

4X4 CULTURE

4x4 Adventure | Travel | Lifestyle

Issue 60

SPECIAL
60TH
EDITION



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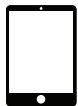
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Snapshot

Matthew Frost

Director of Sales & Marketing

Well, folks, welcome to the 60th edition of ARB's in-house magazine, 4x4 Culture. This issue looks quite different to the very first one we produced over 17 years ago, which is a reflection on how recreational 4WDing and ARB have grown over the years.

We initially launched the ARB magazine as a means of communicating new products and to provide a behind-the-scenes look into what was happening at ARB. Our first issue was just eight pages and I clearly remember sitting down with one of my colleagues and scratching our heads on how to fill it. These days, we have the opposite problem with such a huge line of products to update our customers on and a growing pool of 4WDers out there on the road sending us content.

And there are a lot of people doing road trips at the moment. It's no secret that Australia is experiencing a vehicle-based touring boom, driven by international travel bans and people's general reluctance to get squished onto a plane.

So we've tried to give this issue a real off road touring flavour, featuring a whole range of gear and information aimed at making your trips a safer and more enjoyable experience.

Any extended road trip does, of course, mean you're going to need to load your 4WD up and when it comes to gear-carrying solutions, ARB offers a range of options second to none. As well as a huge line-up of ARB roof racks, our stores also carry a comprehensive selection of gear from Thule and Rhino.

Thule is a Swedish company and ARB has been a major distributor of these products since the mid-1990s. We particularly like their sports equipment, which facilitates the loading and carrying of items like bikes, kayaks, skis, fishing rods, etc. It is brilliantly engineered stuff and extremely easy to fit and detach. Rhino is an Australian company that also offers a great range of leisure products and features a terrific line-up of gear well suited to work solutions.

4WDs are very well suited to carrying and hauling heavy loads, but it is important that you are familiar with your vehicle's load-carrying limits and stay within its capabilities. If you do need to load your 4WD up beyond its original specifications, there are some options for doing this and we explain some of these in this short video bit.ly/3tlyyci.

As you alter the weight of your 4WD, its handling dynamics will change, so it is important to adjust your driving style accordingly. When unladen, my LandCruiser feels like a performance car with its Safari ARMAX in sports mode, coupled with its Old Man Emu suspension kit. On the other hand, when it's loaded up for a trip with the boat hanging off the back, the performance characteristics are quite different.

A great touring product that is making its first appearance in this magazine is ARB's new Fire Pit. This was conceived about a year ago when COVID-19 hit and the whole country ground to a halt. ARB has a massive manufacturing plant in Melbourne employing several hundred staff where we make bull bars, diff locks, air compressors and suspension components to

name just a few. We desperately wanted to keep our people in jobs and brainstormed some new products we could make that would keep the factory busy. Australia's economic downturn was very brief and for months now, our factory has been operating 24 hours a day. So the Fire Pit got put on the back burner while we took measures to boost our production capacity.

We are now seeing these capacity increases taking effect and ARB is churning out record numbers of products from our Melbourne, Adelaide, New Zealand and Thailand manufacturing plants. We are very aware that there are still lengthy lead times on some items and we would like to take this opportunity to apologise to customers who are experiencing delays.

It was 12 months ago that things took a big shift for all of us. We've experienced a range of challenges and disappointments as we've contended with border closures and lockdowns.

Things are now looking much more positive and with autumn arriving in Australia, I reckon it's the best time of year to load the 4WD up with all of your toys and head off on a trip somewhere.

Warm, sunny days with chilly nights create the perfect conditions for getting out and enjoying some 4WDing during the day and kicking back around a campfire in the evening.

We sincerely hope all of our customers got out in their 4WDs over the Easter holidays for some off road adventure.



What's New

ARB Straw Hat

When initially released last summer, the ARB Straw Hat was immensely popular and quickly sold out. When preparing for our next release, we made some subtle changes to the design. With a woven ARB logo badge in subtle back and white with elastic inner band for comfort and an under-chin cord with beaded end to keep your hat secure, you'll stay safe and shady, no matter the adventure.

Part Numbers: 217927 (S/M), 217928 (L/XL)



ARB Air Locker Cap

Similar in shape to our extremely popular Performance Cap, ARB's new Air Locker Cap features a large, embossed Air Locker logo and adjustable Velcro rear closure.

A perfect everyday cap with subtle styling and a comfy fit.

Part Number: 217939

Camper Tumbler

Your new off road drink companion, the Camper Tumbler, is just what you need on warm summer days out on the tracks. The insulated 304 stainless steel inner holds 300 millilitres of your chosen beverage. The Camper Tumbler is finished in a modern black with a silver ARB logo on the side.

Part Number: 217938



Compressor Switch Bracket

With each unique build comes a new idea to develop a product that can provide variety to a wider range of customers. The latest product is the Universal Switch and Air Coupling Bracket.

This bracket provides a cleaner look while allowing you to easily use your compressor.

Part Number: 3501050





ARB Soft Connect Shackle

Staying safe off road is paramount, especially in a recovery situation. Having the right, correctly rated gear is vitally important in ensuring the safety of your family and friends within your vehicle.

ARB has updated its Soft Connect Shackle to provide greater ease of use and safety in your next recovery situation. The new shackle is encased in a high-tensile braided shield, providing improved abrasion resistance to protect the synthetic rope. The length of the Soft Connect Shackle has been increased to suit more conditions and its flexibility allows it to attach to most rated recovery points.



Rated at 14.5-tonne breaking strength, the ARB Soft Connect Shackle is engineered to float in water, be safer than a steel shackle when used correctly and fits in most storage spots in your vehicle without rattling around noisily or damaging other accessories.

Part Number: ARB2018

Adventure Board Shorts

Make a statement with ARB's trendy new board shorts, available in a quick-drying microfibre material with lace-up front opening and featuring subtle ARB branding on the cord ends. The back pocket has a zip to keep valuable items safe and secure and there is black ARB branding on one leg, complemented by our Adventure Awaits logo on the other leg, to keep you looking stylish.

These board shorts are sure to be a wardrobe staple in the warmer months.

Part Numbers: 217931 (Size 28), 217932 (Size 30), 217933 (Size 32), 217934 (Size 34), 217935 (Size 36), 217936 (Size 38), 217937 (Size 40)

GONE CAMPING



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FROM STORAGE TO SHELTER, POWER TO FOOD PREP AND FRIDGES TO FIRST AID, WE'RE TAKING AN IN-DEPTH LOOK INTO EVERYTHING TO DO WITH CAMPING IN THIS SPECIAL **60TH** EDITION OF 4X4 CULTURE.

Camping

ADVENTURE IS CALLING



[LAST YEAR BROUGHT WITH IT **UNCERTAINTY**, FEAR AND A WHOLE LOT OF CANCELLED PLANS. INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL WAS OUT OF THE QUESTION AND MAY BE FOR SOME TIME.

WHILST 2020 WAS A YEAR LIKE NO OTHER,

FOR MANY IT CAUSED A SHIFT IN THINKING WHEN IT CAME TO THEIR ADVENTURE OPTIONS. GOING FROM 195 COUNTRIES TO CHOOSE FROM TO JUST ONE MAY HAVE SEEMED DEPRESSING TO SOME, YET IT REALLY OPENED THE EYES OF MANY PEOPLE, FORCING THEM TO TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT THEIR BACKYARD AND THE NEVER-ENDING POSSIBILITIES THEIR HOMETOWN HAS TO OFFER.

THE CARAVAN INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA REPORTED THAT 2020 SET A NEW RECORD FOR THE AMOUNT OF TIME PEOPLE SPENT CAMPING OR CARAVANNING AROUND AUSTRALIA, AN INCREASE OF 11% FROM 2019. THE NUMBER OF DOMESTIC VISITORS GOING CAMPING OR CARAVANNING ALSO SET A NEW RECORD WITH AN INCREASE OF 9.9% IN 2020. THESE FIGURES ARE VERY IMPRESSIVE WHEN CONSIDERING THAT 2020 WAS NOT ONLY A TIME OF GREAT UNCERTAINTY BUT ALSO A TIME SPENT IN LOCKDOWN FOR MANY.

WITH HIGH DEMAND FOR 4WDs, RVs AND CARAVANS, THE DEMAND FOR THE FAMILIARITY OF A GOOD OL' CAMPING* HOLIDAY IS ONLY GOING TO GO UP. IN FACT, THE SAME REPORT REVEALED THAT 50% OF CARAVANNERS AND CAMPERS SAID THAT COVID-19 IS LIKELY TO MAKE THEM TRAVEL MORE REGIONALLY THAN EVER BEFORE.

CAMPING THERAPY

Veteran campers know that the payoff of camping will always outweigh the inconveniences. There's absolutely nothing like getting back to nature. If you're on the fence about whether camping is right for you, consider the following benefits:

- **Better sleep:** A study released in the journal Current Biology revealed that camping improves our sleep by resetting our internal clocks to a natural sleep cycle and this can happen in as little as a weekend away. As we all know, adequate and quality sleep is critical to overall health and wellbeing.
- **More exercise:** Many people spend long periods sitting down in their day-to-day lives. While there's nothing better than chilling around a campfire with a beer, when out in nature we naturally move more. Whether it be collecting firewood, swimming in a river or ocean, or just exploring, there's no better joyful movement than that in the great outdoors.
- **Sunshine:** A 2019 study labelled Vitamin D deficiency as a global public health issue. There's no better way to increase your Vitamin D levels than sensible sun exposure, which has also been linked to an improved mood; they don't call them "happy campers" for nothing.
- **Switch off:** After the initial panic of realising you have no phone service subsidies, you'll quickly start to feel the benefits of switching off. Not only does it keep you from "just checking" your emails when you're supposed to be on holidays, it helps you really connect to the people here and now (or to nature if you prefer to solo camp).

- **Great for kids:** Camping is so beneficial for children and provides them with an education they may never get anywhere else. Camping connects them back to nature, helps them develop a sense of adventure, boosts creativity and gets them out of their comfort zone to help them build resilience.
- **Brain training:** Whether it be working out where and how to set up the tent or dealing with situations that modern technology would usually take care of for you, camping is great for improving problem-solving abilities. Plus, tackling new challenges and embarking on new experiences can enhance self-confidence, personal growth and happiness.

In our 60th edition camping special, we'd like to give you an overall picture of the things to consider when going off grid. Whilst we won't be able to cover everything, make sure you check out our 4x4 Culture chronicles information hub on arb.com.au for tonnes of articles providing an in-depth look at everything off road.

Remember that our friendly off road specialists are always ready to give you tips or advice before you head out. Head into your local ARB store or stockist, or jump on our social media channels to ask any questions you need help with.

*For the purposes of simplicity, we will refer to all forms as "camping" whether it be in a regular tent, camper trailer, caravan, glamping tent or swag.

[ACCOMMODATION]

Camping



HOME AWAY FROM HOME

FROM **BASIC TO BOUJIE**, YOUR CHOICE OF CAMPING ACCOMMODATION COMES DOWN TO A NUMBER OF FACTORS. THESE MAY INCLUDE YOUR BUDGET, THE LENGTH OF THE TRIP YOU INTEND ON TAKING, THE SIZE OF YOUR FAMILY AND SO MUCH MORE. COMPARING A SWAG TO A CARAVAN IS LIKE COMPARING APPLES TO ORANGES. INSTEAD, WE ARE JUST GOING TO LOOK AT EACH OF THE STANDARD CAMPING OPTIONS AND YOU CAN MAKE UP YOUR OWN MIND ABOUT WHICH IS RIGHT FOR YOU.

THE HUMBLE SWAG

GREAT FOR:

- Solo travellers
- Couples
- Older kids
- Overnighters and quick getaways
- Those with limited storage space
- No fuss, quick set-up

The swag originated with Australian swagmen, farm workers who used to walk between farms looking for work during the 1800s. Their swag would be rolled up with their belongings inside and carried on their back.

Over the years, the humble swag has evolved from a simple sheet of canvas to a tapered design and, more recently, to dome-shaped structures. Swags are great for cool nights as they hold heat well and modern designs offer full star-gazing views with over-sized entries for warmer conditions.

SOME IMPORTANT THINGS TO CONSIDER WHEN CHOOSING A SWAG INCLUDE:

- **Material:** Make sure your swag is made from a heavy-duty, waterproof canvas with wicked seams and rain gutters to prevent water entering zips. Swags that also incorporate a waterproof PVC base are important for keeping you dry and protected in extreme conditions.
- **Size:** Swags can make some people feel cramped so we recommend a king single size at minimum. Dome swags also provide a roomier comfortable night's sleep with space to sit up and get in and out more easily. A double-sized swag is great for couples, multiple kids or extra room for your furry friend.
- **Mattress:** The thickness of your mattress is vitally important; after all, a soft bed of meadow grass is rarely an option when pitching your swag. We recommend a minimum 70-millimetre mattress thickness and make sure it comes with a machine-washable cover. Many swags on the market are provided vacuum-packed, which can mean waiting weeks for your mattress to gain proper shape (if it ever does), so look for swags that are provided ready to use straight out of the box.
- **Ventilation:** Whilst swags are great to keep you warm in winter, without proper ventilation they can be stifling in warm or humid weather. Look for a swag with multiple windows and large openings for maximum ventilation and airflow.

THE GREAT TENT DEBATE

THERE ARE A PLETHORA OF TENT OPTIONS ON THE MARKET, FROM TINY ONE-PERSON TENTS TO MULTIPLE-ROOM CAMPING MANSIONS. THERE ARE MANY IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS WHEN CHOOSING A TENT AND THESE CAN INCLUDE:

- Number of people using the tent
- The environmental conditions the tent will be used in (Look for a tent that offers features that will work in every condition.)
- Ease of use and the time it takes to set up
- The size of the tent (Remember, the bigger the tent, the larger the campsite you need to find.)
- Weight and size when packed up (Will you have room to fit it in with all your other camping necessities?)
- Price (You get what you pay for with tents and a good quality tent can last a long time.)
- Aftersales service (Look for a manufacturer that provides warranties and stands by their product.)

ROOFTOP TENTS VS GROUND TENTS

Whilst the option of having a rooftop tent will depend heavily on your 4WD set-up, there are many benefits to them. They keep you off the ground, which means you don't have to worry about messy sand or mud or finding a perfectly flat surface. Rooftop tents are also ready to go as soon as they are set up with your mattress and bedding packed inside. Rooftop tents also free up vital "everyday access" storage space in your vehicle.

Editor's note: A few years ago, I spent three months travelling the Top End of Australia. Before our trip, my husband and I decided to purchase a "quick set-up" tent as we would be making and breaking camp every few days. Whilst the bones of the tent were up in less than 30 seconds, by the time we had pegged it out, secured it with all the guy ropes and set up our beds and bedding, our fellow rooftop tent campers were set up and onto their second beer, smugly watching us from the sidelines. The same was true for packing up. The rooftop tent campers were always packed and ready to go first, followed by the camper trailer and in last place was our "quick tent", making everyone wait for us while we packed up to head to the next spot. After three months, we had learnt our lesson and we will be upgrading to a rooftop tent for our next big adventure.

Room with

ARB has released a new rooftop tent that is compact on the vehicle without compromising on camping comfort.

When it comes to sleeping arrangements out on the tracks, the options are vast. Camper trailers, camper vans, caravans, swags, ground tents, rooftop tents, the list goes on. Choosing which option is right for you can be a task and each option has its pros and cons.

For many 4WDers heading off the blacktop and onto some of the tougher tracks, the idea of towing can become a bit daunting as you're going to need a serious off road trailer or van, purpose built for tight and rough terrain.

Here is where swags and tents can really come into their own. ARB offers a range of swags and rooftop tents and what we like about these two options is that they are an all-in-one solution where you can literally roll or fold up your bedding (mattresses, sleeping bags) into one simple package. Set-up and pack-down is also super quick and painless.



ARB Flinders Rooftop Tent

th a View





5

Five Reasons Why a Rooftop Tent Is a Top Choice

1. A rooftop tent is a simple extension of your already very capable 4WD; it can go anywhere your 4WD can.
2. Set-up and pack-up is quick; bedding can be stored inside, you're one fold away from a good night's sleep.
3. A rooftop tent can be used on any terrain. Unlike a ground tent, you don't need to worry about the ground surface; whether it is rocky or uneven, the rooftop tent is oblivious. Additionally, no extra space is required other than your vehicle's footprint.
4. Your bed is well off the ground, away from water, creepy crawlies and other nocturnal animals; great for trips to the Cape, the Victorian High Country, Fraser Island, etc.
5. Generous internal space with great climate control, nicely elevated and with plenty of windows; managing airflow for a comfortable night's sleep is a breeze.



ARB Flinders Rooftop Tent



ARB's New Offering

ARB's rooftop tents have always been a popular choice, commonly mounted either onto wagon or canopy roofs as well as ute hard lids and the odd custom kit-out on a camping trailer.

The new ARB Flinders Rooftop Tent, which takes its name from one of Australia's most popular 4WD touring destinations, brings with it a host of new features and updates not previously offered within the ARB range.

Compact Package

When packed, the new ARB Flinders Rooftop Tent has a lower profile by 100 millimetres in comparison to ARB's current and popular ARB Simpson Rooftop Tent.

A lower packed height means less wind drag and less overall height to your vehicle.

The removable ladder means you can choose to either keep the ladder on the roof or stow it away elsewhere when touring or during the day-to-day. Without the ladder affixed, the overall height of the tent when packed is just 200 millimetres. The ladder adds an additional 100 millimetres.

The overall compact size of the ARB Flinders tent when packed down allows for improved aerodynamics as well as improved access to low roof areas and tracks with low canopies. The

compact nature of the tent when packed up also reduces the stowage of large/thick sleeping gear when the tent is packed down.

Cover up

The revolutionary design of the PVC cover has some new and handy features including a pull-over clip lock similar to a traditional ute tonneau cover as well as a sturdy zip.

The PVC cover also remains permanently attached during set-up, which improves set-up and pack-down time while also saving the bother of storing the cover and reducing the chances of you getting dirty.

ARB Flinders Rooftop Tent



Smaller on the Roof, Spacious at Camp

Despite the space saving when the ARB Flinders Rooftop Tent is packed down, when it's time to pop the top, you will enjoy a larger overall internal space over the Simpson Rooftop Tent.

Set-up is a breeze; after releasing the cover and leveraging open the tent with the ladder, all the internal poles sequentially fan out into place. It is then as simple as sliding the extendable poles into their final position.

The curved roof poles provide improved head height and also the removal of flat surfaces that can occur with the use of straight poles. This prevents water from pooling and provides an improved curve on the roof for water runoff, reducing potential damage from water. The bed space is 2,400 millimetres long by 1,400 millimetres wide with a maximum head space of 1,200 millimetres in the centre.

Windows Galore

Occupants will enjoy a total of five zipper windows, including an ARB SkyDome Swag-like stargazing window on the roof. Each window features a dual, solid and midge-proof mesh screen. Both side windows and the tent entrance are equipped with rain and sun awning shelters that require no ropes or ground poles. The head-end and roof windows feature roll-up solid screens, which can be accessed from inside the tent when set up.

Additionally, a specially designed vent is incorporated to ensure maximum airflow and reduced condensation.

The Little Luxuries

The ARB Flinders Rooftop Tent is equipped with an internal light and USB charging port that can be easily connected to your vehicle's 12-volt outlet.

Simple Pack-down

Packing up is made easy with two internal bungee lines that help pull the sides of the tent in as you fold it down to keep the wall materials away from the moving parts for a hassle-free and more compact closure.

Mounting a Rooftop Tent

Mounting a rooftop tent on a vehicle simply requires either a compatible roof rack without side guardrails in the area the rooftop tent sits or a simple set of cross bars. ARB has a range of solutions available for mounting a rooftop tent including the ARB BASE Rack (coming soon), the ARB Classic Tubular Roof Rack, most Thule or Rhino-Rack roof bars and more.

Specifications

Mattress: 50mm | 1.96" chip foam mattress with a polycotton cover

Outer: 300gsm ripstop canvas

Cover: Heavy-duty PVC 1000D

Base: Aluminium frame with ABS laminated base

Packed Dimensions: 1,400mm | 55.12" (L) x 1,200mm | 47.24" (W) x 200mm | 7.87" (H), 300mm | 11.81" (H with ladder)

Open Dimensions: 1,400mm | 55.12" (L) x 2,200mm | 86.61" (W) x 1,400mm | 55.12" (H)

Ladder: Rated to 120kg

Weight: 56kg | 123.46lbs

ARB Flinders Rooftop Tent



What's In a Name?

The Flinders Rooftop Tent is named after one of our most prized destinations, the Ikara-Flinders Ranges. Located in South Australia, five hours north of Adelaide, the Ikara-Flinders Ranges spans over 400 kilometres.

The area has some incredibly rich history; in fact, this landscape was created hundreds of millions of years ago when it was below sea level. The Ikara-Flinders Ranges we know today consists of rock and debris remnants left by raging seas as well as millions of fossils from the former sea life.

Today, the area is a 4WD mecca with so much to offer. Exploring the popular camping and hiking of Wilpena Pound will conjure up images of meteor strikes, and while the formation was more specifically a result of the sea, a few hours north you can visit one of the country's most famous astronomy centres in Arkaroola Wilderness Village. If exploring the raised sea beds of the historical area and spotting planets through telescopes isn't enough for you, a trip to the Blinman Mine will give you the opportunity to take a peek underground at an 1800s copper mine and potentially even indulge in a ghost tour to reconnect with the working men of years past.

