



We hitched the KZ Connect to a GMC Sierra 1500 4x4 – the combination was outstanding on the road.



With two of the slide-out sections extended, the main living room area is very spacious.



The bedroom featured the optional pillowtop mattress, with a walk-around floorplan.

KZ RV Connect C323RK

Affordable Elegance!

Text and photos by Norm Rosen



The rear galley features stainless steel appliances and seamless countertop.

The RV Lifestyle Road Test Team had the pleasure of visiting Niagara Trailers in St. David's, Ontario, to take a close look at the 2020 KZ RV Connect C323RK, a very stylish travel trailer that fits the needs and budget of many Canadian RV families. For those who may not be familiar with the RV industry nomenclature, that translates to "Connect, 32' box length, 3 slides, Rear Kitchen".

One of 13 floorplans in the Connect series, this model features three flush-floor slide-out sections – one in the front bedroom area, and two in the rears section of the coach, where they encompass the dinette and entertainment centre and the lounge, which holds theatre seating at an ideal distance from the LCD TV and stereo system. The theatre seating features a jackknife style sofa with middle console and bolster arms.

Our test unit included the optional 30-inch fireplace, which gives the lounge area a very home-like atmosphere. Moving through the unit, you may notice that the doorways are wider than usual in an



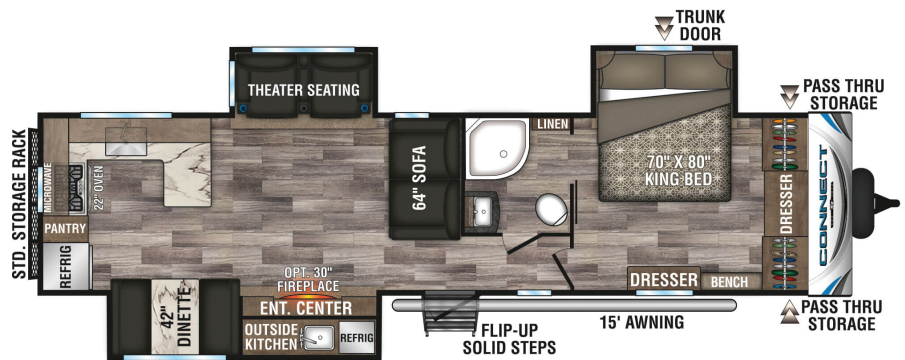
The bathroom has a shower stall, vanity with sink, and a floor flush porcelain toilet.

RV of this type, and this adds to the overall livability of the unit.

As you can see from the floorplan, the slide-out section that holds the dinette and the entertainment centre has a dual purpose – it houses the exterior kitchen, which is one of the highlights of this model. The outdoor kitchen features cooktop, refrigerator, and storage shelf.



With the optional freestanding dinette table you have flexibility for your dinner seating.



CONSTRUCTION

The Connect C323RK is distinguished by KZ’s old-world craftsmanship, which the company backs with a two-year warranty.

The roof is constructed using 3/8” “walk on” roof decking covered by a seamless layer of Dicor’s Tufflex Roofing membrane that carries a 15-Year Warranty. Among the many advantages of Tufflex is the high solar reflectivity, which reflects more of the solar heat and UV rays than the materials typically seen in the RV industry, keeping the interior of the trailer cool during the summer. This helps increase the air conditioning efficiency, and the high heat emissivity of the Tufflex material also helps the roof cool down faster than conventional materials. Strong and flexible, this roofing material resists punctures, dents and tears from campground tree limbs, hailstorms, and

travel hazards. The 100% PVC material will not streak, discolour, peel, or chalk, and it is 100% recyclable. The roof is insulated to R-20.

Flooring is 5/8” tongue and groove plywood, covered with high quality wood grain linoleum throughout the trailer, that resists cracking in cold weather. The floor and underbelly are R-24 insulated, and the 1” thick cargo compartment doors with the KZ Easy-Catch baggage door system are very strong and well insulated compared to the conventional half-inch doors typical in the RV industry.

