valve stems, which can be swapped out without removing the tire. (They screw right on to the valve stem.)

Motorized RVs, especially those with aluminum rims, come with nickel-plated brass valve stems that are bolted to the rim, which makes tire issues rarer. For dually tires, most valve stems will use valve extenders that provide access to your tire's air pressure. They're

also one of the leading points for air leaks. If the valve extender comes loose, it could slowly-or quickly-start releasing pressure. And because it is on the inside and not very noticeable, it's hard to detect. So how do you prevent a valve extender from leaking? Many companies offer longer valve stems that directly replace valve extenders. With these valve stems, you gain the benefit of easy access, without the issue of a potential leak from your valve extenders. If you still would prefer to use valve extenders, it is recommended to check that they're tight prior to hitting the road.

#### No.4

**MEASURE TREAD DEPTH.** While checking your tires, make sure there is plenty of tread on your tires. If it starts to look a little low, use a tread depth gauge to make sure you can safely travel. If not, it's time to replace the tire. The safe time to start considering replacing your tires is 6/32 inches and required at 2/32 inches.

#### No.5

**ENSURE YOUR TIRES ARE PROPERLY** inflated. Overinflated tires are more susceptible to damage from road debris, as well as elevate the risk for a tire blowout. It will also distort the shape of your tire, reducing the contact area in which your tires make contact with the road.

Like overinflated tires, underinflated tires increase your chances of a catastrophic blowout. When a tire has less than recommended amount of air pressure, the contact area increases, which can lead to sidewall damage. Underinflation will also cause uneven wear on both the inner and outer sections of the tire, reducing the tires overall lifespan.

When checking your tire pressures, make sure that the tire pressure is set to the manufacturer's suggested pressurewhat pros call the "baseline" pressure. It can typically be found on a placard located on the driver's side exterior of a trailer or inside the door jamb of a motorhome. You should also confirm that your weight and pressure is correct when



**det** vou Hensley **Eliminating Trailer Sway for 25 Years** HensleyMfg.com 1-800-410-6580

compared to the load inflation chart of your specific tire (found on the respective tire manufacturer's website). As the weight of your RV increases, the recommended tire pressure will increase. You will need to have your RV weighed to determine the weight, which is best done on a per tire basis. It may sound like a lot of work, but maintaining proper pressure greatly reduces the chances of having a blowout and increases tire longevity.

#### **TOOLS FOR THE ROAD**

#### TIRE PRESSURE MONITORING SYSTEM

**(TPMS)** Checking your tire pressures prior to hitting the road can be done with either a standard tire gauge or a TPMS. With a TPMS, keep in mind that when you first turn your system on, it may take several minutes before the pressures update. (Some systems have a feature that you can utilize to "request" updated pressures.) You should also be aware that some systems will not update until





## **NEXT-GENERATION KEYLESS TECHNOLOGY!**

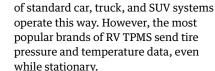
**SCAN FOR** 

**MORE INFO!** 

# BAUER PRODUCTS

9

**NE BLUETOOTH** 



**EOTM >** SMARTER TIRE SYSTEMS

you are in motion. In fact, the majority

TPMSs continue to monitor tire pressures while driving down the road. Each system works slightly differently, but in essence all systems have an update internally between 4 to 20 minutes, sending tire data wirelessly to the main monitor. These systems also check every 6 to 12 seconds for a tire issue. If an issue is found, an alert is immediately sent to the monitor. That means some systems could take up to 12 seconds to warn you. However, it is more likely to send an alert in half that time frame. These timing intervals are the biggest difference between individual brands of TPMS.

The next biggest difference in an RV TPMS is the types of alerts the system will provide. Almost all of them include high- and low-pressure alerts, along with high temperature alerts, but another valuable type of alert is a leaking alert. Some, like TireMinder, even include slow- and rapid-leaking alerts. While traveling down the road, the pressure will rise in your tires, possibly even an excess of 10 to 15 PSI. Because the Tire-Minder TPMS includes a timed-pressure loss alert, it can alert at the appropriate time, even when the pressure has risen due to weather, altitude, or normal driving. This allows an earlier warning to be displayed, even when the tire pressure is within the normal range.

#### **PORTABLE AIR COMPRESSOR** If you

have a slow leak, a portable air compressor makes a world of difference. It can also prevent you from having to wait hours for roadside assistance to arrive, giving you the ability to fill up your tires anywhere you travel. Tire size matters when choosing the right air compressor. Small 15-inch trailer tires have less volume than larger 22.5-inch bus tires, which makes the fill times different. You will want a compressor powerful enough to fill up your specific tire in a timely fashion. After all, if it is going to take hours to fill up your tires, you might as well wait for roadside assistance. Let's avoid that.

# **BAUER SMART LOCKS**

**EM BLUETOOTH** 

0

 CLOSE FIELD TECHNOLOGY Just push one button to unlock while paired device is near!

• **APP** indicates battery life for Bauer smart locks and keeps track of locking/unlocking history

• EASY UPGRADE! Fits standard entry door cutouts - towable or motorized applications

• ONE KEY! Match the lock to other Bauer locks!

 ALSENTIS HSS TECHNOLOGY Touchpad senses human touch ... wet conditions not a problem!







# **EDGE OF THE MAP**

With live music every night, a country breakfast in the morning, and staff that treats you like family, the Grand Ole RV Resort is all Nashville without the crowd.

by Mark Settle photos by Abigail Bobo

# EDGE OF THE MAP

here is a restless music inside the human heart. It's what pushes us out towards the boundary, to discover a world of mystery and melody. To make

our own way through purple mountains and across fruited plains. Like a pulse that runs through every wanderer, this music has been playing a long time in the American South. In 1780, when Tennessee was the edge of the western frontier, Kasper Mansker set out into the territory and established a small, stout fort in the heart of the Cumberland River Basin. His home offered safe lodging for hunters and settlers cut from the same cloth. Hospitality at Mansker's Station meant that frontier families could find provision and fellowship in the dense for<mark>est</mark> around the growing town that would become the city of Nashville.

Today, folks may marvel how much has changed. But campers—be they full-timers, snowbirds, or newbies know better: There are places where you can still hear the music. From the cockpits of their rigs, they play the highway like a fiddle in search of the perfect tune. And, twelve miles north of Nashville, there is a campground for them where the music still plays every night less than a hundred yards from the shallow, sonorous waters of Mansker Creek.

#### A TASTE OF SOUTHERN Hospitality

The Grand Ole RV Resort is easy to find. Pull off I-65 at exit 97 in Tennessee, along US Route 41, and the campground will stand prominent: a large, brick-red building trimmed with white pillars that prop up a wraparound porch full of rockers. Tommy Cunningham, a retired custom home builder, bought an old campground in 2012, reestablished it, and built the resort himself-with, he declares, the help of his guardian angel. Tommy figured if the economy was good, people would be travelling; and if the economy took a turn for the worse, people might trade homes for RVs. Either way, they'd need a place to stay-an observation worthy of Kasper Mansker.



