

## style home mini trend

# Picnic pleasures

These versatile items look good too, writes **Susan Redman**.

As the long, hot days of summer continue through the early months of 2010, take time to laze about sur l'herbe. With or without family or friends, picnics are a great way to enjoy some outdoor activity and an even better way to get away from it all – people included. So pack a picnic and head for the bush, beach or lagoon and while away the hours with a good book, a nap or even a spot of fishing.

But in what will no doubt be an attractive location, try to be aesthetic-friendly – that is, pack items that will complement, not compromise, your visual environment.

Here's how: let the great outdoors set the backdrop to your picnic spot and take along some stylish accessories for comfort and practicality. For example, durable, robust Country Road cushions are made for comfort in any size and Citta Design's chair in a bag is an attractive alternative to the camper bench.

Fire up a small portable barbecue, like this one from Metro Style, and serve up cooked delicacies on an arabesque-printed serving tray from SunnyLIFE.

Tasty home-made treats packed in an insulated basket with plenty of accoutrements can supplement or constitute the main course of your picnic feast. They can be transported in pretty food containers, such as these from Rice from Kek, a brand that also makes a terrific range of acrylic jugs, cups and plates. Serve drinks in some of Kek's flutes and tumblers or bring a vacuum flask if a cuppa is the order of the day. Whether for tea, coffee or even soup, this flask from Aladdin is the perfect picnic partner. Ah... la dolce vita...



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1. Outdoor bucket barbecue, \$49.95, Metro Style, (02) 9499 9608, metro-style.com.au.
2. Picnic basket, \$226, Citta Design, 9317 5511, cittadesign.com.
3. Folding Teepoon chair, \$55, Citta Design.
4. From top, Angoon cushion, \$49.95, military blue Abbey cushion, \$99, stone Jack cushion, \$149, 1800 801 911, countryroad.com.au.
5. Rice from Kek! melamine bowl, set of four, \$85.90, 6855 1114, kek.com.au.
6. Rice from Kek! acrylic jug in lavender, \$49.50, 6855 1114, kek.com.au.
7. Aladdin Challenger one-litre flask, \$49.95, 9660 5355, cambur.com.au.
8. SunnyLIFE tray, \$39.95, sunnylife.com.au.