

# CHART YOUR COURSE!

GRAND DESIGN NATIONAL  
RALLY 2023



# OUR AGENDA ...

- OUR STORY ...
- SOME IMPORTANT MINDSETS ...
- THE PRIMARY TOOL WE USE ...
- THE NEWEST “GAME CHANGER”  
TOOL ...
- Q&A!



# WARNING ...

- IF ANYONE TELLS YOU THERE IS  
ONLY ONE WAY ... RUN!
- THIS IS HOW WE DO IT AND WHAT  
WORKS FOR US!
- TAKE WHAT YOU WANT/LIKE ...
- IGNORE THE REST!







# TEAM JACOBUS! OUR STORY



AND THIS IS  
MARLEY ...





# MINDSET IS CRITICAL ...

- WE CAN ALWAYS FIND A PLACE TO  
STAY!
- BE FLEXIBLE BUT ... YOU DO YOU!!!
- WE ONLY REQUIRE 3 THINGS!
- WE HAVE LEARNED TO LAUGH AT,  
LEARN FROM AND MOVE ON FROM  
OUR MISTAKES!
- WE MAKE THE MOST OF WHATEVER WE  
HAVE TO DEAL WITH!
- WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER!!!





# OUR BIG PLAN ...

- SOUTH TEXAS ...
- NORTH TEXAS ...
- IT IS CALLED A “TRAVEL

TRAILER” FOR A REASON!



*THE*

+



+



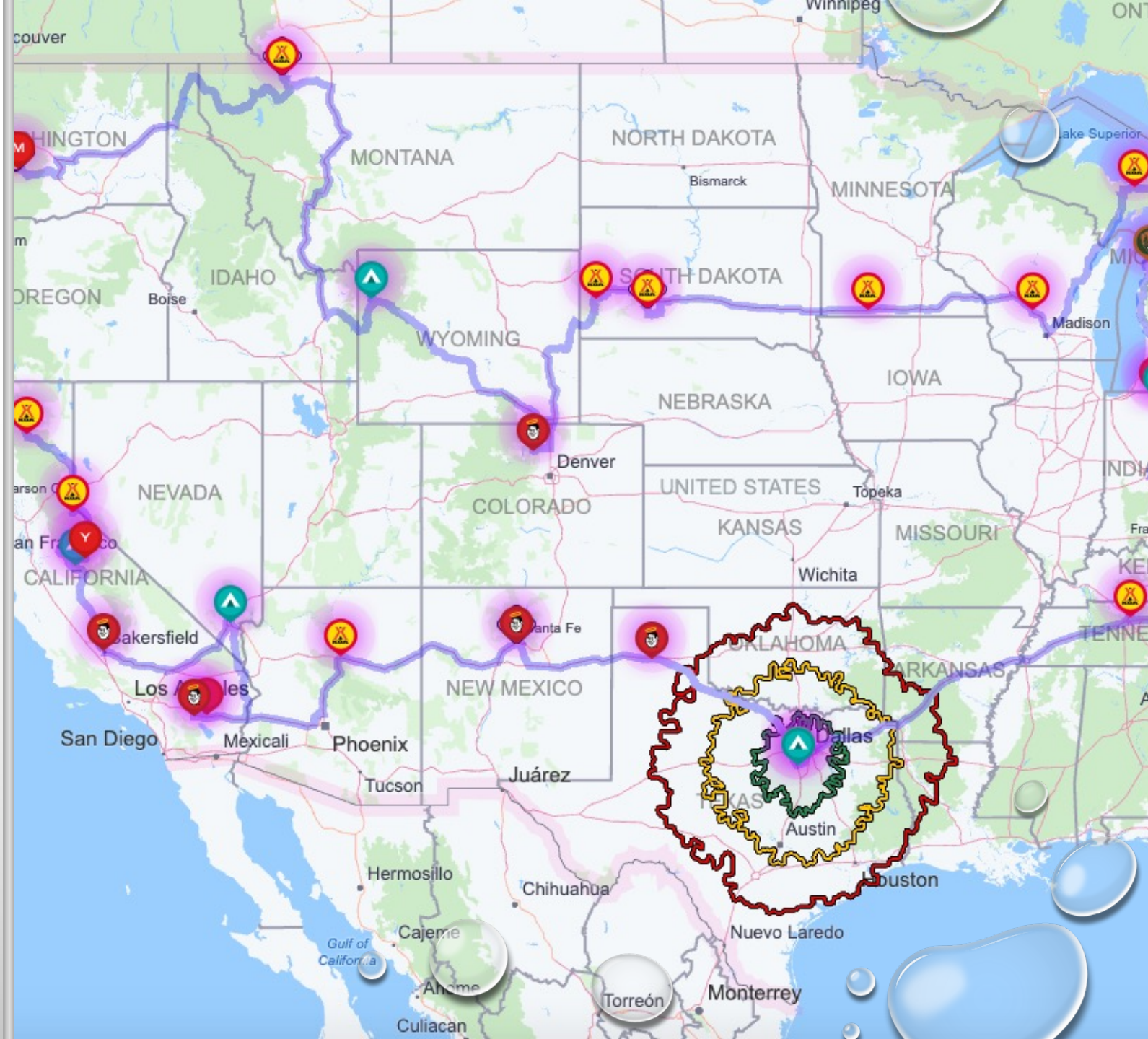
## HOW WE DECIDE WHERE ...

