



NOW WE'RE TAWKING!

Travelling Australia With Kids
with **Tara Henry**

15 HILARIOUSLY HELPFUL TIPS FOR LIFE ON THE ROAD (BECAUSE TRAVELLING ISN'T ALWAYS INSTAGRAM-PERFECT)

Ah, life on the road. The open highway, the endless horizon, the wind in your hair... and the empty water tank, melted chocolate stash, and GPS that insists you're driving through a lake.

Whether you're travelling full-time, a weekend warrior, or living the nomadic dream in a caravan or campervan, one thing's for sure: road life is equal parts magical and messy. To help you navigate the highs, lows, and utterly bizarre moments of travel, here are 15 funny, practical, and slightly absurd tips for making the most of your journey.

1 Shave Your Legs with Olive Oil, Because Why Not?

Let's kick off with a true tale of travel resourcefulness. Imagine this: you're off-grid, basking in the glory of nature, when you realise your legs are giving serious yeti vibes. No shaving cream? No problem. Grab that bottle of olive oil from your caravan kitchen and treat yourself to the world's most slippery spa day. Not only will you have smooth legs, but you won't have to use any of your precious tank water!



2 Treat Fuel Like It's Liquid Gold

There's nothing like the feeling of freedom—until your fuel gauge hits empty and the nearest servo is 200km away. Always, and we mean always, fill up when you're passing through a town. Even if you think you have plenty. Even if you're "just heading up the road." That road may turn into an unsealed detour through the back of beyond, and running out of fuel is the fastest way to become a feature on Outback Rescue.

3 Never Trust a Camp Toilet (or Caravan Park Dunny Block) Without a Torch

There's nothing quite like the midnight dash to the loo to remind you you're alive—and possibly being watched by a possum with judgemental eyes. Whether you're roughing it in the bush or doing laps around the caravan park toilet block, never go without a torch or headlamp. That shortcut you found earlier? It's now a labyrinth of garden hoses, tree roots, and mysterious squelchy things. Bonus level: try it in your PJs with one shoe on. It's like Survivor: Bathroom Edition.



4 Pre-Sort Your Snacks Like a Pro

You know what brings harmony to a long-haul drive? Snacks. You know what brings chaos? A child screaming because their favourite chip flavour has disappeared into the black hole under the passenger seat. Label your snack containers. Give everyone their own stash. And for the love of sanity, keep the chocolate in a cool spot unless you enjoy licking it out of wrappers.



5 Master the Art of the Five-Minute Setup

Every seasoned traveller knows the true competition at a campground is how fast you can set up. Pop-up tents? Instant shade awnings? Folding chairs that don't require a master's degree to operate? Get those down to a science. Bonus points if you can do it with a drink in one hand and without yelling at your partner.

6 Invest in a Decent Coffee Setup

Mornings on the road can be peaceful ... or a total disaster, depending on whether you've had caffeine. A reliable, compact coffee



maker will make you feel human again. Whether it's a French press, AeroPress, or full-blown barista machine (we see you, glampers), prioritise the brew. Your travel buddies will thank you.

7 The Washing Line Wiggle Dance

Drying clothes in a caravan park or out in the bush is part choreography, part meteorology. Learn to dance around your temporary laundry setup with grace—and always peg everything. One gust of wind and you're chasing your undies across a dusty paddock in front of a crowd. Not your finest moment.

8 Have a Secret Emergency Chocolate Stash

This is not a want. It is a need. Store it somewhere no one else knows—inside a cereal box, under the spare tyre, or in your hiking boot. One day, you'll face a travel meltdown: the campsite is full, the mozzies are biting, and the toddler is feral. That's when you break into the stash. Chocolate saves relationships. Science probably proves this. Also a bottle of wine for the mums.





9 Embrace the Wild Hair and Questionable Outfits

Caravan mirrors are liars. Between the heat, wind, salt water, and hats, you're not here to win beauty pageants. Embrace the caravan chic look: dusty thongs, board shorts, mismatched socks, and a bun that could house a family of birds. This is fashion freedom. Bonus: no one judges you when everyone else looks like a laundry explosion as well.

10 Master the "Just Pulled Over" Pee Technique

Sometimes, nature calls and there's no rest stop in sight. Get comfortable with creative positioning and keeping a lookout. Have a roll of toilet paper, a plastic bag, and hand sanitizer always at the ready. And remember: always check for ants first. Always.



11 Keep a "Grab-and-Go" Box by the Door

Fill it with all your daily essentials—sunscreen, hats, bug spray, sunglasses, fly nets, and maybe a bit of dignity. Having it ready by the caravan door saves time when you're racing out for a sunset walk or trying to catch the local bakery before it sells out of pies.

12 Download Your Fun or Face the Camping "Boredom Monster!"

Camping is awesome—marshmallows, adventures, and muddy knees! But sometimes you just want to snuggle up and watch your favourite shows. Before you zoom off to a no-internet zone, download your cartoons and games! Because if you don't, the Boredom Monster might appear. It loves to pop out when you can't finish your movie, your game won't load, or you're stuck watching ants instead of superheroes. Save yourself—download before you go!

13 Practice the Caravan Shower Squat

Water is life, and caravan tanks are tiny. Mastering the three-minute shower is an art form. Better yet, develop the Caravan Shower Squat—a move that saves water, strengthens your legs, and ensures you rinse efficiently. Who needs a gym membership?



14 Keep a "What's That Smell?" Checklist

It happens. Something starts to reek. Is it the greywater tank? Forgotten cheese under the seat? Someone's shoes? Create a checklist and investigate calmly. Accusations help no one. And remember: open all the windows before you go detective mode. You'll thank yourself later.

15 Create a Memory Jar or Travel Journal

Yes, the Instagram photos are lovely, but the best stories are the ones you don't post—like that time a kookaburra stole your bacon or when your awning blew away mid-storm and you chased it in your jocks. Keep a physical journal or jar where you write a quick note each day. The laughs you'll have reading them back one day? Priceless.



Final Thoughts: Expect the Unexpected

Life on the road isn't perfect—and that's exactly why it's so unforgettable. You'll hit potholes, burn toast, forget essentials, and have moments where you seriously question your sanity. But you'll also laugh until you cry, discover secret swimming holes, meet amazing people, and find joy in the beautifully chaotic rhythm of travel.

So go ahead—shave your legs with olive oil, hoard emergency snacks, and wear socks with thongs if you must. The road is your playground. Embrace the mess, the adventure, and the endless memories waiting around every bend.

Happy travels and smooth legs to you, brave adventurer!

BE CROCWISE **WA's North West is Crocodile Country**



CROCS ARE COMMON
CROCS MOVE AROUND
CROCS ARE DEADLY

Don't become complacent. Humans and crocodile populations are higher than ever leading to more frequent encounters.