



Living... A Recreational Life



Ron and Debbie Hartz, married in 1979, have had their 38 foot long RV at Larson's Landing on the shores of the Missouri River for six years - the RV stays put all year.

I asked Ron where he calls home. "Well, that's questionable," he says with a grin. Ron farms, has a traditional home in northeast Nebraska, a second in Dakota Dunes, and this 530 square foot RV.

Most weekdays are spent on the farm, but Ron and Debbie rarely spend more than a few days in a row in any one space. For this home, Ron made comfort a top priority, "This place gives me a warm feeling when I walk in."

Inside, the main living area is open concept; a modern kitchen with full sized stainless appliances, breakfast bar, and dining table opens into the living room space. The living room area is warm and inviting. Two recliners face a fireplace and entertainment center, a loveseat sits opposite the breakfast bar. The Hartz take advantage of all the built-in storage space, as well as adding decorative storage, such as storage ottomans for a coffee table.

The bedroom is big enough for a king size bed, ample closet space and flat screen TV. The bathroom has a full-size shower and modern finishes.

Living recreationally isn't just about what's in the RV. "The scenery is beautiful. I just love it here. My favorite time of day is in the mornings. I like to sit out here and have my coffee." An eight sided gazebo sits facing the river. Within the shelter of the gazebo are comfortable chairs, foot stools, flat

RV is short for Recreational Vehicle, essentially a home away from home - on wheels.

Prices can range anywhere from \$8,000 to \$95,000 for a conventional travel trailer. The Recreation Vehicle Industry Association (RVIA) reports that today's typical owner is 48 and married with an annual household income of \$62,000. More than 11% of U.S. households headed by people age 35 to 54 own one, exceeding the 9.3% ownership rates of those 55 and over, according to a 2011 study by the University of Michigan.



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