

The SURV: Your House (And Garage) on Wheels

(NAPSA)—Sport-utility recreation vehicles (SURVs) are taking the deserts, mountains and shores by storm. And soon power-sport enthusiasts will pack SURVs with their collection of outdoor toys and hit the road in search of the perfect off-road adventure.

Once considered a West Coast niche, the SURV—also known as a “toy hauler” or “sport-utility trailer”—is now the hottest trend in RVing. SURVs are towable RVs distinguished by a swing-down ramp and large, rear storage area for stowing and hauling. They’re arguably the most versatile RV today. Travelers can now take their toys to any destination and not leave behind the comforts of home.

Blazing a New Trail

The idea for the phenomenon began years ago in California sparked by adventure seekers who enjoyed riding dirt bikes in the desert but needed somewhere close to stay at the end of the day. When the four-wheeler, or all-terrain vehicle (ATV), was introduced in the early '90s, a significant demand for toy haulers ensued. Like dirt-bike enthusiasts, ATVers found the SURV terrific for hauling their toys for weekend trips while also providing comfortable living-quarters. It is this versatility that continues to drive demand for SURVs today.

At Home On (Or Off) The Road

Along with such common RV features as kitchens, sleeping areas and bathrooms, most SURVs also come equipped with an installed generator. Because so many power-sport vehicle destinations are off the beaten path, SURV manufacturers have made sure that toy haulers have the necessary power to be a complete home away from home. Installed



generators allow RVers to have the required power to run microwaves, televisions, air conditioning and items like air compressors and power tools that power-sport enthusiasts love to have along.

“Whether dirt biking, ATVer, kayaking or snowmobiling, sports enthusiasts want the full experience,” says Mike Kline, towable RV division marketing manager for Onan, an RV power generation and solutions company. “They want to play hard but enjoy all the comforts of home after a long, adventurous day.”

New SURV Uses

As power-sport enthusiasts are still heading demand for SURVs, other people across the country are discovering unique uses for the trailer as well. Those living in colder climates find the SURV excellent for snowmobile and hunting trips while others have looked completely outside the box and use SURVs for hauling toolboxes, dog kennels, home improvement materials, etc.

With these new uses, SURV owners now range from adventure enthusiasts hauling motorcycles, canoes and even fold-up airplanes to vendors of clothing, cotton candy and sewing machines. Even musical bands, antique dealers and pet groomers are finding uses for these multipurpose RVs and continuing to grow their popularity.

For more on the SURV lifestyle or information about RVing, visit www.funroads.com.