

Moterra Campervans

Campervan Vacation Guide

Life On The Road





Welcome | Take The Wheel

So you are dreaming of #vanlife living? Welcome to the Moterra club!

Moterra was founded by a team of van enthusiasts, who dreamed of getting people out into the nation's most spectacular landscapes from behind the wheel of a campervan. Moterra specialises in luxury campervan rentals across the Western United States, offering beautifully built out Mercedes Benz Sprinters with all the amenities you need in a compact 19ft wheelbase.

This is a far cry from the backpacker-style campervan rental companies you are used to. We include everything you need for your campervan rental, and offer free Insiders Guides for all of our destinations, luxury add-ons, activities management, custom itinerary packages and more.

In this Moterra Campervan Vacation Guide you will find information about places to go, how to find campsites and pack like a pro.

Still have questions? Give us a call on 307-200-7220 or email us at info@gomoterra.com. We are always here to help!

Happy exploring, and we look forward to seeing you!

The Moterra Team

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Is A Campervan Right For Me?

Campervans are not for everyone. For some, the hard work and moderate discomfort of tent-camping provides a rewarding element to their vacation, which cannot be achieved by staying in a campervan. For others, “roughing it” includes hiring a 25ft beast of an RV, which includes everything from a flat screen TV to a Jacuzzi.

Campervans are the perfect for those that fit right in the middle- those who want the joy of the open road and the amenities of home, but also don't want to be driving a bulky bus. Whether you are brand new to camping and want to avoid the hassle of tents, or a seasoned camper wanting to get off-the-grid, these are the top reasons people love travelling in our campervans.

✓ **Avoid endless packing and unpacking.** Unpack into your van on your first day of your vacation, and don't pack back up again until the last day. With a campervan, you get to sleep in the same bed every night, and avoid the endless packing up and unpacking of hotel hopping or tent camping.

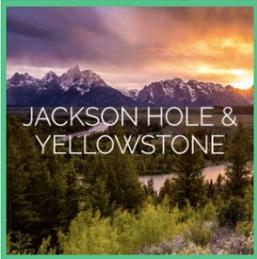
✓ **Access to the Great Outdoors.** How nice is it to skip the traffic and the crowds, and wake up in the outdoors that you came to enjoy? In a campervan, the world is your backyard. The majority of our vans are also 4x4, giving you access to BLM and National Forest campsites that other campers can't get to. They are also solar powered with 24-gallons of fresh water, meaning that you can drive these vans into the wilderness off-road and operate out of them as a basecamp for extended periods.

✓ **Driving a huge RV in the National Parks really sucks.** To put it bluntly. Ever tried parking an RV in a crowded grocery store parking lot, or getting around the tight bends of a National Park? How about showing up to Glacier National Park and finding out that the famous Going-To-The-Sun Road is banned for RV's? Having a campervan at 19ft means you can go everywhere a car can go, and can even park at tent sites in many of the National Parks. No RV parks with noisy generators for you!



Where Should I Go?

Ah yes, the age old question. Luckily, we have made it easy for you. We rent our vans out of four hubs in the Western United States, all chosen for the National and State parks that are close by. See our list of the best places to go below or check out our [destination](#) pages on our website for more information.



THE WILD WEST

Moterra Hub: Jackson Hole, Wyoming

When to visit: Late Spring, Summer, Early Fall

Key places to visit: Yellowstone National Park, Grand Tetons National Park

Recommended loop/ time: 8 night trip, with 5 nights in Yellowstone (make sure you get to the less explored upper loop) and 3 nights in the Grand Tetons on the end.



THE DESERTS SOUTHWEST

Moterra Hubs: Salt Lake City & Las Vegas

When to visit: Spring or Fall

Key places to visit: Zion National Park, Bryce National Park, The Grand Canyon, Canyonlands National Park, Arches National Park, Capitol Reef National Park, Lake Powell.

Recommended loop/time: 10 night trip if you want to get to all of the Mighty 5 National Parks and the Grand Canyon. For a shorter trip, consider a 5 night trip from Vegas to Zion and Bryce.



NORTHERN ROCKIES

Moterra Hub: Whitefish, Montana

When to visit: Summer

Key places to visit: Glacier National Park, Waverton National Park, Banff National Park (Canada), Jasper National Park (Canada).

