

# AUSSIE BORN AND BRED

Vista RV Crossover is a locally made tough-as-nails camper trailer that will get you there in style

WORDS BY DAVID THORNDIKE, PHOTOGRAPHY BY CAMPER TRAILER TOURING





**All assembly is done on-site and checked closely to ensure a first-class build quality**

**F**ounded in 2006, Vista RV Crossover has been at the forefront of camper trailer design and development in Australia since its inception. A family owned and operated company, Louie and Lorraine Cretella realised early on the need for a well-built camper trailer and caravan crossover design that would enable people to tow their camper anywhere they could take their 4WD, but without the hassle of having to set up a large canvas roof.

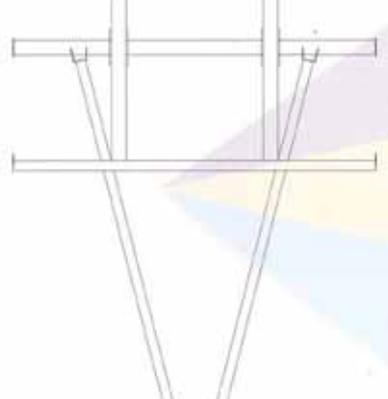
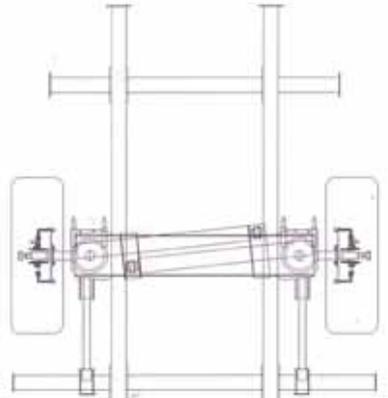
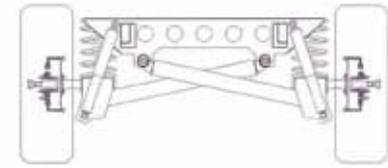
It didn't take long for customer feedback to prove the company was on the right track and for its dream, the 'Vista RV Crossover' to develop into what it is today. With careful attention given to every single detail from the unique MS series suspension through to its sleek aerodynamic styling, the Vista RV is more than capable in the toughest of off-road situations. Inside, the unrivalled level of comfort and accessories will have you sitting back relaxed within a few minutes of pulling into your campsite.

The Cretellas are extremely proud that just about every part of the Crossover and their smaller model, the TVK, are manufactured in their factory just outside of Melbourne. Vista RV has its own powder-coating machines, laser cutters, turret punch, folding machines and they even make the water tanks. Vista RV Crossover is fully Australian owned and is designed and manufactured to the highest standard.

What this adds up to is peace of mind for every Vista RV Crossover owner, as not only do they back up every camper with a two-year warranty, they are also fully equipped to handle any repair or adjustment should they be required. Louie tells us; "We pride ourselves in the standard and quality of work

we conduct. We know what our customers expect of our products and we take great pleasure in exceeding their expectations."

Recently, Vista RV Crossover has played an active part as founding members of the Australian Manufactured Camper Trailer Guild, which guarantees the body, chassis, suspension and tent are all made in Australia and that the camper has engineering compliance to ADR62. "This is something we believe in very strongly," says Lorraine, "as it not only ensures the quality of the materials going into the build of every trailer, but also guarantees Aussie jobs in the process."



**The MS series asymmetric suspension will provide a smooth, comfortable ride**



**The MS series asymmetric link suspension set-up offers a more relaxed driving experience**



**The Vista RV Crossover factory in Bayswater, Victoria**

While there are many aspects that set the Vista RV Crossover apart from other camper trailers, Louie tells us that one of the things people are most surprised with is the amount of storage room available. "We get questioned all the time on how much can fit into a Vista RV Crossover compared to other camper trailers. I tell them that you can actually fit more in and have it far better organised and accessible as well." Taking a look over the Crossover's specifications reveals the following storage capabilities and these figures don't include storage beside and on top of the bed, and behind the seats:

## STORAGE

### EXTERIOR LOAD PROVISIONS

|                       |           |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| 1. Front boot/toolbox | 303L      |
| 2. Outside kitchen    | 70L       |
| 3. Front side locker  | 304L      |
| 4. Rear side locker   | 110L      |
| 5. Battery box        | 98L       |
| 6. Gas bottle         | 2 x 4.5kg |
| 7. Jerry can holders  | 4 x 20L   |

### INSIDE LOAD PROVISIONS

|                          |      |
|--------------------------|------|
| 8. Electrical cupboard   | 31L  |
| 9. Sink cupboard         | 14L  |
| 10. Radio cupboard       | 39L  |
| 11. Robe                 | 129L |
| 12. Under seats          | 239L |
| 13. Fridge               | 80L  |
| 14. Mesh pockets         | 4    |
| 15. Storage under fridge | 130L |

One more feature that sets Vista RV Crossover apart from other camper trailer manufacturers is the use of the MS Series Asymmetric Lateral Link suspension, located to each hub by two unequal length longitudinal control arms. This design employs two radius links per wheel, and is designed in such a way as to eliminate the negative effects of compliance or self-steer.



**Jerry can and gas bottle storage is well ventilated and easily accessible**



**There is heaps of storage with outside access through dust-sealed, lockable doors**

Vista claims this unique suspension set-up is smoother and offers more wheel travel than standard leaf and even independent trailing arm configurations, but is just as tough as both. After extensive testing, Louie knows that this set-up will get you right around Australia and back again, but he says it will be in a more relaxed fashion that you will definitely notice while behind the wheel.

## BUSINESS PROFILE

### VISTA RV CROSSOVER



### Our campers

The Vista RV Crossover and its slightly smaller brother, the TVK, are both loaded with features that will ensure plenty of comfort. They both have a comprehensive 12V system that includes a 105W solar panel, a 100Ah gel battery and battery charger, and the option of a second 100Ah gel battery for those that are planning to embark on some extended touring around Australia.

Both trailers are fully dust and water proof, with every panel glued and riveted together before every joint is sealed. The well thought out kitchen has a two-burner stove with piezo ignition, two storage drawers for crockery and cutlery plus a pull out sink with electric pump and drainer. This together with heaps of preparation room makes preparing even the biggest meal a breeze.

The standard water tank is an 87L rotor moulded tank, and there is the option of fitting a second 87L tank for larger families or those planning to head into the more arid areas where water availability is not always a given.

Taking only 30 seconds to set up thanks to the simple two-latch system (one on either side of outside roof) all you need to do is open the door, push up the roof and you're in, ready to relax.



The interior is comfortable with heaps of room and bundles of storage space

### CROSSOVER AT A GLANCE

- RRP from \$56,390
- Dimensions: 4900(L) x 1900(W) x 2080mm(H)
- Tare weight: 1150kg
- ATM: 1600kg
- Ball weight: 120kg
- 16in wheels with 265/75r16 Cooper ST Max tyres
- MS series suspension – asymmetric link suspension
- Four jerry can holders
- Two 4.5kg gas bottle holders
- Fully articulated 3.5T off road hitch

### TVK AT A GLANCE

- RRP from \$50,890
- Dimensions 4500(L) x 1900(W) x 2080mm(H)
- Tare weight: 1055kg
- ATM: 1455kg
- Ball Weight: 140kg
- 16inch wheels with 265/75r16 Cooper ST Max tyres
- MS series suspension
- Four jerry can holders
- Two 4.5kg gas bottle holders



The kitchen area has plenty of preparation space, storage drawers, a sink and a two-burner stove

**SAVE \$500**

**SPECIAL OFFER**

Vista RV Crossover would like to offer a special deal to all readers of Camper Trailer Touring magazine. Any order placed on either the Crossover or TVK before the 31st July 2012 will receive their choice of a Coleman Hot Water on Demand unit or \$500 worth of accessories.

### CONTACT

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