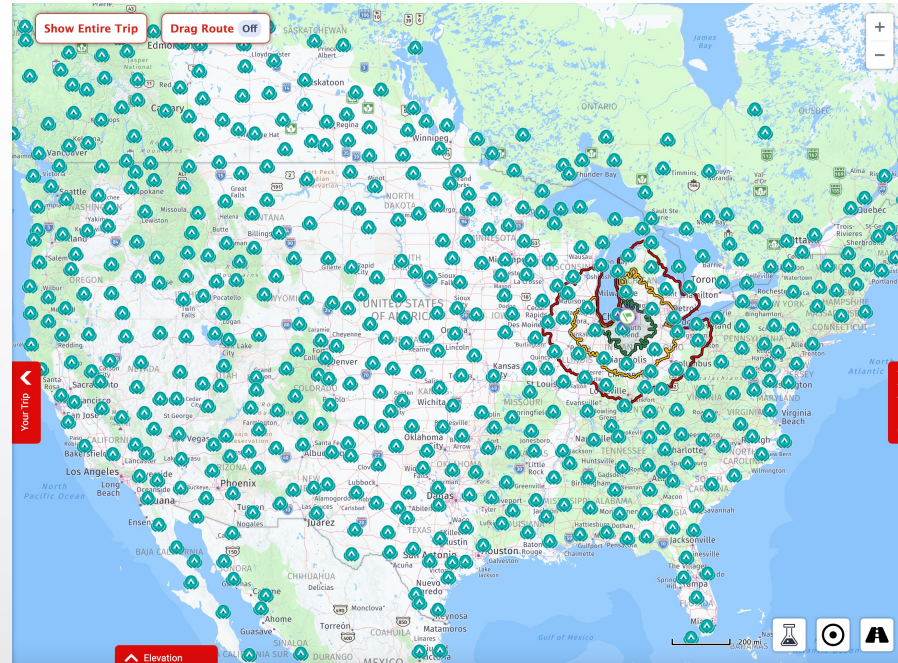
- CHRISTIE HAS HER “BUCKET LIST” ...
- JIM HAS HIS “BUCKET LIST” ...
- WE HAVE OUR “BUCKET LIST” ...



# OUR TOOLBOX INCLUDES ...

- RESERVEAMERICA.COM ... STATE PARKS
- RECREATION.GOV ... NATIONAL PARKS AND CORPS OF ENGINEERS (COE)
- KAMPGROUNDS OF AMERICA ... KOA
- HARVEST HOST/BOONDOCKERS WELCOME – WE WANT TO DO MORE!
- GARMIN 785 RV (TST 507)
- FACEBOOK CROWD SOURCING!!!
- YOUTUBE CROWD SOURCING!!!
- RV TRIP WIZARD ... IS THE BACKBONE!
  - RV LIFE APP
  - RVTRIPWIZARD.COM





OUR PRIMARY TOOL IS ... RV TRIP WIZARD!



# RV TRIP WIZARD SET UP ...

- RV INFO ...
- RV ROUTING PREFERENCES ...
- DRIVING RADIUS PREFERENCES ...
- RV TRAVEL EXPENSES ...

< **Trip Settings** ×

**General** RV Info Routing & Driving Expenses

**Trip Name**

**Trip Notes**

**Trip Status** ?  ▼

**Predeparture Email** ? ☒ ON

**Units** ?  
☒ Imperial (ft, lb, gal)

# RV TRIP WIZARD SETUP... RV INFO

## User Default Settings for jim@jjacobus.com

When you create a new trip, its preferences will automatically be filled in by Default Settings. You can change Trip Settings in the trip drawer.

General

RV Info

Routing & Driving

Expenses

Look Up RV Info

Manually Input RV Info

### RV Specifications

Input values will be used to adjust the route to help keep the RV safe.

Height  ft  in 

Length  ft  in 

Weight  lbs 

Carrying Propane ☒ YES 

### RV/Truck Fuel Information

Input values will be used in calculations for the fuel feature.

