

# Our top tips for keeping your motorhome safe and secure at home and on the road



# When you're out and about:

- Fit an alarm: a properly installed and maintained alarm system will help put off thieves.
- Install an immobiliser: thieves are getting even more sophisticated - an immobiliser will prevent your motorhome from moving, even if it's hot-wired.
- Use a steering wheel lock and wheel clamps: to make it difficult for an intruder to steal your vehicle even if they have the keys.
- Park in well-lit public areas: preferably campsites and areas covered with CCTV, to make it harder for thieves to go unnoticed.
- **Use a tracking device:** so, if the worst happens, you'll be more likely to recover your vehicle.
- Use window locks and deadbolts: to make it more difficult for an intruder to break into your vehicle.
- Keep valuable items out of sight: use a safe box and take items like wallets and phones with you when you leave your vehicle. It's also a good idea to use blinds or curtains so thieves can't see into your motorhome at all.
- Never leave your keys inside: thieves are opportunistic so even if you're just popping out for a minute to get gas, never leave your keys in an unattended vehicle.

Did you know: an insurance-approved vehicle tracking system will increase your chances of a speedy recovery to 96%. It's one of the most important things you can do to protect your beloved motorhome, or at least get it back quickly if it's stolen.



### At home:

- Storage: ideally you should store your motorhome in a specially designed storage site or, if possible, in a garage or locked building.
- Home CCTV: if you keep your motorhome at home, consider installing CCTV – it helps deter potential thieves and, even if it doesn't prevent theft, it can help you recover your vehicle.
- Install sensor lights: thieves prefer to operate
  in the dark where they can't be seen so, if you
  can, install sensor lights to help put them off.
- Fit security posts or a substantial gate: if parking your motorhome in your driveway, having these helps act as a physical deterrent against thieves.

Now we've got all the safety and security covered, on to the fun bit – your holiday! Here's our top 5 tips to enjoy a stress-free motorhome holiday:

### 1. Plan your trip

Even if you like adventure, it's important to plan and decide where you'd like to go. You can't just park your motorhome anywhere and campsites can fill up fast, so it's best to book in advance.

### 2. Make a list

Sure, motorhome trips are fun, but you don't want to get stuck camping without the right gear. Essentials include gas, matches, headtorches, mud mats (especially with the Great British weather!), camping chairs, tyre repair kit, first aid kit and fire extinguisher. But be careful not to overpack – be mindful of your motorhome payload, and if you're traveling with family or friends, remember you'll be sharing a small space.

### 3. Pre-travel checks

We advise running through a checklist before your journey, especially if it's your first time. You can even print it off and stick it on your motorhome's wall:

- Turn off the gas
- Lock the fridge
- Close the glass lid on the hob
- Shut and lock all cupboards/drawers/tables
- Secure doors and windows
- Pack away exterior steps
- Check your leisure battery, especially if your motorhome's been in storage over winter

## 4. Get to know your motorhome

Driving a motorhome is a lot different to just driving a car. Suddenly you're in charge of a vehicle that's much wider, taller, longer, and heavier than anything you're used to. Know the dimensions and max weight of your motorhome to avoid any unnecessary accidents, and if you're new to motor homing make sure you get some practice in before your big trip.

### 5. Invest in tech

This brings us on to our final tip – it's a good idea to invest in tech, like a rear camera, to give you extra peace of mind, especially if you're not used to driving a motorhome. You can even buy a motorhome satnay which suggests routes avoiding low bridges and narrow streets, based on its size and weight.



