

TRAVEL • TECH • LIFESTYLE FOR THE RV ENTHUSIAST

MOTORHOME

WRITERS' GUIDELINES

Thank you for your interest in writing for *MotorHome*, the only national monthly newsstand magazine dedicated to enthusiasts of all types of motorized RVs: Class A and Class C motorhomes, camping vans and customized buses.

WHO WE ARE

MotorHome's goal is to entertain and inform our readers. We are devoted to covering all aspects of the RV lifestyle, including travel destinations, activities and events, the newest motorhomes on the market, do-it-yourself projects and RV service and repair recommendations.

Our lead time is four to six months. We publish approximately eight to 10 freelance features each month, most of which fall into two categories:

(1) activities involving motorhomes and motorhomers, such as travel, recreation and lifestyle; and

(2) technical aspects of motorhoming, including advice on equipment and maintenance.

Other topics we're looking for address controversial issues and legislation affecting motorhome owners, plus humorous stories with an RV focus and profiles of celebrities who own motorhomes.

OUR VOICE

Articles should be lively and written with an active voice. Interesting, colorful writing is just as important as accuracy. The primary prerequisite for all material is that it be written with an RV angle. *MotorHome* is a specialty magazine for readers who are passionate about RVing. To gain a better understanding of the type of material we publish, we suggest that you study recent issues before sending us queries.

WINNING QUERIES

The easiest way to sell your work to *MotorHome* is to query us on an interesting and tightly focused motorhome story. We do not buy general material or travel material that is

not specifically written for motorhomers.

Written queries are preferred over e-mail queries; phone queries are not welcome. If you have never worked for us before, please send queries with samples of previously published clips.

TRAVEL ARTICLES

Travel destinations are virtually unlimited — as long as they are accessible by motorhome. We are seeking adventure features on lesser-known but exciting destinations and attractions, as well as articles on more widely known areas written with an RV-related approach.

Travel articles should include information on campgrounds in the area, road restrictions and accessibility for large vehicles, where to park, key attractions, a map showing the route or boundaries of the area described, and a selection of no more than 40 photos (featuring scenery, people, activities and motorhomes in scenic settings). We also ask writers to prepare a sidebar of contact information with phone numbers and Web sites for relevant agencies and campgrounds in the area.

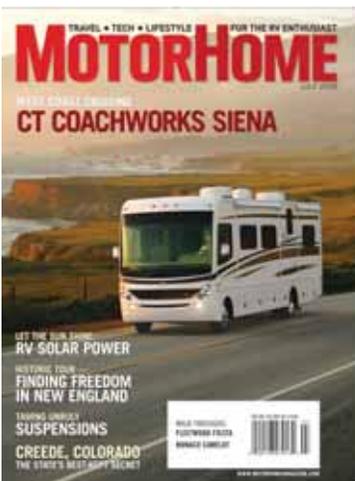
Length of material ranges from major travel features (1,200-1,800 words) to Getaway features (800-1,000 words) to brief items for our front-of-the-book section Escapes/Crossroads (100-200 words).

TECHNICAL/DIY ARTICLES

Although vehicle and product tests are generally staff-written or assigned, we welcome technical articles on almost any subject related to motorhomes. Technical features (1,200-1,800 words) must be comprehensive, accurate, clearly written and accompanied by magazine-quality photos or appropriate illustrations.

Most motorhomers are interested in learning how to do RV-related projects, though they may not be mechanically inclined. Typical do-it-yourself articles (1,200 words) have included making a home office inside a coach and installing a ceiling fan, but these projects can also involve more major modifications of a coach. In





all cases, the submission must include photos or appropriate illustrations to fully show the reader how to accomplish the project. We use professionals to make illustrations from rough sketches, so contributors need not be artists.

Note: Only a writer who has obtained explicit permission from the editorial staff may contact a manufacturer or any other business purporting to be a representative of *MotorHome* magazine.