The Ikara-Flinders and surrounds are full of experiences from the Skytrek 4WD Track at Willow Springs to the two large salt lakes in the area, Lake Frome and Lake Torrens. Gorges can be hiked and driven throughout the area, ruins rediscovered at Farina, historic sheep stations admired in Aroona, pies and pastries devoured at Copley, or one of our personal favourites, enjoying a serve of feral mixed grill and a cold ale out the front of the Prairie Hotel.

Words and Photography by Trip in a Van

GOT SWAG

IN THIS SPECIAL CAMPING EDITION, TRIP IN A VAN GIVE US THEIR TOP SPOTS TO KICK OUT THE SWAG IN OZ.



1. FRASER ISLAND

The world's largest sand island and our number one place in Oz to take the swag. With so much island to explore and so many great spots to camp, the swag is the perfect option for Fraser. Plan your trip and do a big loop around the island, stopping to camp along the way. This way you're not spending all day in the car day tripping from your base camp!

Hotspots to check out include:

- Eli Creek
- Lake McKenzie
- Sandy Cape
- Wathumba
- Awinya Creek
- Champagne Pools



2. DIRK HARTOG ISLAND

If you're travelling around Australia, then you'll want to pencil in a trip over to Dirk Hartog. Make your way out to Steep Point and take the barge across to a west coast paradise. Remote coastal camping at its finest and no crowds! There are plenty of sites to choose from with national park campgrounds and the homestead facilities. There's even an eco lodge if you're feeling a bit fancy.

Hotspots to check out include:

- Withnell Point
- Turtle Bay
- Salty's Camp at the Homestead





3. BURRUP PENINSULA

A hidden gem only an hour from Karratha in Western Australia, this peninsula is quite the adventure with some challenging 4WD tracks to reach the campsites but the drive is seriously worth it. The spectacular beaches and scenery on offer are made even better when you roll out the swag and stay a few nights. If you can drag a tinny with you, the fishing is epic!

Hotspots to check out include:

- Hearson Cove Beach
- The Jump Up Track
- Deep Gorge
- The coastal town of Dampier



4. STRADBROKE ISLAND

The most easily accessible island on the east coast to get your camping fix! Most of the island has sealed roads, making sightseeing easy, but find your way to either Flinders or Main Beach and you'll be in beach camping heaven. Fishing, swimming, campfires and you can drop into the pub for a counter meal as well. Day trips to check out freshwater lakes for a swim are on offer as well.

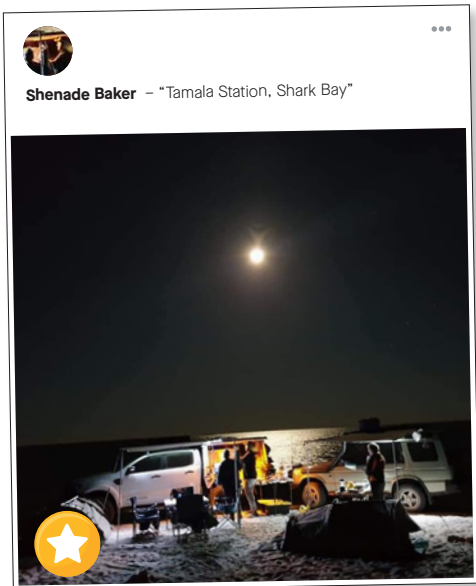
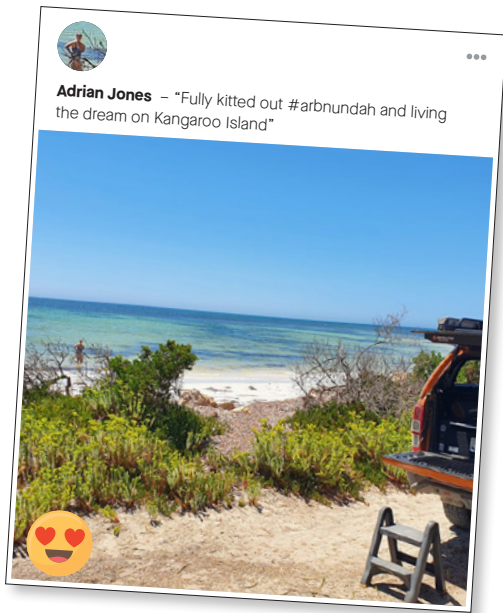
Hotspots to check out include:

- Amity Point swimming reserve
- Brown Lake
- Keyhole Lagoons
- Blue Lake



YOUR TOP PICKS!

We asked our Facebook friends what their top swag or camping spots were and here are some of our favourite tips:



[POWER]

Camping

POWER

PLAY

CAMPERS ALWAYS NEED ACCESS TO MORE POWER, ESPECIALLY WHEN GOING TO REMOTE AREAS. WHETHER IT BE TO POWER FRIDGES, CAMP LIGHTS OR PERSONAL DEVICES, RELYING ON YOUR 4WD'S STARTER BATTERY ALONE IS ONLY A GOOD IDEA IF YOU NEVER INTEND ON RETURNING HOME.





AUXILIARY BATTERIES

Back in the day, camping would include an esky full of lukewarm water by the second day and photos taken on film; nobody had even heard of news feeds, Instagram likes or the cloud. But in modern times, portable fridges are a godsend and whilst we like to switch off, capturing precious memories usually requires having a fully charged phone. Using your main battery to power and charge these appliances is not a good idea and for that reason, it is important to install a second or auxiliary battery in your vehicle.

There are so many options of batteries on the market and it can be tricky deciding which one is right for your needs. Check out 4x4 Culture Issue 48 where we explain types of batteries, how to calculate battery size for your needs and advise the best location to mount your auxiliary battery.

BATTERY MANAGEMENT

UNFORTUNATELY, SIMPLY INSTALLING A SECOND BATTERY ONLY SOLVES HALF THE PROBLEM. INSTALLING AN AUXILIARY BATTERY WITHOUT A BATTERY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM COULD SEE YOU WAKING UP IN THE MORNING WITH TWO DRAINED BATTERIES ANYWAY. A DUAL-BATTERY SYSTEM ISOLATES THE SECOND BATTERY FROM THE STARTER BATTERY, ENSURING YOUR MAIN BATTERY ALWAYS HAS ENOUGH CHARGE TO START YOUR CAR. THERE ARE A FEW OPTIONS TO CHOOSE FROM:

Basic isolator: Similar to a manual switch, a basic isolator is controlled by the ignition and will allow your auxiliary battery to run flat whilst isolating your starter battery. A downside to the basic isolator is that it will connect and begin charging the flat auxiliary battery as soon as the car starts, which (if you are only running your vehicle for a short period of time) may mean that your starter battery doesn't get charged and is unable to start your car again the next time.

Smart isolator: A smart isolator is similar in principle to a basic isolator; however, instead of being controlled by the ignition, it will cut in and out at certain voltages. This is handy as it is able to keep the auxiliary battery disconnected until the starter battery is fully charged, ensuring you can always start your vehicle.

DC to DC chargers: Modern vehicles designed to meet fuel consumption standards and emissions targets have smart alternators that put out just enough power to charge the main battery and then turn off completely, making it impossible to charge a second battery. DC to DC chargers plug into the vehicle's wiring and the vehicle's computer sees it as just

another accessory that needs running, thus allowing you to charge your auxiliary battery.

SOLAR

WHILE I LOVE THE DULCET RUMBLING TONES OF MY TD42, RUNNING MY ENGINE FOR 15 MINUTES A DAY TO CHARGE THE BATTERY DOESN'T GO DOWN WELL WITH FELLOW CAMPER. IF YOU ARE CAMPING IN ONE PLACE FOR AN EXTENDED PERIOD OF TIME, IT IS WISE TO CONSIDER A SOLAR OPTION TO CHARGE YOUR AUXILIARY BATTERY.

Mounted solar panels: Perfectly suited for permanent mounting on the roof of your caravan, camper trailer or vehicle, mounted solar panels are available in a variety of sizes. Make sure you choose one that is designed and built to withstand Australia's harsh conditions and extreme weather.

Folding solar panel kits: If you don't have mounting room on your caravan or 4WD, folding solar panel kits are worth considering. Easy to store with the flexibility and portability of its folding freestanding design, these solar panels are an extremely handy accessory. Look for options with a long cable so you can move them about the campsite and continue to get the most out of the sun for the entire day.

Solar panel blankets: Portable, lightweight and strong, solar panel blankets can be easily moved around to capture the best energy output from the sun. The flexible design also reduces the risk of cell breakage and cracks.

Portable panels and power banks: Great for charging smaller devices such as phones, tablets and cameras, these are perfect for portable power on the go. Look out for weatherproof options in case you forget and leave them out in the rain.

JUMP STARTER

No matter how prepared you are, things can always go wrong. Perfect for a 4x4, family vehicle, boat or motorcycle, a portable jump starter is a great accessory to have for not only yourself but also potential fellow campers who experience the dreaded flat battery. Make sure you look for one with enough power to start a five-litre V8 diesel or six-litre petrol engine.

RAISING THE BAR

ARB'S ICONIC LED DRIVING LIGHT BAR HAS BEEN REBORN, PUSHING THE LIMITS OF DRIVING LIGHT TECHNOLOGY ONCE AGAIN.



Intensity V2 Light Bar

Your safety, and that of others, depends on the right lighting. ARB's Intensity V2 LED Light Bars are top of the range. They're high performance, engineered and designed in Australia to perform in the most extreme conditions and manufactured in the USA.

The new V2 Intensity LED Light Bar uses the same optimal chassis design of the current light bar, yet it is what's inside that counts. Incorporating the latest in LED technology using OSRAM GIANTS and advanced optics via the latest Hyperspot™ technology, the Intensity V2 Light Bar's combo configuration drives light further down the road whilst spreading the light in front of the vehicle. This is only achieved by the clever design of having both dedicated flood and spot optics combined into the one bar.



Hyper-what technology?

Hyperspot™ is a refined optic used to focus and intensify light output. Whilst pumping a huge amount of power into a light and getting great distances down the road is all well and good, if there is no control and focus to the areas required for the human eye to see, that power is ultimately wasted. Hyperspot™ technology sends the light at amazing distances down the road while not only keeping the clarity of the beam but also controlling the beam pattern to ensure it is lighting up the correct areas on the road and not spilling light into the flood configuration's territory.

Remember, it's not all about distance but the quality of light produced by your light bar.

giant output

Another upgrade to the Intensity V2 Light Bar is the LEDs, which have been changed to use OSRAM GIANTS, a large LED chip that boasts an amazing light output. OSRAM GIANTS can drive tonnes of power into the LED, pushing the Intensity V2 Light Bar's power to 305 watts, and that's without even maxing out the LED! This produces a massive 25,080 lumens of raw light output, which requires precision engineering to ensure the power is harnessed and used effectively.

Intensity V2 Light Bar



with great power...

...comes great responsibility. In order to harness the increased power, the Intensity V2 Light Bar power draw requires a new loom. The new loom needed to incorporate high-current wiring and components that were able to handle up to 30 amps. Designing this loom to handle such power meant that increased safety measures needed to be considered, especially around temperature and voltage/current requirements.

Coupled to the new Intensity V2 Light Bar loom is the two tow pin DTP connector with updated over-moulded connector, all protected by mini fuse and spike-protected relays. Another update is the plug-and-play H4 and HB3 waterproof connectors, which ensure a smoother fit and install.



Thermal management

Active thermal management of the temperature created by LEDs has always been a feature of the ARB Intensity range. The powder-coated aluminium extruded body acts as a massive heat sink, maximising cooling and allowing the quick dissipation of heat from the LEDs, which keeps them running at maximum performance.

NO LUX ABOUT IT

The Intensity V2 Light Bar provides an impressive 926 metres at one lux, which is a 53% increase in light performance from the current Intensity combo bar. The flood component spreads light at a massive 40 metres across the front of your car; that's almost half a football field wide.

Whilst the amount of metres down the road you can record one lux has become a universal measurement of driving lights, as we've already said, there is so much more to effective and quality light than its lux measurement. The Intensity V2 Light Bar has been updated to improve the warmth of the light output, which helps reduce eye strain over long driving periods and which in turn improves driver comfort and reduces the risk of fatigue.

Intensity V2 Light Bar



Features and tech specs

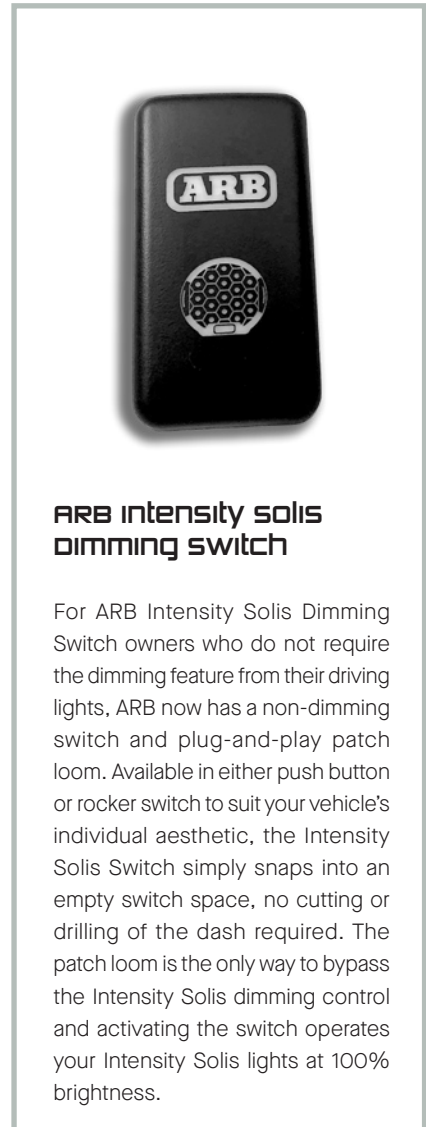
- Powder-coated aluminium extruded body with pressure die-cast end caps
- Virtually indestructible polycarbonate lens
- Hard-coated, durable polycarbonate protective cover
- 40 high output OSRAM LEDs with 50,000+ hour lifespan
- 24 Hyperspot™ and 16 high-output flood optic LEDs
- 6 degree spread for spot and 20 degree spread for flood
- 926 metres at one lux
- 25,080 raw lumens
- 21 amps at 14.4 volts
- Operating temperature of -40°C to +63°C (-40°F to +145°F)
- Gore breather
- Vibration tested to MIL810-STDG
- RoHS compliant
- Dust and waterproof to IP68 rating
- Submersible to three metres
- Over and under voltage protection
- Integrated active thermal management
- Protected against radio frequency (RFI) and electromagnetic (ETC) interference
- Deutsch DTP waterproof connector rated to IP69 specification

The Intensity V2 LED Driving Light Bar comes with a three-year warranty. Contact your local ARB store or stockist for pricing and availability. **Part Number:** AR40CV2

The range

With so many LED lighting options on the market, choosing the right one for your 4WD can seem daunting. Not sure if a light bar is right for you? We've taken the guess work out of it. Instead of confusing you with hundreds of options, ARB has designed an uncomplicated range of driving lights that perform so well, regardless of their shape or size, you can simply choose your budget range and what you think looks best on your 4WD.

For more information, check out arb.com.au or visit your local ARB store.



ARB Intensity Solis Dimming Switch

For ARB Intensity Solis Dimming Switch owners who do not require the dimming feature from their driving lights, ARB now has a non-dimming switch and plug-and-play patch loom. Available in either push button or rocker switch to suit your vehicle's individual aesthetic, the Intensity Solis Switch simply snaps into an empty switch space, no cutting or drilling of the dash required. The patch loom is the only way to bypass the Intensity Solis dimming control and activating the switch operates your Intensity Solis lights at 100% brightness.

[SHELTER]

Camping

UNDER COVER

FINDING A COLLECTION OF TREES IN THE PERFECT POSITION AND SOMEHOW GETTING HIGH ENOUGH TO STRING A TARP OVER YOUR CAMPSITE CAN BE AN IMPOSSIBLE (AND OFTENTIMES DANGEROUS) TASK. **LUCKILY, THERE ARE A RANGE OF COMPACT AND CONVENIENT SOLUTIONS FOR ALL YOUR SHELTER NEEDS.**



AWNINGS

AN AWNING PERMANENTLY MOUNTED TO YOUR 4WD IS ONE OF THOSE THINGS YOU DON'T REALISE HOW HANDY IT IS UNTIL YOU HAVE IT. Perfect for additional shelter from the sun, wind or rain, awnings are a fantastic accessory not just for camping but also for a day at the beach, an afternoon at the park, when pulled over on the side of the road for a spot of lunch or on a 42°C day when desperately needing shelter from the sun whilst changing a blown-out tyre (as I can attest).

When choosing an awning, remember you get what you pay for and any reputable awning should come with a three-year warranty. Look out for tough ripstop canvas, waterproof and

UV ratings, anodised legs and thick reinforced aluminium extrusions. You can purchase awnings in different sizes and most are available in either a PVC zip-up bag or aluminium case. A handy feature to look out for is in-built LED light strips, providing shelter and lighting solutions all in one.

Another great thing about having an awning as part of your set-up is that you can turn it into a sheltered room with the addition of optional walls. Turning an awning into a room provides protection from the weather and insects, as well as allowing for additional privacy.

GAZEBOS



GAZEBOS ARE A GREAT TEMPORARY SOLUTION FOR PROTECTION FROM THE SUN, WIND OR RAIN. Using a gazebo with mesh sidewalls is also good for keeping bugs and mosquitos at bay, especially useful at dinner time. Not only great for the campsite, having a gazebo in the garage will come in handy at your next party, beach set-up or BBQ at the local park.

Look out for features such as UV resistance, strong and sturdy construction materials, multiple height options, steel locking pins and optional solid or mesh walls.



PITCH BLACK

When ARB first released its aluminium-encased awning, customers absolutely loved it. This contemporary alternative to traditional awning covers was just what the discerning and stylish 4WD owner needed, the epitome of sleek shelter solutions.





BLACK BEAUTY

Introducing the ARB black edition aluminium-encased awning; the best just got better! Featuring an LED light strip, this 2.5-metre by 2.5-metre awning has been designed to integrate with the modern styling of new 4WDs.

Quick as a flash and your awning's up – the ARB black edition awning is encased in a gloss black powder-coated aluminium housing with shock cord-loaded opening doors. These UV-treated marine grade shock cords assist in ease of use, remove the need for zippers and also help keep the

housing from rubbing the canvas awning when deployed.

The ARB black aluminium-encased awning fits onto the side of roof racks and roof bars including the new ARB BASE Rack. The included LED light strip provides up to 1,200 lumens, with a choice of two different colour modes (cool white or amber) and dimmer switch, all powered via a fused cig socket plug.

Part Number: 814412

Features

- Awning made from 300gsm PU-coated polycotton ripstop canvas
- Waterproof and UV protected
- Durable protection and anti-wear points, a feature that sets ARB awnings apart from the competition
- Dual colour lighting options in roof-mounted LED awning strip with dimming control
- Aluminium poles with nylon cuff joins
- Metal cam locks for increased durability and longevity
- Pegs and guy ropes included
- Weighs 16 kilograms

WA Travel

Heading North

PART 2



Nullagine Dam

Words and Photography by Steve Fraser

In the last edition, we were on the banks of the Kalgan River, thirty kilometres north of Newman, sitting under the shade of a beautiful gum tree, eating breakfast and loving life. In this edition, we continue our trip north into the remote eastern Pilbara.





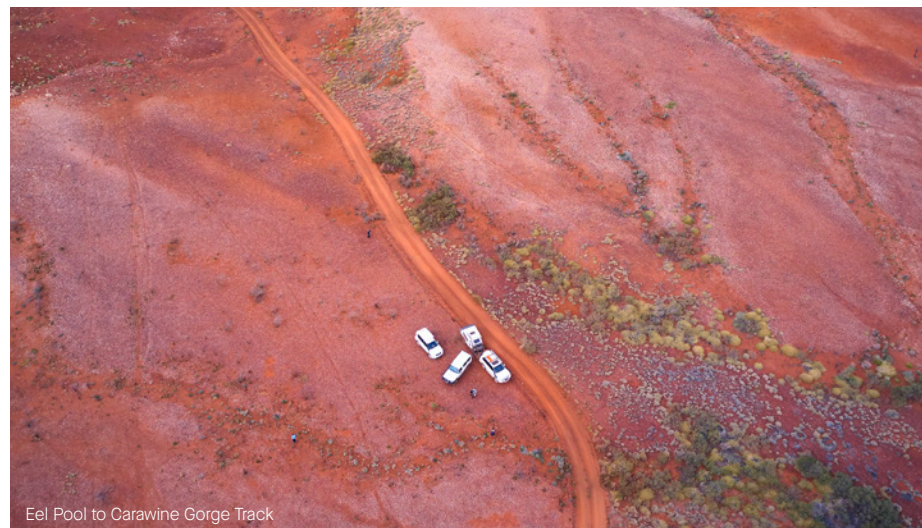
Skull Creek Track

After breakfast on the banks of the Kalgan River, it was time to pack up and head directly north towards Nullagine.

