

If you're gearing up to tackle the harsh, unforgiving expanses of remote Australia, your choice of vehicle is critical—and few options deliver the muscle, reliability, and adaptability of the Toyota 70 Series. Since its launch in 1984, this rugged workhorse has earned its stripes across cattle stations, mine sites, and some of the country's most brutal dirt tracks. But owning a 70 Series isn't just about turning the key and hoping for the best. Preparing yourself with the right touring checklist is essential to survive and thrive in the Outback.

Why the Toyota 70 Series Remains King in Remote Touring

The 70 Series isn't a flashy SUV designed for suburban driveways or city school runs. It's a purpose-built machine shaped by decades in the toughest Aussie conditions. From the ground up, this rugged four-wheel drive is designed with longevity and repairability in mind—qualities that are non-negotiable when <https://www.atn.com.au/posts/why-the-landcruiser-70-series-still-matters.html> you're days or even fuel stops away from the nearest town.

- **Longevity Since 1984:** Few vehicles stand the test of time like the 70 Series. Over nearly 40 years, Toyota has kept its core mechanical philosophy consistent, prioritising tried and true components over fidgety gadgets prone to failure.
- **Mechanical Simplicity & Repairability:** Forget the tangled web of sensors and computer modules that modern vehicles pack; the 70 Series' straightforward mechanical design means you can often identify and fix a problem with basic tools and some know-how—something remote Australia demands.
- **Ladder-frame & Live-axle Durability:** The body-on-frame chassis and live axles provide excellent durability over rough terrain, and allow relatively straightforward suspension and drivetrain repairs when things inevitably get roughed up.
- **Remote Reliability Requirements:** In the Outback, reliability isn't a "nice to have." It's a life-critical factor, and the 70 Series delivers with robust engineering and a huge aftermarket support network.

Planning Your 70 Series Tour: Remote Touring Essentials

Remote touring isn't wandering down well-paved highways with a roadside assistance number on speed dial. It's about facing unpredictable conditions with the right preparation and gear. Here's what you'll want to cover before you leave the bitumen behind.

1. Spares and Tools: What Breaks, How to Fix It

Knowing what's likely to fail on your 70 Series and packing appropriate spares and tools is critical. Having once spent weeks isolated on a remote cattle station, I can tell you what usually gives up first:

- **Suspension components:** Ball joints and bushes take a real beating. Bring spare shackles, kingpins, and grease.
- **Starting system:** Starter motors and batteries occasionally fail after sustained rough use.
- **Cooling system parts:** Radiator hoses and clamps often perish in extreme heat.
- **Tire repair gear:** Tyres... well, you know the outback. Plugs, compressors, and puncture kits are a must.

The beauty of the Toyota 70 Series is the wealth of easily available parts, both OEM and aftermarket. The 70 Series Store offers a comprehensive selection of spare parts tailored specifically to keep your rig rolling without hunting

down obscure components. Plus, local Toyota dealerships stock genuine parts you can count on for essential repairs and warranty replacements before you head out.

Gear up your tool kit with:

- Comprehensive spanners and sockets (including impact sockets for stubborn bolts)
- Basic engine tools (screwdrivers, pliers, hammer, punch kit)
- Portable lubricants and greases
- Hydraulic jack and recovery gear
- Multimeter and basic electrical repair tools

2. Fuel and Water Planning: Days Between Towns

One of the hardest lessons I learnt driving through the Simpson Desert was the reality of fuel stops and days between towns. Buffeting your fuel planning against the sheer scale of remote Australia is non-negotiable:

Consideration Details Fuel Range & Capacity The 70 Series comes with large capacity tanks, but add auxiliary tanks if hitting routes exceeding 400km between fuel points. **Route Mapping & Fuel Stops** Research the nearest fuel points well in advance. Use authoritative sources like the Australian Travel & Tourism Network Pty Limited for updated info. **Water Storage** Carry 20+ litres per person per day for drinking and basic washing. Use quality, sealed containers. **Conservation & Contingencies** Have backup water, ration supplies, and a contingency plan for unexpected delays.

Upgrading Your 70 Series: Genuine vs Aftermarket: What Works Best?

The vast aftermarket ecosystem surrounding the Toyota 70 Series is one of its biggest strengths—especially for remote touring. While Toyota dealerships remain the best place to source genuine OEM parts and accessories (especially for warranty-covered vehicles), there's a thriving community and industry, including the specialised 70 Series Store, which offers everything from heavy-duty suspension kits to snorkels and long-range fuel systems designed for Outback conditions.

Some tips on upgrades and sourcing parts:

- **Prioritise proven durability:** Not every aftermarket part lives up to the "rugged" promises—stick with suppliers who have long-standing reputations within the 70 Series community.
- **Plan upgrades with local support:** This means sourcing parts that local mechanics and Toyota dealerships will acknowledge and support if you need warranty work or repairs.
- **Load Management:** Upgrading suspension and tyres? Don't forget your vehicle's GVM (Gross Vehicle Mass) and payload limits. Many 'touring' reviews gloss over this, but it's critical to avoid overstress.

Final Thoughts: Preparing Your 70 Series for Remote Australia

Driving a Toyota 70 Series in the Outback isn't just touring; it's a test of preparedness, mechanical knowledge, and respect for remote conditions. Follow this checklist to stack the odds in your favour:



1. Stock up on essential **spares and tools**, prioritising common failure points.
2. Plan your route meticulously, factoring real **fuel stops and water requirements** for your entire journey.
3. Update and upgrade with sensible, proven **aftermarket support** from trusted outlets like 70 Series Store while leveraging Toyota dealership networks for genuine components.
4. Remember that the 70 Series' mechanical simplicity and robust chassis design give it an edge—but don't underestimate the importance of routine checks during your trip.

For the real deal on remote touring essentials, gear, and advice, the **Toyota 70 Series** remains unmatched—provided you treat it for what it is: a purpose-built machine for brutal conditions, not a city-friendly "tourer." Consult resources from the Australian Travel & Tourism Network Pty Limited for trusted route guides and up-to-date fuel point info, and lean on the extensive aftermarket support from places like the 70 Series Store to customise your rig right.



Safe travels and remember—out here, it's not how flashy your ride is, but how well-prepared and mechanically capable it is that counts.