

Hi Elias from the team at DeLuxe RV Group



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Welcome to the March issue of the Deluxe RV Group Newsletter!

We have been enjoying the last few weeks of summer and even managed to sneak away for our first night as parents without Levi. Poppy and I packed the car with the rooftop tent and stayed a night at Lake Rotoiti followed by an early morning swim and climbed the St. Arnaud Range overlooking the Rainbow Valley. If you are looking for a challenging hike in the area and want to be rewarded with an epic 360-degree view, I strongly recommend the 5-6hr return trip to the range.

March also marks the start of autumn and we have had our first cold morning in Marlborough prompting me to think about those last couple backcountry fly-fishing trips of the season and start my research on new winter destinations in the South Island.

I hope you are making the most of this time of the year and if you usually park up your RV during the colder upcoming months, I suggest you plan a couple of late autumn and mid-winter trips this year and experience some spectacular scenery and make great memories when many travellers stay at home.

The Deluxe RV Group team is getting ready for the show this weekend and are all looking forward to seeing you there. Gary, Brett, Matt and Colin will represent us on our stand and we are hoping for a busy and successful show weekend.

Enjoy the read and as always please feel free to send me a message if you have any questions!!!

Deluxe RV Group News



The workshop team has had a busy start to the year dealing with an influx of brand-new vehicles arriving in the country, preparing them for sale and ensuring all vehicles pass our high standards.

We have also been busy organising the **Covi Motorhome, Caravan and Outdoor Supershow in Auckland** this week and are very excited to be back exhibiting at the ASB Showgrounds.

The first show in 2023 is going to be followed closely by the **NZMCA Motorhome, Caravan and Leisure Show** in Christchurch on the 20th and 21st of May as well as Gary, Brett and Daryl visiting the Pilote and Le Voyageur factories in France at the end of April for the first time since the pandemic interrupted business and travel plans.

Travelling to France is a great opportunity for Gary and his sons to reconnect with Pilote, continue to build our strong relationship with the brand as well as soaking up information and technical details first hand.

Overall, there seems to be plenty of action at Deluxe in 2023 and we are all looking forward to another great year working in an industry we all love so much.

Staff Trip 1: Lake Rotoiti and St. Arnaud Range



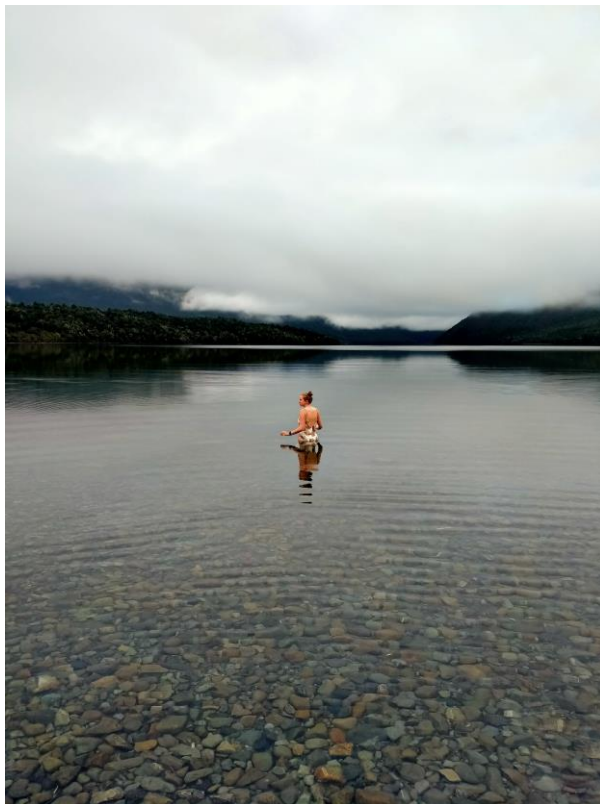
In the last issue I wrote about great weekend destinations and naturally kicked off with the Marlborough region. One of our favourites is Lake Rotoiti as the destination offers plenty of activity options and campsite choices.



Poppy and I managed to sneak away for 24 hours and made the most of it. We left Blenheim on Thursday evening and were parked up having dinner at the West Bay Campsite next to the Lake an hour later.