Above: Mansker Creek, named for Tennessee frontiersman Kasper Mansker, runs south past the Grand Ole RV Resort. and the spirit of frontier hospitality lives on at the campground. Middle: Just inside the front door, campers order from a mouth-watering menu that includes fried eggs, omelets, fresh tomatoes, and hash browns for a home-cooked breakfast. Right: Sue Richardson enjoys a friendly chat with a auest makina a purchase from the resort's general store.

The campground is a family business. His daughter Tammy and son Tommy manage the outside; his daughter Sue Richardson manages the office and takes care of the customers. Just inside the doors, she works behind a small register with the kitchen behind her. In the morning, folks walk up the porch and step into the diner to get breakfast. Then they'll stock up on supplies from the general store, check out, or just make conversation. The Grand Ole RV Resort's sign says that visitors "Arrive as Guests, Leave as Family." And a quick talk with Sue, whether she's getting you settled on the campground or just stopping by to check on your breakfast, gives guests the hospitality you'd expect from Nashville.

Sue swings by a customer's table, where two mouth-watering plates stacked with omelets, hash browns, and fresh tomatoes are caught in the middle of a vanishing act. Sue comments, "The breakfast is awesome isn't it?!" It is indeed, nod the guests. In fact, it's so good that it worries the chef, who has come out of the kitchen to chat. With a dash of mischief in his eye, he tells Sue that he doesn't want word to get out about how good the food is because he doesn't want more customers. "Well, I do!" shouts Sue, jumping in with a laugh. The chef then acknowledges with a soft but sincere pride that their breakfast is the best thing you can find outside a Nashville home (and maybe within one). Even as he speaks, the bright, nodding smiles of the customers–still eating–offer a testimony of their own.

The front door kicks open. A tall, relaxed camper walks in, swivels into a backwards-facing chair, and looks directly at Sue.

"I hear if I come sweet talk ya that I might get things," he says with a wry smile.

"Oh, no! Who told that lie?!" Sue fires back, happy to mix a little humor with business, before asking, "How can I help you?" She walks him to the register so he can check out and get his family back on the road by lunch. After he cashes out, he walks out with the ease he came in with, as Sue calls over his shoulder, "Take your time."



#### **EDGE OF THE MAP**

nashvi

looks goo on you

The guest half turns back, laughs, and winks to the chef before hitting the door, "You're right! She is nice," giving every indication this was not his first time talking with the chef. It is dialogue characteristic of family, where each exchange is just a continuation. There's a word for that: relationship.

#### WHAT BRINGS YOU **TO NASHVILLE**

While the atmosphere at the Grand Ole RV Resort may feel like family, the business is built to meet customer needs. The campground offers 140 campsites with full hookups for their camperswater, electric, and sewage. In fact, they offer everything from Wi-Fi to dog sitters to RV maintenance and repair. Because you never know what a camper might need when they pull-in off the road.

Of course, there are different kinds of campers. Taking a note from Mark

arched windows of the Ryman Auditorium can be seen by anyone walking down 5th Avenue N in Nashville, but to go inside the Ryman is to enter country music's most hallowed ground, where legends like Johnny Cash, Patsy Cline, and Hank Williams performed at the Grand Ole Opry. Like the South itself, the place is defined by the personality of the people who struggled and strove to make their own way. Even today, music stars like Alison Krauss and Sturgill Simpson carry on the legacy in front of live audiences.

Above: The iconic

Twain, you might call them Sawyers and Finns, with the difference being the duration of the stay. Like Tom Sawyer, certain campers are looking for a quick adventure or getaway, to shake things up, and to get back home in the nick of time with a story worth telling. But full-timers are more like Huckleberry Finn, who see travel and adventure as a way life and their RV as their home. But whether you're a Sawyer or a Finn doesn't matter much to the Grand Ole RV

Resort: The campground provides each a great launching point into the city of Nashville.

Tucked into the fold of the Cumberland River's arm, this Athens of the South is prime territory for adventure. By day, sunlight pours into the open streets where smoky barbeque joints and a burgeoning scene of breweries invite. Signs up and down the street bear the titles of country songs, like Jimmy Buffet's Margaritaville, and pulse with the soft reverb of music playing inside. Legacy-rich buildings are right next door. Just beside the distinct pink (or are they purple?) walls of Tootsie's, a celebrated Nashville honky tonk, the Ryman Auditorium of Grand-Ole-Opry fame is still open, where legends like Roy Acuff, Jerry Lee Lewis, Patsy Cline, Elvis Presley, and Johnny Cash all performed. South of Broadway on 5th Avenue, the more modern Country Music Hall of Fame, with its great, rising curvature, is a better symbol of Nashville's present: where old and new live comfortably side-by-side, like two generations of family.

After hours, folks pour into the song-filled night down Broadway's oh-so-walkable street that runs like a river of sound, faces, and dazzling light. Later you can branch onto Second Avenue to escape the crowd and listen to the sound of live music slipping from the honky tonks and bars that run down the entire street.

There are plenty to tuck into for a beer and a song-assuming, of course, you've already been to Tootsie's.

As a growing city, Nashville has bright, new parts that are also blossoming up, like the Gulch, Five Points in East Nashville, and 12 South. But downtown is old Nashville, where warmth and familiarity come quickly, even to the traveler.

#### LIVE MUSIC AT SUNSET

It's the old, true, genuine things about Nashville that make it feel like home. Things like being able to walk into a diner after a long, eventful night and chat with the cook over breakfast. There is a virtue in making music, finding rest, in enjoying life with full-hearted gratitude. The Grand Ole RV Resort offers a place of rest for the weary traveler. On Sunday mornings, a young pastor even travels down from a nearby town to offer a small service on the back porch, with picnic tables open to those looking to

come as they are. At sunset, this is where the music also plays. Every night. The Grand Ole RV Resort offers live music seven nights a week, with local artists on rotation. Sue says it's perfect for guests



**BAR-B-QUE JOINT** ♀ 410 4TH AVE S NASHVILLE, TN 37201

Taste the smoke-seared flavors of West-Tennessee whole hoa BBQ, fresh from the pit daily.

FOOD

MARTIN'S



#### DRINKS

#### SOUTHERN GRIST **BREWING COMPANY**

1201 PORTER RD NASHVILLE, TN 37206

Enjoy craft beer right in the taproom with East Nashville artisans.

#### SIGHTS

#### **COUNTRY MUSIC HALL OF FAME & MUSUEM**

222 5TH AVE S NASHVILLE, TN 37203

Explore the country music legends, both old and new, who lived the music they sang.

#### MUSIC

#### OOTSIE'S **ORCHID LOUNGE**

422 BROADWAY NASHVILLE, TN 37203

Experience live music at Broadway's most famous honky tonk.







### THE Barefoot Fiddler

Merna Lewis is a force behind the fiddle. Since moving to Nashville in 2003, she's been a fixture in the Nashville honky tonk bars and a regular at the Grand Ole Resort.

Follow her on Facebook @THEBAREFOOTFIDDLER



outside and enjoy a Tennessee sunset at the Grand Ole RV Resort, as musician Mark Whitehead plays on the back porch.. Just twelve miles from Nashville the campground gives guests the perfect launching point into the city and a soft landing after a night on the town. Open camp sites offer fireside fellowship, and the resort sponsors live music from local musicians every night.

