GREATSOUTHERNRV

YOUR MOTORHOME & CAMPERVAN PRE PURCHASE CHECKLIST

01 AUSTRALIAN MADE & ACCREDITED

Look for the official 'Australian Made' logo. This ensures the caravan is built in Australia for Australian conditions.

02 DEALER REPUTATION & REVIEWS

Look for consistent positive feedback on customer service and integrity.

03 CONSTRUCTION METHOD & MATERIALS

Ask about construction methods - composite smooth cladding offers superior durability, waterproofing and insulation.

04 CHASSIS & SUSPENSION FOR TERRAIN

Check the base vehicle's chassis rating and suspension setup are suited to how you plan to travel (e.g. sealed roads, semi-off-road, off-road).

05 WATER TANK CAPACITY & MANAGEMENT

Check fresh and grey water tank capacity - larger tanks mean longer off-grid travel.

06 POWER SYSTEMS (LITHIUM/SOLAR)

Check battery type (e.g. 200AH lithium) and solar wattage - a robust setup is vital off-grid.

07 APPLIANCE POWER COMPATIBILITY

Confirm key appliances run on 240V mains and 12V battery and ask about gas/diesel cooking and heating.

08 LAYOUT & LIVING SPACE SUITABILITY

Walk through to check the floorplan, sleeping arrangements and lounge style suit your needs.

09 KITCHEN & BATHROOM FACILITIES

Check the kitchen (stove, fridge, sink) and bathroom (toilet, shower, hot water) are fully equipped.

10 STORAGE SOLUTIONS

Check internal and external storage - smart storage matters for longer trips.

11 VENTILATION & INSULATION

Ask about ventilation (e.g. roof hatches) and insulation (e.g. XPS foam) for year-round comfort in Australia's varied climates.

12 SAFETY FEATURES & COMPLIANCE

Confirm the vehicle meets Australian Design Rule (ADR) compliance, has seatbelts fitted to all designated travel seats, and check cab safety features such as airbags and stability control.

13 WARRANTY COVERAGE & TERMS

Motorhomes carry two warranties - habitation (e.g. 3-5 years for Avida) and chassis/engine (Fiat, Mercedes-Benz, Iveco) - check both.

14 NATIONWIDE SERVICE NETWORK

Confirm the brand has a broad, accessible nationwide service and repair network for both the habitation build and the base vehicle. This is vital for assistance anywhere in Australia.

15 ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE INCLUSION

Inquire if roadside assistance is included with the purchase or warranty and understand its coverage and any exclusions.

16 DEALER'S PRE-DELIVERY & HANDOVER

A thorough handover should cover both the drive system and habitation systems, so you leave fully confident.

17 TRUST YOUR GUT

If you feel uneasy just walk away and have a break. There will always be another motorhome or campervan.

18 TRANSPARENCY

Pricing should be clear with no hidden fees, and all promises should be in the contract.

19 NO PRESSURE SALES TACTICS

Be wary of high-pressure tactics or demands for immediate deposits - a reputable dealer gives you time.

20 INDEPENDENT INSPECTION OPTION

A trustworthy dealer welcomes an independent pre-purchase inspection - it shows confidence in their product.

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THE BIG 5!

FOLLOW THESE KEY 5 POINTS BEFORE YOU SIGN ANYWHERE

This list highlights the most important things to look for when making your choice to purchase a motorhome or campervan, and will help you make an informed decision that will give you peace of mind.

01

AVOID HIGH PRESSURE SALES

Some salespeople engage in high pressure tactics to get you to sign. If you feel pressured, just walk away.

02

WHO BUILDS IT & WHERE IT'S FROM

Understand who builds the habitation fit out versus who builds the cab and chassis. Check the compliance plate for the builder's name. The cab and chassis (e.g. Fiat, Mercedes-Benz, Iveco) will always be imported - what matters is whether the fit-out is built and backed in Australia. Avoid badge-built motorhomes that are made by one company but then carry another branded label.

03

DEALERSHIP BUSINESS REPUTATION & SUPPORT

Does the business you are buying from have a good reputation? Check their reviews. Do they offer in-house service, repair and warranty? This is a must for after-sales support.

04

THE RIGHT MOTORHOME/CAMPERVAN

A true professional and caring dealership will consult with you to help you choose the right product for you. Layouts, features, benefits, weights & measures. This is critical to make the right choice.

05

TWO BUILDS, TWO WARRANTIES

A motorhome is really two products in one - the vehicle (e.g. Fiat, Mercedes-Benz, Iveco) and the "home" fit-out (built by brands like Avida) - each with its own separate warranty and build quality. Avida backs its home fit-out with a 5-year warranty.

NOW YOU CAN BUY WITH CONFIDENCE

The right questions lead to the right choice, whether you're a newbie or a seasoned traveller. This guide is built to help you cut through the noise, trust your gut, and find a motorhome or campervan that fits your lifestyle. At Great Southern RV, we don't believe in pushy sales or rushed decisions. We believe in good advice, real support, and vehicles that go the distance.

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