Sidewalls are aluminum framed and laminated with UVA and UVB resistant gelcoat Lamilux® exterior fiberglass, enclosing high density solid block insulation.

Front and rear walls have R-9 insulation. The Platinum Package includes an optional fiberglass front cap, and there is a protective front diamond plate shield to minimize road damage.

Our test coach included KZ RV’s Climate Package, with a fully enclosed and heated underbelly, which protects fresh, grey, and black water tanks from freezing and road hazards.

ON THE ROAD

The Connect C323RK rides on an Equa-Flex® suspension with aluminum wheels and nitrogen filled radial tires. This, in conjunction with very carefully engineered weight distribution throughout the coach, and the aerodynamic advantage of the front cap and the enclosed underbelly, contributes to very confident road handling characteristics and optimal fuel efficiency for a trailer of this size and weight.



The Thomas Payne theatre seating is supremely comfortable, and the Hide-a-Bed sofa adds additional sleeping capacity.

IN THE CAMPGROUND

The first thing you notice when you open the door of the trailer is the flip-up entry step at the main door, which has a friction hinge and shade and screen-shot feature that eliminates slamming. When you enter the trailer, you will find an array of interior control switches on the overhead end cabinet, in what the company refers to as the Convenience Center.

The Connect trailers are equipped with the KZ Advantage Package of mandatory options, which include Colour Infused Titanium Exterior Fiberglass, a Flip-Up Entry Step at the main door, and a large folding grab handle to make entry and exit easier and safer. The package also includes keyed-alike baggage and entry doors and magnetic catches for the cargo compartment doors. The package includes pre-wiring for solar panels and a backup camera system. A lighted power tongue jack is standard equipment, and the front and rear electric stabilizer jacks make hitching, unhitching, and levelling the trailer a breeze.

Among the many conveniences included in the KZ Advantage Package is a power awning with LED light strip and an Omnidirectional HDTV Antenna with Wi-Fi prep.

The entertainment system includes a multi-media sound bar stereo with Bluetooth, HDMI and USB charge ports. Two 6.5" interior speakers produce good sound. The entertainment system provides music at the campsite through a set of weather sealed external speakers, which have LED

lights for after dark ambiance.

Travelling and campground convenience is enhanced with a flip-down 71" storage rack, that can hold luggage, storage tubs, or two adult-sized bicycles. The rack includes spare tire and mount.

All in all, this is a very well-equipped travel trailer, with features that every family member will appreciate – even the family pet – thanks to KZ RV's Leash Latch, a convenient "hitching post" for the dog... it even incorporates a beverage opener, more for the dog walker than for the dog, of course.

IN THE GALLEY

The C323RK features a very well-equipped rear kitchen with an 8 CU FT Stainless Steel Gas/Electric

Refrigerator, which can be upgraded to the optional 10 CU FT model. The Connect has KZ RV's Chef's Appliance Package with two-piece stainless-steel gas cooktop with built-in oven. The galley also includes a stainless-steel microwave.

We were impressed with the seamless countertops with deep undermount stainless steel sink, complete with a sink cover. There is a very attractive matte black residential kitchen faucet with a "Spring Sprayer".

Cupboards in the Connect trailer feature rich Woodbridge maple cabinetry, fitted with hand-crafted mortise and tenon glazed cabinet doors with modern bar handles and frosted glass accents. Drawers have roller ball bearing glides.

COMFORT AND CONVENIENCE

There is a bright white LED light strip above the living room slide-out section, and a skylight in the kitchen area, so the trailer is nice and bright day and night. Bright LED lighting abounds throughout the unit.

There are two LED motion sensor lights that come on when you walk through the trailer – as simple as this may sound, it is amazing how convenient this is when you get up for a snack in the middle of the night!



The passenger side slide-out section holds the dinette and the entertainment centre. The exterior position of this slide-out holds the exterior galley.



The Lippert Components Solid Step folding entry step system is easy to deploy, and adjusts to uneven campsite terrain.

