

Q & A WITH FAMILY TENT CAMPING

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May 2017

COOL TearsTM
and tiny campers

Traveling Tiny Living Large

5 WEEKS, 5 STATES, 1 EPIC ROAD TRIP



TOP TEN SMARTPHONE APPS



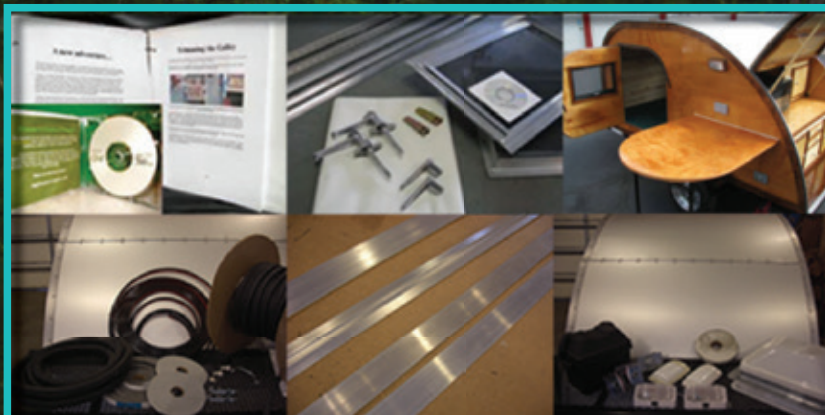
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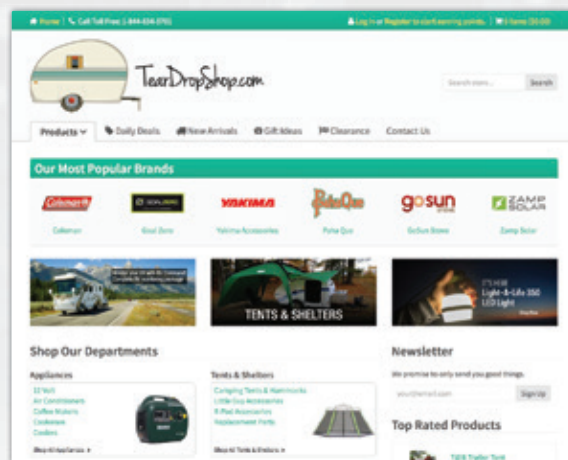
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Letter from the Editor:

Oktoberfest Gathering

Cool Tears is excited to announce a partnership with the Heartland Tearjerkers group! For several weeks now, I have been scheming with the group leaders about a gathering this fall that would be open to Cool Tears readers. Although I have not met this fine group (that's changing next weekend when I get to attend their May gathering), it has been so fun to follow their Facebook page and get to know several of their members while working on other stories.

So here is the scoop: **Oktoberfest will be held October 13 - 15, 2017** at the Clinton State Park just outside of Lawrence, KS. We do have a limited number of sites already reserved close to each other but the park is large and we have the option to use spots throughout the campground. The park offers full service sites as well as primitive.

This joint gathering is simply a springboard for Cool Tears as I am already planning a very large gathering for 2018. So stay tuned!

If you are interested in attending Oktoberfest 2017, please [e-mail me](#) and I will give you all the pertinent info needed. It's my hope to meet some of you this fall!

Until next time...enjoy every sunrise!

SARAH TUCKER

Editor
Cool Tears
and Tiny Campers Magazine™
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Located only four miles west of Lawrence, and the University of Kansas, Clinton State Park meets the needs of traditional recreationalists while also providing a venue for a variety of non-traditional uses. One of the largest marinas in the state, and abundant scenic beauty, offer satisfaction on the lake. [READ MORE HERE!](#)





GREG

Tearfully relaxing in the mountains of Southern California.

Tears *in the wild*



BRANDON REID

Here is a recent photo of our Teardrop from the trip we did to Longreach QLD, photo was at Emerald showgrounds where we stayed for 3 days. Echo is 1 of the dogs we took with us is in a red basket near the front.

ON THE TEARDROP TRAIL

WITH MARILYN



Marilyn McCray is a published author of a cookbook titled **Canning, Pickling and Freezing with Irma Harding**, the International Harvester's fictional spokesperson.

The book combines original recipes, advertising and photos with new recipes. of the International Harvest

Marilyn and her partner, Jim Kerkhoff, travel in a beautiful teardrop to promote the book and she has graciously agreed to share some recipes with us in a regular column. Be sure to check out her book at teardroptrail.com/equipment-and-supplies/



BALSAMIC CHICKEN

Serves 2

2 boneless chicken thighs

half of a yellow onion

2 garlic cloves

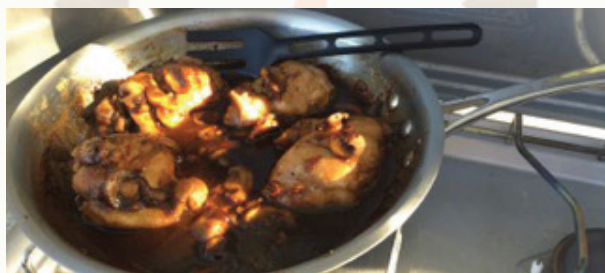
1 cup sliced Baby Bella mushrooms

2 tablespoons olive oil

1 cup Balsamic vinegar or to cover chicken thighs
salt and pepper to taste

Freeze the chicken thighs and add to your ice chest or travel refrigerator. This helps conserve ice.