First, we had to head back along the river and navigate a few deep water crossings. The surface is mainly river rocks and is fairly easy to cross if you have a high-clearance 4WD.

Once we got through, it was about thirty kilometres back to the highway. On the way out, we spotted a track that climbed up a nearby hill and looked over the surrounding area. It was incredible to stand on top of the range. With 360-degree views, it reminded me of how vast this country is.

Once we hit the highway, the first ninety kilometres was all bitumen until we passed the Roy Hill mine site. After that, the road returned to a pretty ordinary dirt road. The road from Newman to Marble Bar is well known for being a car breaker. It's seriously rough and rutted in places with lots of bulldust holes that can swallow your car and large loose rocks just waiting to claim an unsuspecting soul. It's poorly maintained but, hey, that's the price you pay for getting into the more remote areas.



Eel Pool to Carawine Gorge Track

Nullagine and "No Camping"

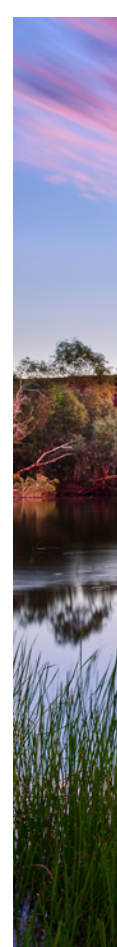
Nullagine is a very small town with one general store, which doubles as the petrol station. This was the last chance to stock up and fuel up before we headed east into the most remote part of the Pilbara. Trying to find a campsite near Nullagine is not easy. There is a perfect spot called Garden Pool but the shire has decided in their wisdom to ban camping there. Seriously, some of our councils need to wake up to the fact that Aussies love to camp, especially in remote areas near water. This is hundreds of kilometres from anywhere and the shire doesn't want people to camp in the one spot on a river? It's not the friendliest approach.

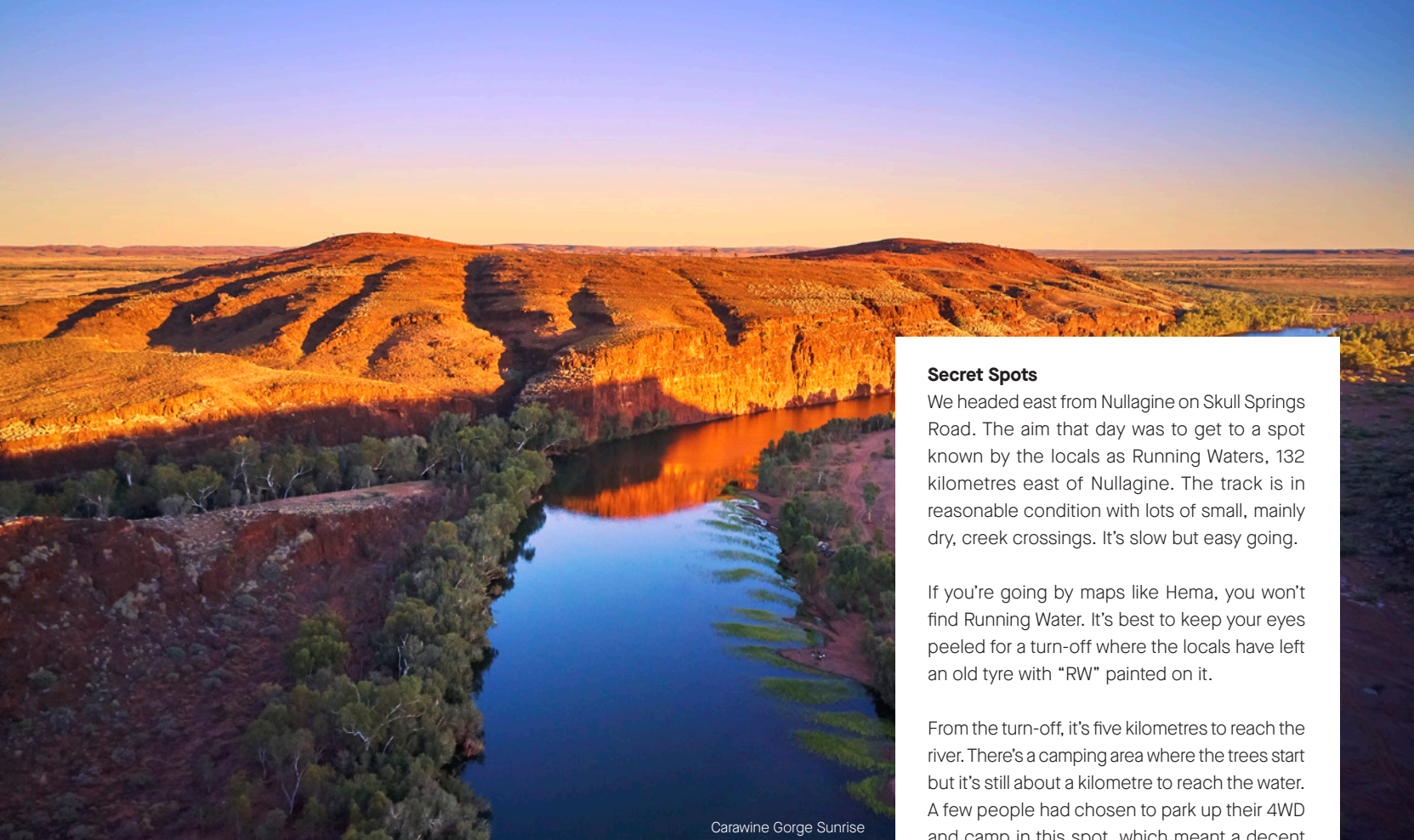
After chatting to a few locals, it seemed there might be an option that is not in the tourist brochure – the Nullagine Dam. Technically, it's public land and, so far, the overzealous council hasn't put up any "No Camping" signs. After about an hour of trial and error heading down various tracks that led to gold mines, the local tip and lots of dead ends, we found a way into the dam. There was just enough room at our spot for the three cars, so we set up camp, went for a swim and settled in for a night under the stars.

It turned out to be a really nice spot. As far as one-night stays go, this is as good as it gets. A couple of guys from the nearby gold mine stopped to see what we were up to. They were friendly and even knew one of our crew.

Sunrise the following morning was pretty special. It was a perfect, calm morning with gorgeous reflections on the water. First light was like a spotlight beaming across the dam.

I was pretty excited about moving on, as it was time to start exploring the eastern Pilbara region. I'd never been out that way before but had heard about a few pretty special spots that we thought should be fun.





Carawine Gorge Sunrise

Secret Spots

We headed east from Nullagine on Skull Springs Road. The aim that day was to get to a spot known by the locals as Running Waters, 132 kilometres east of Nullagine. The track is in reasonable condition with lots of small, mainly dry, creek crossings. It's slow but easy going.

If you're going by maps like Hema, you won't find Running Water. It's best to keep your eyes peeled for a turn-off where the locals have left an old tyre with "RW" painted on it.

From the turn-off, it's five kilometres to reach the river. There's a camping area where the trees start but it's still about a kilometre to reach the water. A few people had chosen to park up their 4WD and camp in this spot, which meant a decent walk in to go for a swim – not my idea of fun.



Carawine Gorge Sunset

The reason they stopped there is the track gets pretty crappy – it is subject to flooding and a bit of a rock garden in spots. I had a plan to camp right on the water's edge so it was time to engage low range and let the Troopie do some rock crawling. Honestly, it's not that bad. If you take your time and have a high-lift 4WD, you'll be rewarded with a camp spot that is a literal oasis in the desert.

Running Waters is a spring-fed waterhole in the middle of a much larger riverbed, lined with beautiful paperbark trees that provide the perfect shade for camping. It's hard to imagine that in the middle of such a dry landscape you can find such a beautiful spot.

The rest of the day was spent in the water or sitting in the shade of those beautiful trees. Most people walked in for a swim and then disappeared back to their campsite in the bush. When they were gone, we had the area to ourselves, which was just fine by me.



Nullagine Dam Camp

Skull Spring Surprise

I love studying maps and the next day, I found a track that cuts north from Skull Springs Road to Carawine Gorge. It didn't have a name and sounded like fun. It turned out to be one of the nicest 4WD tracks I have done this year and is a must if you are in the area.

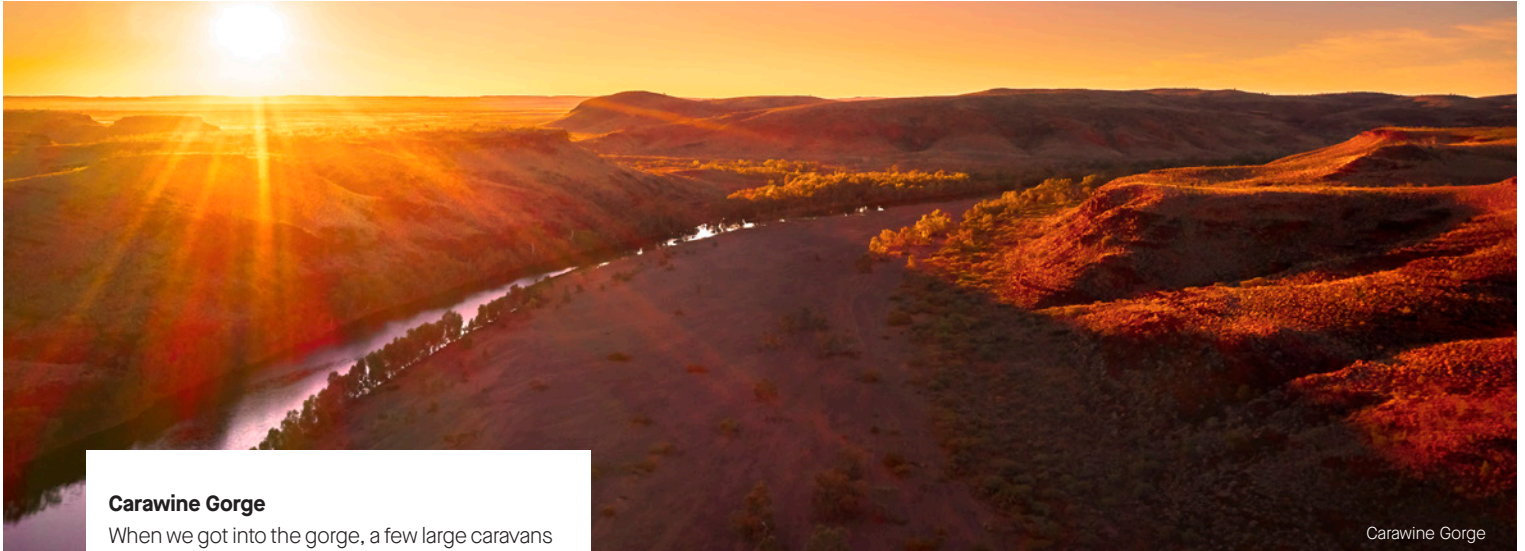
To find it, you'll need to get to Skull Springs Road. At the turn-off to Running Waters, you head back towards Nullagine on the Skull Springs Road for two kilometres. The road comes to a 90-degree left-hand bend, at which point there's a narrow track heading north on the right-hand side of the road. It's the only track for kilometres heading north so it's pretty easy to find.

This is a single car width track that will take you through some of the best hills, creeks and incredible Pilbara scenery you could hope for. It's slow going with lots of narrow but steep creek crossings and a few rocky climbs – my idea of heaven.

There are a few spots where the track was washed out and it required shifting a few rocks to build up the wash-outs. The scenery is so much more spectacular than you can imagine. You'll come to the Sherlock River where there is a water crossing. The sand is pretty soft and the water depth was just below bonnet depth when we crossed. This is a perfect spot for lunch and a swim. From there, it was only about an hour to Carawine Gorge and our camp spot for a few days. The road is mainly bitumen until you get to the turn-off.



Skull spring track - Carawine Crossing



Carawine Gorge

When we got into the gorge, a few large caravans had set up along the banks of the river. There was a large section of riverfront, which no one had claimed – mainly because it involved a few hundred metres of really soft river sand. It's way too soft for most caravans, unless you're really adventurous and don't mind a bit of digging.

We found the perfect spot with a few trees for shade and a nice sandy entrance into the water. It was time to let the tyres down and we managed to get all three vehicles into the spot. Later in the day, we watched a couple of caravaners get themselves bogged as they tried to follow our lead. They soon retreated, leaving us to enjoy our sandy swimming spot all to ourselves.

Carawine Gorge has to be one of the best kept secrets in Australia. It's part of Warrawagine Station, a working cattle station, and they generously allow free camping. The gorge is home to the Oakover River, which ultimately feeds into the De Grey River. The river is a few hundred metres wide at the gorge and runs for kilometres upstream. It's a great spot to fish and a few of the locals brought their tinnies and headed out each afternoon just before sunset in search of the elusive barramundi.

On the camping side of the river, it's a gorgeous, sandy, tree-lined north-west river and, on the other side, the face of the gorge rises vertically out of the pristine water. It's definitely a hidden gem. If this were near a major city, it would be so popular that you would never get a camping spot.

Carawine Gorge



Carawine night

Spectacular Skies

That night, we witnessed one of the best sunsets I have seen in the last few years. The colours lit up the face of the gorge – bright yellow at first, transitioning through vibrant orange and quickly changing to a deep crimson red. It was the perfect balance of clouds dancing in the sky and stunning reflections in the calm water of the deep red face of the gorge wall.

The night sky became just as dramatic with the Milky Way kissing the horizon and stretching 180 degrees across the night sky, making for a perfect photo opportunity.

For the next few days, we enjoyed watching the incredible birdlife, swimming in the gorge and lazing around. It wasn't too long until we had to think about turning south and heading back home.

For a few days, I'd been sitting on the banks of the gorge, surrounded by the best of the Aussie bush without a care in the world. I hadn't heard the news for days, I didn't have wi-fi or phone signal and I had no idea of what was going on in the world. Does life get any better?



[STORAGE]

Camping

EVERYTHING IN ITS PLACE

IT DOESN'T MATTER IF YOU'RE GOING ON A SOLO TRIP OR ONE WITH FIVE KIDS, YOU NEVER HAVE ENOUGH STORAGE ROOM FOR EVERYTHING YOU

NEED. THERE ARE SOME VERY USEFUL ACCESSORIES THAT YOU CAN INVEST IN TO MAKE SURE YOU DON'T NEED TO LEAVE ANYTHING BEHIND ON YOUR NEXT TRIP.

DRAWERS

A set of quality drawers in your 4WD will allow you to access your equipment with ease and eliminate the need to pull everything out to reach something packed at the bottom of your canopy or in the back of your wagon. With so many different options on the market, you have a choice of drawer heights, roller floors for mounting your fridge on and roller tables. Look out for fully customisable modular options so that you can choose the drawer configuration that works best for your needs.

WHEN CHOOSING A SET OF DRAWERS FOR YOUR 4WD, THERE ARE SOME FEATURES YOU SHOULD MAKE SURE YOU HAVE:

- Stainless steel bearing runners will mean perfectly smooth drawer and slide operation.
- UV-stable commercial carpet will keep your set-up looking like new.
- Drawers with a cross-folded floor ensure maximum support for heavy items placed within the unit.
- Drawers that lock open are essential when parked on an incline and you want your drawers to stay in place.
- Lockable drawers are also invaluable, especially if you are keeping valuable tools inside for work.



Camping



SPECIAL 60TH EDITION OF 4X4 CULTURE.

ROOF RACKS

Having a roof rack fitted to your 4WD is essential for maximising your storage space and carrying ability. They allow you to carry almost anything you can't (or don't want to) fit in your vehicle. It means that you don't have to leave the kids' surfboards, kayaks, fishing rods or any other awkward bulky item you want at home, when you go on your next camping adventure.

When it comes to roof racks, there are a plethora of options to choose from. Here is a basic overview of some of the roof rack varieties on the market:

Steel roof racks: The structural design is perfectly suited for load-carrying requirements of off roading and heavy-duty trade requirements.

Aluminium roof racks: The lightweight alternative for carrying bulky or excess items, aluminium racks are perfect for owners who may wish to remove their rack between trips.

Low-mounting flat racks: Extremely light with a super low mounting profile, these style racks are simple, flexible, perfect for access to low-height garages and can be personalised easily with a range of mounting accessories.

Roof bars: Roof bars are perfect for easy installation of accessories, provide reduced wind noise and are sleek and simple in design.

Whether it's for camping, keeping equipment and tools dry and secure or for that extra storage, a canopy or sport lid can maximise the space in the back of your ute. Adding a canopy also allows you to add a roof rack and a set of drawers for maximum storage options. Some modern sport lid options include the provision for fitting cross bars and platform racks so you can pack items on top of the lid.

CANOPIES AND SPORT LIDS

Check out page 42 for more info on load-carrying solutions.

PACKING AND PLANNING TIPS

- Take your drawers to the next level and protect your gear with some cargo organisers.
- Large plastic tubs can be a lifesaver. Group similar essentials together and invest in heavy-duty plastic tubs with strong lids so that you can stack other items on top of them.
- For more space, carry bulky items such as swags, tents and mattresses on a set of roof racks. Protect these items from the weather inside a stormproof cargo bag. Roof racks are also great for awkward items.
- Look for items that pack small and flat such as collapsible buckets, foldaway tables and compact chairs.
- Pack items that have multiple uses. Why pack an axe for splitting wood and a hammer for

banging in pegs when the axe will do both jobs?

- Try to keep the driver and passenger areas as free from clutter as possible.
- Before packing your 4WD, put everything you plan to take together in one spot. This will make it easier to choose what goes on the bottom and also gives you a better idea as to what is crucial and what can be left behind.
- Stay safe! Make sure there are no loose items that could pose a danger to passengers in the event of a sudden stop and make sure you don't overload the weight of your 4WD as this can affect handling and performance. A cargo barrier is a great investment to ensure everything in the back stays in the back.
- Take note of what you don't use after taking an item on more than one trip. If it didn't get used, remove it from your kit (this doesn't

apply to recovery gear, tools or spare parts).

- Give yourself plenty of time. Packing can be stressful and you are more likely to forget something if you are in a rush. Give yourself enough time to pack, check and then repack if you need to.
- Grab your phone and take a photo once you're finished packing. This can be a great reference on the day you are packing up to head home and can't for the life of you figure out how you fit all this stuff in!

RACK 'EM UP

The three best brands
under one roof!



Roof Rack Solutions

Don't compromise on your holiday for lack of storage and load-carrying solutions.

Whether you're towing a van or touring in your unhitched 4WD, there will likely come a point when you realise you just don't have the space for something that you'd really love to take with you.

Bicycles, tents, gazebos, stand-up paddle boards, chairs, fishing rods; they're often long, chunky or clumsy items. But holidays aren't for compromise!

4WDs, caravans and camper trailers all have a finite amount of space. And even if you can fit it, do you really want some of these big bulky items bouncing around in your cabin, scratching trims and cabinetry?

Roof loading isn't a new concept; in fact, the very first accessory manufactured by Anthony Ronald Brown was a roof rack!

The roof of your vehicle is the most obvious and convenient place to load items that might not fit within your 4WD, which is why vehicle manufacturers list a roof load capacity within their specifications to help you identify what you can and can't put on your roof.

Things have changed a little since ARB's first iteration of the humble roof rack back in 1975. Today, customers have a broad array of choice across a range of roof racks, bars, cages, boxes and platforms as well as an ever-expanding number of options for recreational water sport and bicycle carriers.



Roof Rack Solutions



ROOF RACK

At ARB, when we talk “roof racks”, we are referring to a platform-style rack, whether with or without guard rails. These include our BASE Rack, the Classic Tubular Roof Racks as well as Rhino-Rack’s Pioneer racks and trays.

Roof racks are available in a range of widths and lengths to suit a variety of vehicles and customer preferences. They are perfect for touring as they offer the most amount of real estate for attaching or strapping down long and short, big and small items such as swags, gazebos, tents, gas bottles, jerry cans, chainsaws, spare wheels, etc.

Most roof racks available at ARB can be configured with different guard rails to suit your needs. One of the most common examples of this is the trade rack, which provides side rails for securing and lashing loads, but open ends for easy loading and longer loads like timber, piping, conduit, etc.

ROOF BARS

Some manufacturers will also refer to these as roof racks; however, when we refer to roof bars, we are talking about the singular bars that run the width of the vehicle. ARB stocks roof bars from Thule, Rhino-Rack and our own ARB-branded

Roof Bar. Combined, there are over 10 different models to choose from to fit out your vehicle.

Roof bars are a popular choice for tradespeople, great for when you don’t need the coverage of a full roof rack, but still need somewhere to lay and lash a load. They are perfect for timber and equally useful for securing a swag or your fishing rods. Roof bars are commonly installed to the cabin of a dual-cab ute, with a roof rack installed over the canopy.

ROOF BOXES

Roof boxes are a great accessory to increase your luggage storage space. Weatherproof and lockable, a roof box attaches to existing roof bars and is perfect dry storage for clothing, bags and even other camping or touring equipment.

ARB offers a range of Thule and Rhino-Rack roof box storage solutions.

WINTER & WATER SPORT CARRIERS

Heading away for some R&R waterside? You’re not going to want to leave your kayak, surf ski, surfboard, stand-up paddle board or potentially even the tinny at home.

