

RV Buyers Guide - Part 2 (Caravans)



Description

In our last article we briefly outlined the various motorhome classes being class A, class B, and class C motorhomes. In this article, we will cover the general characteristics of the caravan.

The most popular type of RV is the caravan, which come in a variety of sizes and weights. Small caravans may weigh less than 2,000 pounds (900Kg) and can be pulled with a wide selection of compact vehicles. The ease of towing, combined with their relatively low purchase price, make them excellent first RVs. Facilities are very compact, but completely suitable for short-term use. Self-containment is minimal, and usually the beds are all convertible models, either a sofa and/or dinette that makes into a bed.

Medium-size caravans range in weight up to about 5,000 pounds (2200Kg) before supplies and fluids are added, and in price from about \$7,000 to about \$28,000. These are the most popular caravans, the majority requiring some planning in selection of a tow vehicle. Many models are suitable for towing with properly equipped full-size cars. Most models offer a high degree of self-containment, with full bath, galley and dining facilities.

In the smaller sizes, the beds are usually convertible models – a couch or dinette by day and a double bed by night. But even the smaller models can be fitted with stationary beds and are able to handle four adults or a family with two or three children, in reasonable comfort. Slide-outs expand living space considerably without adding to caravan length, and have grown in popularity.

Large caravans range up to about 9,000 pounds (4100Kg) and vary in price from about \$13,000 to \$66,000. Depending on the floor plan, these units can be suitable for large families, or for extended use by two people. Ranging in size from about 25 to 40 feet (7.60 – 12.0 metres), these caravans offer a wider selection of floor plans.

Price Range: \$8,000 - \$70,000

Length: 13 to 40 feet (4 -12 metres)

Weight: Up to 4100 Kg

Sleeps: Up to 6

When buying a new or used caravan, you are faced by an ever-increasing variety of caravan types which can often be quite confusing to newcomers. With caravan types such as: full or standard, pop-ups or pop-tops, off-road, 5th wheelers, A'vans and even camper trailers – it can be difficult to decide which caravan to consider. By taking the time to thoroughly research the types of caravans out there as well as determining your caravanning requirements and budget, your final decision should be made easier.

Comments