Fuel Type  

Fuel Capacity  gal 

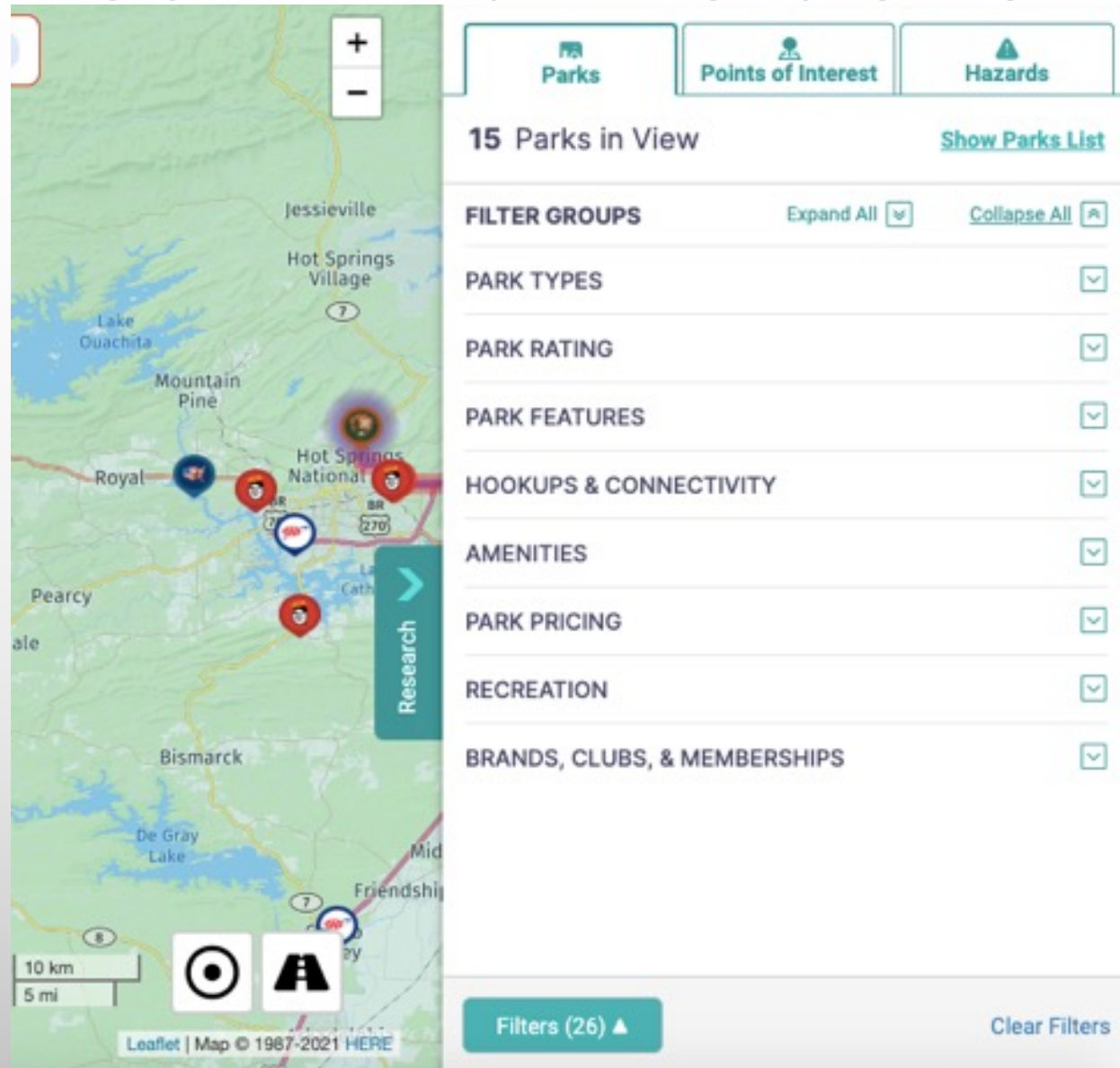
Fuel Reserve  gal 

Fuel Economy  mpg 

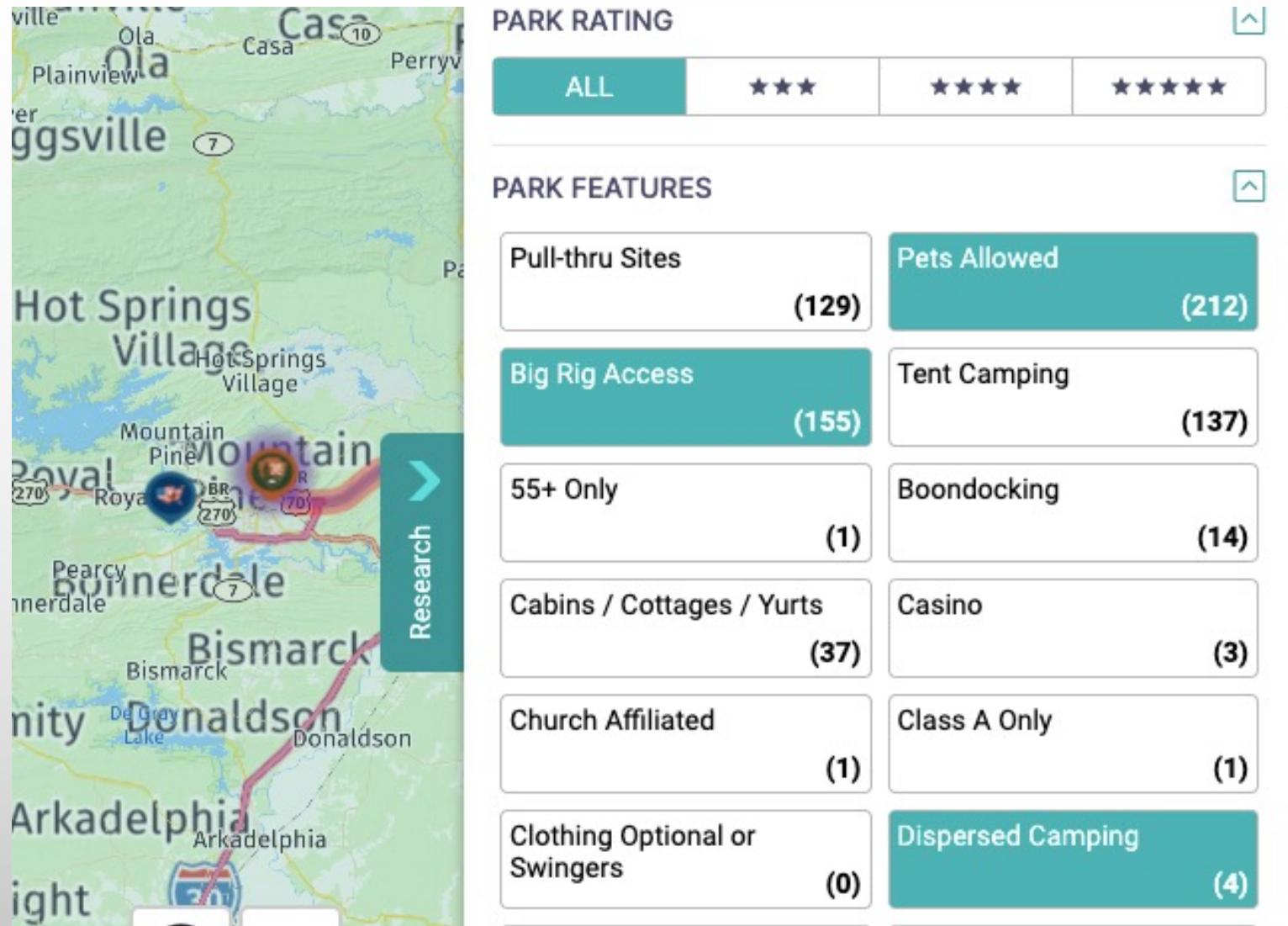
Fuel Warnings ☒ None ☐ One ☐ Multiple 



# SET UP YOUR FILTERS ... LOTS OF OPTIONS!!!



# SET UP YOUR FILTERS ... RATINGS AND FEATURES!



The screenshot displays a mobile application interface for finding parks. On the left is a map of the Hot Springs Village area, showing roads, lakes, and nearby towns like Bismarck and Donaldson. A red location pin is placed on the map, and a green 'Research' button with a right-pointing arrow is overlaid on the map. On the right is a filter panel with two sections: 'PARK RATING' and 'PARK FEATURES'. The 'PARK RATING' section has four buttons: 'ALL' (selected), '★★★', '★★★★', and '★★★★★'. The 'PARK FEATURES' section