

# OUT THERE CONTRIBUTOR WRITING GUIDE

## WELCOME TO OUT THERE

We're a rugged, unapologetic journal for modern adventurers, with a nod to the past. Our pages (or screens) are filled with real stories from real people – campers, 4WDers, fishers, hunters, boaters, and those who simply find themselves off the beaten track. If you've got a story to tell, we want to hear it.

## WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR

- **First-hand adventure stories** – Tell us what happened out there: the challenges, the laughs, the unexpected turns.
- **Photo-rich content** – A great story deserves great visuals. Sharp, natural, unfiltered photos work best.
- **Authentic voices** – Write like you'd tell the story around a campfire with mates, not like a manual or a brochure.
- **Length Guidelines:**
  - **Short Story:** 500–800 words (punchy and easy to read)
  - **Long Story:** ~1,500 words (deeper dives and long-form storytelling)

## WHAT WE'RE NOT LOOKING FOR

- Step-by-step “how-to” guides or generic travel tips
- Overly polished marketing copy
- Stories about how your 79 Series is “the best ever” unless there's a story to back it up
- Anything that hasn't actually been experienced first-hand

## STYLE & TONE

- **Casual but vivid** – Use descriptive language that makes the reader feel like they're there.
- **Show, don't tell** – Instead of “It was a hard track,” try “The tyres slipped in the red clay, and the Hilux groaned as we inched up the ridge.”
- **Keep it human** – Share mistakes, lessons, and the funny bits. Perfection is boring.
- **Keep sentences and paragraphs short** – Easy reading fits our online and print style.

## PHOTOGRAPHY

- **Submitting with photos is optional, but preferred.**
- If sending supporting images then landscape orientation preferred.
- **No heavy filters** – We want authentic outdoor colours.
- Include captions if relevant (Who, What, Where).

## SUBMITTING YOUR STORY

1. Send your story as a **Word Doc**
2. Include a **title**, your **name**, and a **one-sentence bio** about you.
3. Attach your **photos as separate files** (JPG or PNG, high-resolution).
4. Email to: [submissions@outtherejournal.com](mailto:submissions@outtherejournal.com)

We'll review your submission and get back to you. If we love it but think it needs tweaks, we'll work with you to get it ready for publication.

## FINAL TIP

Don't overthink it. Be yourself, tell the story as it happened, and let the mud, fish scales, and campfire smoke do the talking.