Above: Campers sit

who want to experience the charms of Music City without the city crowd.

"People can sit out in their lawn chair with a beer if they want to. We do meals every night. They can definitely experience Nashville here each night without going downtown."

Every single night, musicians like Merna Lewis, "the Barefoot Fiddler," take their

place on the back porch where, with hardly an introduction, they begin, letting the music sweep across the campground and make its own announcement. Emerging from a small sea of RVs, campers are drawn from their Jaycos, Denalis, and Airstreams to move toward the music, making their way up the gentle hill where the resort stands tall. Before long, over 30 people have set up in lawn chairs and at picnic tables around the musicians. For good reason. The music is radio quality, tonight featuring sweet-sawing, crowd-drawing fiddle work and baritone-rich singing. The local talent gives credence to Nashville's reputation: Musicians here are as common as silver in the days of Solomon.

As country music favorites play in the air, the crowd settles in and gets comfortable. A young father listens as he pushes his kids on a nearby swing. An old woman huddles into her lawn chair with a black chihuahua in her lap. The dog's face is so whitened from age you could mistake it for a pocket beagle. After the first hour, a new couple arrives late and settles at a back table but catch the eye of the vocalist, Mark Whitehead. "Hello in the back!"

The couple smile and wave shyly, then Mark turns back to the music. As it often goes, songs start with stories from the road, mentions of old friends from towns like Amarillo, and absurd questions, like "Is it alright if I do a Merle Haggard song?" (It's always OK to do Merle here.) People come and go at their leisure, but the music stays and fills the campground for two hours with almost-too-perfect lyrics like, "Down this road there's always one more city, the highway is my home."

Sunset's blue sky turns gold over the wooded western horizon till the whole lawn is gilded with dusk. With music that takes travelers to some distant place that the soul is always searching out. Here on the green grass in that dying light, in the soft shadow of the Grand Ole RV Resort, the work of a master builder is complete-a place of fellowship found in the places we meet, in the music we make, in the moments we have. Taking us to a place where we can both know and be known. Maybe, at one time, that was found at a frontier fort, the pages of a celebrated novel, or the stage of the Grand Ole Opry. But tonight, it's the musical twilight of the Grand Ole Resort.♥



# **Middle Tennessee**

Whether you're hiking the Natchez Trace, getting a taste for Lynchburg, or seeing Rock City, we've found a campground for you.

Natchez Trace **RV Campground** 1363 Napier Road

#### Hohenwald, TN 38462 (931) 796-3212

Road Trip: Hiking the Natchez Trail is about as American as it gets, and the campground is just over a half-mile from Natchez Trace Parkway. That's called walking distance. 2-minute driv

Day Rate: \$56 + tax Camp Sites: 531

> STORE WATER SEWAGE LAUNDRY ELECTRIC WI-FI PROPANE PET-CARE

Check-In/Out: 11 a.m./11 a.m. ThousandTrails.com/Tennessee/ Natchez-Trace-RV-Campground

Grand Ole RV Resort and Market 708 N Main Street Goodlettsville, TN 37072 (615) 420-6036 Road Trip: Nashville is called

Music City for a reason, and vou won't have officially done Nashville until vou walk Broadway at night and immerse vourself in the river of sound. 22-minute dri

Day Rate: \$34.50-\$36.50 + tax Camp Sites: 140

GrandOleRVResort.com			ClearwaterCoveResort.com				
Check-In/Out: 3 p.m./11 a.m.				Check-In/O	<b>ut:</b> 1	. p.m./11 a.r	n.
PROPANE	•	PET-CARE	•	PROPANE	•	PET-CARE	•
ELECTRIC	•	WI-FI	•	ELECTRIC	•	WI-FI	•
SEWAGE	•	LAUNDRY	•	SEWAGE	•	LAUNDRY	•
WATER	•	STORE	•	WATER	•	STORE	•



#### EDGE OF THE MAP > THE FULL HOOKUP

#### **Clearwater Cove RV Resort**

1804 Galloway Lane Winchester, TN 37398

(931) 967-8580

Road Trip: Just northwest is Lynchburg, home of the famous Jack Daniels Distillerv. where you can take a tour. drink a few flights, and taste whiskey drawn from individual barrels. 13-minute drive

Day Rate: \$55-\$95 + tax Camp Sites: 50

#### Raccoon Mountain **Caverns & Campground**

319 West Hills Drive Chattanooga, TN 37419

(423) 821-9403

Road Trip: There's lots to do in nearby Chattanooga (caves, aquariums, waterfalls, history galore), but few trips are as fun, weird, and rewarding as seeing Rock City with the kids.

Day Rate: \$36-\$40 + tax Camp Sites: 52

WATER	•	STORE	•
SEWAGE	•	LAUNDRY	•
ELECTRIC	•	WI-FI	•
PROPANE	•	PET-CARE	н.

Check-In/Out: 12 p.m./11 a.m

RaccoonMountain.com

# Your Next Getaway Plan



#### NORTHEAST

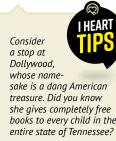
Cape Cod RV Resort Martha's Vineyard, MA SunRVResorts.com

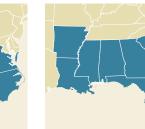
• There's no sailing around the fact that there's nowhere exactly like the island of Martha's Vineyard. For ritzy RVers who prefer swanky locales, this is a good thing. It's also the reason President Barack Obama 2008 (Blue Heron Farm) and President Barack Obama 2012 (Chilmark House) both lived here. You can live here too (at least for a little while), and we recommend doing it at the Cape Cod RV Resort.

To get on the island, you'll need to take an RVfriendly ferry out of Woods Hole, MA. Find info at SteamShipAuthority.com. APPALACHIA Pigeon Forge Landing RV Resort

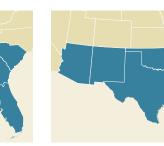
RV Resort Pigeon Forge, TN RVCoutdoors.com

• Here's what you want out of a brand-new RV park in the foothills of the Smoky Mountains: unobstructed views of world-class mountains. waterfront parking spots, premium and big rigfriendly hookup spots, and a ton of high-class amenities. You get all of that at Pigeon Forge Landing RV Resort, nestled in the foothills of the Great Smokies. Plus, it still has that new campground smell!





SOUTHEAST



Fall is the season of leaving, and it's just months away. Before you plan your autumn excursion, consider one

of these four fall favorites from the Atlantic shore to the Austin skyline.

#### SOUTHWEST

Austin, TX

BookYourSite.com

Pecan Grove RV Park

• Austin, Texas keeps it

weird. In fact, walk down

any of the main streets.

and you're still likely to

see the slogan littered

around town. Pecan

Grove fits the Austin

aesthetic perfectly. But

the reason to visit isn't

the park. Rather, it's that

it's nestled in, comfy and

Colorado River. Which, in

turn, happens to be right

next to one of the funnest

cozy, right next to the

Periwinkle Park and Campground Sanibel Island, FL SanibelCamping.com

 About 20 years ago, Sanibel residents practically led an armed uprising over the first McDonald's opening on the island. This kind of active community involvement has led to its reputation as one of the best zip codes in Florida for appreciating nature. Periwinkle gives you access to nature at its wildest, the perfect launching point for remote, beachy adventures.





