RVIA Show Coverage



combines two terms for a fifth wheel that don't normally go together: "full-featured" and "entry-level".



Forest River's Arctic Wolf's 265DBH8 is designed to be a full-featured, entry-level fifth wheel with Millennial RVers in mind.

"Young families are looking for low-cost vacations that they can take with their kids. We believe this class will be the biggest volume area for us. It's not right now, but it will be," according to a Forest River representative at the RVIA

Show. "What we're trying to do here is create a fifth wheel that is priced like a travel trailer, but still has some of the things as good as other fifth wheels."

ATEME WOLF

Despite the lower price, as with many Arctic Wolf models, the 30-foot, 2-inch-long 265DBH8 offers several perks.

This unit features two slide-outs, both on the driver's side. The first adds extra space to the bedroom and bathroom. The second houses the tri-fold sleeper sofa and the dinette in the living room. The height inside the slide-out is 6 feet, 4 inches versus the 5 feet, 8 inches in height found in many competing products – and the Arctic Wolf's slides feature oversized panoramic windows – so it makes the Arctic Wolf feel bigger and more roomy.

There is plenty to like inside this fifth wheel, including a "super kitchen" package that includes extra lighting, designer glass doors and luxury hardware and accents, plus a stainless-steel kitchen suite appliance package and double-door residential-style refrigerator powered by a 1,000-watt inverter.

The 265DBH8 offers plenty of sleeping space thanks to its queen-sized bed located in the bedroom in the front of the coach, a tri-fold sleeper located in the slide on the driver's side of the coach, and bunks located at the rear of the coach.

Arctic Wolf aims to simplify the maneuvering and campsite setup process for RVers easier thanks to the fifth wheel's Reese Revolution hitch and Lippert's Ground Control auto leveling system. The Reese Revolution hitch is easy to connect, and it provides a wider turning radius, so it handles tight turns easily and is not a slider hitch. Also, it can be installed on a short-bed truck. The Ground Control auto leveling system not only makes set up and take down quicker, but it also provides a more secure stance.

"When you get to the park, you want to spend as little time setting up as possible," the Arctic Wolf official says. "This allows you to get the unit level in 10 seconds instead of several minutes – and it also makes it among the most stable fifth wheels on the market."

This fiver weighs 7,900 pounds. The MSRP for the Arctic Wolf's 265DBH8 was not available as of press time.

What impressed *RV PRO*: The Arctic Wolf 265DBH8 is a beautifully designed fifth wheel, with an appearance and a list of amenities that make it stand out in a field of entry-level products. Thanks to its large slides and layout, it feels like a bigger coach than its 35-foot length would suggest.

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