contains a grid of buttons, each with a feature name and a count in parentheses. The buttons are: 'Pull-thru Sites (129)', 'Pets Allowed (212)', 'Big Rig Access (155)', 'Tent Camping (137)', '55+ Only (1)', 'Boondocking (14)', 'Cabins / Cottages / Yurts (37)', 'Casino (3)', 'Church Affiliated (1)', 'Class A Only (1)', 'Clothing Optional or Swingers (0)', and 'Dispersed Camping (4)'. The 'Big Rig Access', 'Pets Allowed', and 'Dispersed Camping' buttons are highlighted in teal.

**PARK RATING**

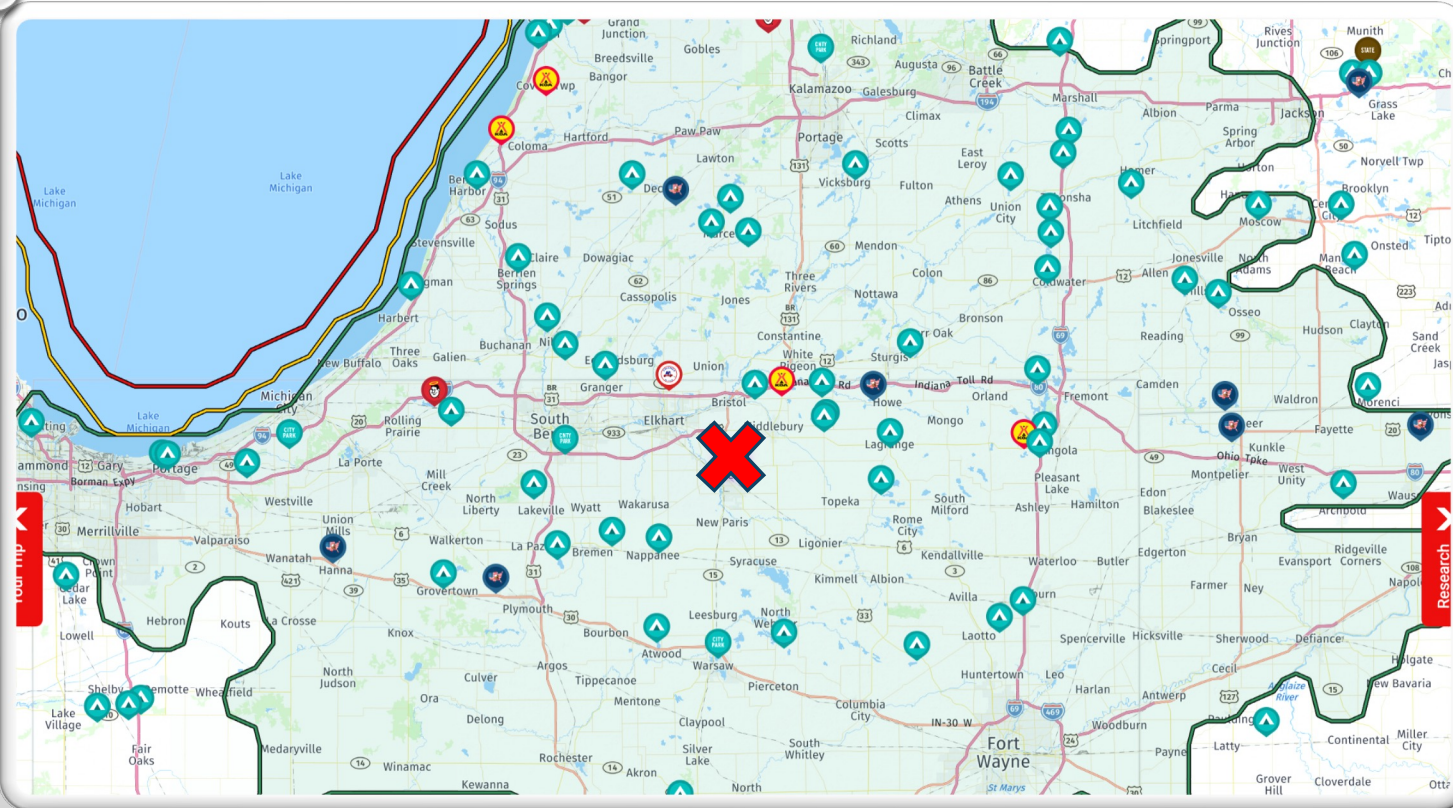
ALL ★★★ ★★★★ ★★★★★

**PARK FEATURES**

Pull-thru Sites (129)	Pets Allowed (212)
Big Rig Access (155)	Tent Camping (137)
55+ Only (1)	Boondocking (14)
Cabins / Cottages / Yurts (37)	Casino (3)
Church Affiliated (1)	Class A Only (1)
Clothing Optional or Swingers (0)	Dispersed Camping (4)