Or maybe this year you’re going to head to the snowline and enjoy some snowboarding!

Thule and Rhino-Rack have a huge array of carrying solutions and some really nifty loading solutions for those more bulky and heavy items.

Purposely designed to ensure your prized possession get there and back, these winter and water sport carriers are some of the best in the business with robust and protective features as well as being lockable for added security.

BICYCLE CARRIERS

Bikes are one of those things that can really add some family fun to your holiday but where do you put them, especially if you’re already towing a van or camper?

Thanks to some innovative thinking, Thule and Rhino-Rack have come up with more solutions for bike carrying than you might consider possible.

We’ve got bike racks to attach to roof racks and roof bars, bike racks to attach to your tow bar, bike racks to attach to the top of your ute tub, even bike racks to attach to your spare wheel!

So next time they ask, “Can we take our bikes?”, remember the answer is yes!

Roof Rack Solutions



Loading Tip

Spread the load as evenly as possible across both the roof of your vehicle and the roof bars or roof rack. Even loading ensures no part of the rack or vehicle is stressed or likely to throw out the balance of the vehicle.



ALL THE BEST BRANDS UNDER ONE ROOF

When it comes to roof racks, roof bars and carriers, ARB really does have all the best brands under one roof, including ARB and Rhino-Rack (both Australian) as well as world renowned Swedish manufacturer Thule.

You can rest assured that when opting for a solution from ARB's catalogue, you're getting a top quality product and a range of choice for 4WDs unrivalled by any other retailer.



ARB

ARB designs and manufactures a range of roof load solutions.

BASE RACK

ARB's flagship product is the recently released BASE Rack – a low-profile, ultra-sleek and lightweight aluminium roof rack that offers unmatched versatility with its unique dovetail mounting system.

The BASE Rack is available for an ever-growing range of the most popular 4WDs with applications for popular current and late model wagons, dual-cab utes and most ARB canopies. The BASE Rack is also complimented by a huge range of accessories that integrate seamlessly with the system including light bars, gas bottle, jerry can and spare wheel holders, tie-down points and straps, recovery board holders and more.

ARB BASE Racks can be transformed from a flat rack into a trade rack or touring rack with the addition of optional and removable rail systems.

CLASSIC TUBULAR ALUMINIUM AND STEEL ROOF RACKS

Back in the early 2000s, ARB was one of the first to introduce the tubular frame roof rack design and the platform proved both extremely popular and durable, meaning it is largely unchanged some two decades later.

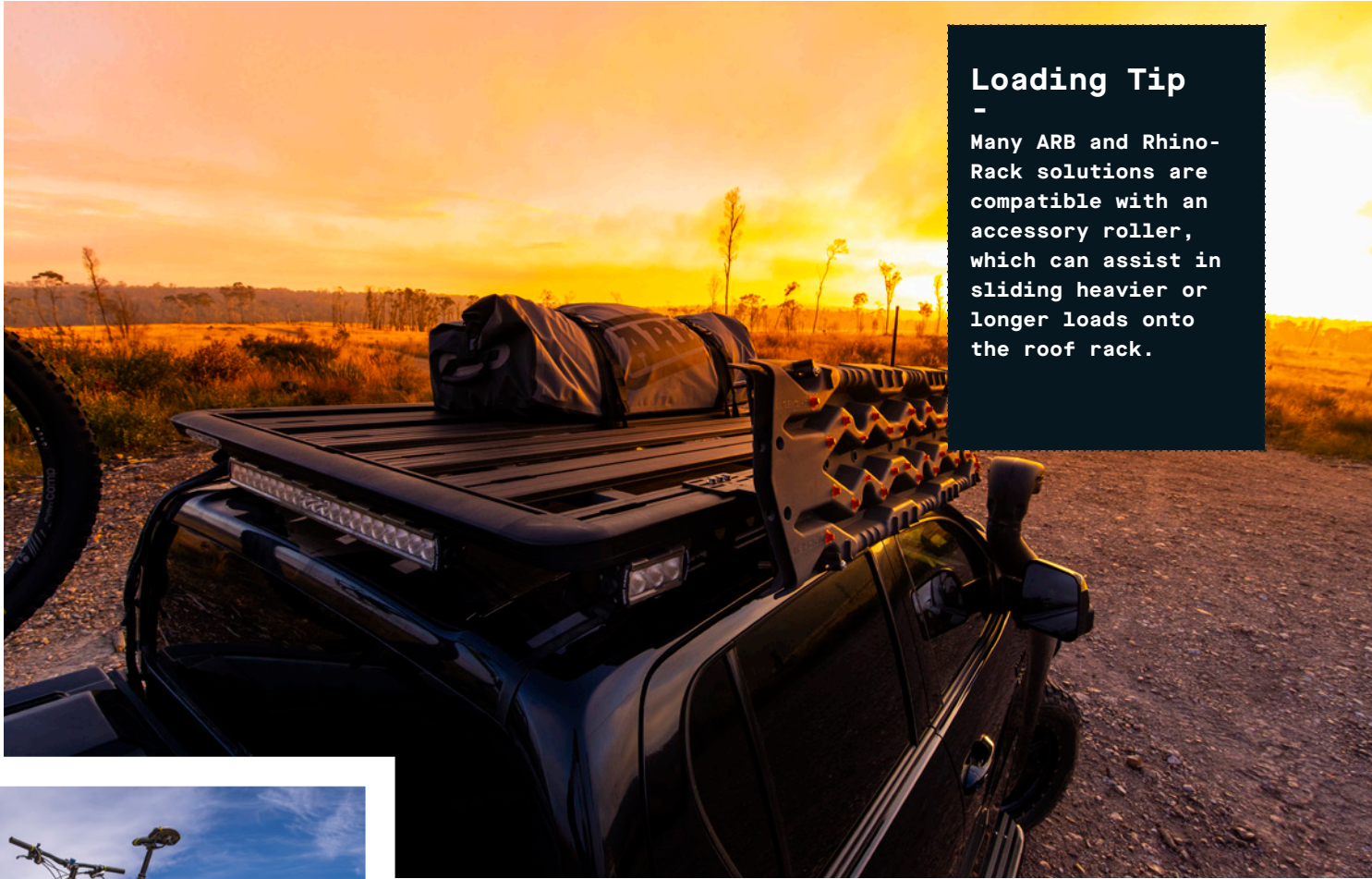
ARB's Classic Tubular Roof Rack is available in either steel or aluminium. It comes in a vast array of sizes, with mounting kits available for most popular 4WDs over the past 30 years. Further, the Classic Tubular Roof Rack is available with a range of railing configuration options, from no rail, trade rails, touring rails (for rooftop tents) and the full 360-degree touring deluxe configuration.

Alloy racks are appointed with a mesh floor while the steel racks offer a simplified layout of lateral bars or optional steel mesh.



ROOF BARS

ARB Roof Bars are available for fitment to Classic and Classic Plus canopies as well as the ARB SportLid V. When installed with the ARB Classic and Classic Plus canopies, the ARB Roof Bars offer a 50-kilogram total roof load limit (across two bars). When fitted to the ARB SportLid V, a two-bar system is rated to a 75-kilogram dynamic load.



Loading Tip
-
Many ARB and Rhino-Rack solutions are compatible with an accessory roller, which can assist in sliding heavier or longer loads onto the roof rack.



RHINO-RACK

Rhino-Rack offers a diverse range of roof load, water sport- and bicycle-carrying solutions for an expansive range of 4WDs and SUVs.

ROOF TRAYS

Rhino-Rack has an extensive range of flat roof racks and roof trays available in both steel and aluminium including the popular Pioneer platform rack.

Rhino-Rack trays come in all shapes and sizes, with mounting options that will accommodate both the serious 4WD tourer and trade or the light weekend and SUV application.

ROOF BARS

Rhino-Rack offers three types of roof bars in their range: Vortex, Heavy Duty and Euro. Each roof bar has a different style and application. All Rhino-Rack roof bars feature lockable legs for security and are offered for "door jam" installation, which requires no hard mounting to the vehicle. The Vortex bar is offered in a modern aerodynamic shape with a rubber

strip running across the top of the bar to protect your load. The Euro has options for equipping vehicles with or without integrated roof rails.

WINTER, WATER SPORT & BIKE CARRIERS

Kayak holders and loaders, stand-up paddle board carriers, boat loaders, snowboard carriers as well as a comprehensive range of bike carriers to attach to your roof, spare wheel or tow ball are all available within the Rhino-Rack range and can be ordered and fitted via your local ARB store.



THULE

Thule shares a heritage not dissimilar to ARB, established as a local manufacturer in Sweden in 1942 and now a premium global distributor of vehicle and personal accessories. Thule offers an extensive range of roof bars to suit a wide range of vehicles with applications for pretty much every vehicle on the market.

Thule has seven models of roof bar available on the market, many in either aluminium or a black finish with diverse mounting options to suit your vehicle. One of the most popular models within the range is the Evo WingBar, a great addition to your ARB SportLid or canopy with an integrated T-slot channel for easy attachment of additional accessories such as bike carriers.

The Evo range provides a strong platform rated up to 100 kilograms and also offers security with its Thule One-Key System locks as well as a quiet ride due to its WindDiffuser technology.



ROOF BASKETS & BOXES

If you are looking for something in between roof bars and a full-time roof rack, the Thule Trail and Canyon XT roof baskets might be just the solution.

The Trail range is available in aluminium or a black finish, while the Canyon XT is available in black only. With load capacities of up to 75 kilograms, the Thule roof basket range integrates seamlessly with Thule's range of roof bars and offers easy driveway installation and removal.

There are seven models of hard shell roof boxes available through your local ARB store as well as a number of soft shell solutions for sleek, secure and weatherproof rooftop solutions to help expand the cargo area of your 4WD.

WINTER, WATER SPORT & BIKE CARRIERS

Thule offers a range of winter and water sport carriers that further complement the offering from Rhino-Rack and give customers even more choice when looking at options to cart your stand-up paddle boards, surfboards, canoes, kayaks and snowboards.

Thule's range of bike-carrying solutions is extensive with six roof-mountable, 12 tow bar-mountable, 10 hitch-mountable and six ute tub-mountable solutions. That's up to a total of 34 bike-carrying solutions to suit your 4WD.

Between Thule and Rhino-Rack, ARB has over 40 bike-carrying solutions to choose from, holding from one to eight bikes!

The Journey Starts Online

All ARB stores and stockists have a good display of core ARB product including ARB-branded roof rack solutions either on their store demonstration vehicles or in store. However, given the vast range of Rhino-Rack and Thule products that are available, it is not feasible for our stores to have all the options available in store. The ARB, Thule and Rhino-Rack websites are packed full of information and images to help you decide what is the best solution for you. From there you are encouraged to contact your local ARB store or stockist for further information on pricing, availability and fitting.

All Bases Covered



Following its much-anticipated release in 2020, the ARB BASE Rack has proven to be an extremely popular load-carrying solution for 4WD enthusiasts. Initially available for wagons and canopies, the BASE Rack application list has now been expanded to include a number of dual-cab rack options.





Make It Your Own

Ultra sleek, boasting a super low mounting profile and lightweight design, the BASE Rack provides unmatched simplicity, flexibility and personalisation in your roof rack set-up. Setting a new benchmark in strength and integration, the BASE Rack incorporates a revolutionary dovetail mounting system that makes attaching and removing loads and accessories easier, faster and more secure.

BASE Rack Applications

Make	Model	Year	Wagon	Dual Cab	Canopy
Ford	Ranger Raptor				•
Ford	PXIII, PXII, PXI Ranger*			•	•
Ford	Maverick		•		
Holden	Colorado	2012-Current		•	•
Isuzu	D-MAX	2020 On		•	•
Isuzu	D-MAX	2012-2020			•
Jeep	Cherokee		•		
Jeep	Wrangler JL (Unlimited Hardtop)		•		
Land Rover	Range Rover		•		
Mazda	BT-50	2011-Current		•	•
Mercedes Benz	X-Class	2017 On			•
Mitsubishi	Pajero	1991-2000	•		
Mitsubishi	MR Triton				•
Mitsubishi	MQ Triton				•
Mitsubishi	MJ Triton		•		
Nissan	Y62 Patrol		•		
Nissan	GU Patrol		•		
Nissan	GQ Patrol		•		
Nissan	MQ Patrol		•		
Nissan	NP300 Navara	2015 On			•
Suzuki	Jimny	MY19	•		
Toyota	4Runner		•		
Toyota	FJ Cruiser		•		
Toyota	HiLux	2005- Current		•	•
Toyota	HiLux	1997-2005			•
Toyota	LandCruiser 200 Series		•		
Toyota	LandCruiser 100 Series		•		
Toyota	LandCruiser 80 Series		•		
Toyota	LandCruiser 76 Series		•		
Toyota	LandCruiser 79 Series			•	
Toyota	LandCruiser 60 Series		•		
Toyota	LandCruiser Prado 150		•		
Toyota	LandCruiser Prado 90		•		
Volkswagen	Amarok	2011 On			•

*Wildtrak only available in Canopy Rack

Combining its fully welded construction with its unique lateral cross-beam design, the BASE Rack boasts a strength that removes the need for additional sub-frame supports; the result is a super low roof rack offering improved clearance and sleek vehicle integration.

Available in a variety of lengths and widths to suit a growing range of 4WDs, configure the BASE Rack as a flat platform or add guard rails to provide partial or fully enclosed sides – the choice is yours!



The BASE Rack's unique side mounting dovetail extrusion means you'll have more uninterrupted cargo space with greater flexibility when choosing mounting locations. Each accessory attaches to the rack with a simple clamp mount – from Hi-Lift™ Jack mounts and recovery boards to a custom BASE Rack light bar!

Contact your local ARB store or stockist to find out exactly which BASE Rack is available for your vehicle as well as more information on part numbers, pricing and availability.

SWIFT RECOVERY



When your vehicle's caught in a torrential downpour on a steep mountain track, stuck in knee-deep mud or bogged in an isolated desert in sweltering temperatures, the reliability, performance and durability of your recovery gear is paramount.

Don't trust your vehicle to substandard recovery products that could jeopardise you and your vehicle's safety. ARB's vehicle recovery accessories are engineered and manufactured to the highest standards, making them ideal for recreational use as well as competition.

Our updated range of recovery kits ensures maximum peace of mind when you're out on the tracks.



ARB Weekender Recovery Kit Series II

ARB's Weekender Recovery Kit is an introductory kit with the minimum recovery gear you need to hit the tough stuff. The Series II edition has been updated to feature a new heavy-duty 600gsm PVC outer shell for a rugged exterior, easier cleaning and ensuring your recovery gear stays dry. The same slim design allows for easy storage in the car or a set of drawers, making sure your recovery gear is on hand should the need arise.

Included in the kit is an 8,000-kilogram vehicle recovery snatch strap, two "S" type galvanised 4.5-tonne rated shackles and a set of gloves made from a combination of cow grain leather on the palms and cow split leather on the back. The bag also features dual internal pockets, allowing space to add a recovery damper to the kit (sold separately), and dedicated sewn-in shackle holders. The bag has heavy-duty buckles and a comfortable rubber carry handle.

Part Number: RK12A

ARB Premium Recovery Kit Series II

ARB's Premium Recovery Kit comes in a multi-

compartment pack and provides peace of mind for almost every recovery situation. The Series II edition, like the Weekender Recovery Kit, features a new 600gsm PVC bag, ensuring durability and protection of your recovery accessories. The bag has also been updated with improved handles, making it comfortable to carry around, which is important as it can hold a decent amount of kit.

A clever update to the new bag is multiple named compartments to make sure your recovery gear is always in the right place. The compartments are labelled according to what can fit in the bag. The contents of the kit include:

- 8,000-kilogram vehicle snatch strap
- 12,000-kilogram tree trunk protector strap
- 4,500-kilogram winch extension strap
- 9,000-kilogram competition snatch block
- Two 4.75-tonne "S" type 19-millimetre galvanised shackles with red powder-coat pin
- Recovery damper
- ARB gloves made from cow grain and split leather

Part Number: RK9A



Strapping Choice

An ARB snatch strap is similar to a tow rope but is designed to stretch under load for maximum performance and safety. It is a very effective method of extracting a bogged or immobilised 4WD when a second vehicle is present.

The unique design of the strap allows it to stretch and return to its original length, aiding recovery and greatly reducing the likelihood of vehicle damage. Rather than work like a massive elastic band, it acts in a similar way to a shock absorber. ARB's recovery straps are a competition choice and have been the winner of many recovery strap tests throughout Australia and the world.

When selecting a vehicle recovery strap, it is recommended that the minimum breaking strength of the strap be between two and three times the gross vehicle mass (GVM) of any vehicle it is used with. The strap should be suited to the GVM of the lighter of the two vehicles being used in a recovery situation.

The 8,000-kilogram recovery snatch strap, which is included in both the Weekender and Premium Recovery Kits, is suitable for vehicles with a GVM range of between 2,650 kilograms and 4,000 kilograms. This encompasses the majority of 4WD light commercial vehicles and 4WD wagons.

KEEPING IT COOL

THERE'S NO DOUBT THAT A FRIDGE OR FREEZER IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT NECESSITIES WHEN GOING ON A TRIP. **HAVING THE ABILITY TO BUY MEAT OR PREPARE MEALS AND FREEZE THEM FOR A LONG TRIP IS NOT ONLY CONVENIENT BUT ALSO COST EFFECTIVE.** AND THERE IS NOTHING LIKE AN ICE COLD BEER STRAIGHT OUT OF THE FRIDGE ON THOSE WARM SUMMER CAMPING DAYS. NOT ONLY IS HAVING A PORTABLE FRIDGE IDEAL FOR CAMPING, IT CAN BE USED ON THE BOAT FOR THE DAY'S CATCH, AFTER A BIG GROCERY SHOP, AT THE BEACH OR PARK FOR KEEPING LUNCH AND BEVVIES COLD OR EVEN ON THE DECK FOR EXTRA DRINK STORAGE FOR YOUR NEXT PARTY.

HOW TO CHOOSE A FRIDGE

WITH SO MANY FRIDGES ON THE MARKET, HERE ARE A FEW THINGS TO CONSIDER TO ENSURE YOU MAKE THE RIGHT INVESTMENT:

Size matters: If you're heading off on a weekend away with your partner, chances are you won't need a big fridge. However, if you're taking an extended trip with the family, you'll need something bigger. Portable fridges come in capacities ranging from 35 litres to 96 litres with several sizes in between. Obviously, the larger the capacity, the larger the external dimensions of the fridge so it's important to take into account how much room you have in your 4WD as well.

Power consumption: Choosing a fridge with an efficient compressor and good insulation is important to maximise your available power. When comparing power consumption between fridges, it is important to note the cabinet temperature and ambient temperature to which the fridge was tested. Cooling capacity is also vitally important as it can get quite hot in the back of a vehicle so you need a fridge that can reliably keep its contents below 4°C.

Build quality: To ensure longevity, a fridge should be made from a tough and durable material. The design of the cabinet is also important, ensuring there are no protruding latches or hinges that are likely to catch on luggage or sleeping bags and that the fridge controls are recessed so you're less likely to bump them.

Convenience: A quality portable fridge will be just that, portable, so make sure it is built tough but not so heavy that you can't lift it. Look for convenient internal features like easily removable baskets and dividers, dairy compartments, cabinet lights, reversible lids, drain plugs and rubber feet for better grip.





FRIDGE TIPS

HERE ARE A FEW TIPS TO MAKE SURE YOU GET THE MOST OUT OF YOUR PORTABLE FRIDGE:

- Put the heaviest items in the bottom and light stuff on top.
- If using as a freezer, pack your frozen items in the reverse order that you plan on eating the food. This way the food you want is always on top and it will limit the amount of time the lid stays open, maximising cooling capacity and energy saving.
- Consider pre-packing items like smaller fruits and vegetables into easily stackable plastic containers. You'll fit more in, your food will last longer and your fridge will stay cleaner.
- If you have food such as fruit, veggies and meats in your fridge, you'll need to keep the temperature below 4°C to keep it fresh.
- Keep the air vents free to maximise airflow, which will maximise cooling efficiency and use less power.
- Using a protective fridge cover protects the fridge from wear and tear and also provides an extra layer of insulation.
- Always secure your fridge when travelling with recommended tie-downs.
- Maximise power consumption by lowering the temperature when driving and increasing to a more economical temperature when the engine is off.
- Keep your fridge in the shade and keep the windows down to reduce power consumption.
- If you have the choice, go for cans over bottles. Cans cool down faster and pack better for best use of fridge space.
- Keeping your fridge as full as possible will make it run more efficiently.

IN THE BAG

So you've invested in an ARB ZERO Fridge Freezer. You get it home and take it out of the box, its sleek black and taupe surface gleaming in all its untouched glory. It looks too good to sit in the back of the fourby, packed tight with the camping gear or loaded in with the trade tools. Never fear; you can keep your ZERO Fridge Freezer looking like new with an ARB ZERO Fridge Freezer Transit Bag.

The ZERO Fridge Freezer Transit Bag not only protects your fridge from dents and scratches, it also improves cooling efficiency with an added layer of insulation, allowing it to perform to its maximum potential.