Recommended loop/time: 7 night trip from Glacier National Park up to Banff and Canmore, and back down again. 4 nights in Glacier and Waverton is recommended if you have less time



CALIFORNIA

Moterra Hub: San Francisco, California

When to visit: All year

Key places to visit: Big Sur National Park, Yosemite National Park, Sequoia, Northern California (wine country & the Senoma coast), Lake Tahoe, Joshua Tree National Park, Death Valley.

Recommended loop/time: We would recommend 8 nights to do the Big Sur to Yosemite, Lake Tahoe and back to San Francisco loop, or 10 nights if you want to include Sequoia as well. For a shorter trip, consider a long weekend in Northern California, or 3 nights down the coast of Big Sur.



Camping Tips & Tricks

So you are sold on getting a campervan, but now where are you going to camp? Check out our list for the best way to find campsites below. Shameless plug- we also sell custom itineraries where we book your campsites for you [here](#). You can also get more specific campground recommendations for the destinations we service in our Insiders Guide.

1. Free Campsites

For free campsites, you really can't beat freecampsites.net, which lists everything from amazing BLM or National Forest dispersed camping spots, to Walmart parking lots. You have to wade through a lot of campgrounds and the map function can be cumbersome to work, but some of the best free campsite gems we have ever found have been from this directory. Make sure you spend some time reading the reviews, and note the dates as the state of dispersed campgrounds can change fast. Note: it is a lot easier to navigate their map view on a desktop than a cellphone.

2. National and State Park Campgrounds

Official National and State Park Campgrounds are often well located and have great amenities, but tend to book up early. There is a range of official websites (recreation.gov is one of the most common) to book these through, which will change from park to park, and sometimes even campground to campground. The easiest thing to do is to Google the National or State Park you are interested in, with "reserve campgrounds" on the end of your search. This should get you close to the right page. Costs vary across the country, but usually range from \$20 to \$40 per night. Note that most National Parks allow you to stay in a tent site if you are 20ft or less... so you don't have to pay extra for a noisy RV park!

3. Private Campgrounds

Private campgrounds can be amazing, but you do need to vet these through a review website, as the quality varies. We have found that the easiest way to search for them is via Google maps- find the location that you are searching within, and search the map for campgrounds. This means the campgrounds will immediately come up with reviews as well. Another way to do this and achieve the same thing is through Tripadvisor. Wanting something a bit more off-the-beaten track? We would recommend having a look at [HipCamp](https://www.hipcamp.com) (like airbnb but with private land for camping) in your area.





Packing Tips & Tricks

What to bring and what to leave? Here at Moterra, we try and provide the majority of what you will need for your adventure, so if you are renting with us, your packing list will be significantly shorter! A full list of what you will find included in your rental can be found on the next page, or on our website [here](#). We cover everything you will need for cleaning, cooking and sleeping. Outside of that, a guide for what else to pack can be seen below.

Clothes. Packing for any vacation can be hard, however in a campervan you will have more limited space than you might be used to. The trick is to pack for all weather, with the least amount of clothes possible. Layering is your friend! Check the weather forecast before your trip, and try and restrict everyone in the group to one carry-on sized bag each. Other than just standard clothes, make sure you remember stuff for hiking (hiking shoes, hat, backpack), wet weather (rain jacket, small umbrella), and water sports (swimsuit, beach towels, dry bag).

Personals. Don't forget your prescription medication! On top of toiletries such as soap, shampoo, conditioner and toothbrushes, we would also recommend sunscreen, mosquito repellent, baby wipes and water bottles.

Others. Make sure you bring your camera, camera batteries and charger, as well as any other activity-specific gear, such as fishing rods, biking shorts or hiking poles. Also if you have an annual pass for the National Parks you would be wise to make sure you have it on you when you arrive! An extensive packing list for campervan vacations can be found [here](#).





What's in the van? Glad you asked.

Cook

- French Press
- Skillet
- Sauce Pot
- Plates (4)
- Bowls (4)
- Mugs (4)
- Cups (4)
- Soup/Water Pot
- Spatula
- Chef Knife
- Paring Knife
- Cutting Board
- Wooden Spoon
- Silverware (4)
- Wine/ Bottle Opener
- Oil
- Salt and Pepper
- Strainer

Clean

- Bath Towels
- Disinfectant wipes
- Dust pan and broom
- Dish Soap
- Paper Towels
- Sponge
- Kitchen Towels (2)
- RV Toilet Paper
- Drying mat

Relax

- Pillows
- Fire Extinguisher
- Inflatable Solar Lights
- Camping chairs
- Camping table
- Lighter
- Linens for groups of two.
Plush Double or Single Sleeping Bags
for groups more than two.