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February 2023 Newsletter from Air Safe Hitches

## February 2023

Newsletter

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### Make Welcome Centers your first stop when you cross state lines.

By **RV Travel** January 23, 2023

Whenever you enter a new state on your travels, make the State Welcome Center or Visitor Center your first stop. You will find one in nearly every state, usually at the first or second exit along main highways upon entering the state. They are well-signed and easy to find – and also have parking for big rigs. It will save you time and money if you intend to explore the new area you have entered.

These centers (also called visitor information centers and tourist information centers) are loaded with state and local maps, lists of campgrounds from primitive to RV resorts – even boondocking (dispersed camping) locations, discount coupons for events and attractions, promotional offerings, scenic drives and areas, schedule of state events and celebrations, wildlife viewing areas, local bird lists, and a restaurant guide – along with availability of senior and early diner discounts.

And don't be afraid to ask for anything you think you might want to do – after all, the personnel and volunteers are there for one reason, to make your visit pleasant and to encourage you to stay longer. The longer you stay, the more money you will spend in their state – and if you had an enjoyable visit, you are likely to return. So you will find them very knowledgeable and helpful.

Some welcome centers even allow a free one-night stay – sometimes with a dump station and electrical hookup – giving you plenty of time to relax and plan an itinerary for your visit and route.

If you didn't find enough information on boondocking, ask them for the location of the nearest U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management offices where you can pick up even more maps and directions to dispersed camping areas. Also search online for the locations of welcome centers by doing a Google search: "(type state name) Welcome Centers".

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## RV fitness equipment: Staying in shape on the road

By Cheri Sicard

For anyone who wants to stay in shape and keep up their fitness routines while on the road, Jared Gillis from All About RVs has some RV fitness equipment tips and advice.

This RV fitness equipment does not take up a lot of space nor does it weigh a lot. Nonetheless, it can still help you achieve your fitness goals, wherever you travel.

Jared starts his recommendations with fitness equipment and activities that allow you to get out and enjoy your surroundings wherever you travel while being active. These include:

- **Hiking and walking shoes:** These will encourage you to take advantage of your surroundings and get out there and walk!
- **Bikes or electric bikes:** (with the electric part turned off) are also great ways to stay fit while exploring.
- **Paddle boards:** While large, they pack flat and allow you to explore your area on water while getting a great total body workout.

Beyond fun, active recreational activities, Jared also recommends a number of lightweight high performance items:

- **Fitness bands:** weigh next to nothing but provide resistance for strengthening exercises and stretching. There are a HUGE array of different workouts you do with these. Some are simple, others more complex. Jared, however, does not recommend you use your RV doors or walls to attach the bands to, as they are not meant for this kind of stress. But there are many bands that don't require this. Check out the video for details. Resistance bands are also inexpensive.
- **A jump rope:** packs small and weighs next to nothing but can provide you with a great cardiovascular or endurance workout, plus it can be lots of fun.
- **Your own body weight:** there's nothing to buy here, but Jared talks about how you can use your own body weight for effective resistance exercises.
- **Max Pro Cable Home Gym:** for those serious about fitness and who don't mind making a substantial investment, this compact product, featured on Shark Tank, takes the place of traditional weights. The small unit only weighs 10 pounds, but you can dial it to "lift weights" from 5 pounds to 300 pounds. While you are not carrying weights, the device mimics the feel of weightlifting, so it is not providing resistance in the same way the bands do. Check out the video for details.

- **Fitness Trackers:** such as those by Fitbit and Apple Watch, can help keep you motivated and gauge your progress. You can even download apps on your current phone.

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## 16 ways bungee cords can make RVing life easier

By **Gail Marsh** January 22, 2023

Bungee cords come in a variety of sizes and strengths (this is the variety pack I like and suggest). You may already use them to secure the RV cupboard doors during travel days by wrapping the cord through the cupboard's opposing handles. There are so many ways that bungee cords can make RVing easier.