LIFESTYLE ARTICLES

Personality profiles (900 words) may feature ordinary people with unusual hobbies, people who use motorhomes in unique ways, or celebrities who are motorhome enthusiasts. A strong motorhome connection is a must. Submissions must include good color photos, with close-up shots of the individual inside or near the motorhome, as well as exterior shots of the motorhome and the owner. Try to get action shots, rather than static posed shots.

We also welcome features on any activity or hobby that is appropriate for motorhome travelers. Submissions must include good color photos that show people participating in the activity. Photograph indoor activities/hobbies inside a motorhome; others should be photographed outdoors with a motorhome in the background or in a few scenes.

MANUSCRIPTS

Manuscripts are purchased with first North American rights and nonexclusive electronic rights (detailed in our freelance contract). We do not buy simultaneous submissions or articles that have appeared elsewhere. We prefer text submissions on a CD (separate disks for more than one story), accompanied by a double-spaced hard-copy. Be sure to include your name, address, phone number, e-mail address, Social Security number or FEIN and the word count of the story.

Please put yourself in the shoes of our fact checker and include complete fact-checking material in the story package. Such material may include names and contact points for all sources and anyone quoted including phone numbers, addresses and Web sites.

We reserve the right to edit all manuscripts for style and/or length, but we will discuss major changes or revisions with the author. If we request major changes in an assigned article and the revised manuscript is still unacceptable, we will pay a kill fee of one-third the agreed-upon rate.

Manuscript acceptance or rejection usually is made within 60 days; following acceptance, payment is issued within four to six weeks. We cannot accept responsibility for unsolicited material.

PHOTO REQUIREMENTS

MotorHome does not buy stories without photos. Quality and suitability of photography often determine the acceptance or rejection of manuscripts. We prefer original 35mm or larger format color slides or very high (7.1 megapixel and up) resolution digital images.

Each slide you send should have your name on it, and for all photos be sure to write a descriptive caption of 25 words or less on a separate sheet, numbered so that it keys to a number on the slide. Slides must be submitted in protective sleeves; we cannot be responsible for damage to those in boxes or envelopes, nor are we responsible for unsolicited slides/prints.

If you are submitting digital images, please send raw, uncorrected digital photos on CD/DVD at the highest resolution available on your camera. All images must be @ 300 DPI, RGB or CMYK file format. CDs/DVDs with digital images must include a separate sheet of thumbnail images with captions.

All submissions must have at least one photo that includes a motorhome, preferably on a road. Images should bring to life the places, people and activities covered in the article. In general, avoid static shots of signs, food and close-up shots of animals. And please, no photos of trailers or campers. For major travel articles, we suggest a maximum of 40 slides; for Getaways, activity or people pieces, 20. The author is responsible for compensating any photographer whose work is submitted with his/her manuscript. Any set-up shots featuring identifiable people must be accompanied by signed model releases.

Although we customarily buy a package consisting of manuscript and photography, we occasionally purchase additional slides, such as scenic shots of motorhomes. We purchase first North American rights and non-exclusive electronic rights (see our freelance contract). All submitted photography will be returned after publication, along with tearsheets of the published article.

OUR USUAL RATES RANGE AS FOLLOWS:

	MANUSCRIPT WITH PHOTOS	SUPPLEMENTAL PHOTOS
Major Travel	\$500 – \$700	Cover \$500 – \$600
Getaway	\$400 – \$500	Spread \$275
Crossroads	\$100	Full Page \$200
Personality	\$400 – \$500	½ Page \$150
Technical	\$500 – \$900	¼ Page \$100
Do-It-Yourself	\$400 – \$600	Spot \$50

SUBMISSIONS

PLEASE SEND QUERIES TO: Eileen Hubbard, Editor, *MotorHome* Magazine, 2750 Parkview Ct., Oxnard, California 93036. Or e-mail: info@motorhomemagazine.com.