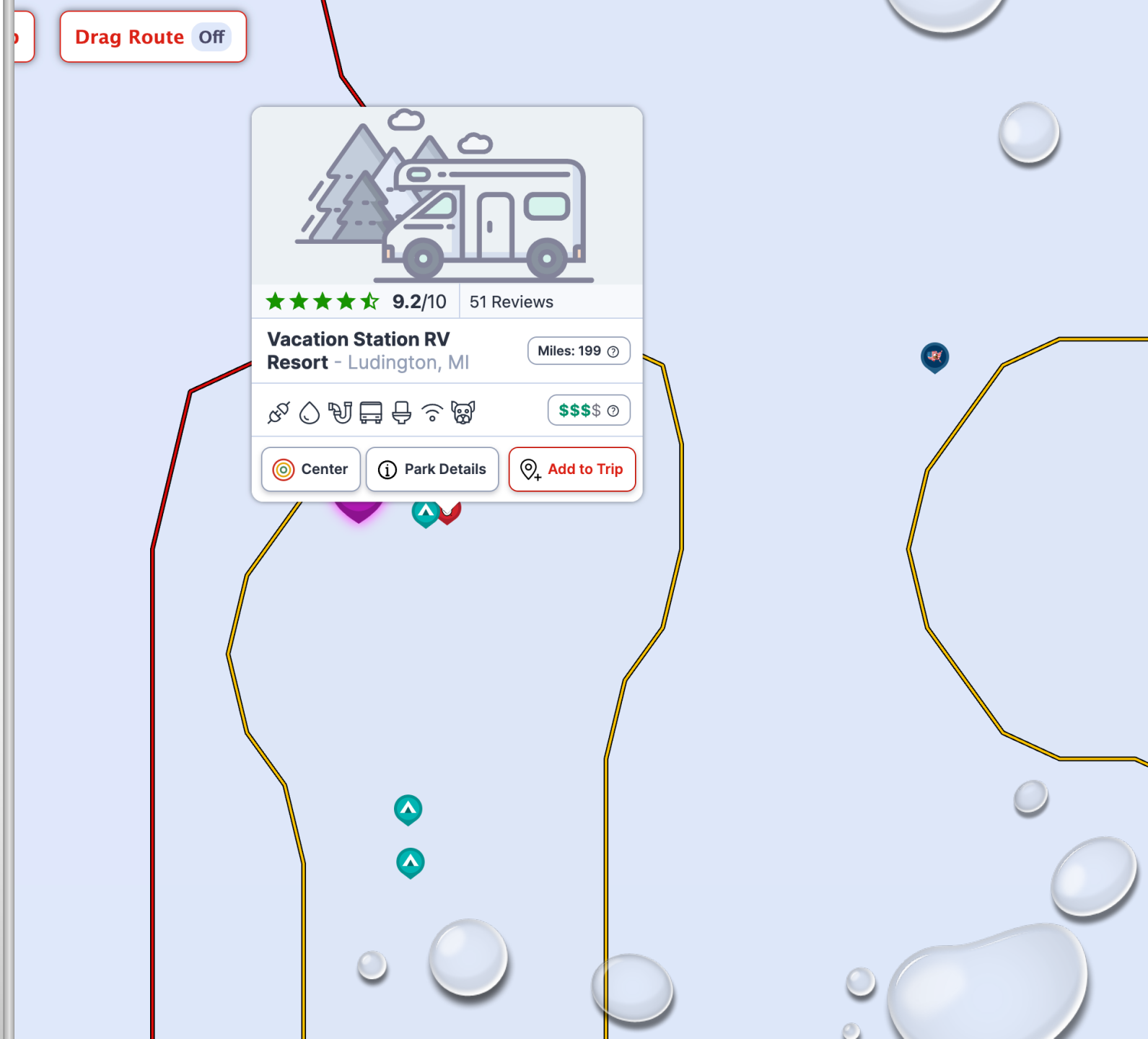
# PLANNING A SHORT TRIP ...

- START WITH POINT A AND DEPARTURE DATE!
- ADD POINT B AND ARRIVAL DATE ...
- LOOK FOR PLACES TO STAY ...
- DO YOUR RESEARCH!!!
- BOOK YOUR STAY ...





POINT B ... A  
SPECIFIC  
CAMPGROUND!





A detailed map of Indiana and surrounding regions, featuring numerous towns and cities. Overlaid on the map is the text "POINT B... A GENERAL AREA!" in large, bold, black letters. The map shows major highways such as I-90, I-69, and US-41. Green upward-pointing arrow icons are scattered across the state, indicating specific points of interest or travel stops. Notable locations include Gary, Fort Wayne, Indianapolis, and Evansville. At the bottom left, there is a red button with a white left-pointing arrow and the text "Your Trip". At the bottom right, there is a red button with a white right-pointing arrow and the text "Research".