*Note: When attempting to fasten a screw or other mounting device to your RV walls, take special care. The walls can be flimsy, and you don't want to harm your rig.*

### Hang it up

- **Lanterns.** A bungee cord can brighten up your campsite as it holds a lantern from a nearby tree branch or from the middle of your screened tent.
- **Hammock.** If you're camped in a spot that allows it, use heavy-duty bungee cords to securely fasten a hammock between trees.
- **Clothesline.** Need to dry those swim towels? A bungee can make a temporary clothesline for you.
- **Cords, hoses, and wires.** We use a variety of bungee cords to help corral our electrical cords, hoses, and more in our RV basement. Once secured, we hang the cords, etc., from a pegboard hook.
- **Paper towels.** Run a bungee cord through the paper towel tube and then fasten the bungee cord from your grill or picnic table. The towels will be within easy reach and not be blown away by the wind.
- **Pan lids.** Horizontally fasten two bungees to the inside door of a kitchen cabinet. Slip cooking lids between the cords for easy storage.

### Keep it together

- **Trash can.** Keep the outdoor trash can liner secured. Place the liner inside the can as usual. Then pull the liner up and over the top lip of the bin and secure it in place by wrapping a bungee cord around the can and liner. Use two additional cords to keep the lid from blowing away. Hook the cords in the shape of an "x" over the lid and hook the cords on the trash can handles.
- **Lawn chair repair.** Weave the cords across the backrest or seat of a broken lawn chair for an emergency fix.
- **Grocery bags.** Keep those grocery bags upright all the way home from the store. Here's how: Line up the bags in a row. Thread a cord through the handles of all the bags. Then fasten the cord ends on the hooks found on either side of the truck bed.

- **Fire extinguisher and propane tanks.** Use bungee cords to keep fire extinguishers upright and secure. The same goes for propane tanks.
- **Basement items.** Keep your water softener, tool chest, and other items upright and secure with a bungee cord. We've attached D-rings to the basement walls and fasten bungee cords from the rings.
- **Tablecloth.** Keep your picnic tablecloth in place by wrapping a bungee cord around each end of the table.
- **Shoe holder.** Horizontally fasten two cords to a wall near your RV door. Tuck sandals and flip flops behind the cords to keep footwear handy when needed and out of the way when not.
- **Map trapper.** Use a horizontally mounted bungee cord to hold your road atlas, maps, books, and magazines in your RV. Simply open the book and tuck one side behind the cord and let the other side rest outside the cord.
- **Wheel covers and more.** Bungee cords will help secure covers to your RV tires. They can also help secure bicycles, kayaks, or other items you take along when camping.
- **Exercise.** Bungees can be used in place of exercise tension bands.

## Millions More Consumers Are Camping Now Than Ever Before

### Richard Kestenbaum

According to a study by campground search and review app The Dyrty, about 20% of Americans went camping last year with more than eight million of them doing it for the first time. Forty percent of those newbies said they tried camping either to be with family and friends or to get outdoors.

The demand from new campers made campsites much harder to get. Campers said it was three times harder to book a campsite in 2021 than before. Campers found it harder in the Western states than elsewhere, with Rocky Mountain state campers experiencing the most frustrations. The hardest campsites to find were the ones for trailers and RVs.

Forty percent of new campers identified as BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and People of Color), up by 68% from the previous year. That's a huge change for an active outdoor sport.

Campers like their comforts while they're roughing it. Over 40% of campers came with their dog and the #1 one favorite drink of campers last year was local craft beer.

It's clear that the pandemic motivated growth in camping. But the decision to camp was not impulsive, most campers planned and booked their expedition at least several weeks in advance and used a mobile app or website to find their campsite.

Last year, the five most searched for camping destinations on The Dyrty were Denver, the Grand Canyon in Arizona, Seattle, Moab, Utah (the entry point to two major national parks) and San Diego.

### Why This Is Happening

There are other reasons besides, “It’s the pandemic, stupid,” for why camping surged more than other types of outdoor recreation.

Camping is accessible, less expensive than other vacations. It can be done close to home. Work-from-campsite also made it more possible for a lot of people with almost one-quarter of campers saying they did just that last year, up by almost 50% from the year before.

