

We hope this tip sheet will help you get started on your tent camping getaway!

THE TENT:

There are many tent sizes and shapes to choose from. Shop around and find the one that suits your needs. A tent that sleeps 5-6 people, will have those people packed in like sardines with little room for anything else! So, with this in mind, a tent of this size is a great choice for two adults, a queen air mattress, two weekend duffle/carry-on bags and a cooler.

Practice! Set up your tent at home before you get to camp, so you know what to expect. Note how it was folded/rolled because you will have to fold it back up just like that to repack in the carry bag!

Now that you're a proud new tent owner, protect your new tent! Purchase one or two heavy plastic tarps that are slightly smaller than the footprint of your tent. These tarps are not expensive. The tarp's only purpose is to protect the floor of your tent from rocks and twigs. Unfold the tarp(s) then unfold your tent on top. If the tarp is larger than the tent's footprint, fold the tarp under so it is no longer visible under the tent. You do not want the tarp bigger than the tent's footprint as it will collect rain water running off the tent. (who said it was gonna rain?)

A few more basic things for your home away from home:

- Rubber mallet - to stake down your tent.
- Heavier tent stakes - we can't endorse a specific brand, but Coleman makes a suitable heavy duty stake.
- Rope 50 to 100 foot roll - handy for a clothes line drying.
- A small 2x3 area rug for inside and maybe one for outside too.
- Light weight clear plastic paint drop cloth and clip style clothes pins to cover your tent IF your rain fly cover starts to leak at the seams. (again, who said it's gonna rain?)
- A flyswatter.
- A camp lantern or small string of battery operated LED lights.
- Duct tape - why not, it fixes nearly everything!
- Stay organized with a selection of storage containers, translucent/clear so you can see what's inside. Group smaller items in smaller containers for convenience.

AIR MATTRESS COMFORT:

Experienced campers advise the more you put between you and the vinyl of the bed will make sleeping more comfortable. One or two lighter blankets, folded as padding, will work well under the sheets.

SLEEPING BAGS:

Again, choose what's right for you. Some people have a 40 degree bag which will keep you warm and snug at lower temperatures, but also make a great pad to sleep on rather than in.

PACKING YOUR VEHICLE:

Pack up last what you need first. In other words, first load in luggage, lastly load in tent and site set-up needs.

Tent camping at Roseland is extremely fun and with our amenities, it's not really serious backwoods camping, but *be prepared* nonetheless. Welcome to Roseland and enjoy your tent camping experience!

Some helpful websites:

www.coleman.com/tenttips

www.dummies.com/how-to/content/camping-for-dummies-cheat-sheet.html

www.dummies.com/how-to/content/camping-checklist.html

www.wikihow.com/Camp-in-a-Tent-on-a-Campsite

www.beginnercampingtips.com/e-guide.html