Find small bottles of your favorite olive oil and Balsamic vinegar.



Measure for the recipes you plan for your road trip and transfer to small plastic bottles with tightly fitting lids to conserve space. I like square plastic bottles because they are a better fit in our kitchen boxes and less likely to rattle. I save plastic bottles for a variety of uses on the road.

Buy only the quantity of herbs and spices you will need for each recipe or for your entire trip in the bulk department. Use the small plastic bags to save space.

Thaw the chicken thighs and pat dry with paper towels. Chop the onions and garlic. Place the olive oil in a skillet and simmer until the onions are clear. Add the chicken thighs and brown over medium heat. Add mushrooms to skillet. Cook until mushrooms are tender. Add the Balsamic vinegar, spoon over chicken and mushrooms. Simmer until the vinegar bubbles and thickens and chicken thighs are done. Salt and pepper to taste.

Place two thighs on each plate and cover with thickened Balsamic vinegar sauce. Garnish with parsley. Serve with rice or cooked pasta.

Serve with your favorite Cote de Rhone or other red wine and toast to the next adventure on the Teardrop Trail.

Traveling
Tiny

Living
Large

ROAD



5 WEEKS. 5 STATES.
1 EPIC ROAD TRIP.

by Elizabeth Vezina

Almost 7000 km/5000 miles, a myriad of breathtakingly diverse sceneries, thousands of pictures and endless memories, proud and happy to have based our whole adventure from our tiny but mighty T@G Max XL.



Finally!...For the first time, having recently retired from the military, we were on our own schedule; no timings to meet, no reservations, just the open road and our sense of adventure to guide us. Having said that, we could not leave on our adventure without at least a rudimentary plan on where we thought we should be by when, as well as some research on what would be worth visiting along the way. This research and preparation before the trip was time well invested, as it enabled us to adapt easily, make some wise and informed decisions along the way and to capitalize on all the locations we visited. It is important to mention here that prior to this recent trip; our longest outing with our T@G was for 3 nights all within 100km of home, so we were pretty excited, and a little nervous as we set out on our month long adventure. Since the intent of this trip was to escape the cold and wet of a Victoria winter, and to head to the warm weather of the southern US, we knew the first few days on the road were all about putting on mileage as we relocated south, heading to the sun and warmth where we could better enjoy the outdoors and our little T@G.

We knew from the start that our tow vehicle and TAG trailer was not the regular sort of rig going south. The custom agent at the ferry between Victoria, BC and Port

Angeles, WA was shocked to hear of our plan and time line;

"5 weeks in this!??, he said surprisingly, "You must love each other!"

After a quick first overnight in the rain and cold at Seaside OR, we began to embrace our adventure including some great pit stops along the coastal Route US101, visiting Cannon Beach OR, the famous Tillamook cheese factory (Tillamook.com) as well as the Sea Lion Caves (sealioncaves.com). Many of these locations we had driven by the past but never had a chance to stop and visit, always constrained by time and distance, so this was definitely a new approach to our newfound freedom and great way to travel.



Our second night was near Coos Bay, OR at the Oceanside Beachfront Resort RV (highwaywestvacations.com), the RV resort was modern and well appointed, very well maintained, and we secured a great site right by the path to the beach.

With no rain in the forecast for the first time since we departed, this made it the a great stop enroute to our first planned destination; visiting the Giant Redwoods. Although a little cooler at first, the greatest advantage to travelling at that time of year is how quiet all the tourist locations are, such a pleasure not to have to battle the crowds and to truly enjoy both the scenery of the drive and the tranquility at each destination.

The hiking amongst the Giant Redwoods is a humbling and very “zen” experience, it is so impressive to see the magnitude and majesty of those ancient trees and it is such a privilege to be able to spend a couple of nights surrounded by those towering giants. For our basecamp in the Redwoods, we chose to locate ourselves along the Avenue of Giants in Humboldt Redwoods State Park.

We spent two nights at Giant Redwoods RV & Camp in Myers Flat, CA (giantredwoodsrv.com), located just along the river, it is an excellent central location to facilitate exploring the local area. Following the recommendation of a local, one of our lunch stops was at the Avenue Café in Miranda (avenuecafe.biz) where we had an amazing calzone lunch which was the perfect fuel after a morning of hiking amongst the Redwood groves.

By the time we departed the Redwoods, we had been on the road for almost a week and we were more than pleased with our TAG, surprised at how comfortable it was and how the set-up is simply perfect for us. We were looking forward to warmer weather to come, but even the rain and cold temperatures did not slow us down, and the TAG was always there as a warm dry refuge for us at night. The addition of a small space heater was all we needed to keep things toasty warm in our tiny home on the road.

