

According to an article about RV park models published by RPTIA (now RVIA), park models are:

"The Most Affordable Vacation Cottage in America"

"Rising real estate prices have made it virtually impossible for most Americans to afford a weekend retreat or vacation home. But growing numbers of consumers are discovering that site built homes and condos aren't the only options when it comes to having a vacation cottage.

Many, in fact, are finding that the fastest and most affordable way to get into a vacation home is to purchase a recreational park trailer or "park model" and place it on a leased campsite in their favorite getaway campground or RV resort. [or on their own private land/lot/farm/ranch, subject to permissibility]

Unlike mobile homes, which are a form of low-cost, permanent housing, recreational park trailers are 399 square foot or less, movable resort cottages that are designed exclusively for part-time recreational use. Typically upscale in appearance, they often include hardwood floors, bay windows and lofts as well as walnut, oak or maple cabinetry. And because they are technically classified as recreational vehicles, they can be placed on campsites in some of the most sought after vacation destinations in the country.

Many of the nation's 8,000 private campgrounds and RV resorts provide campsites for park models, which they lease for \$1,500 to \$8,000 per year, depending on location. Some campgrounds are also willing to sell their sites to park model owners. Site prices vary upon location.

Park models, for their part, can start at around \$40,000, although higher prices are charged for units with special amenities and higher-grade construction/materials. But considering that condos and site-built homes in most resort areas cost \$200,000 or more, park models are a bargain. Park models are, in fact, the most affordable vacation cottage in America, which explains why the park model industry remains one of the strongest segments of the RV industry.

So where do people place these units? Working professionals and families usually place their park models in campgrounds or RV resorts that are about one to two hours from home, so they can use them as a weekend retreat, while snowbirds place their units in luxurious resorts across the Sunbelt. Some retirees have even been known to purchase two park models. They keep one up north for use in the summer and another in the Sunbelt and enjoy the best of both worlds. "

Note: Some of Amish Cabin Company's valued park model RV customers are also those with their own private land/lot/farm/ranch (subject to site-specific permissibility).