TIRENDER  $(\Box \Box \Box)$ *CONNECTED* LOW SLOW LEAK 58 102 MONITORING 32 34 32 33 84 85 12  $\bigcirc$  $\overline{\nabla}$ **TireMinder A1AS** JUST YOU AND THE ROAD

eaves: vnlit/Shutterstock.com



# **TIRE PROTECTION** PEACE OF MIND



Over the last 10 years, TireMinder has achieved more awards than any other TPMS brand in the RV Industry. For those looking for the best product, there is only one choice - TireMinder.



When it comes to your safety, travel with peace of mind using the industry's leading TPMS.

### **OU NEED A TPMS**



The Most Trusted TPMS in the RV Industry Since 2007

# HEARTLAND<sup>®</sup> A NEW JOURNEY BEGINS

Just like every great road trip, sometimes life takes you in a new direction. At Heartland, we've launched a new journey to make our RVs better than ever. We've doubled down on seeking out the highest quality materials, creating fresh and inviting interiors and giving every unit the kinds of finishing touches you'd find in a new home.

Every unit goes through a top-to-tails inspection with a quality assurance expert—in fact, we have an 89,000-square-foot facility dedicated to walking each RV through a series of checklists to ensure it works exactly as it should. And with updated floor plans incorporating features our customers love best—spacious bathrooms, designer kitchens, furniture meant for cuddling up together—we're confident every trip in a Heartland will be a happy one.

After all, that's what RVing is all about: hitting the road with people you love, having adventures, making memories. So when you buy a Heartland, just focus on taking the journey of a lifetime. We'll take care of the rest.

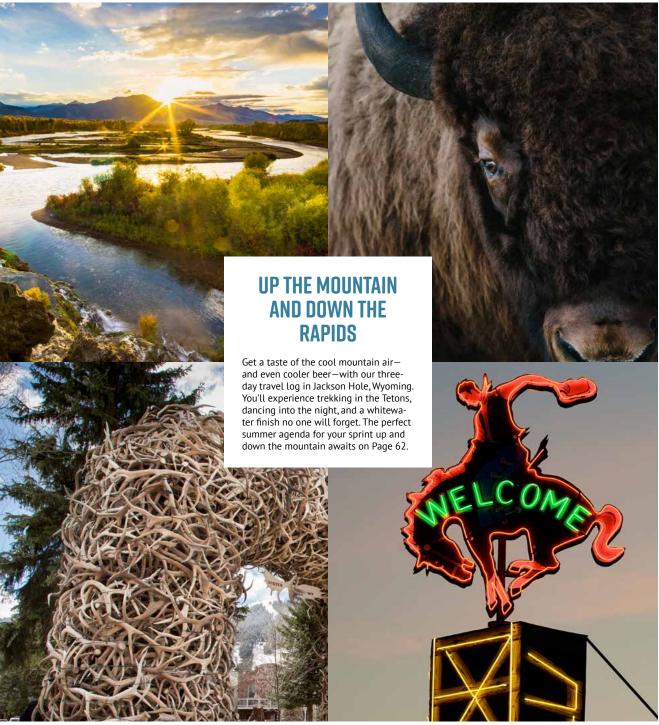


Experience the all-new Heartland online and check out 360-degree all-new features, galleries of updated decor and more. Just visit - HeartlandRVs.com.





CAMPING, ADVENTURE, AND THE RV EXPERIENCE







Level-up your ignition skills with four techniques that will spark attention. Page 61

#### **RV MARKETPLACE**

#### **Major RV Innovation**

New shade operates without opening the screen or entry door.



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#### **KEEP YOUR NOSE CLEAN!**

Bug splatter WILL destroy your RV's decals and finish. Now there is a simple & effective solut



Like what you see in our marketplace?

Now you can tout your trailer, pitch your product, or call out your camper in the largest independent RVing magazine in the world.

> Contact Kim Whitaker kim@IHeartRVing.com



# Wear your heart near your sleeve.

IHeartRVing.com/shop

# **Playing** with Fire

4 ways to stoke the flames of your campfire and ignite admiration around it.

#### FIRE HAS BEEN IMPRESSING MANKIND

for a long time-from the dawn of man to the "I have made fire!" cry of Tom Hanks. Because, truth be told, building and maintaining a great fire is not always easy. It requires skill, and those who make an awe-inspiring fire are credited as being awesome. So here are four ways to make sure you have the most impressive fire in sight.

I♡RVING :: SUMMER 2021

60





#### Ditch the Bic and make your own fire-starter.

Starting your campfire with an old newspaper stopped being convenient when they stopped making newspapers. (Have they stopped making newspapers?) Try filling an empty plastic pill bottle with cotton balls soaked in Vaseline. The greasy little balls will burn hot for more than a couple of minutes each and cost almost nothing to make.

Campground Cred 00000 Fun Factor Adventure Factor 00000

666

#### PRO LEVEL



#### Add some cleaner fire power to your arsenal.

Fires smoke when they're short of oxygen or heat, or if you're using the wrong fuel. Breeo's Solo Stove Ranger fixes that with a built-in airflow system that increases the efficiency of the burn and reduces smoke through something they call secondary combustion. We call it a great way to stop moving around the campfire every time the wind changes.

Campground Cred 000 **Fun Factor** Adventure Factor 

6666



#### Take your fire pit and go all the way home.

"Toss the firepit in the back of the RV," is not a sentence you ever thought you'd hear yourself say. Just thinking about soot tainting my all-white, Pinterest-ready kitchen is giving me hives. But that's not a problem with the Primus Kamoto portable fire pit, which folds all the way down to about the size of a skinny record player to toss wherever you'd like.

Campground Cred 000 66666 Fun Factor Adventure Factor 6666



Build your own smokeless fire pit.

First, stack a ring of edge pavers just like a normal fire pit. Create an airway at the bottom of it by removing a few of the stones around the circle. Next, punch holes at the top of a metal stock tank ring about 4-6 inches apart, then place it inside the stone circle. Last, seal the top of the pit between the inner and outer rings with additional pavers.

Campground Cred 00000 Fun Factor 00000 Adventure Factor 





# HIGH LIFE At High Altitude

# Pull off the perfect getaway to Jackson Hole, Wyoming in just three days. by Jasmine Rochelle

**JACKSON HOLE** has made a name for itself as an unforgettable year-round getaway. In winter, the town bustles with travelers seeking to slosh down the snowy slopes of the Tetons. But Jackson Hole in summer is a marvel of natural grandeur. The warmer weather offers easy access to Grand Teton National Park, so outdoor enthusiasts can enter the serene, mountainous landscape. Here, wildlife that once ranged across the continent still roams free. Here, white-water rivers race down from mountain snows ready to carry thrill seekers with them.

The park itself is reason enough to make a summer trip to Wyoming worthwhile, but with a top-notch food scene and ever-growing nightlife, Jackson Hole itself has become a destination in its own right: a quirky, charming outpost with lively sights, sounds, and culture that will delight every camper.