After our Redwoods exploration, we headed south making our way towards wine country near Napa and Sonoma, admittedly a little surprised on how cold it still, with temperatures still hovering around 10-11 degrees Celsius. With the limited options of RV in the wine region, we decided to stay centrally in Santa Rosa and booked into a parking lot style RV park at the Sonoma County Fairgrounds RV Park (sonomacountyfair.com), clean and simple, it was a good place to come back to each night after our time exploring the wineries. Our wine tasting touring was focussed in the Sonoma Valley and included visits to Francis Ford Coppola, D'Angenzio Winery and Jacuzzi's, each of which was opulent and unique, and all are well worth a visit. We complimented our winery visits with a short stop at the Charles M Schultz museum and Snoopy's home ice rink, including some souvenir shopping in their impressive gift store (schultzmuseum.org).

By that point, we were ready for some heat, well at least no more rain! So after a quick overnight stop in River Run RV Park in Bakersfield, CA (riverrunrvpark.com), we headed off to the high desert, relocating to Joshua Tree National Parks. It was at this point in our trip that we came to the realization that this portion of our journey coincided with some of the school Spring Breaks in both California and Arizona, as campgrounds were all at capacity even midweek, so we looked ahead and started making campground bookings in advance for some of our upcoming destinations considering the high demand. Definitely something to keep in mind in the future.

Our two nights camping at the beautiful Black Rock Canyon Campground in Joshua Tree (nps.gov) was definitely one of the key highlights of our road trip, the star filled night sky is simply epic at this black sky site. There are many trails that depart right from the campground, we chose to hike the stunning 6 mile Panorama loop which winds up and through the desert with a 1500ft elevation change leading to some breathtaking views of the Palm Springs desert and snow-capped mountains, all the while winding through the surreal geography of the high desert and the unique Joshua trees. Our stop here was also the first time we were awoken in the morning by the haunting serenade of the local Coyotes, making this stop even more magical and memorable for us.

After leaving the National Park, our next 3 days were spent exploring the Palm Springs area while staying at the KOA Palm Springs/Joshua Tree located in Desert Hot Springs. This very clean, well-organized and well-appointed campground provided us a great home base to venture out for more great hiking, including a morning jaunt up





the Carl Lykken Trail, which after a short but intense climb, offers beautiful views of Palm Springs and the I-10 corridor looking east. Our afternoon that day was filled with more spectacular views, this time from the summit of the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway (pstramway.com). This fun and full day was concluded by a fantastic and authentic Vietnamese dinner at Pho 533 (pho533palmsprings.com) where their Vermicelli bowl is filled with delightful flavors that brought us right back to a recent trip to Saigon!

At this point, now well into our journey, we were more than pleased with how practical and enjoyable it was to travel with our TAG. We had established a fantastic routine of set-up, meals, night routine, and teardown and we knew that we could sustain our trip as long as we wanted, especially now that the weather had warmed up. We still had seen any other TAGs in our travels, and while our TAG was always the smallest rig in each new stop, it was definitely a ROCK STAR on wheels, with many folks coming by to visit and check out our setup.


We had a number of different stops in southern Arizona,

mainly due to the fact that we could not stay longer due to the campgrounds being so busy due to spring break. The upside of moving around is that we had an excellent chance to experience a variety of locales, and a chance to explore many options and discover some fantastic plan B's. One of our favourite stops during this time was Lost Dutchman State Park (azstateparks.com), definitely a place we will return to again, fantastic sites, all in the shadow of the spectacular Superstition

Mountains. The hiking options in the Mesa/Apache Junction area are endless and the walking amongst the fields of giants Saguaro cacti is simply incredible. While the days were quite hot, the nights were cool and comfortable, and we were surprised with the fact that we did not need to use the AC, the simple movement of the air by the roof fan and having the windows open kept it perfectly cool, and we gratefully bagged 8 to 9 hours of nightly zzzzzzz, aided I'm sure by all that fresh air and hiking we did each day!

We then moved north to the Prescott AZ area for a couple of days, where our campground was surrounded by the unearthly granite boulders at the Point of Rocks RV Resort (pointofrocksrvcampground.com), where we were able to once again hike around a breathtaking lake in amongst the piles of granite monsters, directly from our campsite.


Leaving Prescott, we made our way to the Grand Canyon where we set camp for four nights at the Mather Campground (nps.gov). Like many other of our previous stops, we wish we could have stayed longer and did manage to make the most of our 4 nights at this breathtaking location. We were very fortunate with the early season weather during our stay as it can be a little unpredictable in March, we had temps every day in the 20 degree Celsius range, but the day after we left it dropped to single digits with snow! Our hike down the Bright Angel trail into the canyon, our sunset picnic dinner on the ridge of the canyon, and the parade of deer, coyotes and other wildlife right through our campsite every morning, coupled with the epic and stunning scenery of this magical place, are but just a few of the many incredible




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souvenirs of our stay in this incredible National Park.

After spending four fantastic nights at the Grand Canyon, sadly we had to start making our way back north. Our next stop was Las Vegas, and we stayed four nights at the KOA Las Vegas (Sam's Town). The KOA was what we expected, a typical parking lot style RV park, clean and well-appointed with all the amenities, but by far the best part was that it included access to the Shuttles from the Sam's Casino to either Freemont St and/or the Las Vegas strip, which run many times a day, negating the requirement to drive around on the busy streets of the city. We also took a break from the hustle and bustle of the strip on one of the days and headed out for some fantastic hiking at the Red Rock Canyon, about 30 minutes west of the city itself.