### **Will It Continue?**

Kevin Long, Co-Founder and CEO of The Dyrty, told me that camping gear companies had an explosive year. With as many consumers having invested in new equipment, Long believes they will keep on camping even as the pandemic becomes less intrusive in order to get a return on their investment in their new stuff. That will also encourage innovation in camping equipment which will make it yet easier for novices to try camping.

Long also believes that remote working is a key driver for the long-term growth of camping. And camping is consistent with consumer values that are trending like authenticity, experiencing the natural environment and sustainability.

As camping grows, existing campgrounds will get even harder to book in the future. That has already led to the growth of “dispersed camping” where various types of public land are used for camping rather than designated campsites. That will undoubtedly lead to camping being more visible to non-campers than in the past.

As the pandemic becomes a less important motivator of consumer behavior, anything can happen in the camping industry. But with so many people having tried it and with camping being consistent with so many consumer interests, it seems likely that growth may be slower in the future but camping’s growth will continue for years. That makes camping, camping equipment and camping culture a focus for brands and retailers to be mindful of for at least the next several years.

## **5 camping trends of 2023: More campers, more money, more problems**

By Spencer McKee

Popular camping resource The Dyrty has released their '2023 Camping Report' – this year's annual dive into various aspects of camping around the United States.

Here are 5 key takeaway trends from the report, which can be found [here](#).

**1. Camping more difficult:** Surveyed campers reported that it was 5-times more difficult to find available campsites in 2022 compared to 2019 (and roughly twice as difficult year-over-year), partially due to a large influx of new campers during the pandemic era. With an estimated 80 million campers in the US in 2022, 7.2 million camped for the first time in 2022 and 15.5 million camped for the first time over the past two years.

The recent trend of 'advanced booking' campsites, which has seemed to explode since 2020, was also deemed a contributing factor in 'camping difficulty', dubbed the 'most difficult thing about camping,' with 35 percent of campers stating that 'most advanced bookings being full' was the top challenge when planning a trip. It's also worth noting that 16.4 percent of campers said they experienced problems with 'first come, first serve' campsites being full.

**2. Glamping:** 'Camping in style' is getting more popular. Not only were 44.8 percent of campers using RVs in 2022, 'glamping' was up 10 percent year over year. Property managers adjusted campsites accordingly, with 44 percent of managers that added new types of camping to their site in 2022 opting to add glamping-specific options.

It's also worth noting that over half of campers camped in a vehicle, with these 'campers on wheels' two times more likely to bring a laptop and six times more likely to bring a television. Granted, it's no surprise more people are taking advantage of these luxuries – 44.6 percent of campers had a household income above \$100,000 in 2022, compared to 39.5 percent in 2021.

**3. Remote work campers:** Campers continue to bring the 'work place' to the outdoors. According to The Dyr, 23.8 percent of campers said they worked remotely from their campsite in 2022 – roughly the same share of campers compared to 2021.

**4. Going solo:** Solo camping is on the rise. The Dyr reports that their camping community saw a 28 percent increase in solo campers between 2021 and 2022. That being said, 57.1 percent of all campers camped with pets (91 percent dogs/6.8 percent cats/2.2 percent other).

**5. Prices increase:** Camping is getting more expensive. An estimated 48.6 percent of property managers raised rates in 2022, with another 46.4 percent looking to do the same in 2023. While prices are on the rise, those taking 11 or more trips per years ('avid campers', 13.4 percent of all surveyed campers) were more likely to have a household income of less than \$50,000.

## **Does Auto Insurance Cover Towing a Trailer?**

**Liability coverage usually extends to your trailer if it's connected to your car.**

Auto insurance does cover towing a trailer under most circumstances, but coverage is relatively limited. It's common for drivers to consider additional coverage on top of the liability insurance that comes standard for trailers with most policies.

Our team reviewed the best auto insurance companies and identified the top overall options. We'll run through those choices along with explaining some ways to protect both your vehicle and your trailer while out on the road.