Clever Design

The new ZERO Fridge Freezer Transit Bag not only looks great, it is packed full of features and is super simple to fit. To allow for one-handed fridge lid operation, the Transit Bag has been designed with lid cover magnetic inserts instead of zips or Velcro. This ensures easy access while still ensuring the cover reseals once the lid is closed. On side opening models, once the lid cover is fitted, lid orientation can easily be changed without taking the cover off.



Packed with Features

A cut-out in the front of the Transit Bag allows viewing and controlling of the display panel whilst integrated power cord retention slots at the rear of the bag keep cables away from moving parts when on a fridge slide or drawer. Dual integrated side pockets are specifically designed to store your ARB Fridge Freezer Portable Power Pack with provision to run its power cord. Fridge tie-down points remain unobscured and there is even an included bottle opener in its own dedicated front pocket for quick access to a coldie on a hot day.

Part Numbers:
44L Single Zone – 10900051
60L Single Zone – 10900052
69L Dual Zone – 10900053
96L Dual Zone – 10900054
36L Single Zone – 10900055
(available May 2021)

CAMPING CHECKLIST



BASICS

- Food
- Water (Two litres per person, per day)
- Clothing
- Toiletries
- Toilet paper

SHELTER

- Tent or swag
- Pegs, poles and ropes
- Mesh floor mat
- Bedding/linen

FURNITURE

- Camp chairs
- Camp table

LIGHTING

- Torch or headlamp
- Rechargeable lantern or work light

KITCHEN

- Pots and pans
- Camp oven
- Jaffle iron
- Plates, cups and utensils
- Garbage bags, paper towel, ziplock bags
- Portable fridge
- Collapsible washing-up bucket
- Environmentally friendly washing-up liquid
- Matches, firelighters and heavy-duty gloves
- Gas stove and bottle
- Hotplate
- Tea towels and scourers

AROUND CAMP

- Bug spray
- First aid kit
- Sunscreen
- Dust pan and brush
- Fishing rod and tackle
- Saw or axe for cutting firewood
- Rope (many uses incl clothes line)
- Clothes pegs

4WD

- Recovery gear
- Air compressor
- Maps and GPS
- Recovery tracks
- Shovel
- Off road jack
- Tyre puncture repair kit
- Tools (socket set, spanners, screwdrivers, etc.)
- Duct tape and zip ties

EXTRAS FOR REMOTE OR EXTENDED TRIPS

- Comms (sat phone, HF radio, etc.)
- Extra water storage
- Vehicle spare parts
- Portable toilet
- Mesh mosquito tent
- 12v shower and shower/toilet tent
- Extra fuel storage
- Freezer

BY: NO FIXED ADDRESS

THE LAT-LONG OF IT

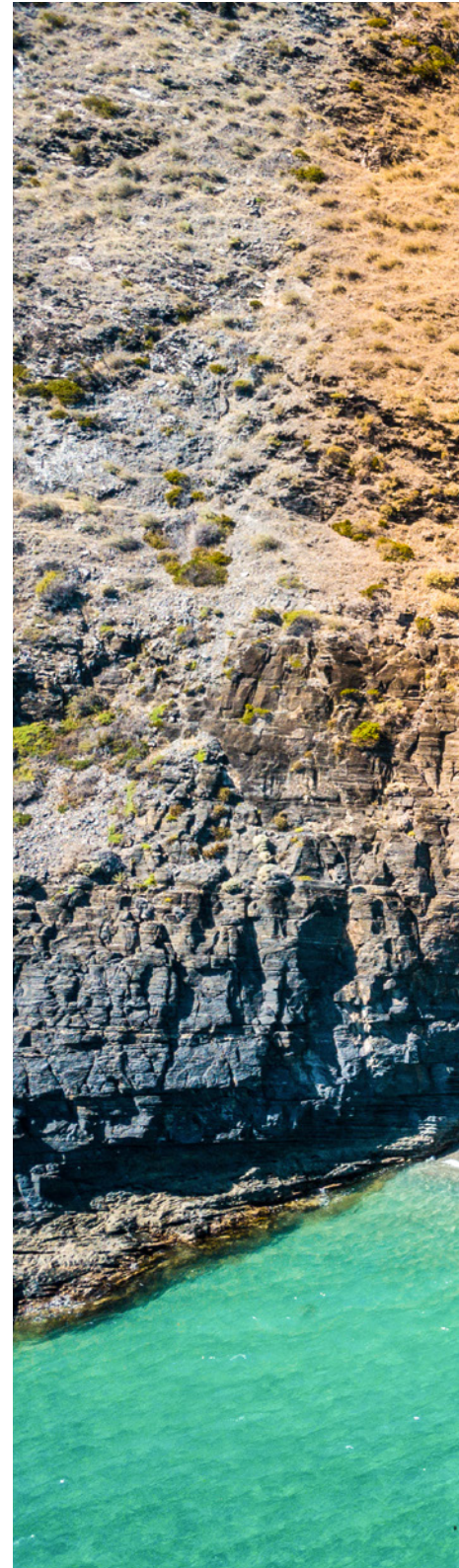
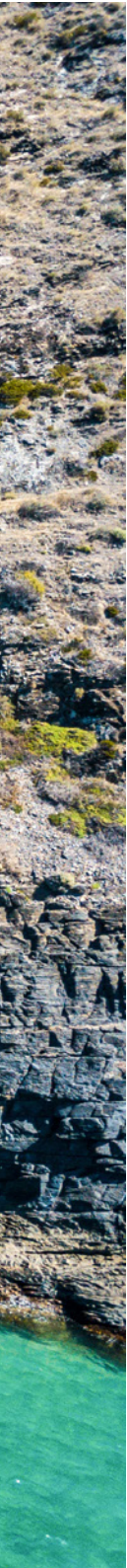
REGION:

FLEURIEU PENINSULA,
SOUTH AUSTRALIA

TRACK GRADE: Easy dirt roads, bitumen roads and sand driving

POPULAR FOR: Camping, kayaking, swimming, fishing and bushwalking

PERMITS NEEDED: Entry fees for Deep Creek Conservation Park (\$11.00 for a day pass), camping fees for all camp areas (starting at \$16.50 per night)



The Lat-Long of It



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THE FLEURIEU PENINSULA IS AN EASY ONE-HOUR DRIVE FROM ADELAIDE, SO IT IS OFTEN OVERLOOKED AS A TOURING DESTINATION IN ITSELF AND IS MORE OFTEN A QUICK STOPOVER BEFORE CATCHING THE FERRY TO KANGAROO ISLAND.

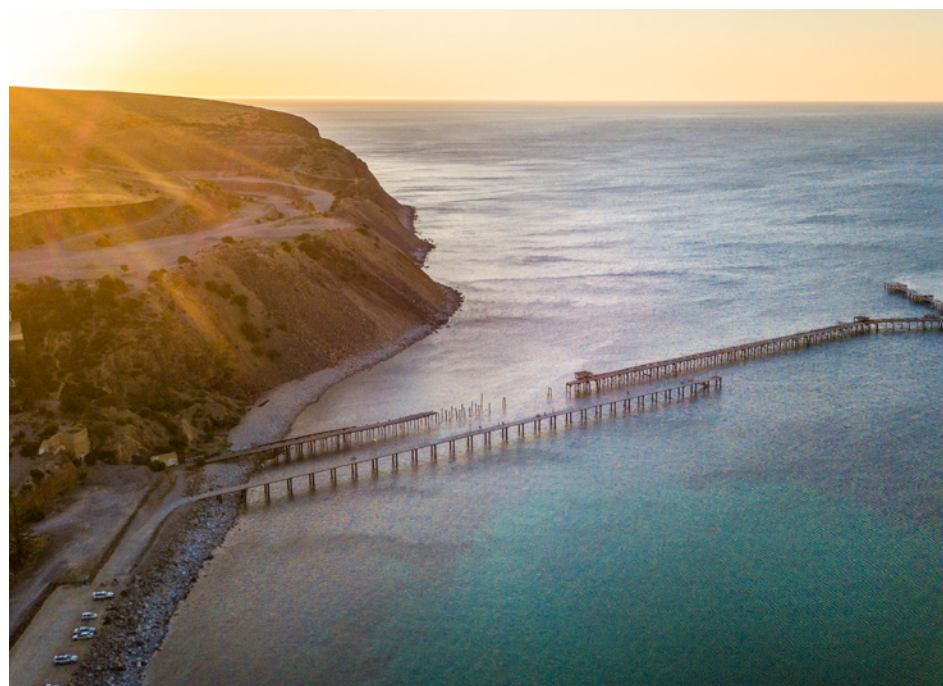
BUT IF YOU HAVE A FEW DAYS UP YOUR SLEEVE, IT'S DEFINITELY A PLACE WORTH CHECKING OUT. IT HAS SOME OF THE BEST BEACHES YOU WILL FIND, WITH AWESOME FISHING AND FANTASTIC KAYAKING, FIRST-CLASS BUSH WALKS, HISTORIC TOWNSHIPS AND, OF COURSE, WINE.

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THE TRACKS

Most of the Fleurieu is bitumen or easy dirt roads so getting around is no problem, even in a 2WD. If you want to try some beach driving, then Sellicks Beach is great for beginners with hard compact sand making it an easy drive. In fact, you will often see 2WDs cruising this beach.

For the more experienced driver, you can do the beach run from Goolwa Beach to the mouth of the Murray River. This is a great drive but remember to check the tides before you hit the sand and always travel with some recovery boards in case you do get stuck.



CAMPING

There is a range of camping options on the Fleurieu. The Deep Creek Conservation Park offers great bush camping for a small fee. If you are into bushwalking or bird watching, then this is the area for you. There is an extensive network of hiking trails in the park with fantastic views of Kangaroo Island and the rough Deep Creek Valley.

If you are towing a large van, then the Second Valley camping area is a good choice. This camping area is perched up on the rugged limestone cliffs overlooking the gulf.

Our personal favourite is the Rapid Bay camping area. The camping here is right on the beach and has a basic ramp for launching small boats and kayaks. There is also great snorkelling around the old pier. It has simple toilet facilities with cold outdoor showers to rinse off the salt water at the end of the day.



WHAT TO DO?

From fishing and bird watching, kayaking and hiking to visiting wineries and just relaxing on the beach, there is something here for everyone. Here is a list of things you must do:

- 1. Explore the beaches:** With some of the best beaches you will find anywhere, this is a must. Rapid Bay and Second Valley are fantastic with little secret beaches and caves nestled in the limestone cliffs. At super low tides, you can walk to some of these but they are best explored by water. Kayaking here is top shelf as is the snorkelling and diving. The fishing is pretty good as well, with a feed of flathead and squid easy to come by. Other great beaches to visit in the area are Blowhole Beach and Goolwa Beach.
- 2. Bushwalking:** There are 15 different walking trails in the Deep Creek Conservation Park providing access to spectacular scenery including views of Kangaroo Island. These trails also make up part of the famous Heysen Trail.
- 3. The Mighty Murray River:** Take a drive down Goolwa Beach and spend the day at the mouth of the Murray River.
- 4. Snorkelling and Diving:** Spots we liked were the old Rapid Bay Jetty and along the cliffs between Rapid Bay and Second Valley. A word of warning, the sea lions and dolphins in the Rapid Bay area are super inquisitive and if you're not expecting them, a dark shape whizzing through the water can give you a fright! If you scuba, check out the wreck of HMAS Hobart with a local guide.
- 5. Indulge:** Wash off the camping dirt, put some shoes on and indulge in a platter and a bottle of wine at some of the world class wineries in the area.



[COOKING]

Camping

CAMP COOK

WHILST GOING OFF GRID IS GREAT, WHEN IT COMES TO COOKING, IT'S DEFINITELY A LOT MORE WORK, ESPECIALLY IF YOU DON'T HAVE THE LUXURY OF A CARAVAN OR CAMPER TRAILER KITCHEN AT YOUR DISPOSAL. WHILST IT CAN SOMETIMES BE A PAIN IN THE NECK, SOME PREP WORK BEFORE YOU LEAVE HOME – PLUS MAKING SURE YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TOOLS – WILL MAKE LIFE SO MUCH EASIER AT THE CAMPSITE.



PREPPING

PREPPING BEFORE YOU HEAD OFF ON YOUR NEXT CAMPING TRIP WILL IMPROVE YOUR HOLIDAY EXPERIENCE AND REDUCE STRESS AT MEAL TIMES. HERE ARE OUR TIPS TO MAKE SURE YOU'RE WELL AND TRULY PREPARED:

Make a meal plan: Whether you are going for one night or one month, making a meal plan will help with shopping and also ensure you don't forget anything. Once you've made a meal plan, you can then work out what cooking method will be required and what utensils you will need to pack to be able to prepare it.

Prepare meals in advance: Having meals already made is amazing when out camping, especially if you're tired or have been travelling all day. Being able to cook a delicious meal at home with all your required appliances and then simply reheat it when out camping is a true lifesaver.

Invest in a food vacuum sealer: Vacuum sealers are invaluable when spending a lot of time on the tracks. They keep food fresh longer and keep your fridge smelling clean. You

can vacuum seal meals, pre-cut fruit and certain vegetables.

Freeze meals: If you're planning on a longer trip, having a freezer is the way to go. When travelling to remote areas, food items like meat can be very expensive to purchase so buying these items at home and freezing them is a very cost-effective option.

Premix dry ingredients: Planning on making bread, damper or pancakes? Instead of taking up space by bringing all these ingredients separately, you can save time and room by preparing the dry ingredients before you leave. Just remember to write the recipe on the packet to remember how to make it once you get to camp.



COOKING

There are many ways to cook while camping. Here are some options if you aren't blessed with a fully working caravan kitchen:

Camp oven: A good quality camp oven is fantastic for cooking over the fire or with coals. Camp ovens are generally made from cast iron or spun steel. Cast iron camp ovens are great for cooking stews, soups, roasts and casseroles; however, keep in mind they are quite heavy and require proper care to keep them in good condition. Large steel camp ovens are great for baking breads, cakes and tarts, as well as being lighter and less likely to crack than their cast iron counterparts. Steel camp ovens require heat directly from coals or fire whilst cast iron camp ovens radiate heat from the hot metal they are made from.

Camp stove: There are many considerations when choosing a camping stove. The size of the stove is an important factor and this will be determined by how many you are cooking for, how much you want to cook at once and the space you have to transport it. Another factor to consider is how you want to power the stove. Butane-powered stoves

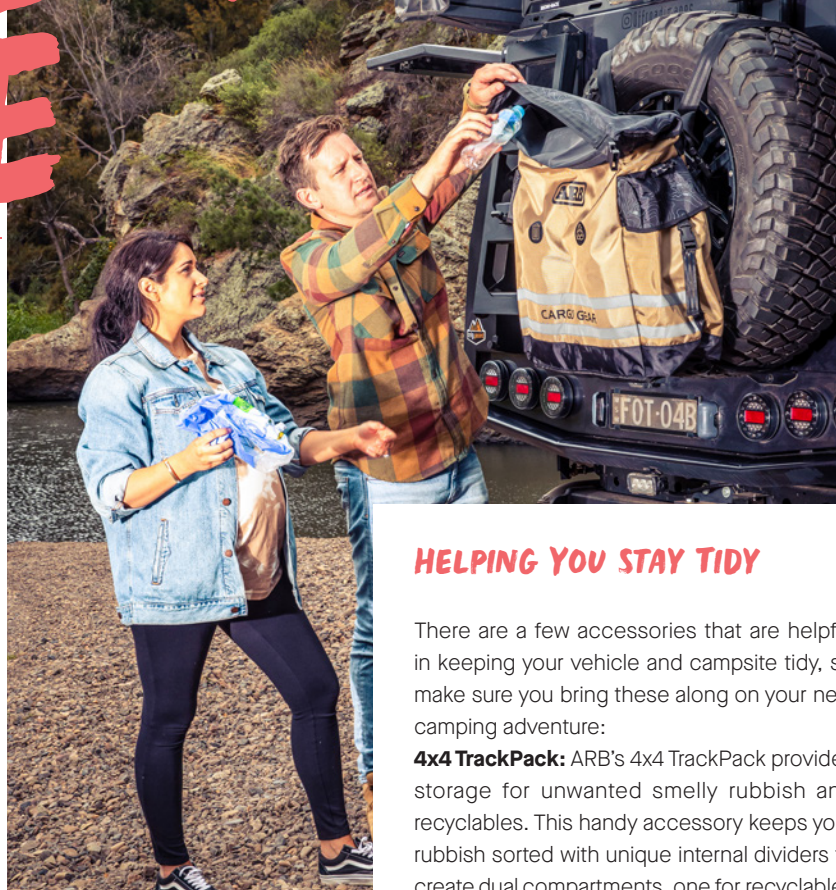
are compact and the cartridges are cheap and portable; however, the flame from a butane-powered stove is smaller meaning less heat is produced and it may not ignite in cold conditions. LPG-fuelled stoves provide an efficient way to cook so they tend to be more suitable for longer camping trips. Keep in mind that the LPG bottles (the same ones you use at home for the BBQ) take up more space, can be heavy and have specific safety requirements when being transported.

Camp kitchen: For those who prefer to camp in a swag or tent, but want the luxury and convenience of a fully working kitchen, installing a kitchen slide in your 4WD is the way to go. ARB recently released a fully on-board, integrated and perfectly practical slide kitchen. Contained within an ARB modular drawer frame, the Slide Kitchen is a complete, stainless steel, slide-out kitchen with bench space, a three-burner cooktop, a kitchen sink and its very own utensils drawer.

[CLEANUP]

LEAVE NO TRACE

WHEN YOU THINK OF THE GREAT OUTDOORS, PRISTINE BEACHES, CRYSTAL CLEAR RIVERS AND CAMPSITES MADE UP OF LUSH GREEN GRASS COME TO MIND. HOWEVER, IF YOU'VE EVER ARRIVED AT A CAMPGROUND AFTER IT'S BEEN USED AND ABUSED BY A BUNCH OF IMBECILIC DRONGOS, YOU'LL KNOW THE FEELING OF UTTER RAGE AND TOTAL DISAPPOINTMENT IN YOUR OWN SPECIES. BROKEN GLASS IN THE FIRE PIT, RUBBISH AND PLASTIC CAUGHT IN THE GRASS AND DISGUSTING USED TOILET PAPER IN THE BUSHES. BE BETTER BY FOLLOWING THESE SIMPLE STEPS:



- When packing for your trip, think about ways of reducing the amount of litter you take with you. The less you take, the less you need to bring back.
- When arriving at camp, setting up garbage bags should be the first thing you do. When campers are setting up, they inevitably have things to throw away like food wrappers or empty drink bottles from the car drive there.
- Plan to use provided campsite toilets or bring your own. If this not an option, ensure you bury human waste and choose a spot at least 200 metres away from water.
- Use designated fire pits or light your campfire in spots that have previously had fires in them. Make sure your fire is completely out before leaving your campsite.
- If you are camping with dogs, ensure you pick up all droppings and dispose of them in a bin.
- Have all campers on site do a quick walk around before leaving camp for the final time to make sure nothing has been forgotten and no rubbish has been overlooked.
- It should go without saying but if you bring a cheap tent, camping chair or cooler on holiday and it breaks, take it home. Don't chuck it on the fire or throw it in the bush. Because if you don't take it home, the next person who comes along with half a conscience will have to and what goes around comes around.

HELPING YOU STAY TIDY

There are a few accessories that are helpful in keeping your vehicle and campsite tidy, so make sure you bring these along on your next camping adventure:

4x4 TrackPack: ARB's 4x4 TrackPack provides storage for unwanted smelly rubbish and recyclables. This handy accessory keeps your rubbish sorted with unique internal dividers to create dual compartments, one for recyclables and one for general waste. The TrackPack can also be used to store wet towels and clothes from a day at the beach or as additional storage for dirty items or recovery gear.

Navigator Collapsible Bin Buddy: Lined for moisture protection, making it easier to clean, the Bin Buddy folds completely flat when not in use. Features a heavy-gauge zipper opening with clip-in buckles to keep blowflies out and trap smell in. Fits an 82-litre garbage bag.

Navigator Mini Bin Buddy: Perfect for behind the front seats in your 4WD or on the bench of your caravan kitchen, the Navigator Mini Bin Buddy features a hard moulded lid with zipper to keep in odours. Handy grab handles on each side, a zip pocket to store spare bin liners and a completely flat folding design makes this your must-have mini camping helper. Fits a 32-litre garbage bag.



BUSH BABIES

Words and Photography by Emma George

Think you can't go camping now that you have a baby or toddler? Emma George has been on the road with her three boys since they were newborns. Check out her top tips for taking your little tackers on your next camping adventure.



Camping with Kids





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**Having a baby is an exciting time but it can be a little daunting, particularly to those of us who love our outdoor lifestyle and don't want things to change.** The good news is that newborns are portable and toddlers love getting outdoors so with a little extra planning and a few key items, going camping can be the perfect excuse to get out of the house.

Sleep, or lack of it, is perhaps the biggest challenge with young children but luckily most

That first trip restored my confidence that I could still go camping with a baby and continue doing the things we loved. As Austin grew older, I found the crawling and toddler stage a little more challenging. All he wanted to do was put everything in his mouth and if I turned my back, he could move pretty quick. It's a tricky time but also a great age as kids love being outdoors, they explore, take everything in and are so busy that they tend to sleep better.



