

Crime prevention advice for caravan theft



Caravans are prime targets for thieves. It is not just new caravans that are targeted, those 2 or 3 years old are stolen and older. Most thefts occur from storage compounds/locations, especially if they are in a rural area, or occasionally from driveways, pitches at sites or dealers premises.

When choosing somewhere to store your caravan ensure there are good security measures in place such as lighting, CCTV, effective security fencing and access systems ensuring only legitimate people have access to the caravans. Look at the Caravan Storage Site Owners Association website for advice and information - www.cassoa.co.uk/.

If you keep your caravan on your drive consider good lighting, CCTV systems, including those that alert you by mobile phone if someone comes onto your property, wheel clamps and locks as advised below, driveway alarms and an obstacle blocking your caravan such as a vehicle, locking post or other obstruction preventing it being towed or dragged from your property.

When using your caravan, ensure you immobilise it at all times, even when stopping only briefly.

Always shut and lock all doors, windows and roof lights every time you leave your caravan. If you have an awning, close the curtains and secure the entrance ensuring any valuables are taken with you or locked away safely. Gas canisters are vulnerable to theft, ensure these are locked away in a compartment where possible.

Fit an alarm and put it on every time you leave your caravan, even if it is only for a short time.

Never leave your registration documents or security details in your caravan, these could be used by the thief.

Always take your keys with you and when not in use keep in a secure place.

Remove all personal belongings and contents from the caravan whenever it is not in use and leave curtains open, so potential thieves can see nothing of value is inside.

Take photographs of the exterior and interior of the caravan and keep them at home, either printed off or on a memory stick (in case you lose data or have problems with your computer) and keep them in a secure place along with any registration documents. Make a note of any identifying scratches, security markers, tracker information etc.

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