# DO YOUR RESEARCH!!!

**Vacation Station RV Resort**

4895 W US Highway 10, Ludington, MI 49431 - Eastern Time Zone

Add to your trip  
Miles this leg: 198.5

- Overview
- Features
- Reviews
- Tips & Q&A
- Weather



(231) 845-1100

Website

RV LIFE Campgrounds

Satellite Map

\$\$\$

No Info

155 Total Sites

Elevation: ~642 ft

Nearby Gas Prices

Affiliations

Add a Review

Add Photos

Favorite

Add/Edit Campground Info










# DO YOUR RESEARCH!!!





# DO YOUR RESEARCH!!!

## Features & Amenities

-  Pull-thru Sites
-  Pets Allowed
-  Electric 50 AMP
-  Electric 30/20/15 Amp
-  Restrooms
-  Showers
-  Pool

Hide Additional Features & Amenities

## Connectivity









-  Wifi
-  ATT
-  Sprint
-  Starlink
-  T-Mobile
-  Verizon
-  Charter Communications
-  Firstnet

Submit a Speed Test

## Park Features

-  Pull-thru Sites
-  Pets Allowed
-  Big Rig Access
-  Tent Camping
-  55+ Only
-  Kid Friendly
-  Boondocking
-  Cabins & On-site Rentals
-  Dump Station
-  Group Camping
-  Dispersed Camping
-  Workamping
-  Class A Only
-  No Minors

## Hookups

-  Full Hookup
-  Electric 50 AMP
-  Electric 30/20/15 Amp
-  Sewer
-  Cable/Sat. TV Hookup
-  Central Water Spigot
-  Public Phone
-  Water

## Amenities

-  Restrooms
-  Showers
-  Laundry
-  Camp Store
-  Pet Area
-  Propane Available
-  Cafe / Snack Bar
-  Clubhouse
-  Firewood Available
-  Group Kitchen
-  Horse Camp
-  Landing Strip
-  Picnic Shelter
-  Restrooms: vault
-  Church Affiliated
-  Clothing Optional
-  Winery
-  RV Dealership
-  Fairground
-  Specialty Park
-  Permanent only
-  Members Only

## Recreation

-  Pool
-  Playground
-  Recreation Trails
-  Rec Room
-  Casino
-  Fishing
-  Beach
-  Biking
-  Boating
-  Golf
-  Gym/Workout Facilities
-  Horseshoes
-  Mini-Golf
-  Outdoor Courts
-  Pickleball
-  Water Access



# DO YOUR RESEARCH!!!

## Vacation Station RV Resort Review & Ratings Overview

9.2



Based on 51 Reviews

### Rating Spread



### Reviews by RV Type



51 RVers Reviewed Vacation Station RV Resort



Add a Review

## 51 Reviews

Recent Reviews First ▾

*These reviews are the opinion of RV LIFE's members and not the views of RV LIFE*



# DO YOUR RESEARCH!!!

Date of Stay: **Aug 2012**

Nightly Rate: **\$40 USD**



Overall Rating

**HES**  
53 Reviews | 0 Photos | 0 Tips



Park is very average in all aspects. It seems that most of the parks along the west coast of MI think they are actually in West Palm Beach or some other ritzy area because they are too expensive for what they are and because of insane cancellation policies. Be aware that the cancellation policy here is not RV traveler friendly. If you have to cancel for ANY reason including emergencies, there is a \$25 fee, no exceptions. I will be boycotting all parks that require pre-paid or deposit reservations and take my chances. We camped at Vacation Station RV Resort in a Fifth Wheel.

Previous  
Review



Next  
Review



Marking Reviews as helpful makes sure you and other  
members see the best reviews more often.

