



An all-weather awning makes this storage-packed Uluru Nomad from Complete Campsite a real offroad pleasure.

Walk-in WONDERS



Main: Eight-leaf Outback rebound springs are used, providing top protection from corrugations. **Top, from left:** The 4m x 2.8m tent can be set up in fifteen minutes. No guy ropes are needed for the awning.

Over the last few years, Grant and Jodie Joyce have been busy perfecting the Nomad Uluru Offroad and the rest of the Complete Campsite range. Established in 1991, the company is family owned and run, and prides itself on the fact that the campers are made in Australia – from top to bottom – on its premises, using Australian products wherever possible.

But it's not where it's made that makes the Nomad a good family camper. Some of the features do, too, particularly the walk-in design. With this design, the manner in which you clamber into bed means you can leave your vertical climbing skills at home. It also provides a novel approach to storage.

And although it may sound like a truism around here, the Nomad is fast to put up. As owners Grant and Jodie casually unfurled the canvas of our test unit, I watched on, timing them with a wry grin – they grinned last. I was caught off guard, watching a party on horseback canter by less than 15 minutes later, while they sat down under the awning for a cuppa.

The little things matter a lot, as we've noted before. It is easy to take them for granted when manufacturers do things right; dangerous to ignore when they don't. At Complete Campsite, they take every zipper seriously.

BUILD

From the DuraGal chassis right up through the galvanised sheet-metal of the trailer body, the Nomad is built to withstand the elements. The PVC dust cover is fastened by velcro and zips to ensure less dust gets in while you're travelling. Compression locks and automotive rubber seals guarantee every door is air and dust-tight.

Below, eight-leaf Outback rebound springs are utilised, as they're easy to repair in the bush, and they provide great protection from corrugations.

When everything is installed, welded and

attached, the Nomad Uluru Offroad weighs in at 900kg Tare, and 1450kg ATM. That means you'll need trailer brakes, but you can still pull it anywhere with most soft-roaders. And that's 550kg of payload, as much as many of the larger, more expensive offroad touring trailers provide.

STORAGE

One of the best things about the storage of this camper is its adaptability. In the walk-in section, there are six huge sliding drawers with catches living under the bed.

They're a great way to neatly store clothes, toiletries and all the other things you don't necessarily need until you're stopped. You can pull them out to take them into your house to pack, and when you're ready to go, you can slide the drawers back in.

The space in front of the drawers is also a great storage option. It's tall enough to store camping tables, chairs, and probably kids' bikes easily without worrying too much about packing everything with mathematical symmetry.

The rest of the storage area under the bed is taken up by the slide-out kitchen, which we'll get to, and a fridge drawer.

There is also plenty of storage around the outside of the trailer when it's closed up. Again, it's compartmentalised and easy to get to.

The nearside has three lockable doors, one to store twin gas cylinders (right next to the kitchen), one for smaller items over the wheel, and one more for miscellaneous gear up front.

The offside also has three compartments. Plus, by folding down the stairs, you can access the walk-in area storage and the drawers at the foot of the bed. A large lockable toolbox up front completes the plentiful storage options of the Nomad Uluru Offroad.

TENT-WISE

The tent really does go up quickly, and one of



Clockwise from above: The slide-out kitchen is a steady, sturdy unit; fold down the stairs to reveal six drawers and the walk-in storage space at the foot of the bed; there's a large lockable toolbox up front; large windows keep the area illuminated when the awning is set up.



my favourite things is the lack of necessary guy ropes for the awning. It is a special pleasure, to my mind, to put up a tent when I get where I'm going and not have to put in stakes in fair weather.

By the time you throw in the extra walls that hang down from the self-supporting awning (a couple of spreader bars with hooks take care of that) it becomes a home away from home.

This awning also features a window over the kitchen. When the weather isn't so fair and you have an end wall up, it can get dark back there in food-land. The windows on the awning clear things up considerably, while you stay dry. In this way, the relatively short main tent section is greatly augmented by an awning that you can use, quickly, in any weather.

LIVING

Often, the make-or-break factor of camper trailers is the kitchen. Complete Campsite used a slide-out unit of its own design with modern styling and a few innovations.

The slide-out bench at the end is a no-brainer: steady and stainless. The stainless top, stove and sink are easy to clean, with fold-down glass splashbacks for both the three-burner stove and 12V mixer tap.

The kitchen has a royal blue powder coat over zinalum, which means it should look as good as the day you bought it for years. There are plenty more drawers and cupboards here for all of your finery.

A 12V/240V Bushman fridge/freezer completes the kitchen. It slides out of the way in its own drawer when you don't need it.

SUMMING UP

The Uluru Offroad has everything you could want heading into the red yonder, without being ostentatious. And that's reflected in its price, \$27,950, which is everything you'd expect to pay these days for a good offroad tourer with a few bells and whistles, minus a few bits and pieces.

The walk-in feature is going to be a popular one, both for its ease of use and the extra storage it affords. And the kitchen's built tougher than the trailer!

Complete Campsite Camper Trailers,
10/236 Manns Road, West Gosford, NSW
2250, (02) 4323 9214.

For more information, including
your nearest dealer visit
www.completecampsite.com.au