



Roimier's nuts & bolts

Last month editor Simon Lewis took Bush Lapa's Roimier off-road caravan up the Bain's Kloof Pass to the Tweede Tol resort to review its road performance and campsite presence. This month we dissect its technical features.

Report by **Kobus Botha**
Photos by **Simon Lewis**

THE OFF-ROAD CARAVAN

Roimier is built with a heavy-duty chassis and stainless steel body that make it perfect for off-roading, and it's fitted with Firestone ATX 245/75 R15 tyres on steel rims, although 17" rims are available on request. It comes with twin jerrycan



holders – the jerrycans aren't included, leaving you free to decide which is the right jerrycan for your travelling needs – a 205-litre water tank with an exterior cap, exterior yellow LED lights to keep the bugs away and a blue Fredlin plug (which is the normal caravan plug). The battery management system and light switch control panel are inside the caravan towards the rear. There's the optional extra of a powerful and super-handy solar panel that can be fitted to the top of the pop-top roof – well worth the investment if you have the funds.

SET-UP

It's pretty simple to set up this caravan: in last month's review, Simon reported that he and Malcolm did it in around an hour, but it took them that long because it was their first attempt with this unit, and they had to keep stopping to take photos. In fact, you can set it up in less than 10 minutes – and after you've done it once, you'll

be able to get it up and action-ready in no time at all.

The first step is to raise or lower the jockey wheel in front to make sure that the trailer is as level as possible, after which you attach and drop down the rear support jacks, which are mounted at the back of the trailer and help level it out. That done, you'll want to unfurl the the awning. It comes with four sides and creates the outside tent for your cover and living space.

BUSH WING AWNING

Open the awning's storage bag. A set of three awning arms is connected to a swivel joint on the right-hand side and a separate one is connected to another swivel joint on the left-hand side. Pull out the awning roof support arms and place them more or less loosely in position. Position the first awning roof support arm on the right-hand side so that it is at 90 degrees to the swivel joint (or parallel to



LEFT The rear support jacks are securely mounted to the exterior body mounts. **ABOVE** The sunshine is free, but the solar panel is an optional extra. **TOP RIGHT** The right-hand awning supports the arm swivel joint. Note the position of the first support arm. **BELOW** The spacious kitchen counter with its movable two-plate gas stove. **BELOW RIGHT** The fridge-freezer slides out of its nose-cone storage conveniently close at hand for the chef.



the trailer's body) *before* you move the left-hand side arm into its final position. Once the last arm is in its correct position and secured in place, you are then ready to open the pop-top roof. Unclip the roof latches and lift the roof up to open it – a task that the built-in gas-lifts make really easy. When you're done with the pop-top roof, you can complete the set-up of the awning. Move the first arm right around to come to rest against the side of the caravan above the door opening and secure it to its fastening on the opposite side of the roof with the nylon rope provided.

The next step is to attach the awning poles and insert the roof raisers that allow any rainwater to drain off easily. Secure the rest of the awning guide ropes and zip on the awning's sides if you need privacy or protection from the elements. The colour-coded zippers – a really clever

idea, this – make the job of attaching the right sections in the right places quick and easy. Doing this whole set-up sounds like a lot of work, but it actually happens



in a flash. Finally, fit the skirts around the bottom edges of the caravan so that the entire tent area is now sealed off and weatherproof.

Unlatch and drop down the queen-size bed outside support panel on the right-hand side of the caravan and connect the bedroom roof's flysheet to the two sprung-steel support arms. Pop back inside to complete the living quarters and bedroom by folding the queen-size mattress down into place. Set up sorted!

You will notice that every nook and cranny inside has been used to create storage space hidden behind neat canvas covers and pockets.

FAR LEFT Simply release the pop-up roof catches to open the roof. The gas struts make this so much easier. **LEFT** The blue Fredlin plug connector.

KITCHEN & UTILITIES

You'll find the kitchen outside on the left-hand side of the trailer. Unclip the side to drop down the countertop working area. There's enough foam-lined packing space for plenty of cooking equipment, crockery, glasses and condiments. The two-plate gas stove is deliberately not fixed, giving you the option of setting it up anywhere on the countertop. A cutlery holder slides in next to the yellow exterior LED light to complete the set-up. Space for a 220V / 12V fridge-freezer unit (an optional extra) is situated in the nose cone on a drawer system for easy access to the working area. On the other side of the nose cone is an additional storage compartment for the gas bottle, fire extinguisher, extension lead and so on.

Roomier comes with a 205-litre water tank and a handy tap is situated to the left of the doorway and close to the kitchen area.

CONCLUSION

Roomier is really the most practical off-road two-sleeper caravan I've seen: it's small yet with lots of space, simple and easy to set up. You do actually have everything you'll need in this fellow. If you ask yourself, 'What more do I have to take that can fit in here?' then, if you're honest with yourself, the answer would probably be, 'Nothing.' 🚐

Bush Lapa

56 Napier Street, Worcester, Western Cape
Cape | 023 347 4333 | www.bushlapa.com



ABOVE Like everything else on Roomier, the stepladder is neatly stowed away.

ROOMIER 2-BED 4X4 CARAVAN

Dry weight (full house model)

600 kg

Loading capacity

700 kg

Towing length (spare wheel incl.)

3360 mm

Towing height to rooftop

1900 mm

Total width

1850 mm

Side bed (double)

1800 x 1300 mm

Ground clearance (to axle)

330 mm

Ground clearance (to chassis)

500 mm

Kitchen size (286-litre)

1600 x 560 x 320 mm

Departure angle

43°

Approaching angle

13°

Braked axle with 8-blade leaf springs

1600 kg

- One-year guarantee
- Wood storage
- 2 x jerrycan holders
- Shock absorbers
- Water tank with 205-litre capacity.