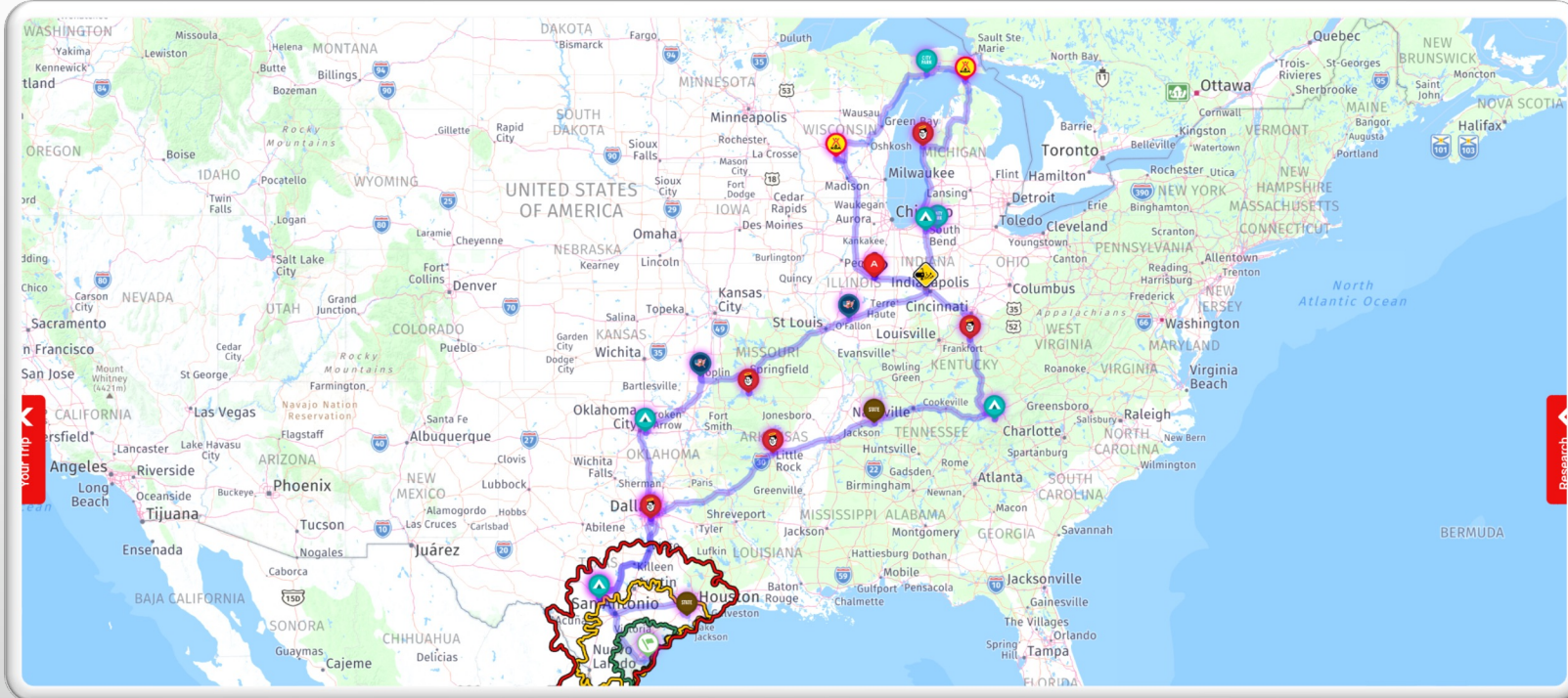
Report Review

Was this review helpful?

Yes **Helpful**

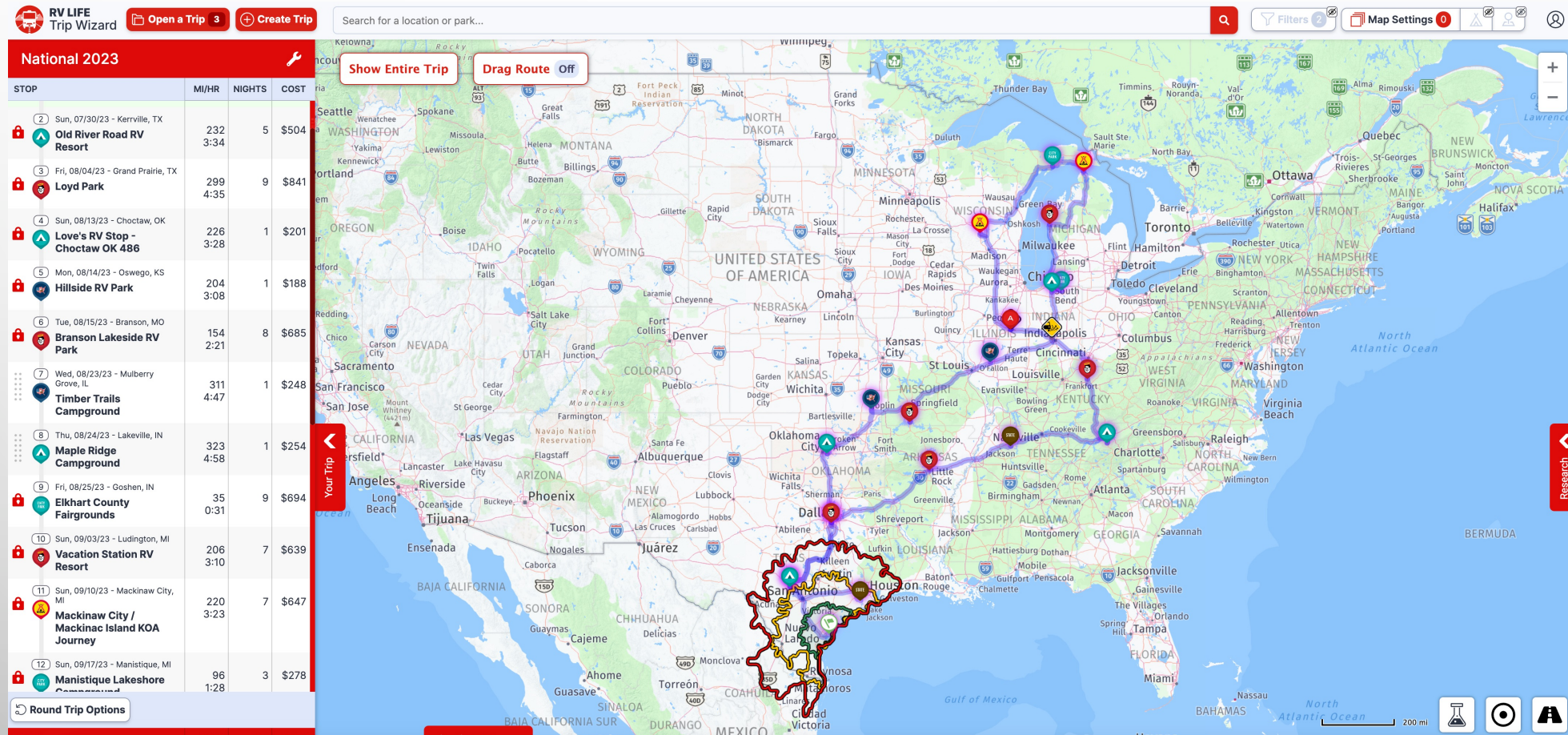


# PLANNING A LONG TRIP ...



- SAME AS SHORT ... POINT A, POINT B, START AND STOP DATES
- PLAN YOUR STOPS, LENGTH OF STAY, USE A PLACEHOLDER (BIG STOPS FIRST)
- NOTE: WE USE THE 3:30/330 RULE AS A GUIDE!
- LOOK FOR PLACES TO STAY
- RESEARCH THE OPTIONS
- BOOK YOUR STAYS
- BOOK YOUR EXCURSIONS, SIDE TRIPS, SIGHTSEEING
- ENJOY THE ANTICIPATION OF PLANNING AND LOOKING FORWARD TO YOUR TRIP!!!

