



2021 TOP DEBUTS

KZ ESCAPE HATCH E17

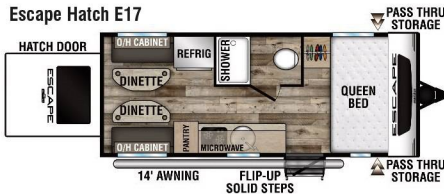
The new E17 Hatch, one of three models in the Escape travel trailer line's new Hatch series by KZ RV, offers an interesting feature – an over-sized door in the rear that all but begged to be called the "Escape Hatch."

"Basically, the hatch is this huge door in the back that opens upward," said Nick Francis, KZ national sales manager. "We're going to have a 14-, a 17- and a 20-foot hatch," Francis said, referring to the box sizes of the trailers in the series."

"The whole purpose of the Hatch, the original concept, was for the off-grid campers," Francis explained. "I wanted to have a way that you can have the back door open and get tons of air flow, because when you're off-grid camping you can't have an air conditioner running all the time. You just can't because there's 110-volt power and you can't run off of that when you're off grid."

Another feature of the purpose-driven Hatch Series is that you can load kayaks, bicycles or anything else into it through the large hatch door. All three models have a rear dinette. With the removable tables stowed away, the space creates plenty of cargo room for those type of big items.

Escape Hatch E17



"Especially if you're pulling it with an SUV," Francis explained. "You aren't able to load all that stuff in the back of your SUV, so we came up with a way to be able to load all this stuff in a small trailer and still be weight conscious."

But why a hatch door instead of a ramp door found on toy hauler RVs?

"The purpose of the hatch door is basically a second awning and, really, this isn't a toy hauler," Francis said. "Toy haulers typically are a big open space. This is basically a conventional trailer that has a big opening door on the back that allows you to put in kayaks, bicycles and paddle boards. There wouldn't be enough room in here to be a toy hauler. It's basically just a way to load in those things that you're going to take."

Francis said it helps fill out KZ's travel trailer lineup because the company can differentiate what it is versus a toy hauler.

The Hatch Series trailers also offers an available off-grid package.

"What that is, is a 100-watt solar panel on the roof," Francis said. "You get a 1,000-watt inverter in the pass-through, which powers a 110-outlet in the kitchen. So, you can plug in a fan, a coffee pot, TV, whatever you want to plug in there."

The Hatch Series comes standard with off-road tires and an enclosed, heated underbelly



The unique rear door of the Escape Hatch swings upward.

that also incorporates 12-volt tank heaters on each tank to keep everything warm.

"You get a bike rack up front," Francis said. "If you have the cargo loaded up back here, you can still put your bikes on the front and there's also solar on the side. You can hook additional solar up by just plugging into the side."

Early on, dealer feedback has been positive, he mentioned.

"Everybody's loved it. Dealers have absolutely loved it," Francis said. "They say it's very innovative, especially for the crowd that wants to take their kayaks and all that stuff with them. So, this is something they've always been looking for."

KZ RV, a subsidiary of Thor Industries Inc., is headquartered in Shipshewana, Ind., and was founded in 1972.

E17 SPECIFICATIONS

Length:	15' 3" to 23' 8"
GVWR:	2,750 to 3,750 lbs.
Base MSRP	MSRP: \$21,000