

The Proto-Airstream



Ever since the 1930s, the Airstream trailer has been a familiar sight on America's roadways. But the popular leisure travel vehicle was not always sausage-shaped or even silver. Early models boasted a true "house on wheels" experience. And while they appealed to a certain clientele who were loath to leave their homes even for a weekend, they were not well suited to long-distance travel. At least eight Buicks were required to tow a trailer, which tended to tip over if it exceeded one mile per hour. And whenever the entourage stopped for a red light, a whole new foundation had to be constructed to keep the Airstream from sinking into the pavement. On the plus side, there was always plenty of room to accommodate unexpected overnight guests.