

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

The goal of *MotorHome* 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, DIY 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 as well as humorous stories with an RV focus.

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.**

Please send queries via mail or email; 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 must be accessible by motorhome. We are seeking adventure features on lesser-known 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 websites 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 DIY 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*.

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.

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 submissions on disk, accompanied by a double-spaced hardcopy. Be sure to include your name, address, phone number, email address, Social Security number or FEIN and the word count of the story.

Please also 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 websites.

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 usu-

ally is made within 60 days; following acceptance, payment is issued within three to five weeks. We cannot accept responsibility for unsolicited material.

PHOTO REQUIREMENTS

We do not buy stories without photos. Quality and suitability of photography often determine the acceptance or rejection of manuscripts.

We require original, very high (7.1 megapixel and up) resolution 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 photos; 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 photos, 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, Editorial Director, MotorHome Magazine, 2750 Park View Court, Suite #240, Oxnard, California 93036. Or email: info@motorhome magazine.com.