After an early morning wake up and swim we had coffee and breakfast next to the water and got ready for the hike. Our go-to hike is usually Mt. Robert however we decided to change it up and climb up the St. Arnaud Range instead.



The **St. Arnaud Range Track** is marked as a 5-6hr return route and starts off with a gradual incline followed by a very steep finish up to the highest point at 1738m. You get rewarded with a stunning 360 Degree view and we could have sat there for hours.

We found a great spot for lunch and a beer before heading back down the ridge and into the forest to the car. I would definitely encourage you to give the hike a shot however it's probably a route for advanced hikers considering the steep climb to the top and there are plenty of other options to choose from.

The hike returning to the carpark was reasonably quick and we had time to jump in the lake again and grab a coffee at the lodge on the way home.

All up we spent 24 hours away from Blenheim and managed to enjoy a nice dinner for two, night out in the rooftop tent, swims and an amazing re-energising hike before picking up Levi from his grandparents.

Please feel free to click on the link below, check out all the lake has to offer and get motivated to do shorter day or weekend trips in between the longer ones.

Always worth the effort!!!

<https://www.newzealand.com/us/rotoiti/>



Great Weekend Destinations: Nelson Region



Last month I shared some great weekend destinations in Marlborough and as promised I will continue to look at different regions throughout the country during the year.

If you travel approximately 115km west from Blenheim, you will find yourself in another region known for its beauty and versatility as a travel destination.

Nelson has it all and I am more than excited to share a couple of great weekend destinations in the region and hopefully visit a few more this autumn.



Abel Tasman National Park

<https://www.newzealand.com/us/feature/national-parks-abel-tasman/>

"The Abel Tasman National Park is an easily-accessible coastal paradise. You can choose to explore the park from land, on the water, or in the air, with tour operators aplenty offering cruises, water taxi services, kayaking options, heli-tours and sailing catamarans.

Whilst summer is a popular time to visit, locals believe that the shoulder seasons are actually the best time to explore the park, as crisp mornings, calm waters and quiet beaches allow you to truly enjoy the peace and serenity.

Those who crave home comforts can stay in luxurious lodges, but sleeping under the stars is regarded as the ultimate way to experience the spirit of the Abel Tasman."

Nelson Lakes National Park

<https://www.newzealand.com/sq/feature/national-parks-nelson-lakes/>



"A compact area of mountain ranges separated by forested valleys, the Nelson Lakes National Park is home to the beginning of the awe-inspiring Southern Alps.

Promising everything from easy lakeside walking tracks to challenging alpine hikes, this national park has something on offer for everyone.

The beautiful alpine lakes of Rotoroa and Rotoiti form the heart of this 102,000 hectare national park. Both are surrounded by steep mountains and fringed to the shore by native honeydew beech forests, which feed a variety of tuneful nectar-eating native birds.

In Maori mythology the lakes were created by the great chief Rakaihaitu digging holes with his ko (digging stick). One hole became Lake Rotoroa (large waters) and the other became Lake Rotoiti (small waters).

The nearby village of St Arnaud is a comfortable, well-equipped base for visitors."



Mapua

<https://www.newzealand.com/nz/mapua/>

"Just 30 minutes from Nelson City, the charming seaside villages of Mapua & Ruby Coast are increasingly becoming favourite holiday spots for tourists and locals alike.

With a lively cluster of restaurants, art galleries, wine bars and a craft brewery, Mapua is the perfect place to relax and unwind for a long weekend away.

Hire a bike and cycle Tasman's Great Taste Trail, which stretches from central Nelson through to Motueka. Just offshore, Rabbit Island offers a treat for mountain bikers with a network of trails just waiting to be explored.

A little ferry departs Mapua Wharf regularly for the Island, with room for passengers and their bikes."

2023 Bailey Motorhomes and Caravans



Brand-new Bailey Motorhome and caravans have been hard to get hold of during the last two years and we are very excited to let you know that we currently have a healthy level of brand-new Bailey motorhomes as well as caravans in stock and available for purchase.

We are proud to be a New Zealand Bailey Dealership and have been working hard to build up our stock levels and offer our Bailey customers a variety of different vehicles to choose from.

If you are currently in the market for a brand-new Bailey, please feel free to contact us directly. We are more than happy to talk you through our current options and are looking forward to hearing from you!!!