### **In this Article**

- **Does Liability Insurance Cover a Trailer Being Towed?**
- **Do Collision and Comprehensive Insurance Cover a Trailer Being Towed?**

- **Reasons To Consider Trailer Insurance**
- **Our Recommendations for Auto Insurance**

### **Does Liability Insurance Cover a Trailer Being Towed?**

In most cases, your car coverage will include bodily injury and property damage liability insurance for a trailer that's actively being towed. The majority of policies mention that the trailer must be connected to the covered vehicle during the incident to receive insurance coverage.

While most auto insurance policies will extend liability coverage to trailers, that's not always the case. Always read the fine print of your policy before assuming that your trailer will receive liability insurance.

### **Times When Your Trailer Will Likely Be Covered**

Three key requirements are needed for towing a trailer to be covered by your car insurance policy:

- You own it
- It's connected to an insured towing vehicle
- It's a covered type of trailer

Car insurance coverage plans often vary in terms of which trailers are permitted and protected. Don't assume that the same types of coverage are available for travel trailers and campers as for utility trailers or horse trailers. Also be aware that all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) and recreational vehicles (RVs) being towed often won't qualify for your liability coverage.

It's never a good idea to assume that you'll get trailer coverage. Speak to an insurance agent about your policy or check your contract's declarations page to make sure you'll actually receive the protection you expect.

### **Times When Your Trailer Likely Won't Be Covered**

Most insurance policies will list out excluded trailers instead of the included trailers. If you're towing any of the following, it is unlikely that your regular auto insurance policy covers it:

- Rental trailers
- Wagons that carry people
- Trailers used for most business purposes
- Top carriers on your car
- Other towed vehicles

Your insurance policy may include a disclaimer saying that it won't cover trailers unless they are considered roadworthy. Another situation where it won't be covered is if your insured car is not suitable for towing a trailer. For example, your insurance provider may deny a claim if you overload a small car with a trailer that is too large.

You may notice that trailers towed for business purposes are not covered by your regular auto insurance policy. You would need commercial trailer insurance for this, and should add business car or truck insurance for any motor vehicles used mainly for your company.

### **Do Collision and Comprehensive Insurance Cover a Trailer Being Towed?**

Liability auto insurance usually does cover towing a trailer, but it's a different story for both comprehensive and collision insurance. Most auto policies won't cover physical damages to the trailer itself, let alone anything it is holding. You also won't have coverage after natural disasters or instances of theft or vandalism.

Keep in mind that liability insurance only covers damages to others and their property after an at-fault accident. In other words, you'll receive no protection for your own trailer unless you opt for comprehensive or collision insurance. You also won't receive payouts for personal injuries that occur due to at-fault accidents involving your trailer.

Check your insurance policy before buying additional collision or comprehensive coverage. Some policies automatically extend full coverage auto insurance to attached trailers, though most don't.

### **Reasons To Consider Trailer Insurance**

There are many instances when auto insurance for towing a trailer may be the right coverage option. You'll only have liability coverage unless you purchase extra protection, and this leaves you financially responsible for any repairs your trailer needs.

#### **You Want Coverage All the Time**

Your trailer's liability coverage will only apply when it is hooked up and connected to your insured vehicle. If your trailer spends a lot of time in storage or just sitting on your property, it's not covered. Your home insurance may possibly cover it when not in use, but there's no guarantee on that.

More importantly, your trailer won't be covered if you travel, park it and disconnect it from your car at your destination. If an accident occurs, neither your homeowners insurance nor your auto insurance policy will cover the trailer. That's when an additional trailer policy could be helpful.

#### **Your Lender May Require a Policy**

Trailers can be expensive, and many people finance them rather than buying a model outright. If your trailer still has a loan on it, your lender will likely require trailer



insurance on your contract. Ways to find cheap car insurance or trailer coverage include increasing your deductible and comparing quotes from various providers.

### **You Are Renting the Trailer**

Remember that your standard auto insurance policy will only cover trailers that you own. If you're renting a trailer, your standard policy will not cover it. Instead, ask the company that your trailer is being rented from to walk you through their insurance policies. You should be able to purchase additional coverage through most trailer rental providers.