As we made our way along on this journey, we noticed that our SUV (KIA Shortage) was loaded to the rim and so we started researching of options of mounting a storage box to our trailer. Our TAG XL MAX came with the factory Yakima rack, so we managed to order online a SportRack 11.3 cubic foot storage box while we were at the Grand Canyon and we picked it up while we were in Las Vegas at a local Walmart. This has turned out to be a great complement to our existing set-up and are very happy with our decision and addition of this very practical piece of equipment to our TAG.

The remainder of our return journey included stops at Hawthorne NV, Reno NV, Grants Pass OR and Astoria OR. As with the beginning of our trip, this was about covering miles towards home more than exploring new locations. Our daily routine would include between five to six hours of driving with early starts in the morning. Typically, we would picnic at rest stops or along the road maximising the well-appointed kitchen on the back of our TAG. While the TAG may not have been noticed for its size, it definitely got some attention for its unique style and we were more than happy to show him off to the many curious folks that approached us to check it out.

Our time on the road was fantastic and we've learned a few things that will set us up for even more success on our next road trip. A few of our takeaways were to be cognizant of the school Spring Break Schedules along the route, the addition of the rooftop storage box was definitely a



great addition as it now contains all our setup kit, and we also added some rails and bins beneath the doors of the TAG to act as a "shoebox" since we've come home. One of our biggest surprises was that we did not encounter any other TAGs at any point on our journey, a couple of folks in TABs, but hopefully next time we can have our first fellow TAG encounter!

I guess the success of any great trip is that it leaves you with the desire to do more, see more, and explore more, and we definitely came home from this trip ready for just that.... More! Even before getting home after almost 5 weeks on the road with our TAG, we had already started planning our next road trip, next time; the Canadian Rockies! We can't wait and after our recent trip, love our TAG even more, if that is even