Taking time out to tackle the Old Telegraph Track, explore inland Queensland and the Savannah Way to Darwin, down to Central Australia and through the desert back to Perth was the best thing we had ever done. We loved it, the kids loved it and it was such a great experience that as soon as we got home, we started working towards completing a full lap of Australia, which we completed three years later.

Travelling with young children can be challenging as it requires more planning, patience and equipment but once you are set up and find a routine, it becomes much easier. There are a few things that I found were invaluable and made travelling much easier and safer with newborns and toddlers, particularly if you are on the road for extended periods of time. Just be careful that you don't fall into the trap of bringing so much extra gear that it's hard to fit it all in and everything just becomes too hard.



kids love to sleep in the car, so taking a trip can be a good way to coordinate sleeps. The beauty of taking newborns camping is that they only need milk for the first few months and as they aren't walking or crawling, when you put them down, they stay in the same spot.

Camping with our premature first-born in winter at just eight weeks old was scary for me the first time as I wasn't sure what to expect. We kept it simple though, only venturing 90 minutes from home for two nights and we decided if it didn't work, we could easily pack up and leave. I was surprised how simple it was and even though I was getting very little sleep at home, just to have some time in the bush was completely refreshing.

Soon we had three children and my husband wasn't entertaining the idea of a fourth. Our Patrol was all set up for touring with the fridge, drawer slides and cargo barrier installed and we just didn't know how we could manage as a family of six. We had been planning a trip across Australia for years and as our kids proved to be excellent travellers, we decided we could manage it with our three boys, then aged six, four and 18 months. Some days we drove over 1,000 kilometres but we stayed in some amazing remote locations and yes, it was exhausting but it was an incredible trip and each day the kids woke with enthusiasm and excitement for what adventures lay ahead.

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HIGHCHAIR

A \$25 highchair from Ikea will be one of the best things you could ever pack. Don't buy a fancy chair with padding as it's too hard to keep clean and pack away. The Ikea chair has legs you can easily remove so it packs pretty small. Yep, it's going to get grubby from dust and dirt, but it's easy to clean and you can even dunk the whole thing in a river or give it a hose down.

Not just great for mealtimes but for toddlers that like to run, you can strap them into the chair and put snacks or some toys on the tray to keep them entertained. I found the highchair vital when setting up and packing up camp as children can watch what's going on while keeping them safe from dangers such as campfires, nearby waterways, crocodiles or getting lost.

This is hands down my number one pick when travelling with small children.

A TUB AND HOT WATER SYSTEM

A storage container or a big bucket is great for having a bath every now and then. There are a number of compact gas hot water systems available now that are very affordable. Not only good for the kids but also for the adults who love a hot shower when you are out bush camping. The storage container can be used to pack gear and double as a bath tub when you need it.

For newborns, they might like the calming sensation of a bath and it allows you to keep a vaguely similar routine to that at home. For toddlers that like to get muddy and dirty, then bring it on. We don't have to nag them about keeping clean and at the end of the day the kids can have a good soak in the tub, play in the warm water and wind down before bed. I often used the leftover bath water (if it was relatively clean) for washing clothes at the end of the day.





HIKING PACK

Another invaluable piece of equipment that can be used for multiple applications is a baby hiking pack. Kids need to be around six months old and able to sit up independently and have good neck strength to be able to go in one of these. When you are travelling and visiting some outback places, a pram just won't cut it. I left my big pram at home and only took the smallest of compact, light strollers for the odd occasion we needed it.

We were lucky our six-year-old was a good walker as Ashley and I carried a pack each so that we could do some hikes and it was a great way for us to keep fit as well. The four-year-old would walk a few kilometres before he had to be carried but we walked around Uluru, Kata Tjuta and Kings Canyon with our biggest hike being around 12 kilometres. If we didn't have the hiking packs, then we would have missed out on visiting some iconic locations.



TRAVEL COT

Portacots can be very cumbersome but instead we invested in a compact, light travel cot. It took a little longer than a standard portacot to erect but it was also fully screened so it provided great protection from insects, bugs and anything nasty.

It also meant that our babies weren't able to escape out of the cot as they were zipped in nice and securely. As our three kids couldn't fit in our small camper trailer, the three of them slept right next to us in an Oztent, which is still known affectionately as the "fun tent". Bailey was safe in his portacot and I would fasten the tent doors externally with a clip so the kids could not wander out of the tent during the night and get lost. It would take the kids a while to all get to sleep but they soon found a routine and were pretty good at sleeping through the night.

We also used the travel cot during the day for all our children when they were young babies. If we weren't traveling somewhere in the car when it was their nap time and we wanted to stop for an extended lunch or maybe go fishing by a river, then the travel cot was perfect.

The first couple of times there were plenty of distractions but they soon got used to the bush and were able to have a great day sleep under the shade of the tree. It meant we didn't have to set up a tent, they didn't get bitten by insects and kept cool when there was a breeze. I used that travel cot so much with our three kids that I had to purchase a new one for our trip across Australia with our third child as the old one had worn out.



perhaps travelling with another family that had young children, we would bring a tent specifically for the kids to hang out in. This was particularly great when you have children that are crawling or if there are a lot of bugs and insects around. We would bring a few toys and put them in the tent and the kids could just crawl around and play with their toys.

The best tents are just an easy set-up with a zip that is at the top of the tent so the kids can't reach it and escape. Otherwise, an external clip can work to secure the zips.

At bedtime, the play tent was brilliant as you could get all the kids washed, in clean clothes and put them in the tent until it was bedtime. That way they stayed relatively clean until the next day. It was also good to have space and if there were flies or lots of mosquitos, the kids could stay in the play tent without getting upset or having to use insect repellent.

SMALL CHAIR

An inexpensive purchase and even if you don't camp, every kid deserves a fun little chair that's just theirs. Perfect for toddlers upwards and they come in so many fun designs. This is a definite must as small chairs fit little kids, they take up less space in the car and they are easy for kids to get on and off quickly. It keeps our adult chairs free and if the kids fall off their chair, it doesn't matter so much as they are low to the ground.

When each child has their own seat, it stops arguments about who sits where and keeps them safe when seated near campfires. A small card table is also a great addition for kids and if you can't find one with low adjustable legs, just cut the legs down on a cheap foldable table.



[MAPS & NAV]

Camping

MAPPED OUT



WE RELY SO HEAVILY ON OUR PHONE'S NAVIGATION AND APPS LIKE GOOGLE MAPS TO GET US WHERE WE ARE GOING

THAT IT IS SOMETIMES TOO LATE BY THE TIME WE REALISE THAT WE'RE OUT OF SERVICE AND HAVE NO IDEA WHICH TRACK WE ARE SUPPOSED TO TURN DOWN TO MEET OUR MATES AT CAMP. WHETHER YOU LIKE THE SAFE-AS-HOUSES PAPER MAPS OR THE ALWAYS UP-TO-DATE SAT NAV OPTION, HAVING A BACK-UP GUIDE IS IMPERATIVE WHEN HEADING OFF ROAD.

PAPER MAPS

HAVING A COUNTRY-WIDE ROAD AND 4WD ATLAS IN YOUR CAR IS ALWAYS A SAFE BET. These are great for planning trips and feature information useful to travellers including 4WD tracks, campsites, caravan parks, rest areas, 24-hour fuel and points of interest. For specific destinations or 4WD routes, trip and touring maps generally provide a closer scale and include more detail of tracks, national parks and facilities.

Physical maps can be purchased in ARB stores, map shops, camping stores, some bookshops and at shop.hemamaps.com.

SAT NAVS

WHEN HITTING OUTBACK OR OFF ROAD TRACKS, A STANDARD GPS IS NOT GOING TO CUT IT. A good off road sat nav has topographic and street mapping. It will also show you 4WD tracks, unsealed roads, campsites, caravan parks, dump points, 24-hour fuel stations and points of interest. Off road sat navs also offer offline mapping, which is especially valuable when travelling to remote areas. Another option for savvy campers is using an iPhone or tablet with a mapping app loaded into it.

HEMA

ARB'S CHOICE OF MAPPING PARTNER IS HEMA. HEMA HAS DELIVERED MAPPING AND NAVIGATION EXCELLENCE TO 4WDERS AND TOURERS FOR MORE THAN THREE DECADES. They produce Australia's most accurate and user-friendly navigation equipment and maps. Hema offers comprehensive Australian and overseas map coverage in a variety of forms including folded maps, atlases, guides and digital products such as apps and dedicated GPS navigation systems.

The job of collecting and updating this data falls to field teams known as the Map Patrol, who are responsible for exploring and mapping the vast array of off road destinations in Australia to keep Hema's map data accurate and up to date. Since 1996, Hema has GPS mapped over 690,000 kilometres of tracks and 545,000 kilometres of unsealed roads throughout Australia.

[FIRST AID]

SAFETY FIRST

AN OFF ROAD GETAWAY IS ALWAYS AN EXCITING TRIP TO PLAN BUT WHEN STAYING OUT IN THE BUSH OR IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE IT IS IMPORTANT TO HAVE SAFETY TOP OF MIND.



- Ensure your vehicle is well equipped and in good working order.
- Pack protective clothing and comfortable walking shoes (a good pair of hiking boots or shoes with lots of support can help prevent sprained ankles on uneven surfaces).
- Pack extra food and water in case you are stranded for a few days.
- Pack a fully stocked first aid kit.
- Participating in a first aid course is a good option if you intend to travel to rural areas with limited access to medical facilities.
- Pay attention to any signs and safety warnings in the area.
- Keep a close eye on weather conditions.
- Pack a map and compass.
- Bring your mobile phone in case of an emergency.
- If you are in a very remote location, take a sat phone with you.
- COMMUNICATION IS VITAL: Let someone know where you are planning to go, what tracks and when, especially when travelling alone. If you are travelling in a convoy, keep on the radios and if something looks unsafe, let everyone know.
- Set rules and boundaries for children to try and prevent accidents.
- Dehydration can creep up very quickly. Ensure everyone (especially the elderly and children) stay hydrated.
- Arriving at your campsite in daylight makes it easier to have a good look around for any potential dangers.
- Pack recovery gear to get your car out of a sticky situation including a shovel, snatch strap, winch extension strap, snatch block, tree trunk protector, gloves and shackles.
- Walk it first if in doubt, whether it be a hard track or deep water. It always pays to check.

FAMILY FIRST AID KIT



Fully stocked for the largest families or most remote area trips, the ARB Family first aid kit includes a comprehensive selection of bandages, gauze pads, dressings, an eye wound kit and a Snake and Spider Bite kit.

PERSONAL FIRST AID KIT



Ideal for smaller trips and individuals, the Personal first aid kit provides a comprehensive selection of bandages, gauze pads, dressings and more.

SNAKE AND SPIDER BITE KIT

Contains a cold pack, bandages and a comprehensive information booklet to help you easily identify poisonous snakes and spiders.



GETTING FIRED UP FOR AUSSIE MADE

ARB has been a proud Australian business since 1975 and never before has the feature of being Australian made been more valued.

Our Australian customers are both proudly and commendably patriotic, and during the current pandemic, the drive to buy Australian made has hit an all-time high. It's fair to say some people are getting really "fired up" about the subject, which led us to a great idea!



Fire Pit



Fire Pit



ARB'S AUSTRALIAN MADE FIRE PIT FROM AUSTRALIA TO THE WORLD

It could be argued that the pinnacle moments of many 4WD trips are those lost staring deeply and aimlessly into a red hot fire under a starlit night.

But fires can leave a bit of a mess in some of our most beautiful camping locations, so where there is no designated fire pit, we encourage the use of a portable one.

We love camping as much as you, so we got to work on designing our own ARB collapsible fire pit. What we've ended up with is a seriously sturdy and versatile solution that will be just as useful at home entertaining guests in the backyard as it will be at your favourite campsite.

ARB's primary business is located in the suburb of Kilsyth, the final frontier of metropolitan Melbourne before heading through the gateway to the Victorian High Country and Rural North East Victoria.

The ARB head office is more than just a white collar stable of administration and some 60 or so product engineers; it's also the primary location for the business's 19,000-square metre manufacturing facility where many of your 4x4 accessories were born, including this new fire pit.

Over 300 staff operate and maintain the laser cutters, lathes, presses, 33 manual welding bays, four robotic welders, mandrel pipe benders, powder coat lines, spray booths... the list goes on. Couple that with the 10-hoist garage of the onsite accessory fitting workshop and you've got the ultimate man cave.

Every ARB Fire Pit is made right here at ARB's manufacturing facility in Kilsyth, Victoria and will be sold worldwide alongside so many other ARB products.

A NEW BREED OF BLUESCOPE

One of ARB's largest suppliers for our range of steel products is Australian heavyweight BlueScope Steel.

Just as we do when we specify materials for all our ARB-branded products, there was to be no compromise on the steel for the ARB Fire Pit. Most importantly, it had to be fit for purpose; fire pits endure a hard life and there is nothing worse than a fire pit that rusts.

A call was put in to the specialists at BlueScope and they told us without hesitation they had just the thing.

REDCOR® is a new class of steel that won't rust but will age to a nice patina, thus giving it that weathered look.

After a few "research and quality testing" campfires, we were sold on the new solution by BlueScope.

Fire Pit



COLLAPSE AND CARRY

A fire pit for camping has to be portable and while the design of the ARB Fire Pit might not scream "revolution", we have added some key elements that make a good design great.

The base structure of the fire pit is a five-piece assembly, slotting together without requiring any tools. To ensure longevity and improved heat retention, all pieces are cut

from a solid three-millimetre sheet of REDCOR® steel. A base plate ensures the coals and associated heat remain in the pit, while the top edges are folded with integrated tabs to secure the included cooking grill.

The whole unit collapses down and fits neatly into the supplied Australian made canvas carry bag.



DID SOMEONE SAY, "COOKING GRILL?"

That's right, this isn't a half-baked solution (pardon the pun). The fire pit also comes complete with a cooking grill, which slots into the integrated tabs on the top edge of the pit. The plate utilises half of the pit's top opening and features both a grill and hotplate section.

The cooking grill is made from four-millimetre (.15 inch) mild steel and can be seasoned with cooking oil and a quality fire!

The fire pit will also accommodate common cast iron BBQ plates (320mm x 480mm / 12.59" x 19.89"), which can be sourced at most local hardware stores.

The pit also includes provisions to attach a spit motor and rod (not included).

Part Number: 10500200

SPECIFICATIONS

Packed Dimensions:

600mm | 23.62" (l) x 300mm | 11.81" (w) x 35mm | 1.57" (h)

Set Up Dimensions:

600mm | 23.62" (l) x 496mm | 19.52" (w) x 300mm | 11.81" (h)

Cooking Grill Dimensions:

580mm | 22.83" (l) x 272mm | 10.70" (w)

Pit Materials:

3mm | 1/8" RedCor steel by BlueScope

Cooking Grill:

4mm | .15" Mild Steel

Carry Bag:

Canvas bag with strap

Weight:

18kg | 39.68lbs



HOBBY TO OBSESSION

Words and Photography by Darren Thomas – Uncover Australia



Growing up in a remote Pilbara town in Western Australia was the perfect beginning to my love of exploring and travel. Every opportunity I had would be spent out bush swimming in waterholes and finding new places to set up my swag. My days were made up of working on the land and little did I know back then that my love of the bush and the lifestyle that came along with it would turn into an obsession that is now taking me all over Australia.

MY FIRST RIG

I never had too much as a kid but I didn't really need a lot because all I ever wanted to do was head out bush. As I got older, I realised that if I wanted to see more of Australia, I'd need to make some money to buy the right gear to do it.

My eyes were firmly set on a particular used 75 Series LandCruiser. This thing was rough and when I say rough, I mean really rough. Previously, it was a station car that had been dented by scrub bulls and there seemed to be more red dirt inside the cab than inside one of the nearby iron ore mines. But I didn't care about any of that because I knew it'd get me to all the places I wanted to explore and that was enough for me.

I think the bloke selling it realised how much I wanted it, so he kindly gave it to me on the condition that I'd help him out on his station in return. I can still remember the moment of being handed the keys like it was yesterday. That first turn of the ignition and the sound of the motor firing up. I'm sure as you're reading this, you can picture the stones hitting the inside of the wheel arches as I made my way down a dirt road with the window open on the way to outback freedom. Eventually, I pulled up next to a small creek and grabbed my swag out of the back, threw it on the ground, set it up, then stood back looking at my camp for the night... It was at that very second I realised I was hooked and I never wanted this moment to end.

THE GOOD GEAR

Over the years, I've travelled all over Australia. Because my old 75 'Cruiser broke down on many occasions, I've done it in various 4WDs (did I mention it was rough?). In the end, we cut the roof off the 75 and turned it into a bull catcher. Getting the opportunity to travel so much has given me the chance to learn a lot of bush skills and also what gear works well on and off the road.

It isn't always cheap to travel Australia but I worked out if you buy the right gear, it's going to outlast even the cleanest 75 Series! So I went with ARB. It's the only gear I've found to truly last in our harsh Australian conditions. Let's be honest, it can be 40°C plus in the shade and then be absolutely pouring with rain a few hours later, so I needed gear that could handle everything and I didn't really want to always be replacing products. I know I would rather pay once and use my money on more diesel.



TOYOTA NUMBER TWO

Fast forward to 2016, I finally reached a point of realisation that I needed to build a car that gets me out doing what I love without always needing a spanner thrown at it. I was also a little tired of my gear outlasting my 4WDs, so I decided the time had come to build something from scratch.

I took my obsession a few steps further and built a brand new dual-cab HiLux because I wanted a car that I could fit out with the best gear on the market, then take it out bush and push it through some of the most remote locations we've got here in Australia.

I walked into my local ARB store, sat down and discussed building a car that could handle my sort of travelling. And I wanted nearly everything ARB had to offer and wasn't willing to settle for anything less than the best. Pretty surprisingly, my wife pushed me to go for it, so we fitted it

out with everything ARB made for the HiLux. The ARB team worked tirelessly and, finally, the moment had come to see if my vision was going to pay off.

TESTING TIME

I strapped my swag to the roof rack, filled the car fridge and hit the road back up north to the Pilbara. I pushed the HiLux through rivers and across spinifex-covered land and anywhere else I could access. Being able to drive my new tourer through areas that some people will never get to experience in their lifetime was awesome. In fact, it was so good that I was practically begging my ARB store to make parts to replace the other Toyota factory gear that they were not currently making. If I could have it my way, I would even have an ARB steering wheel and stereo.

The feeling of being out bush in my new tourer was incredible; this car was fitted with all the latest technology of the brand my wife says I'm

obsessed with and rightly so. I spent a couple of years developing it and here I was, out in a gorge by a river enjoying a cold one and literally just staring at my new set-up.

I've spent countless hours talking with mates and my wife about how much I love being out there away from it all, being able to sit back with a fire going and the camp oven filled with a nice damper. One night, while enjoying a good chat by the fire, I realised I wanted to start taking people out bush with me on tours and small trips. The passion and experience I had developed would allow me to give others a chance to explore with me and learn some of the things the travelling life has taught me.



UNCOVER AUSTRALIA

I was never really into social media or anything like that until I found something I wanted to share. I started sharing a few family trip pics and weekend fun videos and updates for only a few interested followers. Then I started Uncover Australia, my tour business, which gives me the opportunity to bring a lot more information to more people. By this stage, I was giving the Hilux an absolute workout on deep river crossings, soft beaches, tracks like the Anne Beadell Highway, the Canning Stock Route and a long list of locations in various states.

In a recent trip, I'd covered 15,000 kilometres in five weeks, all over WA from the top end of the Kimberley through Kununurra, Drysdale River, Derby, Halls Creek, Gibb River Road, Broome, then zig-zagging my way across the state until I reached the south-west beaches for a refreshing cool change to end my trip.





UNFORGETTABLE ADVENTURES

The HiLux was loving every minute of it, and me, well, I was in my element. Even with some hair-raising experiences, like the time a scrub bull walked into my camp and decided he didn't like my swag or me and knocked my swag off my stretcher with me inside. The canvas was torn and my stretcher was bent.

And another time, being woken up during the night by something in my swag moving over my legs. Turned out to be a two-metre olive python, teaching me the valuable lesson that it's probably best to always zip up your flyscreen before you start getting on the beers. What's most surprising is that after drunkenly discovering him, I left the python in the swag until the morning and he just chilled out over my feet for the whole night.

These experiences may evoke a "Yeah, I'm going to stay home" mentality in you but it really just adds to the adventure for me. Over the years, I have stacked up a list of interesting stories of things that happen out bush. When you add up the thousands of kilometres, the days, weeks, months spent out bush, you quickly work out you wouldn't change a thing.



WHY ARB?

I have spent enough time on trips constantly breaking things, that's just what I do. I constantly have to explain to my wife why I need a new this or that, but the gear that never breaks (the gear she calls "Darren proof") is from ARB. She's always just as excited to head to our local store and play with the new gadgets, too.

I reckon there's nothing worse than saving up for something you really want for your rig for it to then break at the worst possible time. Trust me, that's normally when you're days away from help in the middle of nowhere: it's literally Murphy's law.

I would never consider using any other brand than ARB because if their products can handle the constant workload and abuse I put them through, then it proves how strong they really are. Let's be honest, adding the latest technology to your travels makes life easier. I know some of you are sitting there reading this and going, "Nah, I prefer old school." I can respect that but the truth is I have used old school for years and, in my opinion, going modern really does make life so much easier. It has changed the way I travel for the better and I really love how versatile the gear I've chosen has been for the variety of travelling that I do. And if you still wanna stick to old school, ARB has that gear, too.