Join us as we head West in a travel log that takes you to heart of the Tetons–with campgrounds, craft beer, and R&R that will make your three-day stay like no other.

# Day One

#### MAKE YOUR **BASE CAMP A HIGH POINT**



#### never before with **TETON** VALLEY RESORT

(TetonValleyResort.com), the ultimate base camp destination on the quiet side of Jackson Hole. Situated just 25 miles from town, Teton Valley Resort offers luxury cabins, tipis, tent glamping units, and back-ins in every size accommodation one could need.

Once situated at the Teton Valley Resort, take a dip in the heated outdoor pool and hot tub. Have laundry to do from the drive? Stop by the guest lounge and laundry facilities before heading out to grab a bite to eat and take in the local scenery.



Head into Jackson Hole to

I♡RVING :: SUMMER 2021

stretch, stroll, and grab a late lunch. BIN22, a high-end general store, restaurant, and bar, has something for everyone. Inspired by time spent abroad in Tuscany and throughout Europe,

owner Gavin Fine opened Bin22 to offer Jackson Hole the same wine ship and grocery experience he found in Italy. Stop in for some small plates, and a glass of wine or craft beer and stop off at the grocer to pick up a bottle of wine and hand-curated food items to take back to the resort. Bin22's menu items range from cured meats and cheeses to grilled hanger steak, cucumber salad.

#### EXPLORE

Head out from Bin22 and stroll the quarter mile down West Broadway to Jackson town square for a family photo op with the ICONIC ELK ANTLER **ARCHES** at the four corners of the area. With the first arch Г erected in 1953 by the local Rotary Club the antlers have become as much a staple to the Jackson experience as the Tetons them-selves.

#### ŐŌ A trip to Jack-

son Hole would not be complete without stopping by the historic livery stable turned playhouse. Built in 1915,

the JACKSON PLAYHOUSE (JacksonPlayhouse.com) serves as Jackson's oldest building and offers a taste of old-fashioned fun in the form of Wild West and family friendly shows like "The Unsinkable Molly Brown." Advance ticket sales are available for purchase via their website



Enjoy seared scallops over brown butter cream with sage and hazelnuts at Bin22.

 $\rightarrow$ 

and strongly encouraged during peak vacation seasons.



# Day Two

#### WALK AMONG THE WILDLIFE



Teton Village, a 27-mile drive from Teton Valley Resort to catch the first bus out for **JACKSON** HOLE WILDLIFE SAFARIS (JacksonHoleWildlife Safaris.com). This halfday trip includes breakfast and winds along the western boundary of the National Elk Refuge to Grand Teton National Park. Wildlife frequently

encountered along the route include bison, elk, deer, moose, pronghorn (aka antelope), fox, coyote, bear, bald eagle, trumpeter swans, and

occasionally wolves.

Jackson Hole Wildlife Safaris offers several options for their trips, including personalized wildlife photography safaris, a safari/river combo excursion, and multi-day bear and wolf tours.

#### EAT After a full $\mathbb{N}$ safari experi-

ence, return to Teton Village and grab lunch at SPUR RESTAURANT (TetonLodge.com/ spur-restaurant). The entire staff at Spur, from executive chef Kevin Humphreys to the waitstaff are dedicated to supporting local and

#### **RVX** > JACKSON HOLE. WY

regional food sources as well as organic and sustainable farming. Menus are seasonal. offering the freshest dishes.



Before heading back to the resort, take the eight-mile detour to STAGECOACH BAR AND RESTAURANT. It is so worth the extra 10 minutes to grab a drink at this 70-year-old local institution. Open seven days a week, a can't-miss experience is Sunday "church" from 6:00 to 10:00 pm where the world-famous Stagecoach Band plays a mean country music two-stepin addition to their current repertoire of more than 2,500 shows over the last 44 years. A true down-home establishment, Stagecoach Bar offers eight beers on tap

and all the cocktails anyone could ask for after a day in the mountains. (A claim that is certainly worth testing.)



Head back to

Teton Valley to relax with a massage or full-body polish in the resort spa, or take a short trip to the Grand Targhee Resort and the DREAM-**CATCHER CHAIRLIFT** to the 9,862-foot summit of Fred's Mountain. Once at the top of the lift, enjoy unsurpassed views of the Teton Range and surrounding states of Wyoming, Idaho, and Montana. There is a leisurely, 45-minute loop trail that passes an overlook and provides limitless photo opportunities. Teton Valley Resort provides transportationand even a hiking guide!





#### **RACE DOWN** THE RAPIDS



morning for a white-water adventure down the SNAKE RIVER, complete with the famous Big Kahuna and Lunch Counter rapids. Those with youngsters can opt for the scenic stretch to enjoy wildlife and Teton mountain views.

For a calmer water adventure, check out the **TETON RIVER SCENIC** FLOAT with a kayak or stand-up paddle rental. Transportation from the resort to the river and equipment rentals are available courtesy of Teton Valley. Launch into the river in a kayak and enjoy a relaxing and breathtaking 1-and-a-half to 2-hour float down-

stream.



show by the local

ΤΑΥ

Head back to

the Teton Valley

#### Head back into Jackson Hole for an afternoon of lunch

and retail therapy. Stop by the MANGY MOOSE, a a favorite among locals classic, no frills eatery and vacationers alike: with traditional American even Jackson Hole's most fare before heading out to famous visitors stop in, the local boutiques and and one never knows who general stores. Be sure to they might run into. check out MADE for Everyone from Waylon handcrafted, artisan Jennings to Reba souvenirs and VALLEY McEntire, Runaway June **BOOKSTORE** for beautiful to Midland, have showed coffee table books and their faces on stage and in novels about the area. the audience.

ŨŨ



Jackson Hole is complete without a stop Resort for one last eveat the MILLION DOLLAR ning outside to enjoy the **COWBOY BAR** (Million grounds, backdrop, and get DollarCowboybar.com). a good night's rest before Saddle up, literally, to the hitting the road toward bar for a beverage, your next destination.♥



See Who's Playing at the Million Dollar Cowboy Bar Check the set list at MillionDollarCowboyBar.com.



Hunting for your next adventure? Look nationwide. Read about the best RV trips for the fall season on Page 56.



# Begin your solar journey with a single panel.

Adding solar to your RV or travel trailer has never been easier. The Go Power! Overlander is the largest single 12-volt solar charging kit on the market, with **190 watts** and over **9 amps** of power charging capability.

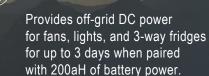
The **OVERLANDER** is easy to install, and expandable up to 600-watts. Simply add more panels as your power needs grow. Pair with a Go Power! inverter for maximum off-grid power.

**Easy Install** 



## **Reliable Power**

A powerful solar battery charger that can be installed in just over an hour by two people.







# GO FURTHER. GO SOLAR.



Costs as little as a portable gas generator, without the hassle, noise and fumes.

