

## DIRECTION WIDE OPEN

ROAMING



Sidecar and rig.

WHERE DO YOU WANT TO RIDE NEXT?

# RVING WITH A MOTORCYCLE

BY LUCINDA BELDEN

Choosing a location is different from choosing your destination. You probably already know where you want to go because you have been planning on taking that certain motorcycle trip for a while. But choosing the exact location for your arrival takes a lot of planning for full-time RVers and recreational RVers. There are steps we take in finding a location to reduce stress and increase our opportunity of finding the best spot.

**Plan Ahead.** Popular destinations can become full very fast. In fact, some are booked months in advance and others you can't get into unless you book at least a year in advance. The more popular it is, the sooner you should book. If you are planning a trip to Sturgis and want to stay in the middle of the action, you can expect up to a year of pre-planning to get that spot.

**Follow the RVers Rule.** RVers use an unwritten rule of 3-3-3. That means only driving 3 hours a day or 300 miles and arriving before 3pm. This is an important rule that is wise to adopt. It

is different driving a rig hauling motorcycles. Expect delays getting in and out of gas stations, finding places to eat or even taking a break. If you get an RV breakdown, you will want to be traveling during business hours to get any service assistance. You also don't want to arrive in the dark and try to set up — even if you are an experienced RVer. If the location you want to enjoy is several days' travel, break it up into small drives and enjoy the stops along the way as part of your getaway. We like to use a membership called HarvestHost.com. For one annual membership you can stay for free at wineries, museums, breweries, farms and more.

**Look for Recommendations.** Social media can be your friend in this scenario. Take the time to check out groups online that specialize in RVing (even better if they focus on RVing with Motorcycles). Ask for recommendations and experiences the group has had with specific campgrounds. Even better, if you already have an RV or know what RV you will be traveling in, you can ask how the campgrounds handle spe-







Sunset from our front door.



Our rig at Twin Coves.



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Cindy at Ride Texas booth with Reyn.

cific types of RVs. Ask about your motorcycle at the campgrounds too. Some have special services or amenities for you.

**Look NEAR Your Destination.** You are heading out on this trip to ride. Why not stay an hour away from the core area you are interested in. It will give you another 'reason' to ride. Look up the roads between you and your destination. You will want to find a location near your destination that has interesting roads to ride in and out. It is optimal to find one that has multiple routes you can take in and out if you plan on exploring multiple days.

**Ask the Right Questions.** There are questions the RV camp-



Presentation area and rig.



Beer tasting on travels.

ground will ask you; what type of RV do you have? How long is your RV, and how many people are you traveling with? Questions they may not ask but you should be:

- Are motorcycles permitted in the campground?
- Is the space I'm in big enough to unload my motorcycle or do I need to unload it prior to arriving at my site?
- Will I be able to park my motorcycle by my rig?
- If you are hauling your bike on a trailer: where do I park my trailer after unloading?

**Stay Longer.** Staying longer gives you a better return on your investment. Generally staying a week will get you a free night, staying a month gets you about a free week. There are exceptions but that is a basic rule of thumb you can go by. But it is good for choosing a location too – because you have more days to ride in case of bad weather. And if you find a good riding



Our campsite.



area, you have time to go back and check it out again.

Just in case you don't have a destination in mind, that's OK too. We usually pick where we want to go next based on where the next best motorcycle rally or event is taking place. Join us for the first rally ever that is all about RV-ing with Motorcycles. Put **Direction Wide Open RV & Motorcycle Rally** ([dwo.net/rally](https://dwo.net/rally)) on your calendar for this September 22-25, 2022. We will be riding the Twisted Sisters and a new ride being introduced by the Bandera County Convention and Visitors Bureau called the Texas 8. 📍

Lucinda ("Stingray") and Will ("CaptainPalapa") work and travel full time in their Grand Design Fifth-Wheel Toy Hauler. Follow them on facebook @DirectionWideOpen or visit <https://dwo.net>.