



PUBLISHER'S NOTE

RV/Bus Trends this Summer



GARY HATT

There is a lot of interest this year in RV/bus travel. Last year's Coronavirus created a feeding frenzy for RV purchases and many RV sales lots sold out quickly as demand could not keep up with supply. Many RV lots still today, have very few units available so buyers are not able to be as selective as they could be in the past and many units are sold as soon as they hit the lots. To order the floor plan you prefer may take up to six months and most people were not willing to wait so they took what they could get.

Campgrounds are also hitting record attendance levels. National parks are turning RVer's away in record numbers. Many destination campgrounds are reaching capacity levels much earlier than in past years and the capacity is overflowing to other more transient campgrounds.

RVs are perfect for social distancing as RVer's tend to spend much more time outdoors, instead of inside crowded planes, restaurants, hotels, and bars. Even campground spaces are spread out more than hotels and motels. Also, RVs are much more versatile as you can go almost anywhere you want, enjoy a quiet night's sleep and wake up to outstanding views in the mornings.

People are buying RVs and buses in record numbers as they are considered the safest way to travel, not only during the pandemic but anytime. With so many people still working from home, many are setting up make-shift offices in their RVs and staying longer in RV parks,

making it difficult to obtain reservations in many popular destinations.

Used bus conversions are selling at record levels as well. They make great home offices. We sell two to four bus conversions each month in our magazine. Some sell so fast that they do not even make it into the magazine and sell as soon as we post them on our website. Our Classified Ads are getting more page views than ever before. There are some great deals out there on bus conversions and many of the above-average conversions sell very fast.

Many people are first-time buyers and some will discover RVing is not for them. After COVID-19 is over, there will be some great deals out there on used units starting as early as this fall. Many will no longer be able to work from home as they have in the past year. This will also pertain to bus conversions, but most bus conversion owners, tend to keep their units longer than the average RV purchaser, as they are built to last, unlike the disposable RVs they are building now.

I suggest that if you plan to go to a popular tourist spot, go after Labor Day when most of the schools are back in session. Not only are there fewer rigs in the parks, but sufficiently fewer people. By then, most rigs only have one or two people in them, not the usual families that fill up the parks in the summer.

So, get out there and enjoy the great outdoors and enjoy your bus. Buses are made to run, so use them as often as you can.

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