### **Our Recommendations for Auto Insurance**

Whether you need extra coverage or want to make sure that towing a trailer is included, the best way to get multiple auto insurance quotes is by using a comparison tool. It would be smart to consider options from GEICO, USAA and Progressive to insure both your vehicle and trailer.

## **Planning? The Ultimate List of Spring Road Trips for RV Enthusiasts (2023)**

### **Mike Wendland January 21, 2023**

Since most campgrounds still need to be booked months in advance, it's never too early to start planning for spring.

But when it comes to mapping out your springtime road trips, it can be overwhelming to try and figure out where to go.

Rest assured, there's something for everyone, whether you prefer scenery (mountains, deserts, forests, plains, or coastal views) or historic sites, food, or wineries.

### **Joshua Tree National Park, California**

The scenic drive through Joshua Tree National Park covers about 70 miles if you drive straight through, but it's recommended that you plan on spending at least four hours because you'll want to take detours for enjoying panoramic views, climbing on massive rock formations, strolling through the cactus garden, marveling at an oasis, and finding the perfect Joshua Tree for your photos.

Abundant rain can lead to a good season for wildflowers.

Drive East on I-10 for about an hour to Cottonwood Springs Road (exit 168) and the park's south entrance. Your first stop will be the Visitor Center, and then on through the Colorado Desert environment, around sea level. You'll see ocotillo featuring tall branches tipped by bright red blossoms.

Of course, you must see the "tree" that gave the park its name, coined by early Mormon settlers who likened its branches to arms outstretched in prayer.

## **Miami to Key West, Florida**

Covering about 150 miles, take US-1 south, heading through historic Coconut Grove, past the University of Miami, and on along either South Dixie Highway (US-1) or Ronald Reagan Turnpike (toll road), past the farms of Homestead to Florida City and US-1 South, which turns into the Overseas Highway.

Start at Mile Marker 126 and count down the distance to Key West. Key Largo will be the northernmost of the Keys and offers a place to call your first stop.

John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park, the first undersea park in the country, offers, among other things, snorkeling, scuba diving, and glass-bottom boat tours. Islamorada begins in the middle Keys and is a favorite of fishing fans and a place to browse for souvenirs.

Marathon Key, actually 13 islands, is known for loggerhead turtles and its Dolphin Research Center. South of Marathon, US-1 crosses the Seven Mile Bridge linking Marathon with the Lower Keys.

## **Shenandoah National Park, Virginia**

Seventy-five miles from the heart of Washington, D.C. lies an oasis that's as serene as the D.C. metro is crowded. Shenandoah National Park has more than 500 miles of trails.

Many of the trails take you through miles and miles of quiet and peaceful wilderness. Other trails take you to beautiful waterfalls or stunning viewpoints overlooking the trees and the Appalachian Mountains in the distance.

The park sits on 200,000 acres of protected land. It allows back-country camping for the truly adventurous. Up for a challenge? Make this one of your spring road trips.

Take the 8-mile hike up Old Rag Mountain, a popular route because of the stunning views at the peak. You can camp in one of four campgrounds during every season except winter.

If you want to backcountry camp, you'll need to get a free permit. Be sure to check out this RV Lifestyle report for more details on RVing in the area.

## **Grand Teton National Park to Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming, Idaho, Montana**

Separated by a mere 100 miles, it's possible to visit them both with one spring road trip. Of course, truly exploring the parks would require at least a few days, but still, you might want to take advantage of this two-for-one vacation.

Grand Teton National Park, at about 300,000 acres, is near the Wyoming town of Jackson. Just north, Yellowstone National Park covers over two million acres. Yellowstone is a favorite destination of ours.

## **Seattle, Washington to Newport, Oregon**

After dining on seafood, strolling through Pike Place Market, and seeing the sights of Seattle, head southwest towards the Oregon coast and the town of Astoria.

This spring road trip begins on I-5 and is about 180 miles, passing enormous pine trees, green forests, and quaint towns, taking about five hours until you cross the four-mile Astoria-Megler Bridge spanning the Columbia River into Oregon to enter Astoria.