Staff Trip 2: Hanmer Springs



Matt, Jess, and McKenzie ventured to Hanmer Springs for a long weekend with the staff motorhome and made the most of the beautiful weather and time of work.

Tip: Hanmer Springs is a great mid-winter destination. The town is less busy, and the snow-capped mountains are incredible to look at whilst you soak in some hot springs and relax.

Show Week: Covi Motorhome, Caravan and Outdoor Supershow 2023



It's finally here!!! As I am writing this Gary and Brett are grooming our Pilote and Le Voyageur Motorhomes and preparing them for the stand. Matt and Colin will fly up tomorrow to finish some final touches on our stand and the show team will be ready to meet you from Friday morning at the ASB Showgrounds.

Alongside our 2023 Pilote motorhomes we will showcase both our Le Voyageur Classic and Le Voyageur Heritage models. For the first time in New Zealand, you will be able to view a 2023 Le Voyageur Heritage LVXH 8.7CF motorhome and we are expecting the model to compete with the most luxurious motorhomes available in New Zealand today.

Make sure you come and say hi to the team and we wish you a great show weekend!!!

Habitation Service: Things To Do In Blenheim



Many of you visit Blenheim when the time for your Water Ingress Service Check has come. It's paramount for us not to rush the process and take our time with the check as well as being able to fix any additional issues you pointed out and that can take time.

Our workshop technicians will give you a call when the check is completed however, I often see that customers are looking for things to do in the meantime. We have a folder of suggestions in our courtesy car and Jesse thought it would be a great idea to share some booked tours in Blenheim. Many operators are happy to pick you up from our dealership and drop you back here afterwards.

Please click on the link below for some ideas and we are looking forward to seeing you when your next service is due!!!

<https://www.getyourguide.com>

Recipe Of The Season: Autumn Pork Stew



The other day when we had a cold morning my wife and I talked about autumn recipes and how we need to get a slow cooker to prepare hearty delicious meals without putting in too much time and effort.

Slow cooked meals are also great to take on your motorhome adventure and simple to reheat in a pot or if you are staying connected to power, they are also an easy meal to prepare at lunchtime for dinner.

Enjoy it!!!



Ingredients

- 1.5kg New Zealand pork shoulder, cut into 5cm chunks
- 1 Tbsp olive oil
- 250g New Zealand thick cut bacon, chopped into 2cm pieces

- 2 cups onion, diced
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 tsp salt
- ½ tsp ground black pepper
- 1.5 cups white wine
- 2-3 large carrots, sliced into thick rounds
- 2 cored red apples (firmer varieties work best, like Gala)
- ½ cup maple syrup or honey
- 1L chicken stock
- 3 bay leaves
- 250g kumara (firmer varieties like purple skin is best), peeled and chopped into 4cm cubes
- 250g Agria potatoes, peeled and chopped into 4cm cubes



Method - Slow Cook

1. Fry the bacon base

Place a large, lidded casserole dish on the stove over a medium-high heat. Add the olive oil and bacon pieces and fry for 8-10 minutes until the bacon is crispy.

Add the onions and lower the heat. Cook for 20 minutes, stirring occasionally. Add the garlic and cook for a further minute. Remove the mixture from the heat and set aside, ensuring some of the juices are left in the pot.

2. Brown the pork

Season the pork well with salt and pepper. Turn the heat up to medium-high and add the pork to the pot in 3-4 batches, being careful not to overcrowd it. Sear the meat on each side for 3-4 minutes until golden brown.

3. Add it together

Put the bacon and onion mixture and browned pork back into the pot and add white wine. Bring to the boil, stirring the contents to scrape the tasty bits off the bottom of the pot.

Add the carrots, apples, maple syrup or honey, chicken stock and bay leaves. Bring to the boil and reduce to a gentle simmer. Place the lid so it partially covers the pot and simmer for 2 hours, stirring occasionally.

4. Add the root veggies

After 2 hours, add the kumara and potatoes and check the liquid levels. If it looks too dry, add 1 cup of water. Cook for an additional 20-30 minutes until the pork is tender and falling apart and the vegetables are cooked through.

5. Serve

Serve in bowls with a side of steamed greens like beans, broccolini or broccoli.



If you have an interest in anything contained within our Newsletter then please don't hesitate to contact us, we would love to hear from you.

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