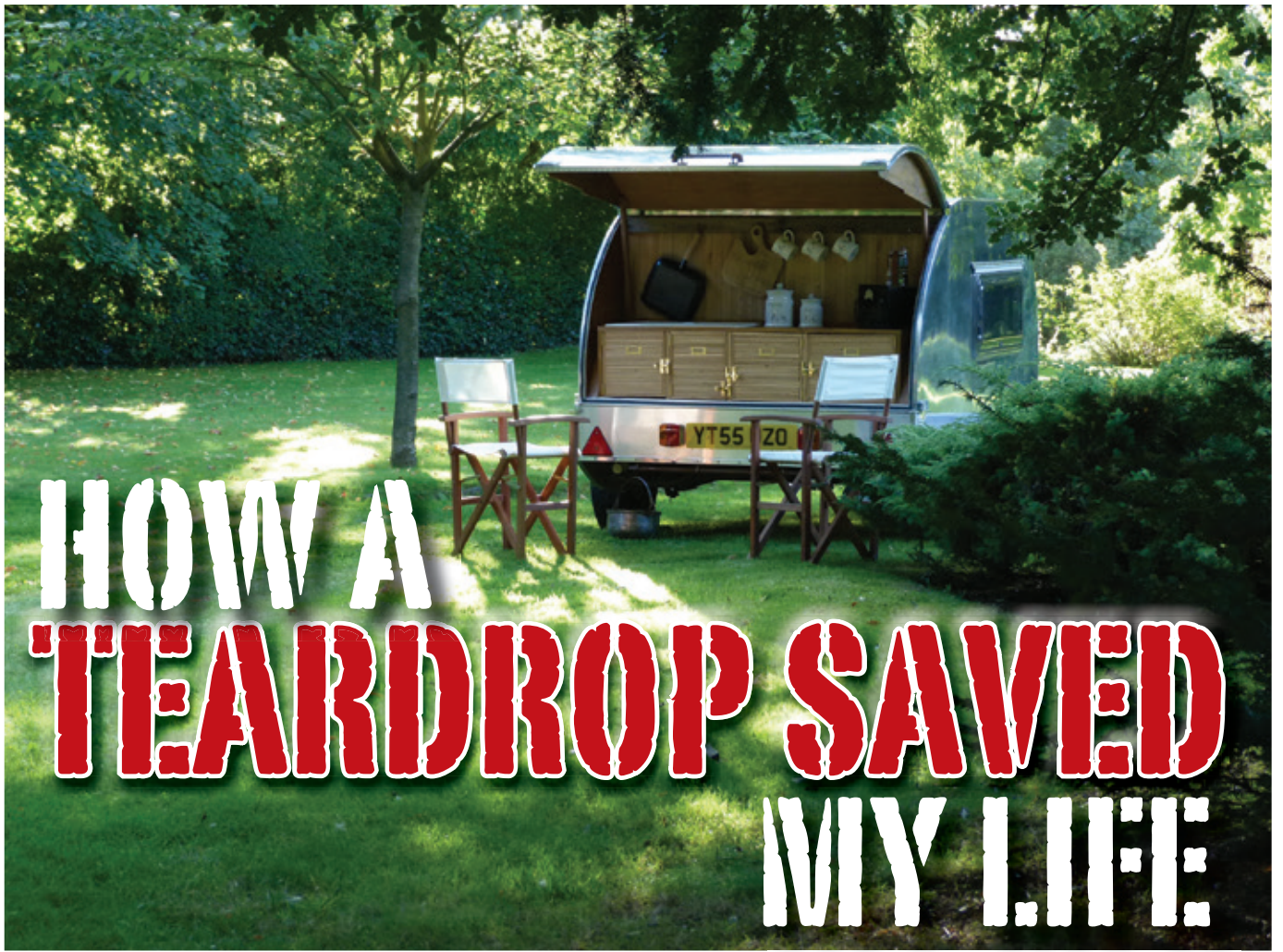


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HOW A 'TEARDROP SAVED MY LIFE

by Kendell Duncan



After serving Queen and Country in Iraq and a United Nations tour of duty, I started struggling with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. Then I found the Cool Tears article about Dave Moults steampunk teardrop. I couldn't get over the fact that he had taken unwanted and broken items which is how I felt about myself. He turned it into something so amazing. Dealing with flashbacks and almost no sleep, I found myself making plans for my own build. I was breaking inside but used the teardrop build as an escape.



I'm not an eco-warrior but every time I recycled something for my build I felt better inside. The chassis is off a old caravan, as is most of the aluminium, skylight, window, door and lock. The porthole window is made from two stainless steel plates I bought for £1. The old trunk I got for £0.50 at a car boot sale and rebuilt it adding aluminum and copper trims. The mud guards are made out of a broken tumble dryer drum. All the woodwork is made from oak cladding that was being thrown away by a local company. The eyes are like me...the copper screens only let you see so far inside...fearing you may not like what you see.

While in counseling that is provided by the national health service; I found out I had a huge phobia which was caused by my P.T.S.D. Using the teardrop to get away to the seaside or countryside was even more beneficial than anyone could have anticipated.

I still struggling with P.T.S.D. But I have caught the teardrop bug and already planning the next build. I am living life one teardrop at a time. I am not after sympathy or recognition. I just want any soldier or veteran out there in my situation, to get help before it is too late.





TOP TEN

SMARTPHONE APPS FOR CAMPING

by Sarah Tucker

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the first installment of our "TOP TEN" series.

Have an idea of a TOP TEN list? We want to hear it - email sarah@cooltears.com with your ideas.

For many, camping is a way to un-plug. In the midst of our fast-paced, screen-run world we crave a respite - a step away from the stress that comes from overstimulated lives. And yet, it is becoming very evident that technology can aide in the process and allow people the opportunity to see more and do more simply by utilizing apps on a smartphone.



1. TEARDROP NATION FREE

Tear Drop Nation was created to bring all Tear Drop camper enthusiasts together to share their camping experiences. TDN has a Instagram type functionality that allows users to post photos, videos, or just a simple hello to other TDN members. Members can like, and comment on your posts.

Best perk for teardroppers:
THE ONLY APP CREATED JUST FOR TEARDROPPERS!!!

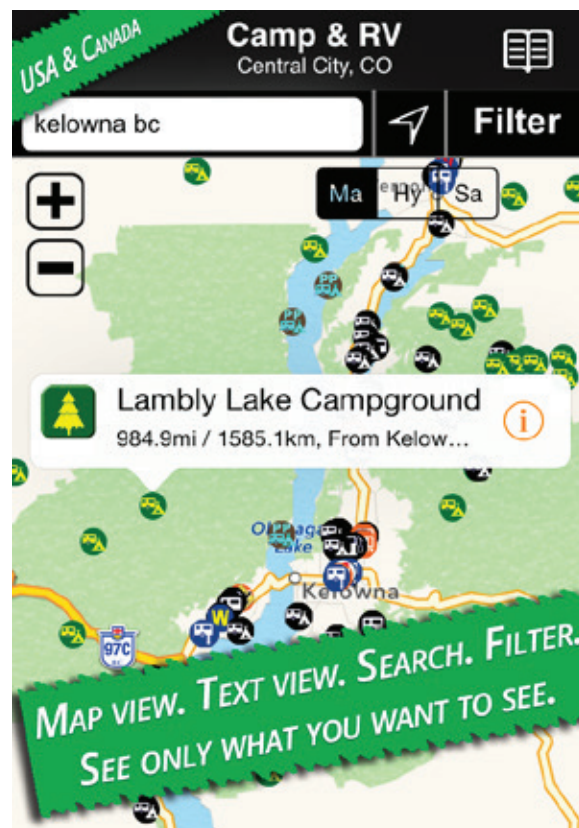


2. ALLSTAYS \$9.99

The #1 downloaded app for both iOS and Android for the past seven years says a lot for this app. From resorts to hike-in spots. Amenities, maps, truck stops, rest areas, Wal-mart and casino parking, RV dealers, sporting goods stores and much more. Two modes are available: one uses GPS and maps that you can filter. One is an offline manual lookup mode for when you don't have service.

Over 29,000 campgrounds are on the app including: Independent, KOA, National/State Forest, State Parks, Public Lands, Army Corps, National Park, Military, County and City Parks, casinos.