THE LOSS OF A LOVED ONE

In a bitter twist of fate, I recently wrote off my HiLux on a water crossing. I found myself stuck in a waterway, the car quickly filling up with muddy water, which destroyed everything it possibly could, including the engine itself.

Assessing the car after the big clean-up, my ARB gear had outlived yet another 4WD. Thankfully, I was carrying the full ARB Premium Recovery Kit with the addition of a few soft shackles plus an extra ARB 11-tonne snatch strap, and we were able to recover the car and get towed back to town.

The HiLux has just recently been auctioned off with the buyer able to take off the accessories and add them to their HiLux so they can go travelling. It's a real shame my HiLux story came to an end but it's bloody good to see the products

outlive the car and still be out there doing what they are built to do.

Although I feel like I lost something so special in my 'Lux, I'm now able to focus new energy on the mammoth job of starting all over again, with a brand new build coming up very soon. And yep, you guessed it, everything will be ARB because travelling is just not the same for me without them on my journey. I'm pretty pumped to be revealing what the new car will be soon and getting back out doing what I love.

Thanks for reading, safe travels and I'll see you in 4x4 Culture Issue 61 as I start my next 4WD build.

Same Same But Different

Following the recent release of both the 2020 Isuzu D-MAX and Mazda BT-50, ARB development and engineering teams have been working tirelessly to produce an arsenal of new accessories.



AMES?

SEEING DOUBLE

After ending their 48-year partnership with Ford, Mazda's next generation BT-50 is the first ute to be jointly developed with Isuzu. Isuzu has made it clear that the vehicle itself was developed solely by Isuzu and supplied to Mazda as an OEM; however, both vehicles are built on the same production line in Thailand.

Sharing a huge number of components and similarities, they both have the same engines and capabilities and share the fundamentals of chassis and drive train. The 3.0-litre turbo diesel engine from the D-MAX is identical to the BT-50 and both have the same six-speed manual or six-speed automatic transmission. Both vehicles employ the same diff locks on their off road models and both have a maximum braked towing capacity of 3,500 kilograms.

The Mazda BT-50 is available in three models: the XTR, TR and GT. Isuzu is heavily targeting the fleet and trade markets with their new D-MAX and thus are releasing four models: the SX, LS-M, LS-U and X-Terrain.

In Issue 59 of 4x4 Culture, we explored the latest products for the Isuzu D-MAX and we can now confirm fitment to the BT-50. These

accessories include the ARB BASE Cab Rack, Summit bull bar, Summit side rails and steps, Classic canopy, Classic Plus canopy and ARB under vehicle protection, which are all available for both the 2020 on Isuzu D-MAX and 2020 on Mazda BT-50.

ASCENT CANOPY

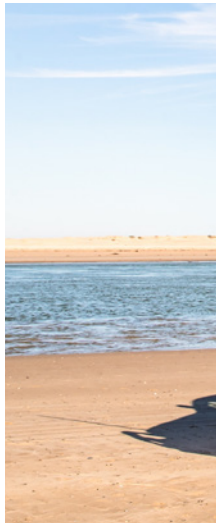
The design of the D-MAX and BT-50 incorporates new styling and prominent curves across the tailgate. ARB engineers were tasked with the challenge of designing a door that matched the styling of the canopy whilst creating a good seal against water and dust ingress.

Similar to the design of the Classic and Classic Plus canopies, the Ascent canopy incorporates a tailgate-mounted door stop that the door closes and seals against. This design offers superior integrated styling and excellent security against the tailgate being opened.

The Ascent canopy for the D-MAX and BT-50 is available in a smooth, painted finish and comes standard with two lift-up tinted side windows and clear lift-up front window. Side windows can be customised to the pop variant on request.



Same S B D



BED LINER

Designed to keep the bed of D-MAX and BT-50 tubs protected from dents and scratches, ARB's two-piece bed liner kit makes loading and unloading cargo a simple task. The original vehicle tub tie-down points are not only retained, they also form part of the retention system for the bed liner, keeping your tray practical and secure.

Manufactured from tough and durable polyethylene plastic, the bed liner has excellent UV stability and is easy to clean.

RECOVERY POINTS

ARB has been at the forefront of establishing an industry benchmark for how recovery points are designed, tested and selected by 4WDers. Developed to fit both the D-MAX and BT-50 – with either ARB frontal protection or OE assembly

– and rated for use with an 8,000-kilogram recovery strap and a 4.75-tonne bow shackle, the ARB Recovery Point can safely handle side loads on angles up to the maximum turn angle of the front of the wheels. The recovery point for the D-MAX and BT-50 fits with either ARB under vehicle protection or OE under panel and retains the OE tow point.

SUSPENSION

Whilst the D-MAX and BT-50 are off road capable, designing a vehicle that has a wide range of uses can result in having to satisfy everyone and thus many aspects can be compromised, and none more so than the suspension system. Anyone who is planning on upgrading their 4WD with accessories, carries regular constant loads, tows a trailer or needs more ground clearance for off road adventures will get more comfort and better

handling with an upgraded suspension system.

OME BP-51

With comfort and control second to none, ARB's BP-51 shock absorbers provide a comfortable and compliant ride during normal driving and a more controlled ride over challenging terrain. BP-51 is for customers who want the best in 4WD suspension.

The latest application of BP-51 High-Performance Bypass Shock Absorbers has been engineered specifically for the newly released Isuzu D-MAX and Mazda BT-50. Designed, developed and tested entirely in house, BP-51 is the ultimate in comfort and control.

Nitrocharger Sport

Nitrocharger Sport is the everyday shock absorber. Significant advances in key



ome2

componentry and valving technology mean the Nitrocharger Sport provides greater ride comfort and handling over all terrains. Unlike numerous aftermarket suspension systems, which are only available in a single configuration targeting lift height, OME offers a range of tuned and matched integrated suspension systems to ensure the right suspension is available to suit how the vehicle is outfitted and the conditions it will encounter.

With D-MAX and BT-50 sharing the updated utility platform, the OME engineers have developed a complete suspension system to transform the ride characteristics and cater for a vast array of loading scenarios.

GVM UPGRADE

Equipping and packing your 4WD for remote area travel or outfitting it as a workhorse can result in your vehicle's standard GVM being inadequate. When providing GVM upgrades, ARB ensures that the increase in a vehicle's GVM following the fitment of a complete suspension system meets the minimum ADR safety requirements.

ARB has successfully obtained Department of Transport and Regional Services (DoTaRS) approval to increase the GVM on new and unregistered Isuzu D-MAX and Mazda BT-50 vehicles. The GVM upgrade increases the OE GVM from 3,100 kilograms to 3,360 kilograms.

For more information on ARB accessories for your Isuzu D-MAX or Mazda BT-50, head into your local ARB store or stockist or jump onto our website at arb.com.au.

Front Axle Upgraded

ARB is excited to provide an upgraded front axle load-carrying capacity for a number of new vehicles through the fitment of an OME full suspension system including the Toyota HiLux, Ford Ranger, Toyota LandCruiser 200 Series and Toyota LandCruiser 70 Series.

WHY DO I NEED A FRONT AXLE UPGRADE?

The final weight over the front axle of your vehicle is often determined by the weight over the rear axle, as more rear axle weight will reduce the downward pressure over the front axle.

Therefore, loading and unloading of weight on the rear of a vehicle, such as unhitching a trailer or removing your touring gear, can play havoc with weight distribution across your front axles in accordance with the manufacturer's front axle load limits. A front axle upgrade gives 4WD owners peace of mind that a dynamic shift in weight distribution is being aptly supported across both axles.

TESTING AND VALIDATION

An extensive validation program was undertaken in conjunction with independent vehicle compliance engineers to ensure the integrity of the OME suspension system and related vehicle components at the new maximum loads. Significant investment in the validation program has been undertaken and detailed analysis was conducted including 3D suspension geometry scanning, shock dyno testing, track simulation testing, brake testing, electronic stability control testing and Finite Element Analysis.





FAQ

Does this increase my GVM?

This axle upgrade program only validates an increased front axle capacity; it does not alter the GVM of the vehicle and is not a GVM upgrade. Stage 1 and Stage 2 GVM upgrades are available for specific vehicles as a separate program.

Does this increase my rear axle capacity?

No, this axle upgrade program only validates an increased front axle capacity; the rear axle upgrade is only available as part of Stage 2 GVM upgrades and requires specific spring selection.

Does the front axle upgrade program apply to vehicles already fitted with OME suspension?

Yes, the front axle upgrade program can be fitted retrospectively provided the following conditions are met:

- Full OME suspension system is fitted.
- OME suspension system is still within the three-year warranty period.
- Correct front spring selection for the appropriate accessories is fitted.
- Label kit will need to be purchased and affixed to the vehicle.

Please contact your local store or stockist for more information.

VEHICLE APPLICATIONS

The upgraded front axle load is applied for customers fitting a full Nitrocharger Sport or BP-51 suspension system by an authorised OME licensed fitter. The vehicles now available for this upgrade and their upgraded capacity can be found in the table below:

Vehicle	Model Number	Original Front Axle Capacity*	OME Upgraded Capacity
Toyota HiLux	GUN 125/126	1,450kg	1,595kg
Ford Ranger	PXIII	1,480kg	1,630kg
Toyota LandCruiser 200 Series	VDJ200R/URJ202R	1,700kg	1,870kg
Toyota LandCruiser 70 Series	VDJ76R/78R/79R	1,480kg or 1,520kg (variant dependent)	1,540kg

Momentum Machine



An ARB Air Locker ensures your 4WD just keeps going, no matter the incline, no matter the conditions. You won't lose momentum – not even for a second. With just one push of a button, you're back on track!

Problem Solved

An ARB Air Locker solves the problem of drive being directed to a wheel that is off the ground or slipping. It replaces the factory differential centre and, when engaged, positively locks the diff to provide equal drive to opposing wheels. By directing the drive to where it's needed, you get vastly improved traction, allowing challenging terrain to be approached with control and confidence.

Carefully Created

ARB designs and manufactures Air Lockers in-house, using state-of-the-art machinery with a large group of highly skilled and specialised engineers. Each individual piece is carefully constructed to exact precision and each product is extensively tested to ensure you can trust an ARB Air Locker in the harshest of off road environments.

Benefits of an ARB Air Locker

- Provides the confidence to drive more difficult 4WD tracks
- Facilitates a controlled descent
- Air compressor can be used for tyre inflation
- Manufactured in Australia to Australian conditions
- Race proven technology
- Fully supported for parts and service globally
- Improved traction results in reduced track degradation
- Less chance of panel and mechanical damage
- Great for competition use

Nissan Navara Air Locker

This exciting new Air Locker application replaces the front internals in the front differential for Nissan Navara NP300 2015+ fitted with 3.69 and up gear ratios.

In order to continually improve the product, our engineers are constantly trying to break Air Lockers. We even built a specialised test rig to allow us to place torques on the Air Locker far in excess of what's possible in the field. In this static torque failure test, we used a high-performance Dana 44, 33 spline diff with the best axle shaft we could get our hands on to put the Air Locker to the ultimate test.

For total peace of mind, all ARB Air Lockers are backed by a comprehensive five-year, unlimited-kilometre warranty. Coupled with ARB's extensive domestic and international network of stores and distributors, Nissan Navara owners (and all ARB Air Locker owners) can be sure we'll be there to support you in the unlikely event of an issue.

Technical Specifications

Axle Spline	30 tooth, Ø33mm (1.21")
Ratio Supported	3.69 and up
Ring Gear ID	115.0mm (4.53")
Ring Gear OD	10 bolts on Ø142mm (5.59")
Ring Gear Bolts	58.8Nm (43ft-lb) then tighten additionally by turning a further 34° to 39°
Ring Gear Torque	225Nm (166 ft-lb)
Backlash	0.10-0.15mm (0.0004-0.006")
Bearing Cap Torque	93Nm (69 ft-lb)



RAM Ready

RAM 1500 owners will be excited to know that a rear ARB Air Locker is now available for their vehicle. Replacing the factory differential internals of the rear of a RAM 1500, the ARB Air Locker is suitable for all RAM 1500 models from 2011 onwards fitted with 9.25-inch ring gears and a C-clip axle.

Utilising a superior locking mechanism versus all other locking differentials on the market means that the ARB Air Locker can be engaged at any speed and smoothly disengaged at the flick of a switch. Convenient maintenance can also be carried out, if necessary, with a full range of spare parts available through ARB's extensive network.

Contact your local ARB store or stockist for more information.

Technical Specifications

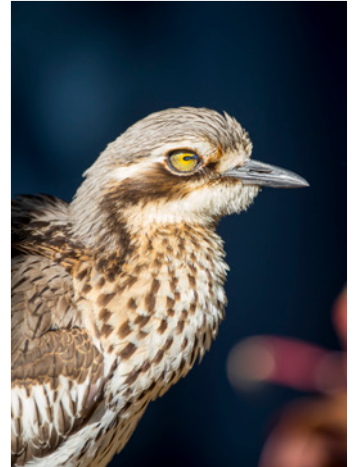
Axle Spline	31 tooth, Ø33mm (1.33")
Ratio Supported	All
Ring Gear ID	144.5mm (5.69")
Ring Gear OD	234.86mm (9.25")
Ring Gear Bolts	12 bolts on Ø180mm (7.09")
Ring Gear Torque	225Nm (166 ft-lb)
Backlash	0.12-0.20mm (0.0005-0.008")
Bearing Cap Torque	136Nm (100 ft-lb)

Inspiring Children's

CREATIVITY

While Camping

Words and Photography by Michael Ellem – Offroad Images



Photography has been an amazing creative outlet for many people over the years and it's part of everyday life in today's world.

With the smartphone being such an important part of nearly everyone's daily routine, it would seem that we are now all photographers. We can photograph anything and everything. We can capture a moment so easily and in so many ways. We also love to quickly share what we capture with the rest of the world.

So what happens when we head out to the bush on that family camping trip?

Sure, we should let the kids play and explore the location we have carefully chosen. But I also think a camping trip is a perfect opportunity to challenge kids in exploring their creativity through photography of a whole new world.

To be able to create an image and make somebody else smile is a powerful thing. This really could be the moment when a child sees photography as something rewarding, something that they can be great at and something that they might find worth putting the effort into.

So just how do we encourage kids to get creative while on a camping trip?

There are so many ways but here is a simple set of challenges for you to think about.





The first is to create theme challenges. But only for parts of the day.. this is not an all-day exercise.

You could pick a time to break them away from whatever else they are doing to take up the challenge of chasing a theme.

Examples of themes or topics could be rocks, wood, water, clouds or it could be reflections or textures or it may be critters and birds. Pick a theme that suits where you are to make it easier.

Gather them around with encouraging words while making sure that you provide enough information and guidance to get their minds busy thinking of all the things they could capture relating to the theme.

Remember, it doesn't matter if they are using a camera or a smartphone for these exercises as long as they are having fun.

Run around with them if you like but definitely encourage them during the exercises as this could be the reason that your child picks up photography as either a serious hobby or as a career.

After they have finished the exercise, get together around the campfire or your kitchen set-up to review the images. Remember, though, "no photo is a bad photo". You should ask them about each of their photos and try to get the story behind what they were thinking or what they were trying to achieve.

A reward and encouragement for their efforts in capturing great photos could be a lucky dip bag. Wrap up a bunch of items that you might have purchased prior to the trip like colouring pencils, colouring books, puzzle books or even items from a two-dollar shop and let the child select a random prize. This will give them something else to do during the camping trip and they will feel extra good about themselves.

This can be a lot of fun and I can almost guarantee you will see smiles on the kids' faces if you get involved and compliment them on their efforts. Who knows? It might even make you more interested in picking up a camera yourself.

SUMMIT PATROL



Y62 Series 5 owners who have been eagerly awaiting the release of the ARB Summit Bar will be happy to know that it is now in production. This newly developed bar is compatible with both winch fitment and the Y62's Intelligent Cruise Control (ICC) system and suits both Ti and Ti-L trim specifications.

Features

Whilst previous Y62 ARB bull bars have been full bumper replacements, the Y62 Series 5 ARB Summit Bar retains the top section of the bumper to maintain location and operation of the original equipment headlight washers. The Y62 Series 5 bar also includes:

- Durable steel construction for maximum protection
- ARB developed, engineered and manufactured an airbag-compatible mounting system to specifically spread impact and winching loads evenly over the vehicle's chassis
- Split pan design to enhance the strength of the bar, while providing the radiator and engine with additional airflow and facilitating winch access and operation
- Twin off road jack points located beneath each buffer
- Fully sealed and water-resistant LED indicators and clearance lights, ensuring increased service life with a modern look
- Two aerial brackets located on the top of the bar's centre tube
- Provision to securely mount driving lights, thus reducing excessive movement, a vibrating beam pattern, premature bulb failure and eventual fatiguing of the light bodies
- Ability to accommodate Warn, Bushranger and Smittybilt low-mount model electric winches up to 12,000 pounds and designed and tested to endure the rigours of maximum recovery stress
- Matte black powder-coat finish with the option to colour-code to vehicle colour

RAPTOR

Rapture



OME has developed a range of replacement coils to the OE shocks and struts for the Ford Ranger Raptor 2018 on.

OME Engineer Sean Spencer explains, “The coil development for the shocks on the Raptor was to get more height and to account for those adding a bar in the front and for those carrying additional loads in the rear.”

For the front coil, the OME engineers settled on a 25-millimetre lift. Whilst other aftermarket suspension providers may be offering a 50-millimetre lift, there was a very good reason why our engineers decided on 25 millimetres. “We have chosen the 25-millimetre lift because of the position sensitivity of the OE shock,” Sean

explains. “When we tried lifting to 50 millimetres, we found that road features such as speed bumps resulted in top out and it makes a pretty horrific noise.”

“Top out” is where the strut reaches full droop or full extension and is not a pleasant thing to hear in the vehicle. The way the OME engineers got around this and figured out the perfect lift height was to take the OE shock and test it on their dyno machine. “Testing this shock revealed the curves and the actual ride zone and settling on 25 millimetres meant that it had enough damping to catch it when going over certain road features. This was the sweet spot to also prevent what we call a transition stage, where it goes from ride into rebound and you potentially feel a type of tugging motion,” says Sean.

The 25-millimetre lift spring caters to front variations with either an OE or ARB bar.

For the rear set-up, OME engineers have created two different coil types. “To not overcomplicate things, you have an option for 25-millimetre lift over OE or 25-millimetre lift over OE with a 200-kilogram payload in the rear,” Sean explains. OME coils are backed by a three-year, unlimited-kilometre warranty and aftersales service that is unmatched by any other suspension company.

Contact your local ARB store or stockist for pricing and availability.

Ford Frontier



Ford Ranger Raptor and Everest owners have been waiting and it has finally arrived: the ARB Frontier diesel fuel tank. A replacement for the 80-litre OE tank, the Frontier tank replacement boasts a 120-litre capacity, giving Raptor and Everest owners a 40-litre increase over OE.



The Process

We strive for engineering integrity in the components we build and want to be sure that no matter the situation or where you are, you can get yourself out and back to civilisation.

The method for developing a Frontier long-range fuel tank begins with scanning. The process involves scanning the underside of the vehicle with the OE tank in location, checking clearances and measuring ground clearance beneath the tank. The OE tank is then removed and scanning continues of how it mounts to the vehicle, the routing of the fuel lines, the location of the venting valves and how they're positioned on the underside of the vehicle.

Then other accessories mounted beneath the vehicle, such as dual batteries or under vehicle protection, are assessed in place to see how much space is available to do an initial CAD model of the tank. This allows engineers to get an idea of how much extra capacity can be gained from a tank. Once the CAD model is completed, a foam model is CNC-machined to do an initial fitment trial.

This allows engineers to ensure it clears vehicle components like driveshafts and differentials when they're in full bump and full droop.

Other factors taken into consideration at this stage are the effects on ground clearance and ramp-over angle. The CAD model and Frontier tank tool is then supplied to our SmartBar manufacturer in South Australia who produces the first engineering sample. This sample is shipped back to the engineers in Melbourne who start fitment trials and finalise the tank strap design.

Once the design has been signed off, the tank is subjected to further in-vehicle testing, which includes rechecking clearances, ensuring the mounts for the straps pass requirements and finally performing a fuel volume and consumption test. Once testing is completed and signed off, production can begin back at the SmartBar manufacturing facility in South Australia.

Understandably, all of this can be a lengthy process but it is absolutely necessary to ensure maximum capacity, clearance and a product that can outlast Australia's harsh conditions.

Manufactured from resilient cross-linked polymer, each Frontier tank provides strength, rigidity and reliability, while also providing a significant weight reduction over steel long-range tanks. The UV-stable plastic material ensures these tanks will survive in the most hostile environments.

Features

- Made from durable and impact-resistant cross-linked polymer material
- Individually pressure tested
- No rusting or corrosion of the tank body
- Allows for flexing of the vehicle chassis
- Only 15 millimetres reduction in ground clearance over factory tank
- Easy and fast installation using factory mounting and filling points
- Made in Australia

OFF ROAD COOKING

Pork Belly Bites



WARNING: These are extremely tasty; however, overconsumption is not recommended for people with heart conditions. Eat at your own risk!

