



media release

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At \$50 a day, caravanning is great value

The traditional caravanning tour around Australia is great value, costing a couple approximately \$50 a day (excluding spending money and food) according to recent cost comparison research from Caravan, RV & Accommodation Industry of Australia (CRVA).

Value for money is a major consideration for anyone planning a holiday in the current economic climate.

The research compared fuel and accommodation costs from couples doing the long-haul trip in 2003 and 2006 with fuel and accommodation estimates from today.

Total spend over a 30 day period for regular unleaded petrol and powered site rental at a caravan/holiday park*:

- 2003 – Average Fuel Price: \$1.00/litre, Average Powered Site: \$17.00/night
Total Fuel Cost (30 days) = \$504.00, Total Accommodation Cost = \$510.00
TOTAL = \$1014.00
- 2006 - Average Fuel Price: \$1.40/litre, Average Powered Site: \$20.00/night
Total Fuel Cost (30 days) = \$873.00, Total Accommodation Cost = \$600.00
TOTAL = \$1473.00
- 2009 - Average Fuel Price: \$1.20/litre, Average Powered Site: \$25.00/night
Total Fuel Cost (30 days) = \$748.50, Total Accommodation Cost = \$750.00
TOTAL = \$1498.50

**Based on individual log books of caravanner journeys, CRVA research and Australian Automobile Association monthly average petrol prices*

Over a 30 day trip, the total cost difference between 2006 and today is only \$25.50, just 0.85cents a day. Over a six year period, the difference is \$484.00 or \$16 a day, with fluctuating fuel prices causing the most differentiation.

Chief Executive of CRVA, Ben Yates, says the great Australian caravanning road trip will continue to be a popular holiday choice for Australians and that the recent combined effects of lower fuel prices, lower interest rates and an increasingly competitive retail market means there has never been a better time to buy a caravan, motorhome or other type of recreational vehicle (RV).

“Despite the recent global financial crisis, caravanning in Australia retains its popularity and thanks to current low fuel prices, is now an even more affordable way to holiday.

“Caravans and Motorhomes also have the added benefit of retaining their value and can be enjoyed for years to come. After the initial outlay, the only other costs involved are maintenance and servicing, fuel, site hire at a caravan/ holiday park, food and miscellaneous expenses,” said Mr Yates.

Kevin Clark, Dealer Principal and General Manager of Bayswater Jayco, Bayswater VIC, said their dealership had so far experienced bumper sales.

“I think that people have started to realise that caravans hold their value really well and that they are a great asset; after years of travelling you can still get an outstanding resale value,” said Mr Clark adding that the financial crisis had not dampened Australia’s enthusiasm for caravanning.

“People want to de-stress from all the economic doom and gloom, they still want to take their holidays and they’re discovering that a caravanning holiday is the cheapest way to go. It’s a great way to wind down and enjoy your free time,” said Mr Clark.

CRVA’s website contains more information about purchasing a new or used caravan, motorhome or other type of RV and a complementary Buyers Service that links consumer’s enquiries direct to the retailers in their region. Visit www.welovethiscountry.com.au for more information.

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