Set out from Astoria along US-101 heading south along Oregon's coast, and take advantage of many stops along the way at observation points, towns, state parks, beaches, or simply to enjoy breathtaking views of rugged coastline and crashing waves.

## **Rapid City to Badlands National Park, South Dakota**

Rapid City is a great spring road trip destination with art galleries, life-size bronze sculptures of presidents, restaurants, and historic sites. It's also the gateway to Mount Rushmore, the Minuteman Missile National Historic Site, and Badlands National Park. Fossil beds, rugged mountains, wildlife, and striking rock formations create a unique environment.

The park is 75 miles east of Rapid City, and South Dakota Route 44 is the scenic road through open prairie, farms, small towns, and ranches along Rapid Creek, a tributary of the Cheyenne River. You'll drive through the Buffalo Gap National Grassland before reaching the entrance to Badlands National Park, two miles north of the town of Interior on Highway 377.

From there, the Badlands Loop State Scenic Byway (SD-240) takes you through the park along 31 miles of stunning scenery that includes buttes, cliffs, spires, and overlooks where you'll be amazed by the stretch of the landscape before you.

Plan to spend several hours to experience the varied terrain and scenic beauty of the park. Hike one of the many trails and stop at the Ben Reifel Visitor Center to learn more. Travel+Leisure recommends you don't leave without a stop at Pinnacles Overlook, especially striking at sunset. For your return to Rapid City, take SD-240 north to the town of Wall and then head northwest on I-90 for a quicker route.

## **New York, New York to Cape May, New Jersey**

After you've had your fill of the best pizza and bagels in NYC, hit the road by heading south along the Jersey Shore. You'll likely leave the city via the Holland Tunnel to cross under the Hudson River to New Jersey.

Stay on Route 78 and then take I-95 after you cross Newark Bay. After Perth Amboy, take the Garden State Parkway for a more scenic drive closer to the coast. You'll then be out of the city.

This entire spring road trip route is around 160 miles, and you'll pass through some well-known beach towns that are worth a jaunt off the Parkway, so allow plenty of time.

There's Asbury Park, where Bruce Springsteen got his start, and other beach towns. Long popular as summer getaways are Belmar, Spring Lake, Point Pleasant, and towns on Long Beach Island, a narrow barrier island that parallels the coast.

For a more scenic route closer to the ocean, take Route 9 when it branches off around Toms River. After Atlantic City, you'll find Cape May, which offers Victorian-style homes, quaint cottages, boutiques, galleries, and history dating back to the 1600s.

### **New Orleans to Baton Rouge, Louisiana**

After you've had your fill of New Orleans, think about a spring road trip to Louisiana's capital. It's only about 110 miles, but with so much history and beauty along the way, plan on making it a full day trip.

Take I-10 west out of town, and after about an hour, you'll reach an interesting stop, Destrehan Plantation, said to be the oldest plantation house in the area. Tours are available.

From there, take I-310 south to LA-18, a scenic road that hugs the Mississippi, curving along with it to Evergreen Plantation, about an hour away. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the complex covers 37 buildings, including 22 slave cabins.

A walking tour is available, though reservations are advised.

Continue on scenic LA-18, and stop along the way at cemeteries, churches, and picturesque places that catch your eye. Cross the river at Route 70 after White Hall and take the I-10 north for about an hour to Baton Rouge.

### **San Antonio to Austin, Texas**

Ah, San Antonio in April! Don't miss Fiesta Days for parades, flowers, food, and entertainment, but the city is fun all the time, especially in springtime. Head north on I-10 out of the city, and then west on I-410 to TX-16 north (Bandera Road) for a scenic drive through Hill Country.

The town of Bandera, home to dude ranches and farms, was once a center for cattle drives, thus its title as "Cowboy Capital of the World." From there, head north on TX-173 and TX-16 to Fredericksburg, a Texas city with a German heritage dating back to its first settlers in the mid-1800's. Wineries and authentic German cuisine make this an attractive stopping point.

