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All Photos by John Nelson

**A waterfall collects in a quiet pool in Solstice Canyon in the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area.**

**Going Mobile** Continued from 1  
It's surprisingly remote and yet the mountain landscape might look familiar to you. That's because the TV show "MUSTARD" was filmed here, along with more than a few movies.

Hiking trails crisscross the mountains. And for cyclists, a number of country roads climb into remote corners, offering spectacular views.

Right now, the hillsides are a brilliant green, the product of steady winter rains in Southern California. As February begins, this is the perfect place to be.

**And for snow lovers ...**  
Not everyone craves warm weather. For the skiers out there, February is the best month of the year.

Last year, John went on a month-long tour of New Mexico, Utah and Colorado in our Thor Gemini, notching 15 ski days in places like Taos Ski Valley and Aspen.

Small problem though: Everything froze during that trip. It turns out our rig can't handle sustained temps below 20 degrees, despite what the salesman said when we bought it.

A new service called CampColorado.com offers invaluable information on where RVers can stay year-round. CampColorado has details on more than 30 campgrounds that are open all winter, most of them with hookups. Some offer cabins as well.

John's best ski days in Colorado were at Wolf Creek Pass, near Pagosa Springs, where camping is available, and Aspen with its amazing array of world-class resorts. You can camp at nearby Glenwood Springs, and don't forget to check out the city's amazing hot springs pool.

**RV shows keep coming**  
So you checked out the goods at the National RV Show two weeks ago at Spokane Convention Center and the Inland Northwest RV Show at the Spokane County Fair and Expo Center last weekend.

Want more? The biggest RV show in the Pacific Northwest is next weekend in Seattle. The Seattle RV Show offers an enormous display of rigs on the floor of the cavernous CenturyLink Field Event Center. Cost is \$13 for adults, those older than 62 are \$11. Children 17 and under are free.

Spokane, Parkway RV from Deer Park, Airtrium of Spokane, and RV's Northwest. Admission is \$10, with children under 12 admitted free.

John Nelson and Leslie Kelly are on a grand tour. We are passionate about the outdoors and love to travel. Our plan is to visit beautiful places as much as possible, exploring camping with style.

John is a regular contributor to The Seattle Times, The Spokesman-Review, Los Angeles Times and 1989 Magazine. Leslie writes for Seattle Magazine and is the former food critic for the Seattle Post-Intelligencer, The Spokesman-Review and Memphis Commercial Appeal.



**It felt like spring in January during a bike ride up Solstice Canyon in the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area.**



**Wildflowers bloom in Solstice Canyon, near Malibu, Calif.**

You live and you learn. Best practices for winter camping? Drain the water lines and tanks, or face some nasty freeze-ups – at least in our rig.

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