Best perk for teardroppers: *finding nearest dump station.*

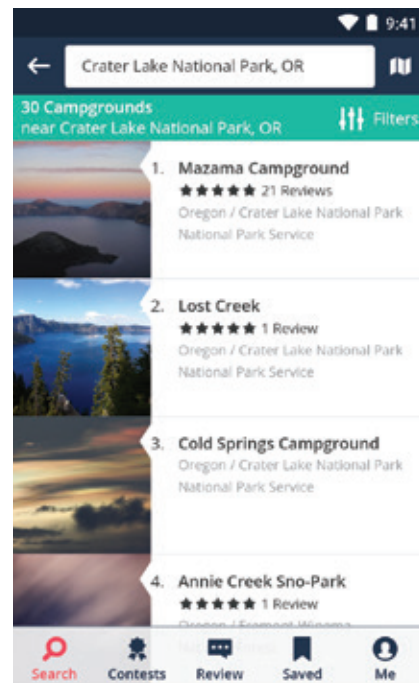




3. THE DRYT **FREE**

Founded by husband and wife team in 2014, The Dyrty (thedyrt.com) was born out of the frustration of not having a good resource for selecting campgrounds. In June 2016 it boomed with the goal of crowdsourcing a picture and review of every campground in the US. Campers earn points and prizes for submitting useful campground photos, videos and reviews. Through partnerships with outdoor brands such as Cotopaxi, Clif Bar, and Mountain Khakis, The Dyrty gave away over \$100,000 in prizes this past summer and received over 30,000 submissions in just 120 days!

Best perk for teardrops: win \$\$\$ for submitting reviews of campgrounds

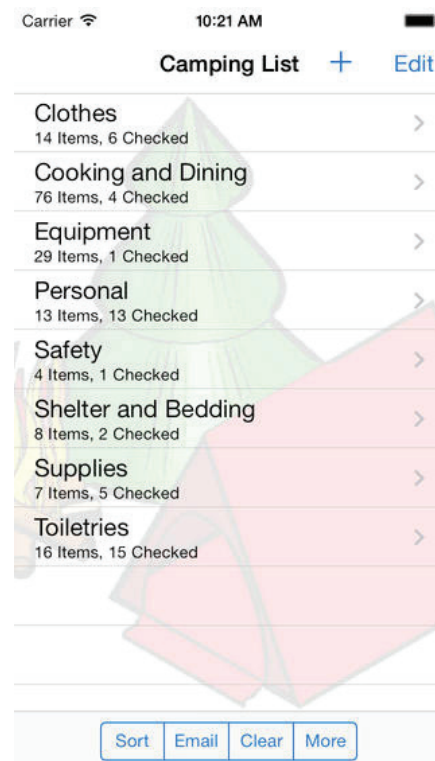


4. CAMPING LIST **\$1.99**

Designed for simplicity and ease-of-use, use Camping List to keep track of the things you need to take on your next camping, hiking, fishing, or backpacking trip.

Camping List comes pre-loaded with a large list of items you might want to take on your trip—all conveniently categorized into clear and straightforward groups such as; Clothes, Cooking & Dining, Personal, Equipment, Safety, Toiletries and more. Each group then has a list of specific items, for example Clothes: Gloves, Hats, Socks, Shirts and so on. Simply tap an item and it's now checked off of your list. Simple, easy, straightforward.

Best perk for teardrops: Create as many lists as you want and save them trip after trip.



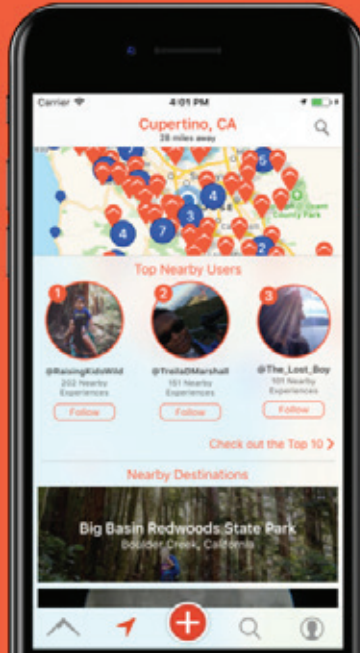


5. YONDER FREE

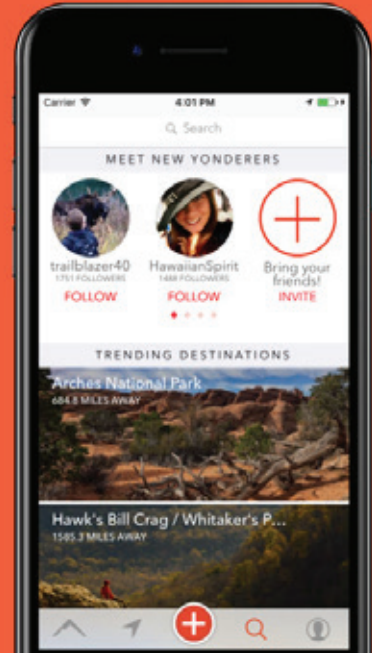
Yonder was designed for adventurers of all kinds. Finding those great “off the beaten” path places is one of the hardest things about outdoors adventure traveling. Yonder hopes to bridge that gap between guide book and park trail maps with an outdoors-focused social network that allows you to share your great outdoor experiences!

