RV Departure Checklist

A step-by-step routine for breaking camp and leaving safely — disconnecting hookups, securing the interior, retracting, hitching and a final walk-around.

Inside Prep

- [ ] Wash up and stow loose dishes and items
- [ ] Latch the refrigerator and freezer doors
- [ ] Close and secure all cabinets and drawers
- [ ] Secure heavy or fragile items so they cannot shift
- [ ] Close roof vents and windows
- [ ] Turn off interior fans, lights and water pump as needed

Dump & Disconnect Hookups

- [ ] Empty and flush the black tank, then the gray tank
- [ ] Disconnect, rinse and stow the sewer hose with gloves
- [ ] Disconnect and drain the fresh water hose
- [ ] Switch off and unplug shore power last
  Keep power while you work, then disconnect at the end
- [ ] Coil and store all cords and hoses securely
- [ ] Turn off propane at the tank if required for travel

Retract & Stow Outside

- [ ] Retract the awning and lock it for travel
- [ ] Bring in all slide-outs and confirm they are seated
- [ ] Raise stabilizer jacks and leveling jacks
- [ ] Retract the entry steps
- [ ] Lower and stow the TV antenna and satellite dish
- [ ] Collect chocks, leveling blocks and outdoor gear

Hitch & Tow Setup

- [ ] Couple the trailer and lock the hitch
- [ ] Cross and connect the safety chains
- [ ] Attach the breakaway cable and the wiring harness
- [ ] Raise and stow the tongue jack or landing gear
- [ ] Set the weight distribution and sway control if used
- [ ] Confirm the tow vehicle is in tow mode if equipped

Final Walk-Around

- [ ] Walk the whole rig to confirm everything is retracted
- [ ] Check all hookups are disconnected and stored
- [ ] Verify the hitch, chains and breakaway are secured

- [ ] Test running, brake and turn signal lights
- [ ] Check tire pressure and look for any leaks or damage
- [ ] Confirm the site is clean and nothing is left behind

Before Pulling Out

- [ ] Adjust mirrors and cameras for the loaded rig
- [ ] Check fuel level and plan stops
- [ ] Confirm everyone is buckled and pets are secured
- [ ] Release the parking brake and chocks last
- [ ] Do a slow first roll to feel for anything dragging