**Cost Effective** 

Celebrating 25 years & over 1 million panels sold. Find out what solar can do for you at **GPELECTRIC.COM/IHEARTRVING** 

## COMBAT WOUNDED THEY'VE GOT HE©RT, THEY NEED WINGS

Imagine a soldier returning home from combat facing devastating injuries and long-term hospitalization-- in a facility hundreds of miles away from their family.

#### Now imagine yourself bringing them together.

The VAC provides free air transportation to post 9/11 combat wounded and their families for medical and other compassionate purposes through a national network of volunteer aircraft owners and pilots.

FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE. VETERANSAIRLIFT.ORG - 952-582-2911



**EXPLORE THE HOT, NEW FEATURES** that make the Alliance RV Paradigm and Thor Motor Coach Rize immediate next-buy contenders. Whether you prefer a towable or motorized option, we dive into the details of why each model is commanding our attention. Step into the RV spotlight on the next page.



Thinking about converting your RV to solar power? We help you count the cost. Page 75

#### RV TECH AND TRADECRAFT





## Designed to Make Comfort King

ALLIANCE RV'S LATEST FIFTH WHEEL GIVES CUSTOMERS THE ROYAL TREATMENT.

**LUXURY EXPERIENCE** begins with understanding desire. And here, the Alliance RV Paradigm brings fifth-wheel luxury to an all-new level. Implementing 100 customer-driven features, this well-sheened machine is fine-tuned to meet RV owner wants and needs—spoken and unspoken. From the impressive Benchmark Chassis design to the king bed's padded headboard, the Paradigm delivers on its name.

That starts with the new Pressure Running Gear system. With heavy-duty 4K springs and 7,000-pound axles from Dexter, a MorRyde CRE3000 suspension system, and Super G 4,400 pound-rated tires, you are guaranteed a more luxurious (and less eventful) towing experience. The Paradigm's two-inch torsion tube is firmly welded to the I-beam and spring hangers have V-bracket reinforcement to protect against any spring failures. All making your road time sublime—and giving you better peace of mind. After all, heavy is the head that tows the crown.

The Paradigm showcases an upscale interior. Massive atrium windows offer an expansive view outside, and MCD night shades secure absolute privacy. LED lighting accents the crown molding and islands—and is even installed to back-light mirrors. From the all-on-one loveseat/theater seat/recliner, you can enjoy a responsive Bluetooth entertainment system and LG smart TVs. That is, before you retire to a spacious 48- to 60-inch shower, close the rustic sliding door to your bedroom, and surrender to the plush comfort of that king-sized bed. PLIP-UP END TEL STORAGE DISHWASHER PREP DISHWASHER PREP DISHWASHER PREP DISHWASHER PREP DISHWASHER DISH

#### PARADIGM 370FB FLOORPLAN

▶ LENGTH: 40 FT 4 IN	▶ DRY WEIGHT: 13,856 L
▶ HEIGHT: 13 FT 4 IN	▶ GVWR: 16,500 LBS
► FRESH/GRAY/BLACK: 98/106/53 X2 GAL	► HITCH WEIGHT: 2,623

#### TOP LEVEL > RV SPOTLIGHT



#### Premium Storage Space

Luxury requires space, and the Paradigm's ambitious design provides innovative solutions for storage. The Benchmark Chassis employs a drop-frame design that create a mammoth basement-with 35 percent more storage space in an insulated, heated, illuminated, and uninhibited compartment. In the RV interior, innovative storage is everywhere and often invisible: deep bedroom dressers, flip-top end tables, compartments beneath the step shoe, and more.

#### **Friendly Utility Features**

Thoughtful design is a part of the Paradigm's every fiber including its most utilitarian components. Frustration-reducing features are everywhere. From easy-to-track smart wires to an all-in-one utility center, user-friendly utilities make maintenance and control simpler. Shut-off valves for sink and toilet repairs so vou don't have to cut off your entire water supply? Finally. Dedicated locations preengineered to accept the washer and dryer setup? Affirmative.

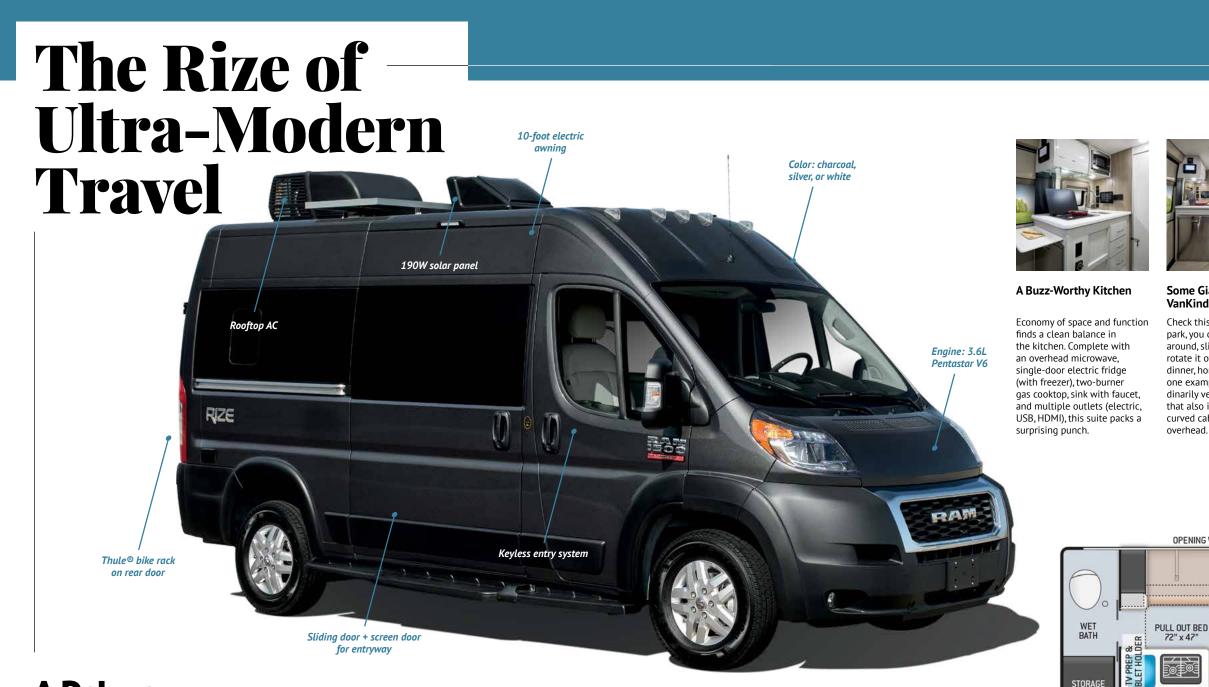


LBS

LBS



See the full list of luxury features. Visit AllianceRV.com/ fifth-wheel-paradigm.php.



## **A Deluxe** Shuttle for **Launching Out**

WITH A POWERFUL CHASSIS AND A STREAMLINED PROFILE. THOR MOTOR COACH'S RIZE GLIDES WITH SPACE-AGE STYLE INTO ANY GREAT BEYOND.

**VERY SIMPLY,** the Rize makes camping in a Class B motorhome a breeze for newbies, as well as a delight for veteran RVers. Nimble, powerful, and shamelessly sheik, Thor Motor Coach's design effectively multiplies space without sacrificing quality or style-both on the road and in the cab. This is #VanLife at its pinnacle for those looking to maintain modern comforts while on the move.

