

While we wait for the 2020 launch of Land Rover's new Defender, German designer Edwin Senger has had a go at imagining the future of transportation with the BackPacker concept – a vehicle that doubles as shelter out in the bush.

Targeting the need for more sustainable and flexible experiences, this concept, rather than being designed for the individual, aims to be integrated into an on-demand car-sharing service.

The BackPacker was inspired by the global adventures of the first Land Rover Series 1. 'To reinterpret this spirit and to bring it into a future

context was the main goal [as well as] combining it with the approach and philosophy of modern minimalists and the efficiency of tiny-house lifestyles,' Senger explains.

Land Rover's DNA is evident, and the modular build of the car allows owners to customise it with camping must-haves, like a loo, solar panels and cooking equipment, which are installed and swapped out as required. Inspired by the need to reduce our carbon footprint, this minimalist vehicle features a retractable tent canopy, perfect for immersive experiences out in in the wild. landrover.co.za



THE COUPÉ OF THE SKY

Alauda Aeronautics has dreamt up an entirely new racing league for the 21st century. The firm believes that the future of transport is flight, so they created the 50okW battery-powered Airspeeder. In a union of esports and motorsport, these multicopters are powered by an interchangeable Tesla Model S car battery coupled to four vertical propellers. It's said to offer the same power-to-weight ratio as a fighter jet for around 15 minutes per charge.

The Airspeeder is purpose-built to race. The manned 'flying machine' (it's not a drone) levitates at four metres above the ground and can reach speeds of up to 250km/h. Founder Matt Pearson believes these races will facilitate a new wave of innovation to promote high-performance electric mobility.

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STILL MAKING CARS THE WAY THEY USED TO

Just when you thought digital technology had stripped out the real analogue character of modern cars, Alvis, the aristocratic British carmakers, have suavely come to the rescue. They're minting new examples of their 4.3-litre classic cars like the Vanden Plas Tourer, the Bertelli Coupe and the Lancefield Concealed Hood. Each of these new old cars takes a Dickensian 5 000 hours to build, but thankfully, you can order the required air-conditioning, servo-assisted brakes and high-end audio systems, and they're emission compliant.

Engines now feature modern management tech, but otherwise, they are pretty much faithful to the originals, using original chassis and engine tooling that have remained unused since production stopped in 1968. **thealviscarcompany.co.uk**

A CLASSY SEND OFF

Rolls-Royce is saying goodbye to the Ghost – the most successful Rolls every built. But not without a grand goodbye. The British automaker will bid adieu to the best-selling Ghost with the Zenith Collection. Limited to just 50 examples the run seeks to end the nameplates's decade-long tenure in style, capturing the car at its most luxurious with more bespoke touches and flourishes than any previous iteration. The next-generation version of the vehicle will debut in 2020. But this Ghost is a Ghost-with-the-most, and more besides, including a piece from the concept car that begat it, the 2009 200EX, set into the centre consol.

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