Ingredients:

2kg pork belly, skin removed
5 tbsp sweet dry rub
2 tbsp honey
150g butter, cubed
½ cup brown sugar
BBQ sauce

Optional:
Meat rub (a coffee-based rub works well)
Sour cream to serve
Coriander to serve

Method:

Cut the pork belly into four-centimetre cubes

Cover the pork belly cubes in the dry rub. If you have a grilling basket, put the pork belly in and grill over the campfire until you get a nice char. This adds a delicious smoky flavour but isn't essential to the process.

Add the pork belly cubes to a disposable BBQ tray that fits in your camp oven. Drizzle honey, sugar and cut up butter over the top. Cover the tray with foil and then put it in your camp oven.

Put the lid on the camp oven and cook with coals on top for 2.5 hours.

After 2.5 hours or when the pork belly cubes feel squishy, remove the foil. Add a few squirts of BBQ sauce and toss the cubes in the sauce and pan juices. Cook for another 30 minutes without the foil until the sauce mixture is sticky.

Serve immediately.

OFF ROAD COOKING

Fancy Bourbon Poached Pears



FANCY BOURBON POACHED PEARS

Ingredients:

2 ripe pears
1 cup brown sugar
½ cup bourbon
1 tsp cinnamon
Pinch of nutmeg
Splash of vanilla essence
Cream to serve

Method:

Preheat your camp oven to a medium temperature (one shovel of coals underneath, two on top).

Peel and halve the pears lengthways. Place them cut side up in a tin that will fit in your camp oven.

Mix the sugar, bourbon, cinnamon, nutmeg and vanilla and pour over the pears.

Place in the camp oven and cook for 20 minutes.

After 20 minutes, flip the pears in the syrup. Cook for another 10 minutes or until the pears are soft.

Serve with cream.

Clean and Covered

ONE-STOP SEAT COVER SHOP

Whether it be muddy boots or clothes, spilt drinks, kids snacking in the backseat, wet swimsuits, wet and slobbering pets, seat friction or harsh sunlight, these all have the potential to ruin and wear out your great looking seats. Luckily, we've got you covered.





ARB SEAT COVERS

For those weekend trips away, a day at the beach or even when you're taking your four-legged friend on your adventures, the ARB Car Seat Protector is a quick and simple way to protect your vehicle's seats from dirt, pet hair, sand and everything else when it comes to general wear and tear.

Made from heavy-duty washable polyester, the cover acts as a simple "throw over" and can be fitted in a matter of seconds by pulling it over the seat's back and cushion before fastening with the Velcro straps to secure. When not in use, it can be compactly folded and stowed away under the seat or in the glove box for easy access for next time adventure calls!

Features

- One size fits most.
- Quick and simple design allows for fast fitment in seconds.
- Easy to fold for compact storage.
- Heavy-duty washable polyester provides protection against direct and general wear.
- Not suitable for vehicles with seat airbags.

ARB SEAT SKIN COVERS

Designed with ruggedness in mind, ARB's Seat Skin seat covers hug beautifully to your vehicle's seats – while providing the same level of safety and comfort with in-built airbag stitching for rapid deployment in emergencies. Incorporating the popular topographic ARB print with highlight red stitching, these seat covers create a sleek look inside your 4x4.

Made from a thick three-millimetre premium thermoset elastomer fabric, ARB's Seat Skin seat covers provide an excellent and firm fit to keep overtime sagging to a minimum and prevent damage to the OE seats.

Independently airbag tested and certified, these seat covers utilise a high-quality stitch pattern from specialised Japanese sewing machines, providing a safe deployment of the SRS airbags.

BEHIND THE SHOTS

Solar Flare

We are extremely proud to have been working with ARB for over 18 years now and we have worked with many great people during that time.

We also love being involved closely with image concepts to assist ARB's Marketing department in creating the look they either know they are after or are searching for.

Whilst talking with Jackie from ARB's Marketing team about key images for different sections of the upcoming ARB catalogue, we were making good progress on what to use in different areas and also which new images would need to be specifically shot to add something different from what people have seen before.

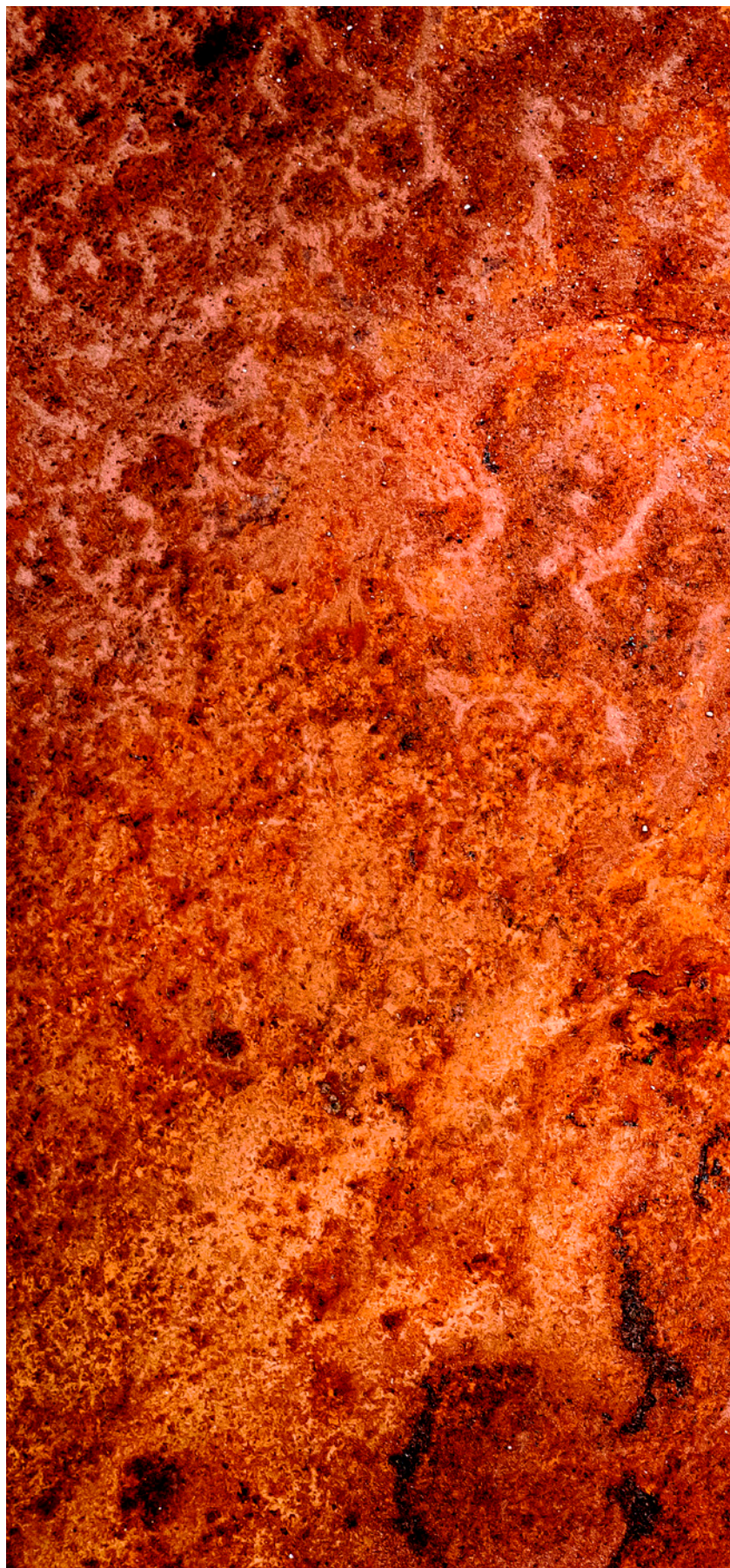
The solar section came up for discussion and, I have to admit, the idea of the right image came to me straight away. An image of an expedition-style vehicle with solar on the roof driving on a red clay pan with heaps of texture, leaving a set of tracks behind it and creating a really nice curve as it feeds back into the centre of the double-page spread.

So we were heading out to Broken Hill on a photoshoot for ARB for another vehicle and whilst there, after consulting with a property owner and gaining approvals to drive on their clay pan, we set out to find the one that would provide us with a variety of textures.

This was the result, which we are extremely pleased with – a shot where the vehicle almost looks like it's driving on another planet.

*Camera: DJI X5
Lens: 15mm
Shutter speed: 1/500 sec
Aperture: f4
ISO: 100*

Michael Ellem
Offroad Images

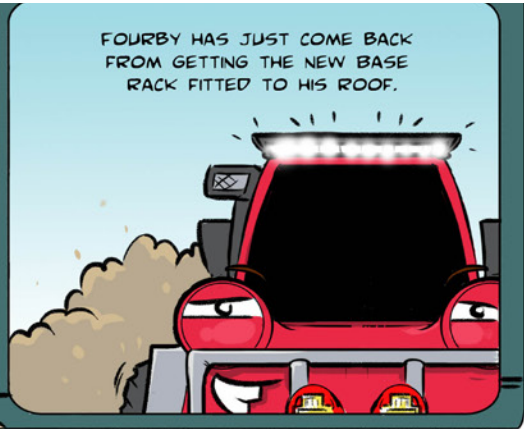




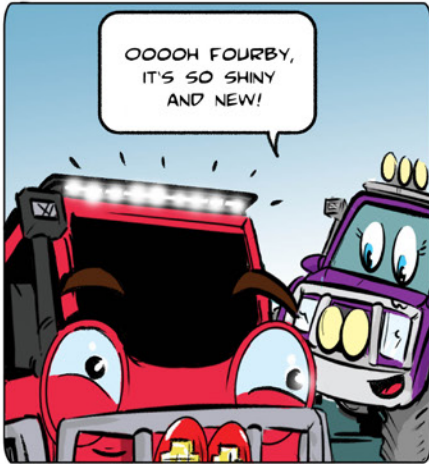
THE ADVENTURES OF FOURBY AND FRIENDS



FOURBY AND ARIEL ARE PACKING UP TO GO AWAY FOR THE EASTER LONG WEEKEND.



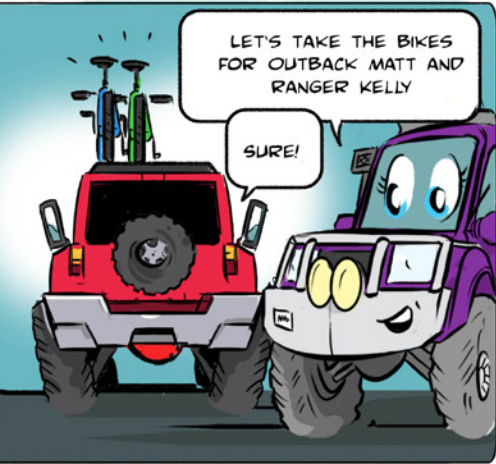
FOURBY HAS JUST COME BACK FROM GETTING THE NEW BASE RACK FITTED TO HIS ROOF.



OOOHH FOURBY, IT'S SO SHINY AND NEW!



I'M SO EXCITED ABOUT ALL THE EXTRA STORAGE ROOM I NOW HAVE. WE CAN CARRY HEAPS MORE FUN STUFF FOR ACTIVITIES!

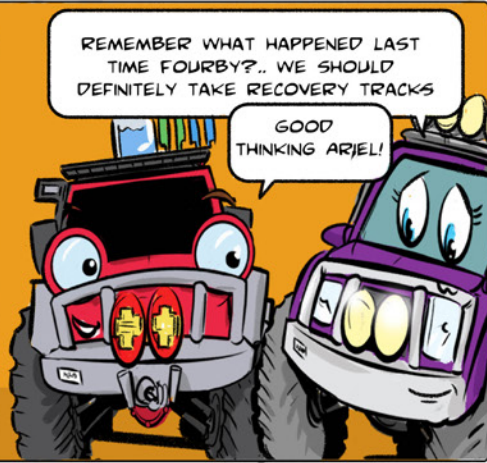


LET'S TAKE THE BIKES FOR OUTBACK MATT AND RANGER KELLY

SURE!



IT'S GOING TO BE HOT, LETS TAKE SOME EXTRA WATER

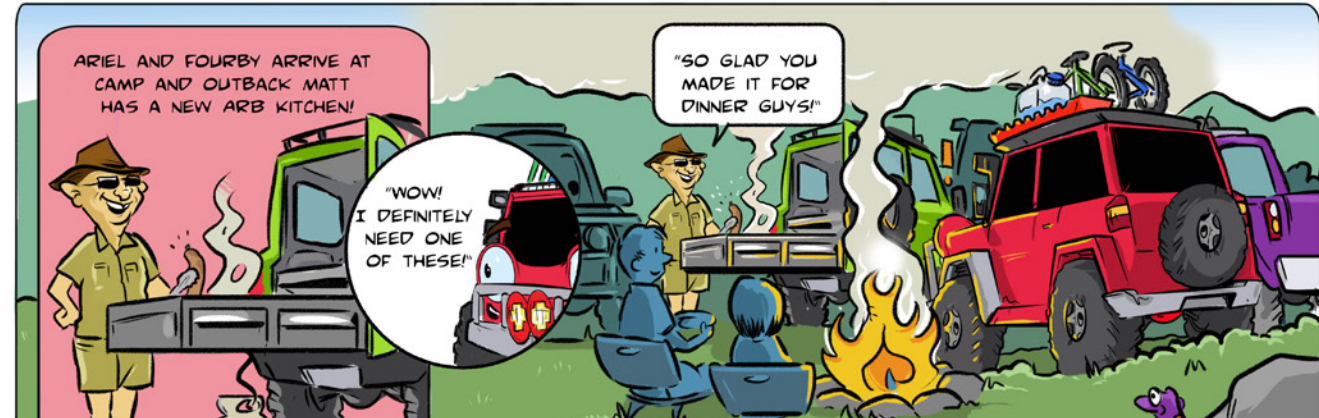


REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED LAST TIME FOURBY?.. WE SHOULD DEFINITELY TAKE RECOVERY TRACKS

GOOD THINKING ARIEL!



LET'S GET GOING ARIEL, OUTBACK MATT SAID HE HAS A SURPRISE FOR US!



ARIEL AND FOURBY ARRIVE AT CAMP AND OUTBACK MATT HAS A NEW ARB KITCHEN!

"WOW! I DEFINITELY NEED ONE OF THESE!"

"SO GLAD YOU MADE IT FOR DINNER GUYS!"

KIDS' CAMPING ACTIVITY IDEAS

Need some ideas to keep your kids entertained and active on your next camping trip? These good old fashioned activities are sure to keep your little tackers away from the screens and out in the scenery.

Toast
MARSHMALLOWS on
the
camp fire

Make some
MUD PIES

Go on a
**SCAVENGER
HUNT**

Play
FLASHLIGHT tag

Collect some
FIREWOOD

Take some
constellation
charts and
try out
STARGAZING

Build a **FORT** or
SHELTER

Challenge
someone to a
SLEEPING BAG
race

Make some
DAMPER

Dig up some
WORMS and go
FISHING

Grab some
binoculars
and go **BIRD
WATCHING**

Play capture
the **FLAG**

Find some
rocks to paint
PET ROCKS
when you get
home

Make a
HOPSCOTCH
board out of
sticks and
rocks

Play **HIDE &
SEEK**

CLIMB a tree

Make a tree
ROPE SWING

Build a **WATER
RAFT**

Make an
**OBSTACLE
COURSE** and
have time races
on it

Collect some
WATER for the
camp

Kingsley Side Steps

D-MAX Steps Up



Kingsley Side Steps

Since 1977, Kingsley Enterprises has been designing and manufacturing quality side steps for 4x4 utes and SUVs. For the first time, its entire collection of stepboards and side steps, including the Integra and Rogue, are now available for the entire all-new Isuzu D-MAX range.

The Kingsley StepBoard is made from bright anodised aluminium, with full-length grit tape to ensure non-slip vehicle access in even the most demanding conditions. Each StepBoard is carefully designed and engineered to suit the specific vehicle, ensuring a snug fit with the kickboard contoured to match the vehicle's side panel, which removes any risk of injury.

More than that, the StepBoard is an excellent



barrier against stones, mud or anything else the wheels might fling up at your vehicle. And each StepBoard has been engineered to be SRS side curtain airbag compliant.

If you're keen to make your D-MAX stand out from the crowd, then Kingsley's Integra Side Steps are the way to go. These are available in both black and bright anodised aluminium. The tough-looking black Integra Side Steps are coated in a hard-wearing AkzoNobel UV-stabilised powder coat that won't fade, ensuring they look as good in five years as they do right now.

Like the popular StepBoard, the Integra Side Step is designed and engineered to suit the

D-MAX to ensure it fits neatly and looks great. The black step pads are non-slip to ensure safe and easy access into your D-MAX no matter the weather.

Released in 2018, the tough steel Rogue Side Steps will make your new D-MAX look even better. These body-mounted steps are constructed from 51-millimetre tubing with a three-millimetre backbone, two-millimetre thick mounting plates, five-millimetre folded mounting brackets and two-millimetre thick step pads that can be removed to help with cleaning.

Coated in a hard-wearing polyester powder coat in a textured design that's both good-looking and functional, it has the added benefit of the

aggressive step pad design to improve grip no matter the conditions.

So no matter what look you're going for with your new Isuzu D-MAX, there's a tough-looking, locally designed and engineered Kingsley stepboard or side step to suit.

Contact your local ARB store or stockist for part numbers and pricing information.

**FIELD-TESTING
THE NEW
SMARTBAR
UNDER VEHICLE
ARMOUR WITH
PAT CALLINAN**



**UNDER
ARMOUR**

The 13th season of Pat Callinan's 4x4 Adventures has just wrapped up and we're sure you will have all noticed Pat's change from Volkswagen Amaroks to a Ford Everest and Ranger. But if you've got a really keen eye, you will have also spotted the brand new SmartBar Under Vehicle Armour installed on Pat's Everest.

While filming for Pat's TV program only took a few months, the places he visited would take most Australian adventurers years to travel to. This means that in a short space of time, Pat's rigs are "really put through the wringer", as he puts it. And with the underbody of any 4x4 the most exposed part, there was no better way to put the SmartBar UVA through its paces than under Pat's Everest.

If you haven't seen it, Season 13 of Pat Callinan's 4x4 Adventures saw Pat, his son, Bill, and Wes Whitworth drive the Border Track in South Australia, the Snowy Mountains, Barrington Tops, the New South Wales Goldfields and the golden sands of the Fraser Coast.

"We've really driven the Everest through all kinds of terrain while filming this year, including the extremely rugged Spanish Steps out the back of the Blue Mountains. It was really put to the test here," said Pat.

"The UVA has been peppered with rocks flicking up, we've bottomed out on all sorts of different terrain, we've hit tree roots and sticks, and it's been through mud, rock ledges and more. It really has been put right through the wringer."

"After three months of battle in the Australian bush, driving across some of the country's toughest terrain, there was very little damage to the UVA," Pat said.

"The biggest gash was maybe a millimetre deep, which is nothing at all given you've got 12 millimetres to play with. The whole unit has maintained its shape and that's one of the benefits of this sort of product. You can really belt it and it'll maintain its shape."

So what does Pat think about the SmartBar UVA? "It's definitely a thumbs up from me. It's done the important job of protecting the underbody of my Ford but on top of that, it's also corrosion resistant, heat resistant and importantly lightweight, because weight and doing whatever you can to minimise weight on your 4x4 while maintaining its capability off road is a big thumbs up from me."



WHAT IS SMARTBAR UNDER VEHICLE ARMOUR?

The SmartBar UVA is constructed from non-corrosive, heat-resistant (it can handle exhaust temperatures and DPF burn-off without worry), UV-stabilised cross-linked polymer that features a deep rib structure to ensure strength across the entire panel. This is the same material used in ARB's Frontier long-range fuel tanks.

The beauty of SmartBar's cross-linked polymer is that it can take a hit and revert back to its original shape meaning the underbelly of your Ranger or Everest is protected in the gnarliest terrain.

Manufactured in Australia, the SmartBar UVA is designed to suit the Ford Ranger (PXII and PXIII) Everest and BT-50 as a complete replacement unit, providing greater coverage than other underbody protection systems. And despite measuring 12 millimetres thick, the SmartBar UVA is light, weighing just 8.6 kilograms fitted.

The SmartBar UVA comes with reinforcing brackets to protect the vehicle's transfer case with the shape of the UVA designed to also protect the CV joints. Out of the box, the SmartBar UVA is in three parts, making installation and removal for servicing a cinch.

Competition Winners



Amy Priestly, NSW



Brett Wilson, NT



Ian Bellert, NSW



Chelsea Wood, SA



Jade Dodkin, NSW

CAMPING THERAPY

Competition Winners

We asked for your most relaxing camping images and we got through some beauties! Here are our favourites. Each published entry wins a Horizon Light pack worth over \$200! Check out page 113 to enter this edition's competition.



Brooklyn James, VIC



Peter Holloway, TAS



Simon Taffs, NSW



Donald Speldewinde, WA



Steph Murphy, QLD

Sandy Summer COMPETITION

Send us a pic of your sandiest adventure for a chance to win a summer pack worth **\$129.00!**

Send your photo to promotions@arb.com.au and make sure to include your name and address.

Competition closes 31 August 2021



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