But don't let the Rize's ultra-modern appearance deceive you: The Rize is ready to launch into the outdoors. With a Thule<sup>®</sup> bike rack on the rear door and a hitch weight rating of 3,500 pounds, you can bring your bigger toys with you.

Shadowed by a 10-foot electric awning, the sliding door creates a large opening so interior space can blend with the outside. (Although there's a screen door to keep the bugs out if you need a force field.)

Tailored for self-sufficiency, the Rize 18M comes with a pleasantly quiet Onan<sup>®</sup> RV QG 2800 gas generator, two group 31 AGM house batteries, and a solar charge controller with 190W solar panel (to save those batteries). And when an offshore power opportunity arises, the 30-amp detachable shoreline power cord can help you hook up when you dock at a campground.

#### 2022 RIZE 18M FLOORPLAN

CHASSIS: RAM PROMASTER	▶ ENGINE: 3.6L PENTASI
► FUEL CAPACITY/TYPE: 24 GAL/GASOLINE	► HORSEPOWER/TORQUE: 2
▶ GVWR: 8,550 LBS	▶ GCWR: 11,500 LBS
► EXT LENGTH (W/O LADDER): 17 FT 11 IN	▶ EXT HEIGHT (W/AC): 9
► EXT WIDTH (W/O MIRRORS): 81 IN	▶ INT HEIGHT: 75 IN
► AWNING SIZE: 10 FT	SLEEPING CAPACITY: 2
► LPG: 24 LBS	▶ FRESH/GRAY/BLACK: 18
▶ WATER HEATER: 2.64 GAL	▶ FURNACE: 14,300 BTU
▶ HITCH WEIGHT RATING: 3,500 LBS	▶ SEAT BELTS: 4



#### Some Giant Leaps for VanKind

Check this out: When you park, you can swivel your seat around, slide out the table, and rotate it over your lap. (Where's dinner, hon?) And that's just one example from an extraordinarily versatile interior, that also includes high-gloss curved cabinetry for storage



#### Where There Is Water, There Can Be Life

With a stealthy cassette toilet and a shower smartly situated in the rear, there is life, indeed! Best of all, the shower is integrated with the Truma Combi Eco Hydronic Furnace and Water Heating System. So that way you won't feel like you're skinny dipping on Europa.

# REMOVABLE TABLE SWIVEL CHAIRS ENTE STAR V6

#### OPENING WINDOW

MICRO & FRIDGE



Get Rize off the ground. Visit ThorMotorCoach.com.

#### CLASSIFIEDS

#### **RVs Wanted**



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Products

#### WOWBACON

microwave cooker

Simply Perfect Bacon without the mess! RV safe - Locking lid Visit WowBacon.com



product, or call out your camper in the largest independent RVing magazine in the world

> Contact Kim Whitaker kim@IHeartRVing.com

**TOP LEVEL >** SMART BUYS

# 4 Rugged **All-Terrain Products**

GEARING UP TO GO OFF-GRID? WE TRUST THESE TRIED-AND-TRUE PRODUCTS.

PREPARATION IS ONE THING for glamping. (See Page 43) But boondocking is a different animal, with gear that's a breed apart. Tough, no-nonsense gear that you can trust makes a difference in the worst conditions. These all-terrain products keep you rolling, whatever the road looks like.



# Stay Steady as an Ox

Blue Ox Tow Bars and TrackPro Weight **Distributing Hitch** 

Blue Ox tow bars have won gold in MotorHome Magazine Readers' Choice Awards since 2013, towing weights ranging from 5,000 to 20,000 pounds. The TrackPro hitch distributes weight evenly and uses sway-management technology to stop sway before it starts. \$525 (TrackPro), BlueOx.com



#### **Tighten Your Grip on the Road** Goodyear Unisteel G614 All-Terrain Tires

With enhanced rib stability and shallow tread pattern, the Goodyear G614 tire reduces running temperatures, while promoting even wear. These tires give you the precision handling you need to get to that perfect parking spot, when maintaining traction makes the biggest difference. \$399. Amazon.com



#### **Romp, Rinse, and Reset**

**Geyser Shower System - Heated** Romping around off-grid doesn't mean that

you can't enjoy a hot shower—it actually means you need a hot shower. Weighing in at less than eight pounds, it saves space and requires less water (about three bottles). Heating up to 95 degrees quickly, you can rinse and reset for the next adventure. \$325, GeyserSystems.com

#### **Out-Weather the Storm**





Flat out: Severe weather can be a matter of survival. The WR120 NOAA Weather Alert Radio

gets information directly from the National Weather Service and recognizes 60 weather events to notify you almost instantly when you are in danger, giving you critical time to act. \$30, Amazon.com



# The Right Spend on Solar Power

Knowing your camping style and power requirements is paramount to weigh your solar options.

#### by Eva Mitic

SOLAR POWER is a hot

topic in the camper community-for a reason. Many new RVs ship prewired to be "solar-ready" or come with complete solar systems installed. But, if you

have a smaller setup (van, trailer, or other bumper-pull) or an older RV, things aren't as straightforward.

"How much is adding solar going to cost?" is the question everyone inevitably asks first. but it should be, "What are my power requirements when camping?" Only then we can get more specific on your solar spend. Let's walk through this.

#### **REVIEW THE POWER YOU NEED**

#### **Rooftop Solar Solutions**

**DC POWER** Many weekend, off-grid campers start with a minimalist approach and only need limited DC power to operate RV water pumps, fans, lights, and, possibly, a three-way refrigerator. For this setup, you'll typically require a single 190-watt solar kit (approximate cost \$700) and 200 amphours of AGM batteries (\$500).

This basic single panel rooftop system can offset the uses of DC power draws for a family of four over a weekend, with room to spare. This system is also easily expandable, so you can add more solar and battery power as your needs grow.

Estimated Cost: \$1,200+

**AC/DC POWER** If you're a camper looking to power laptops or use household appliances, you'll need to convert DC solar power to the AC similar to what's found in your home. This conversion means adding a power inverter to the basic setup. While inverters range in size and quality, even a basic power inverter can be integrated into your RV or trailer's electrical system, allowing you to use your outlets.

When buying an inverter, you should always size to the largest item you plan on running. If you're only charging your laptop or cell phone, and running a small tabletop fan or some string lights, you can easily run on a 700-watt inverter (\$350). However, if you can't live without your microwave, toaster, or coffee maker, you will likely need at least a 2000-watt inverter (\$800).

Incorporating AC power allows for more flexibility and creature comforts. However, keep in mind that it's important to monitor battery power levels as you add more devices and draw more power.

