



WORDS & IMAGES: MAX TAYLOR

THE AIR UP THERE!

INTRODUCING THE AIR OPUS. THIS TIME, IT'S PERSONAL.

I admit it: I have a particular fondness for Opus camper trailers. I also have a rather bitter taste in my mouth.

The bitterness comes not from the design of these campers, with their distinctive dome-shaped tents, but from the fact my personal Opus was nicked from my driveway a couple of years ago.

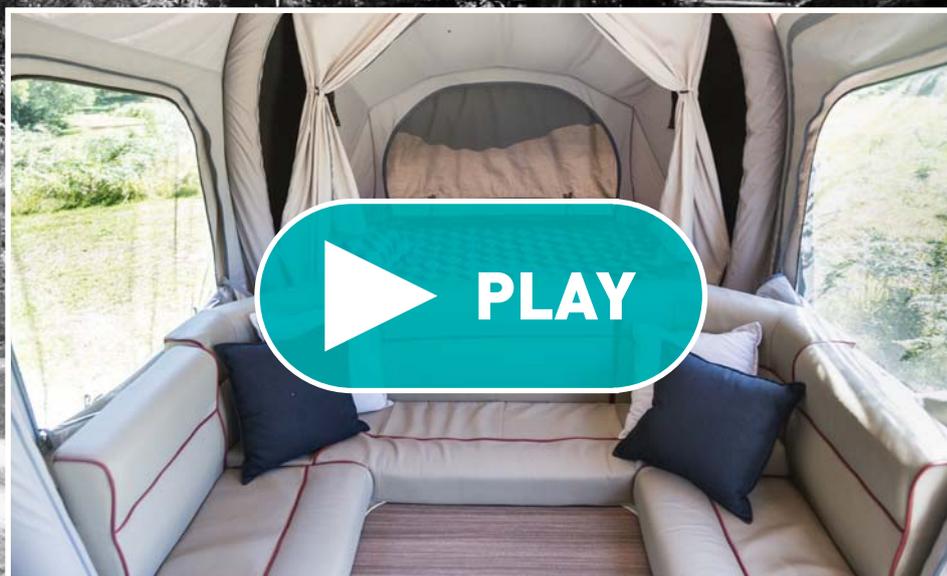
My Opus was the first that the company had built in Australia. Previously, Opus campers were built in the UK and they've come a long way since.

OPUS POTENTIAL

The potential for the Opus was evident from the earliest of models but, frankly,

it always needed to be finessed. Spec-wise, it was pretty basic. The Opus is now a much more refined, considered camper trailer.

The Air Opus will more or less self-deploy in about two minutes. How? Simply push a button and the onboard air-compressor will inflate the so-called 'air beams',



which replace the standard hoops, until they become rigid enough to hold the tent securely in place.

Now, it's important to note that our review Air Opus was a prototype – production models will be available soon. So, therefore, there were a couple of niggles that are being ironed out as you read this. The check valve on the air-compressor leaked slightly and the base of one of the air beams had a habit of popping out of position. The reason for this is the tent for our prototype Air Opus

was built on the body of a standard Opus.

MOVING THE KITCHEN

The early-model Opus campers had a small onboard kitchen. When the camper was packed up, three kitchen modules had to be rested on the floor of the camper, leaving no space for other items, such as sleeping bags. The new Opus recognises this. The internal kitchen has been removed entirely, freeing up the offside in favour of storage space, and a slide-out stainless steel kitchen can

be fitted to the nearside as part of the Ready to Roll pack. Electrically speaking, the Air Opus is much more sophisticated than its forebears, and beneath the Opus you'll find independent coil suspension and, overall, a neat finish to the wiring and plumbing. There are two 30L water tanks fitted – the second tank is part of the Ready to Roll pack – each protected by checkerplate.

STEP INSIDE

Inside, the Air Opus has two double beds, front and rear,

a club lounge and a couple of storage spots by the entrance.

The dinette/lounge converts to an extra bed. Simply lower the portable table onto a couple of timber edges to form the base and insert the backrest cushions. When packing the camper away, those backrests need to be removed and assembled on top of and below the table.

Because the lounge spans the full width of the trailer, it's necessary to climb over the cushions to get to the rear bed. Kids: remove your shoes! I'd suggest further iterations of the Air Opus include a layout option with a smaller dinette that allowed easy walk-up access to the rear bed.

READY TO ROLL

The Air Opus is at its best with the Ready to Roll pack fitted. It includes an Air annexe (a custom annexe system that utilises the same air beam system), a slide-out stainless steel kitchen, an additional 80L water tank and 100Ah AGM battery, the spare wheel and rear carrier, and 'leather-type' upholstery for the lounge.

Ultimately, the Air Opus takes a lot of fuss out of setting up after a long day on the road. That alone makes it worth a look.

[READ FULL STORY](#)

MORE INFO

OPUS CAMPER

www.opuscamper.com.au



VERDICT

PROS

- Air beam system and ease of use
- Continual development of the Opus
- That the air beams can be isolated should one be punctured

CONS

- Leaking air-compressor check valve (which will be fixed for production models)
- The base of one air beam kept popping out of position (again, this will be fixed for production models)
- We'd like to see the slide-out kitchen fitted as standard

[COMPLETE SPECS](#)

RATINGS

FIT AND FINISH



LAYOUT



INNOVATION

