



Winnebago Minnie buyers will be able to choose from a range of colours, including red, yellow, green, orange and pink.

# Minnie Winne is on the way

BRIGHTLY coloured US-built caravans are set to hit Australian shores before Christmas.

The people at importer Apollo Motorhome Holidays say red, lime green and bright orange Minnie Winnebago caravans are already a big hit in America because of their adventurous styling and colour options.

And US-based Winnebago Industries has decided they could also be well accepted on the Australia market, prompting it to design and manufacture models specifically for Down Under.

Interiors have been built to withstand the tough Australian climate and with traveller preferences and design aesthetics in mind.

Australian RV dealer and manufacturer Apollo announced a licencing deal with Winnebago Industries in July this year.

Currently listed on the new Winnebago RV website are four motorhomes and one campervan model, based on familiar Fiat Ducato and Mercedes-Benz Sprinter vans and cab-chassis.

As part of the deal, Apollo will also be importing a range of US-designed and built Winnebago Minnie caravans.

These include four tandem axle models, three with slide-outs and from 19ft (5.7m) to 26ft (7.9m) long.

Apart from distinctive American styling, the caravans promise some interesting features, including ducted air-conditioning, and close to a one-tonne payload on some models.

As well as standard white, brave Australian buyers will also be able to choose from a range of bright colours for the glass fibreglass exterior, including red, yellow, green, orange, and pink.

Pricing starts about \$40,000 for the Winnebago caravans, up to \$170,000 for the range-topping motorhomes.

The colourful Minnie is designed for maximum comfort and fun and is built to last. It starts with Winnebago's SuperStructure construction featuring aluminium framing and tongue-and-groove flooring.

Colour-infused, high-gloss fibreglass lets you select the exterior colour package that is ideal for you and, best of all, it will maintain that great look with minimal maintenance.

Inside, you can also choose from floorplans ranging from no slideout to a single slideout, and even dual-slideouts for maximum flexibility.

No matter which floorplan you chose, you'll have all the comfort, features and quality you've come to expect in a

Winnebago. Each floorplan

offers a designed bathroom for maximum space

Chief executive Luke Trouchet recently travelled to America to see the first Australian-bound Minnie caravans as they came off the production line.

"It's a real privilege to represent Winnebago in Australia and New Zealand, and we know the market is very keen to at last have access to this iconic brand," Mr Trouchet said.

"We're absolutely delighted to see the first Minnie caravans heading Down Under and we are sure they will be out on the road in no time."

Additional US-built Winnebago caravans are expected to join the model mix over the next 12-18 months.

The licensing agreement also allows Apollo to design and manufacture motorised products bearing the

Winnebago name at its Northgate, Brisbane, facility.

Mr Trouchet said Apollo's appointment as the official Winnebago licensee in Australia and New Zealand was a milestone in the company's almost 30-year history.

"We're a family owned Australian company and it's a great privilege to be part of the global Winnebago brand," he said.

"It's early days, but we have exciting plans to expand the

range of fully imported caravans, possibly making US-built motorised Winnebago RVs available according to market demand.

"Our pledge is to ensure these new Winnebago RVs – whether Australian-built motorhomes or US-built caravans – meet Australian market expectations, suit local consumer tastes and perform beautifully in local conditions."