Estimated Cost: \$1,500-\$2,000

#### **Portable Solar Systems**

**DC POWER** Not every RVer wants to drill holes in their roof or install a solar system. For campers with a limited amount

portable solar kit

starts around \$500-

an ideal investment

if you want to get a

taste of solar but not

commit to a perma-

nent mount. These

kits are also great

for supplementing

However, you would

rooftop systems.

of roof space, a portable solar kit may be

the answer. Portable solutions are evolving quickly and deliver increased effi-

ciency and utility while reducing overall

weight and footprint. A typical 100-watt

Start exploring your solar power solutions

works the same way as an installed roof-

top solar kit. If you opt for portable solar

kits and only want to charge your phones

If you'd like to have more available

household power and tie it into your RV's

outlets, it's essential to follow proper

Estimated Cost: \$1,100-\$1,800

sizing recommendations.

or laptops, adding a small 200-watt

(\$100) power inverter is sufficient.

AM Solar Go Power! AMSolar.com GPElectric.com

WindyNation WindvNation.com

# Highlighting Cost Versus Quality

CHEAP COMPONENTS CAN COST YOU MORE IN THE LONG RUN, SO PROTECT YOUR INVESTMENT WITH OUALITY.

**SOLAR PANELS** Purchase panels built with whole cells, which are more efficient, perform better, and are worth the incremental upfront expense versus partial or "cut" peers.

**BATTERIES** Be advised: Lead-acid batteries require regular maintenance (adding distilled water) and need to be installed in a well-ventilated area. AGM batteries are sealed, maintenance-free, faster-charging, and more resistant to lower temperatures. For more power (and higher cost), opt for lithium tech.

**INVERTERS** Most old inverters use modified sine wave technology to recreate the AC power profile in your home. But many appliances and electronics run better on power produced by newer, pure sine wave inverters.

PrailerSaver Air-Ride 5th Wheel-Hitches Because the journey should be as enjoyable s the destination

.com 1-800-410-6580

# Ripesides LAST ROASTS FOR THE ROAD



**1 FINAL** 

(Deep Thoughts)

-Pinterest, probably.

(Sticky Windows)

INSPIRATION

"A crowded camper is bet-

ter than an empty castle."

### **One Last Moment with** You

SHARING A FEW FINAL LAUGHS AND WORDS BEFORE WE SEE YOU AGAIN NEXT ISSUE-WHEREVER THE ROAD TAKES YOU.

> **1 LAST LAUGH** (A Viral Camping Joke)

> > Q: Why don't ants get COVID? **A:** Because they have little

antybodies.

anywhere hot, a high-quality adhesive window film can keep solar heat out and help

(It's Vital)

"I'm sexy, and I tow it." -Every RV T-shirt, pretty much.

**1 ULTIMATE HACK** 

Insulating your rig is a never-ending battle. But if you're traveling in the summer or

Portable options like the Go Power! 100-watt Solar Kit provide power for

also need to invest in a proper battery bank. As mentioned earlier, 200ah of AGM batteries (\$500) is an excellent place to start.

Estimated Cost: \$1,000

**AC/DC POWER** Adding AC charging to your RV with a portable solar panel



for even the most bare-bones camping setups. Depending on your location, you may even qualify for a state tax break available for adding solar to a "secondary residence." But every camper is unique. You have to find the natural fit for your camping style-and your budget. Then you can crunch those numbers.♥



regulate your interior temperature. Your AC will run less and last longer, and it works on the road too. So, maybe you'll even save a little gas.



You can think of the I Heart community as your own virtual campground, open to all, with a great view and killer chow. In fact, make it your own by letting us know what you want to see and read. Do that on our Facebook page, Instagram page, or email us at editorial@IHeartRVing.com.

#### **1 BIG TEASE**

(We're Dishing It Out)

You're going to hear more about DISH Outdoors next issue. (See Page 43 in this issue if you missed it this go around.) We'll be reviewing the DISH Tailgater Pro Satellite Antenna, which we think you're going to love. It's a versatile portable satellite antenna that connects you to all the sports you can handle, live TV, and more. And features like automatic satellite acquisition make it a cinch to install. (Your neighbors are going to be so jealous.)

#### **1 FORMAL** INVITATION (Just for You)

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#### **1 CLOSING WORD**

(Thank You Is 2 Words)

First, thanks for reading. We hope this will be your new favorite RV magazine. It's definitely ours! If it's yours too, consider subscribing (and get one extra issue free!) at IHeartRVing.com/subscribe. Next, thanks to our advertisers for believing in what we're doing here (especially the fine folks at Dometic, our very first advertiser to sign on-please buy their stuff!). And thanks to the entire I Heart RVing team who built this from nothing, because they love RVs, magazines, and the people who read them.

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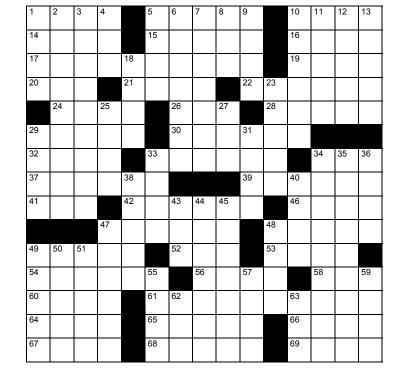
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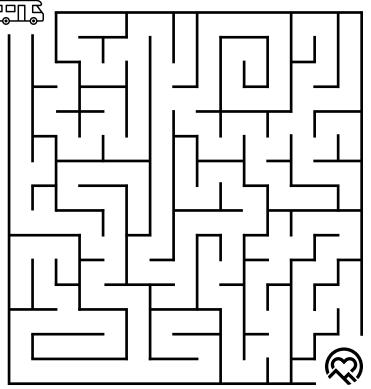
1. Second to none 5. Hurled weapon 10. Like some testimony 14. Fond of 15. Caddie's offering 16. Firefighting need 17. Film based on a novel, e.g. 19. Teaspoonful, maybe 20. U-boat, briefly 21. Send out 22. Weight watcher 24. of passage 26. Black gold 28. Foul 29. Beauty parlor 30. Hang around 32. The "U" in I.C.U. 33. Trusted teacher 34. De Niro film, "City By The 37. Dermal affliction 39. Part of PTSD 41. Kicker's aid 42. Fasten (to) 46. Mark of a ruler 47. Take the pulpit 48. Evaluate, as ore 49. Cartoon hedgehog 52. Fish delicacy 53. Wedding wear 54. Throat soother 56. Back of the neck 58. "The Hundred Secret 60.

1. Skewed view 2. Marathoner's trait 3. Hold firm 4. Lonely place? 5. Emulated Spitz 6. Leafstalk 7. Book version 8. Long \_ 9. Tear to bits 10. Cry of dismay 11. Alex Haley classic 12. Strong suit 13. Distrustful 18. Prom attendee 23. Like some gases 25. Shopper's aid 27. Blitzed 29. Feeder filler 31. Reggae great Peter 33. Pal, in Perth 34. Easily offended 35. Moving stairway 36. Grayish 38. Month for some Pisces 40. Bailiff's request 43. Old salt 44. Monkshood 45. Lessen the value of 47. Predicament 48. State categorically 49. Feed, as a fire 50. Large bay window 51. Canonical hour

Senses" author 55. Carve in stone 0. Farm cry 57. Medic or legal starter 59. Small salamander 62. Beam of light 63. Keg opening									
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Looking for the answers? We knew you'd try to peek. Check your work at IHeartRVing.com/Puzzles. 





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