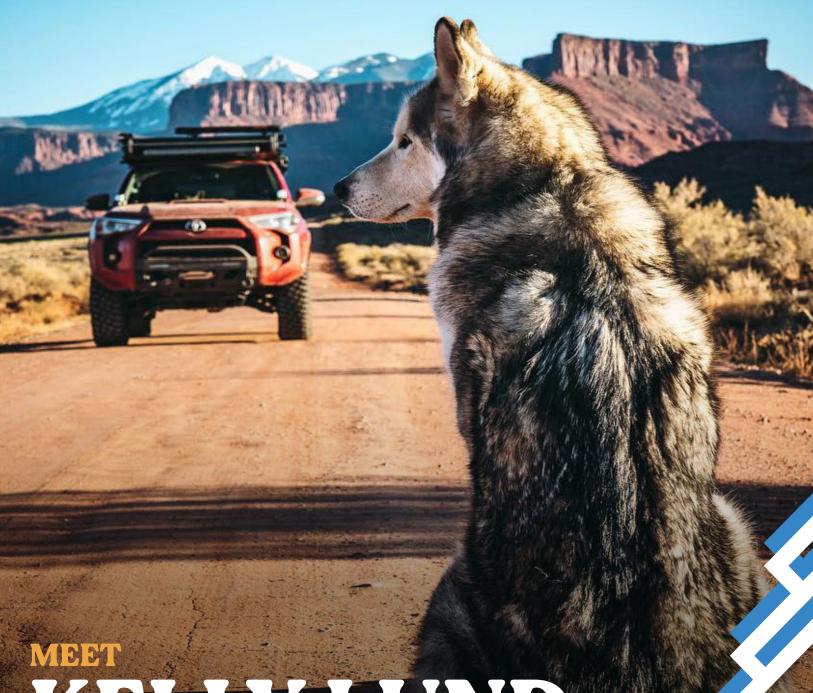
ISSUE #2



KELLY LUND, HIS CO-PILOT LOKI,

AND THEIR 2017 TOYOTA 4RUNNER



MEET

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"I've been everywhere, man." -Johnny Cash

By: Blake Froistad

e had the opportunity to meet up with Kelly Lund and talk with him about his 2017 Toyota 4Runner. If you live in the whimsical world of Instagram, there's a good chance you've also met his companion, Loki. The duo has grown quite the following over the years as they've traveled back roads all over the Western United States, telling their stories through majestic and picturesque photos.

However, it wasn't always wolfdogs, followers, and likes. Kelly hails from a little town up in Northern California called Crescent City. Before you start thinking of Cali stereotypes, the reality is this town is not what comes to mind when someone tells you they're from California. Lush green forests and jagged coastline cliffs provided quite the playground for him to grow up in and sparked a fire for his love of all things camping and outdoors.

His passion for 4x4's can be traced back to the CJ-5 he drove in high-school, and onwards to his recent lineup of Toyota's. He's owned a couple different 4Runners now, which have more than lived up to Toyota's hype of reliability and off-road capability.

Kelly has already racked up 100,000 miles on his 2017 4Runner in the few years that he's owned it. It's undergone quite a few modifications to make it even more capable off-road and a home-away-from-home for the crew. He designed this build specifically for the purpose of being able to camp fast and just about anywhere.

He started this build from the ground up and the first thing he did was put on a set of BFGoodrich KO2's mounted on stock TRD wheels. To get the truck off the ground and ready to support more gear, Kelly gutted the suspension. It currently sits on Fox 2.5 inch adjustable shocks with a reservoir and Camburg Racing UCA's up front. In the rear, he's got Dobinsons 701 springs and Timbren bump stops both front and rear.

All the armor on it is from C4 Fabrication, including the front and rear bumpers and rock sliders on the side. Yes, adding all this is fun and makes the rig look tough as hell. But it serves a greater purpose of protecting the vehicle, providing better clearance angles, and mounting more gear for recovery and lighting.

"...I continue to go until I find the perfect camping spot."

With recovery, Kelly does quite a bit of solo travel which calls for heavy-duty gear if he gets himself into a sticky situation. He's got a 10k winch up front as well as traction boards, a jack, and a shovel which are easily accessible and mounted around the vehicle.

You'll also notice the abundance of lights on this rig, and according to Kelly, "I'm a bit of an insomniac, I like to drive at night. I continue to go until I find the perfect camping spot." He's got a 40 inch light bar up top, a 30 inch in the front bumper, ditch lights on the hood, and multiple lights along the side and rear. This combination helps him safely get down those backroads at night and also illuminate the campsite "like a spaceship" he says.

The pivotal point of this build is the camper. There are a lot of different rooftop tents on the market now. Kelly wanted something that's easy and doesn't require much time to set up before hitting the sack. He went with a Go Fast Camper which mounts directly to the roof. It was actually the second one that GFC ever made and it has held up very well, even in 50 mph winds.

On the inside and command center, he's got a fridge from Dometic mounted on a drawer system in the rear to store tools and food. He's also got a water tank that mounts in the rear where the spare tire used to sit.

This build didn't happen all at once, Kelly was methodical in selecting specific gear and choosing specific manufacturers from his years of experience out on the backroads. Everything from the easy-to-deploy GFC Wedge Camper to the easy-to-access Pro Eagle Jack, this build is functional and reliable to its core.





The 4Runner itself is bulletproof, staying true to Toyota's hallmark of reliability. If you're going to invest this much time and effort into a build, you want to make sure the platform you're building off of is worthy of the resources you'll be putting in. So if you're looking for the right platform, there may not be a "right" one just the one that suits your needs and Kelly's does just that.

As the expedition and overlanding trend continues to grow, more gear and innovations hit the market. It can be tough knowing which brands to trust, and the last thing you want while off the grid are parts and gear failing. Kelly sheds some light on that by highlighting gear on his 4Runner that's worked well for him and all the miles he's covered the last few years.



Follow Kelly (@sharktoof) and Loki (@loki) on Instagram. Check out our video with Kelly on YouTube, and for more videos like this, give us a follow on Instagram (@ocn_rigs), where we highlight diverse 4x4 builds and get to know the owners as well.