If you have time, stop in Enchanted Rock State Natural Area to see its pink granite dome and striking rock formations.

Austin is about 80 miles east on US-290, but if there's time for one more detour on your spring road trip here, you might want to visit Pedernales Falls State Park just six

miles north of US-290 about halfway to Austin. Known for entertainment, food, and nightlife, Austin is called the “Live Music Capital of the World.”

When it’s time to leave, you can take a direct route back to San Antonio on I-35 south, making the trip in under two hours.

### **Phoenix to Flagstaff, Arizona**

Spring is lovely in Phoenix, with April temperatures in the mid-80’s and heading higher as summer nears. Flagstaff, at 7,000 feet of elevation, sees cooler temperatures in the low 60’s during Spring.

This spring road trip drive begins on I-17 north through the Sonoran Preserve and continues through the desert landscape for nearly one hundred miles before reaching the suggested stop of Montezuma Castle National Monument.

These well-preserved prehistoric cliff dwellings were the homes of the Sinagua people for over 400 years. Continue northeast on I-17, then take AZ-179 north to Sedona along the Red Rock Scenic Byway, about seven miles of stunning scenery that includes rugged sandstone rock formations tinted red by the presence of iron.

Spend some time in the small town, explore the shops and restaurants, or hike among the rocks to feel the energy some refer to as vortexes.

Take AZ-89A north towards Flagstaff, but don’t miss Slide Rock State Park, especially during wildflower season. In a bit more than 30 minutes, you’ll arrive in Flagstaff, set in the world’s largest Ponderosa Pine forest.

The historic downtown on a walking tour and rest there for the night before heading back to Phoenix or on to Grand Canyon National Park, Wupatki National Monument, Petrified Forest National Park, or one of the other national or state parks accessible from the gateway of Flagstaff.

### **Monterey to San Luis Obispo, California**

Travel+Leisure says no list of scenic spring road trips would be complete without one of the most beloved — California’s Big Sur and Highway One. Reopened in 2018 after damage from a mudslide, the famed trip takes drivers along the state’s central coast between the Pacific Ocean and the Santa Lucia Mountains for 90 miles of breathtaking views. Because of the impact of weather events – always check ahead before exploring this particular road trip! We begin in Monterey, about two hours south of San Francisco.

If there’s time to spend in Monterey, consider the 17-Mile Drive that will take you around the peninsula for both coastline and inland landscapes, world-famous golf courses, pine forests, fabulous homes, and the iconic Lone Cypress. Stop at the Cypress Point Lookout for a view of the coast and the Point Sur Lighthouse.

Join Highway One in Carmel for your drive south along Big Sur. You’ll come to the Bixby Creek Bridge, where there are turnouts for safe parking perfect for taking photos. The highway continues past Hearst Castle in San Simeon and on to the college

town of San Luis Obispo, past wineries, beaches, cliffs, and all the way to Los Angeles and beyond.

**AirSafeHitches.com**

## **Air Safe Hitches: BLOG's**

We try and keep you informed on all your Trailer Towing experience.

Please review our [BLOG's](#) on our website.

[Hotshot Trucking: All You Need to Know](#)

[How to Take Care of Your Air Hitch in Winter](#)

[Why Should You Choose a 5th Wheel Over a Receiver?](#)

[All You Need to Know About the Different Types of Hitches](#)

[Proper Tongue Weight: All You Need to Know for Safe Towing](#)

[When Is a 5th Wheel Hitch Needed?](#)

[What Are The Benefits of Using a Ball Hitch?](#)

[What is the Advantage of a Pintle Hitch?](#)

[FAQs: How High Should Trailer Hitches be off the Ground?](#)

[Learn How to Calculate Gross Trailer Weight \(GTW\)](#)

[5th Wheel Hitches: The History and Evolution Throughout the Years](#)

### Contact Us

Air Safe Hitches  
Island Park, New York  
11558  
Tel.407-973-2980  
Fax. 866-201-3391  
[airsafehitches.com](http://airsafehitches.com)

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