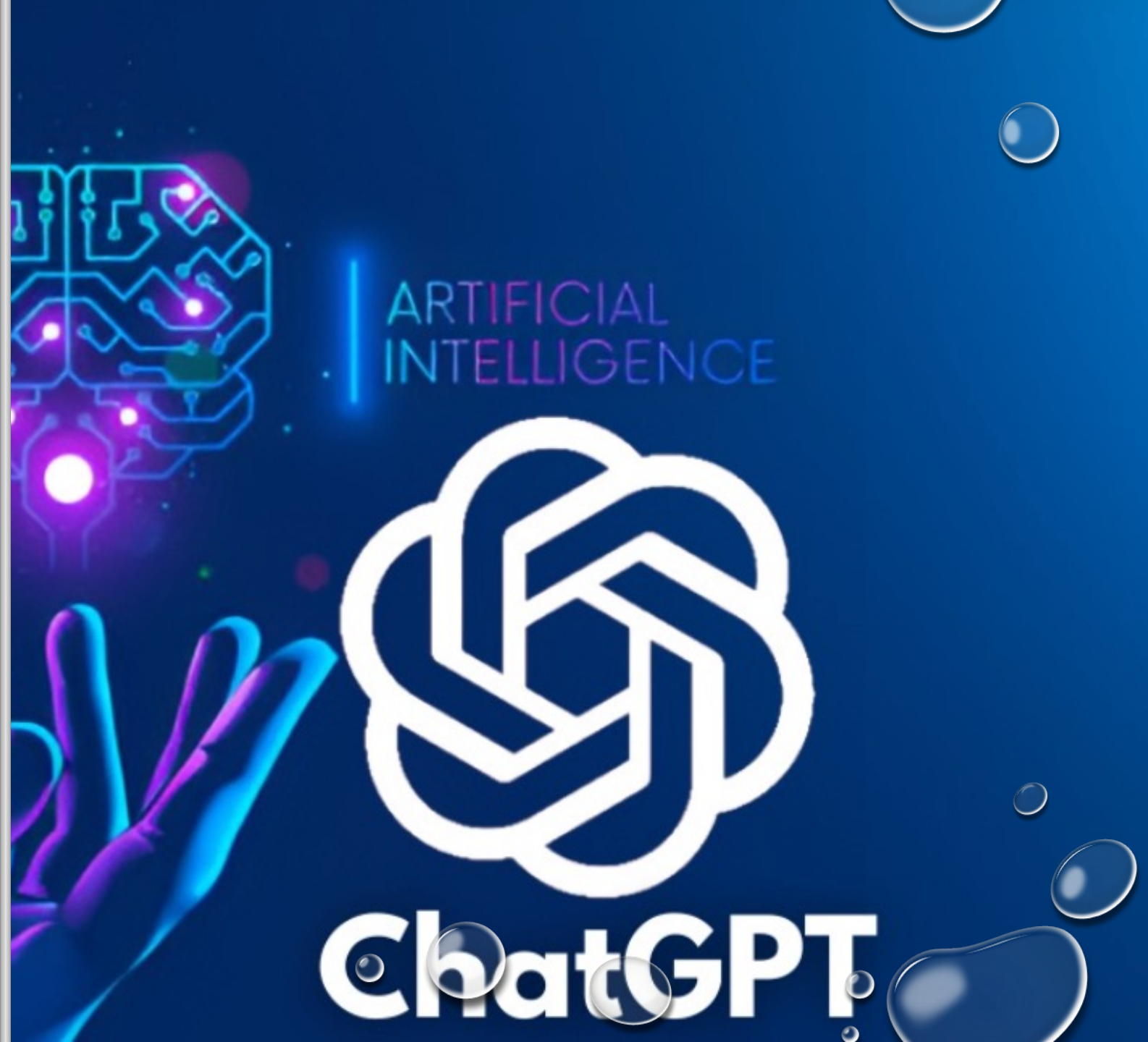
# A FULL DASHBOARD ...





# THE GAME CHANGER ...

- YOU CAN FIND IT AT ...
- [HTTPS://CHAT.OPENAI.COM/](https://chat.openai.com/)
- OR AS AN APP ON YOUR PHONE!
- AND, IT IS FREE!!!



# SOME OF OUR FAV CHATS!!!

- WHAT ARE THE 10 THINGS I NEED TO SEE IN ?????? ...
- WHAT ARE 3 POPULAR CAMPGROUNDS FOR A 44' 5<sup>TH</sup> WHEEL NEAR #? ...
- GIVE ME INFORMATION ON THESE CAMPGROUNDS ...
- WHAT ARE MY MUST SEE'S WHILE VISITING MACKINAC ISLAND ...





# THE 3 MOST IMPORTANT THINGS WE HAVE LEARNED ...

- THIS IS AN AMAZING COUNTRY WE LIVE IN ...
- PEOPLE EVERYWHERE WE GO ARE AWESOME ...
- THERE WILL NEVER BE ENOUGH TIME ...







## Jim & Christie Jacobus

JoyHauling With Team Jacobus

Keep in touch with us and let us know how we can continue to serve you and your journey!