Best perk for teardrops: *Save space by getting rid of all those extra maps.*

Find beautiful outdoor places, and meet the people that love them



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6. MOTIONX GPS: \$1.99

This app offers attractive topographical maps that can be downloaded ahead of time so you're not reliant on spotty or nonexistent 3G coverage in the boonies.

Track your journey, save waypoints, and use a vastly improved compass to find your way around. Never leave home without first downloading an area map of your trip. Over 5 million users make this the top rated gps app around the world.

Best perk for teardroppers: *perfect for those off-grid, boondocking trips.*



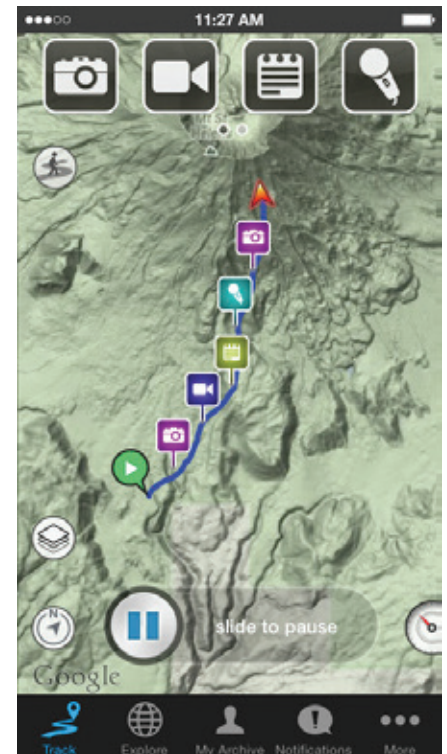
7. RAMBLR FREE



A mobile journaling app designed for hikes and mountaineering trips. Ramblr allows users to record everything from their route, statistics such as average speed, distance traveled, and highest point, as well as record geotagged audio, video, pictures or text, allowing you to easily create a blow-by-blow account or relive the trip in the future.

Additional features include built-in mapping, the ability to upload and share your trips, or check out where other Ramblr users have gone to.

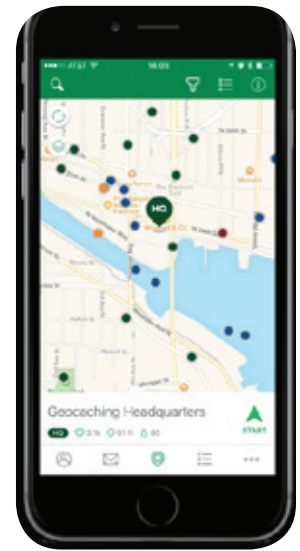
Best perk for teardroppers: *Perfect way to record trips and get awesome ideas from other outdoor lovers.*



8. GEOCACHING **FREE**



Geocaching is a modern day treasure hunt where players hide caches of small items and tokens and then post the cache's GPS coordinates for other players to find, with more than 2 million active geocaches ongoing worldwide. The Geocaching.com app (Android, iOS) takes advantage of your phone's GPS features and map apps to provide a searchable database of geocaches, with recommendations for beginners, listings of nearby caches and numerous other features.



Best perk for teardrops: *Perfect app to keep kid's busy between campfires.*

9. STAR WALK **\$2.99**



Vito Technologies' Star Walk 2 is a reality star chart that displays the stars and planets in the heavens above you. In addition, the app includes detailed information on the history and mythology of the various constellations, stars and planets, as well as a coordinates viewer for easy reference. A Time Machine slider lets you view the skies of the past or the future, and you can tap on individual objects for more details.

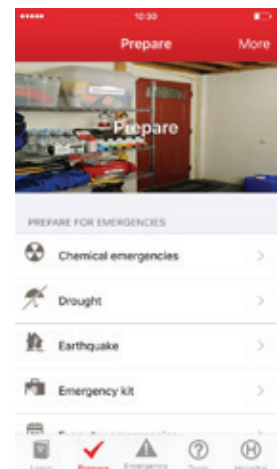


Best perk for teardrops: *Great app to have along on a clear night or when out camping.*

10. FIRST AID – AMERICAN RED CROSS **FREE**



Provides a wealth of basic first aid information for burns, injuries, and other medical emergencies that might arise. A "Learn" mode lets you read up on a type of injury, basic first aid treatment, and a Q&A section, while an Emergency mode dispenses with the extra information while providing concise first aid instructions in a single page, sometimes accompanied by videos and diagrams



Best perk for teardrops: *a one-button shortcut to call 911.*



by Sarah Tucker

Scott Cameron came up with a unique teardrop idea. He made his teardrop build requirements and bottom line was he needed something that held a queen size bed, an indoor bathroom and yet lightweight. As with most builds featured in Cool Tears, Scott decided a teardrop was his best option. The unique thing about his build is one thing...FOAM. You read that correctly, he decided to use extruded polystyrene foam that was covered inside and out with canvas.