One of the popular upgrades is to select the optional MaxAir Vent Fan for the bathroom area.

POPULAR OPTIONS

Among the many options available for the C323RK, RV enthusiasts may be interested in three comfort upgrades – a pillowtop mattress in the master bedroom, theatre seating with heat and massage in the lounge, and a tri-fold Hide-a-Bed sofa.

From a driving and safety perspective, we strongly suggest that you go for the optional wireless backup camera system.

Many buyers select the optional bumper mount grill, and the bumper mount drying rack is another popular choice.

Convenience options include 50 AMP service for a second rooftop A/C unit, the 13.5K A/C itself, and the option to upgrade the 13.5K BTU A/C unit to a 15K BTU model.

The dinette seating area has a standard solid hardwood table that includes a built-in hinged storage leaf, and the front-hinged dinette seats lift for more storage. This configuration includes two 36" storage bins, but you can select the optional freestanding dinette table with four chairs instead of the standard dinette seating.

For those who plan to do their own rooftop maintenance, an optional roof ladder is available.

THERE'S AN APP FOR THAT!

KZ RV engineers are really into the modern RV experience, and this is very evident when you check out the KZ RV TOGO App – it's a great way to manage a wide range of routine tasks, so you can plan and manage your trip with ease from your smartphone. From lists of service centres to checklists and maintenance logs and digital versions of the owner's manuals and updates to keep you current on a variety of RV topics, this FREE download is a must – available in the U.S.A. on the Google Play Store for Android and the Apple App Store for iOS smartphones and coming to Canada soon. For more infor-

SPECIFICATIONS

KZ RV CONNECT C323RK

GVWR (lbs.)	8,800
Interior Height	78"
Exterior Height (with A/C)	10' 8"
Exterior Width	96"
Exterior Length	38' 5"
Refrigerator (Cubic Feet)	8
Water Heater Cap. (Gal. G/E w/DSI)	6
Fresh Water Cap. (Gal.)	40
Wastewater Cap. (Gal.)	32
Gray Water Cap. (Gal.)	64
LP Gas Cap. (Lbs.)	40
Furnace BTUs (1,000s)	30
Tire Size	15"
Awning	15'

MSRP, as tested,
FOB St. David's Ontario... \$53,900

Many thanks to the team at Niagara Trailers in St. David's, ON, for their assistance with this road test feature.

IN THE BEDROOM

The standard floorplan offers a walk-around bed configuration, and there are several convenience features, including reading lights and two 12V USB charging ports. The mattress fits on a hinged plywood bed base with gas struts, so you can easily raise the bed to access the storage area.

The trailer comes with a 70"x 80" king size mattress, but many people select the optional Platinum Package that includes pillowtop mattress and stylish padded headboard. The bedroom features overhead cabinets and under-bed storage and nightstands, and there is a generous size full-length closet that offers hanging space and shelves.

The optional bedroom LED TV can easily be moved to the exterior TV bracket, for the ultimate game day experience.

IN THE BATHROOM

The bathroom is outfitted with a porcelain toilet with foot flush, a vanity with sink and medicine cabinet, and a spacious shower stall.

The bathroom décor is very pleasant, with colour accented shower walls, and a very convenient bathroom shelf with towel hooks.

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THE BOTTOM LINE

With a full range of comfort and convenience features, the KZ RV Connect C323RK offers many standard elements that are generally offered as options on competitive models. We were most impressed with the overall design, the build quality, and the value embodied in this very attractive travel trailer.

KZ's 24-month hitch-to-bumper limited warranty umbrella is the best two-year warranty in the business, covering more than 1,500 operation codes for a full two years and approved for full-time living, thus protecting your investment while you enjoy your RV.

Check out our RV Lifestyle Magazine Road Test Video – here is the link to our YouTube channel – click on the KZ RV Connect C323RK thumbnail to watch the full report. <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFP3PKGEf13liOB8HaxPbig/videos>