

RV PACKING LIST

For the kids-

Separate small personal duffel bags for each child help bring a little bit of home and keep the small space organized each day. If it doesn't fit in the bag it doesn't go. Believe it or not, you'll need far less than you imagine. I've dragged buckets full of toys only to watch my kids play with a bag of rocks bought at a camp store. Items might be stuffed animals, puzzles, games etc. I like to theme each bag to the locations we are going (i.e. cowboy stuff for trips to the Southwest).

Download movies for long rides or kid's books on tape.

Closed-toed sandals like Keens cross over in warm to wet weather, as well as a warm pair of slippers or boots for cooler nights. One hat/visor and beanie for each kid is ideal.

I always buy or re-assemble a travel first-aid kit for kids for each trip, which includes sunscreen, aloe, calamine, organic bug spray, Tylenol/Advil, band-aids.

I love travel sized products in small spaces- buy kid-friendly shampoo/wash kits in small sizes or buy refillable containers and make your own, an all-in-one shampoo/wash is great.

Sleeping bags and pillows, even if there are pull-out sofas, inflatable beds get holes and deflate, others just aren't comfy.

For toddlers- don't hesitate to grab that portable bed rail off his toddler bed and take with you to use. Where? Trust me, you'll find a spot for it...

For Babies- travel pack n' play or One Step Ahead's travel tent have been essential in the case of young babies.

For the grown-ups-

Clothing- Layers are best, always have at least one really warm weather outfit as well as one really cold weather outfit and a bit of everything in between. You'll quickly realize everything starts to smell like campfire, so unless you want to launder away that lovely smell daily just wear the same things over and over. Uggs are great around the campfire, but not too close- the soles can melt! Don't forget your own- Hat/Beanie

Just like the kids, less is more in the toiletry department- smaller sized and all-in-one shampoo/washes are great. Dr. Bronner's Soaps can do everything from launder your clothes to clean your toddler to wash your dishes.

Adult Beverages- if you are so inclined, for those nights when everything but the actual wheels have fallen off your bus.



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For the Kitchen-

A s'more kit- of course! And don't forget the sticks!

Easy prep dishes- grilled chicken, steak, hot dogs and hamburgers are staples, but don't forget the charcoal/matches/propane for your grill. If you want to get

Campfire Foodie/Gourmet check out the fun recipes on blog sites like The Greater Outdoors (blog.koa.com) for inspiration. If your RV has a microwave and stove bring a few items you can do inside in case the weather isn't agreeing with your plans. Sausages are great on the grill but also cook well on the stove while simmering in a pasta sauce to serve over noodles. Shelf-stable foods like pasta, rice, soups and lentils will hold throughout your trip in case you find yourself eating out more than you anticipated. Salad kits and pre-prepped fruit here trumps, if you aren't prepping prior to the road. Easy breakfast items are a must! Cereal, oatmeal, muffins, milk, OJ and coffee! We take a French press with our fave coffee ground coarse, it's like our personal barista each morning.

Dish Soap

Sponge or Scrubby

Dish Rack or Drying Towels

Zip top bags for storing leftovers and keeping potential ants out.

For the exterior-

A pop-up trash can outside the RV keeps stinky things out and folds down easy for storage, we have one for trash and one for recycle.

Trash can liners: large and small

Picnic Table cloth plus pins or weights to hold it down

An outdoor lantern or lamp

Matches and firewood (or pick up a Greenlight Fire in a Bag-everything you need for an instant fire in one clean bag!)

Citronella Candle for buggy regions

A portable iPod speaker system is our must-have for pre-dinner dance parties or just to get the kids willies out before they climb in for a long ride.

A handy picnic blanket prompts a picnic out as well as keeps your littlest ones on soft clean ground in case of rocks or sandy conditions.

Zip-Ties- Why? Why not? See Toddler Baby rail above.



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To leave or to take?

Computer- Most campgrounds in less remote areas have wi-fi , so if you have to get online for work you should be fine. But if you prefer to tell your employer you can't be reached, then hey you're camping, right??

Bicycles- Always an awesome addition if space permits, but don't forget the helmets and close-toed shoes!

iPad/Tablet- Why not? Unless, of course, your goal is to unplug completely, an iPad is a nice thing to have. You can blog/Facebook your way across the US. While you're at it download a few movies for yourselves and the wee-ones won't you? Nothing says memorable like a movie under the stars... oh and don't forget the charger!