Scott started with a utility 5'x8' trailer that he scooped up while it was on sale from a big box store. After some preliminary tweaks to the trailer, he jumped right in on assembling the main box. While yes, the main portion of the camper is foam, Scott wisely chose to build the frame from plywood and pine. The box was sealed with a mixture of polyurethane and mineral spirits and then painted w/polyurethane porch paint. Vinyl tiles were added to buffer the box floor from the expanded metal floor of the trailer.

He added a grey water hold tank that was fabricated using 4" ABS plastic pipe with PVC fittings and dump valve (it holds a little under 8 gallons.) It was plumbed to the permanent sink after the kitchen was fabricated.



The dinette assembly began with 1" X 2" perimeter framing and a soldering gun was used to make a great little foam channel cutter with a bent 3/32" welding rod "blade". Then the framing formed storage compartments inside accessible



rod "blade". Then the framing formed storage compartments inside accessible



through the plywood seat tops (this will keep the packed gear weight low and in front of the axle.) The sink is a SS steam table tray with lid which was cheap and strong. He then built and installed the ice box framing and planned out the kitchen and bathroom spacing. The door and frame were difficult to keep square and working smoothly but turned out to fit well with minor tweaks. He made the bathroom capable of using two types of portable toilets as some California state campgrounds insist on "tank" type toilets.

Scott then canvassed the exterior with 7oz canvas, and TBII. He used FG tape and epoxy on the all corners and edges, followed by priming with Gripper. Behr exterior latex paint was used on the exterior and turned out

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fabulous. The windows are Ebay surplus exit window specials and can be swung out by releasing 2 latches on either side. Rear windows are slide to open, shed type, safety glass windows.

The front cabinetry over dinette with recessed LED lighting on both sides on top of windows and under center cabinet, so light level can be adjusted for the mood. Building the countertop out of left over Pergo flooring with a stainless steel buffet pan sink allowed for an economical approach to the build. More recessed LED lighting was installed under kitchen top cabinet.

Scott found that building the cabinetry into the walls was very strong when planned as part of the framing. The cabinetry also strengthens the structure of the trailer when cured. He then installed the counter top, faucet, edge banding, and door for the butane cabinet.

The race to the finish line was on at this point of the build. All that was left was to install flooring, toe and some edge molding, curtains and a custom built bike rack.



The first shakedown run happened on a really windy day and the trailer towed perfectly. A few tweaks where needed including: lowering the hitch ball, securing the drawers so they don't fall out, etc. But there was no sway or "tiptoeing" in the wind and the trailer weighed in at just 874 lbs (with tongue weight at 136 lbs.)

The first trip out was fantastic except for the forgotten coffee pot but that was fixed quickly with a gas station coffee run!

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Randy and Kim
McCauley

How did your business get started?

We accepted an invite to attend a website seminar in our local area, and that's where it all started. We have always enjoyed camping so we started a website to sell quality niche gear sold exclusively online with only 5 camping tents and a selection of gear to get started. And a while later we became a distributor of an exclusive camping line from Australia that we had displayed at retail shows across the United States. From off the grid family camping to RV and teardrop trailer living is what were all about!

Where did the name Family Tent Camping come from?

We decided to combine the outdoors and what we enjoy with family and friends for not only quality gear but a place to share camping experiences.



We are a magazine for teardrops, which most people have because they are tired of tent camping. How can your company be a benefit to teardrop campers?

Some of our very best friends built their own teardrop and went for a 2 week trip to Colorado. It rained most of the time and they were stuck with no place to hang out, cook, etc. So they called us and we shipped them one of our tents. That is when we realized how perfect our tents are for the teardrop market. They are modular and quick set up so they are the perfect accessory to a teardrop for guests, storage, cooking and hanging out



What are your most popular items?

For teardrops our most popular items are the OzTent 30 Second Tent, Bifold tables, chairs with lumbar support and EZ up canopies.

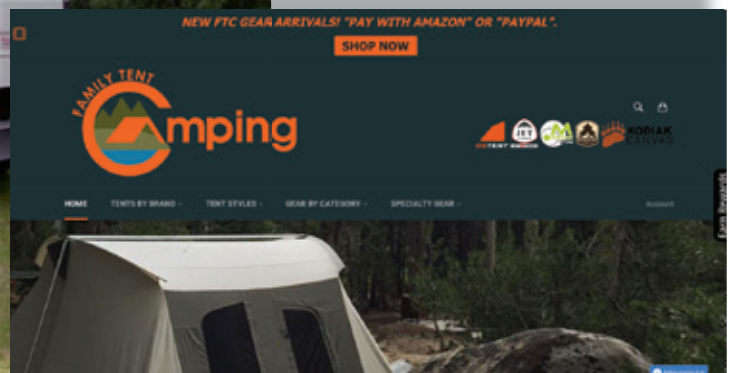
What do you think sets your company apart from others?

Our customer service....we are a family owned company and it is our number one goal to create a long lasting relationship with our customers and treat them the way they deserve to be treated, while giving them the best quality products available on the market.

How can our readers find out more about your company?

They can check out our website, follow us on Instagram and facebook or just call us up and ask questions. We are happy to spend time answering their questions and letting them get to know us.

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Tears in the wild

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