



YOUR GUIDE TO GOING OFF-GRID

Everything you need to know to disconnect from the grid and enjoy energy independence.

Updated in August 2025 to include information about rebates available on off and on-grid battery systems.

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“We’ve created this e-book because going off-grid is a big decision, and often just getting that first action list together is the hardest part. We hope you find it helpful.”



Dominic Spooner
Founder at Vaulta

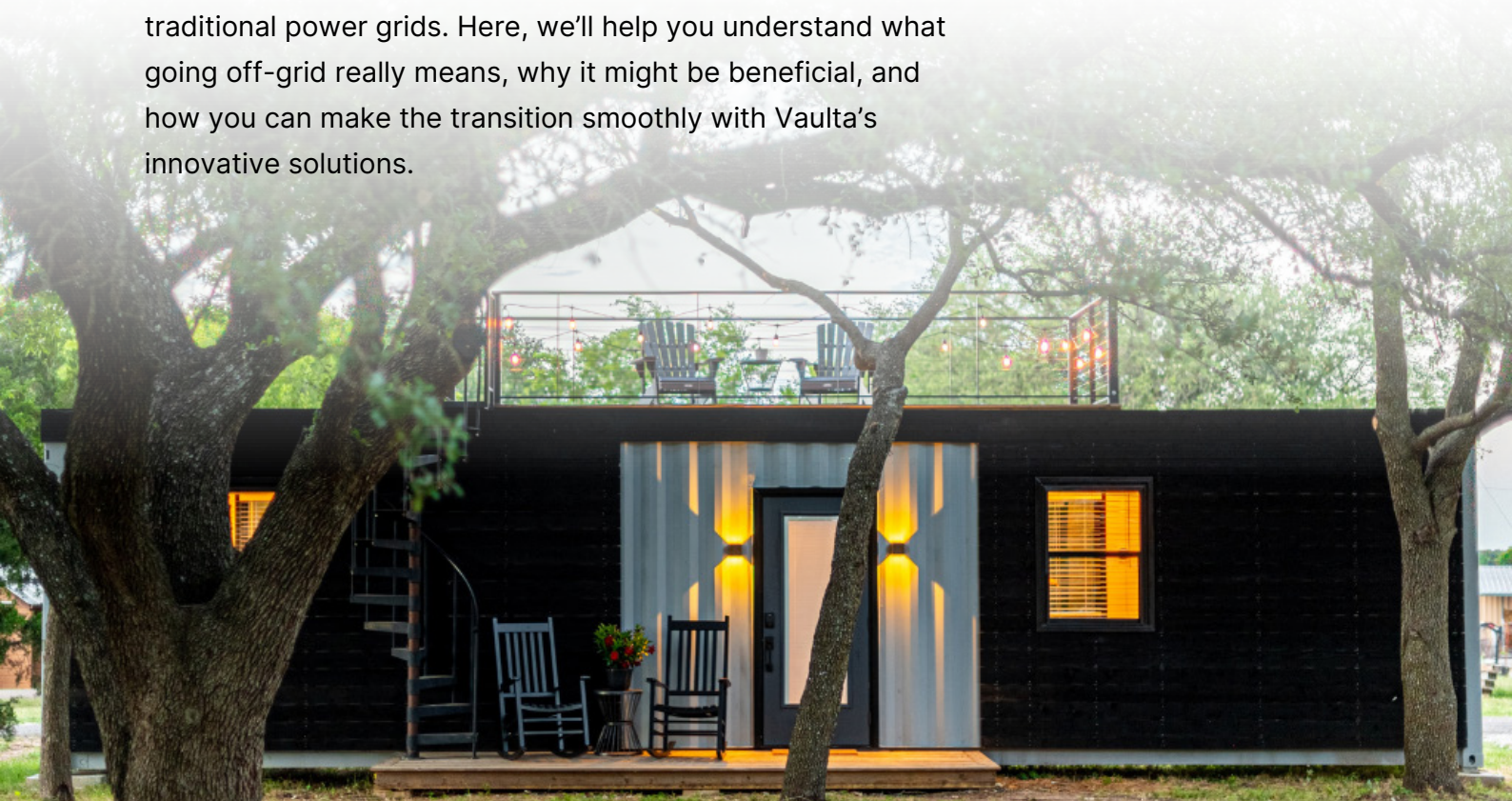
Welcome to Your Guide to Going Off-Grid

Australia is a vast country, stretching beyond the bustling city centres into the sprawling, sun-drenched landscapes that many of us call home. Out here, the weather can swing from scorching heat to stormy skies in a heartbeat, and the traditional electricity grid sometimes struggles to keep up.

As the grid becomes more taxed with Australia's growing population, and with the flexibility remote work offers, moving off-grid has become an attractive option for those looking to take control of their energy needs and embrace a sustainable lifestyle.

Whether it's to decrease dependency on unpredictable grid power, dodge high energy costs, or reduce your environmental footprint, going off-grid can offer freedom and security in one.

This guide is for anyone curious about detaching from traditional power grids. Here, we'll help you understand what going off-grid really means, why it might be beneficial, and how you can make the transition smoothly with Vaulta's innovative solutions.



What Does ‘Going Off-Grid’ Mean?

Going off-grid means saying goodbye to traditional electricity grids and hello to generating your own power.

It's all about harnessing renewable resources like the sun and wind to create enough energy to run your home or business. Imagine being your own power provider, free from the usual constraints and charges of external suppliers.

By integrating battery storage systems, you can capture and store that energy, ensuring you have a steady power supply day or night, rain or shine.

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Image by Leopictures from Pixabay

Benefits of Going Off-Grid

Going off-grid means you can generate your own power to suit your lifestyle without relying on the big energy retailers. Here's why stepping into energy self-sufficiency could be one of the best decisions you make:

Embrace Self-Sufficiency: Create and manage your own energy without the need to rely on big power companies. This means no more dealing with rising energy prices or navigating through complex retailer policies. You produce, you consume.

Eco-Friendly Living: Using a setup of solar panels and batteries not only reduces your carbon footprint but also takes advantage of cleaner, greener technology. It's a sustainable choice that benefits both the planet and its residents (that's you and me).

Smart Investment in Your Energy Future: When you go off-grid, you're investing directly in your property and its future. Once your system is up and running, the ongoing costs drop dramatically, making it a smart financial move in the long run.

Reliable Power Supply: One of the biggest perks of going off-grid is gaining control over your power supply, especially in areas prone to blackouts or where grid reliability is a gamble. With your own battery storage, you can ensure your lights stay on and your appliances keep running, no matter the demand on the traditional grid.

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Did you know?

Vaulta has 100's of batteries in the field with an average return on investment of 6 years or less.

Considerations for Staying On-Grid

Choosing to stay connected to the grid isn't just about sticking with the status quo—it can be a strategic decision based on your specific circumstances. Here's why staying on-grid might still be the right choice for you:

Lower Upfront Costs: Setting up an independent off-grid system can be costly, especially upfront. If your home or business is already connected to the grid, maintaining that connection is generally straightforward and cost-effective.

If budget constraints are a concern, staying on-grid while gradually integrating solutions like solar panels and battery backups can be more financially manageable.

Reliability and Backup: Having the grid as a backup can provide an extra layer of security for your power. For homes or businesses that can't afford even occasional power disruptions, maintaining a connection to the grid supplemented by solar and batteries ensures all bases are covered.

Keeping Pace with Technology: The pace of advancements in renewable energy can be a double-edged sword. Some might worry about investing in a system that could soon be outdated. Staying on-grid while slowly integrating newer technologies is a cautious approach that lets you benefit from advancements without committing to a full system overhaul.

Safety Concerns: Despite vast improvements in safety standards for solar and battery systems, misinformation can still lead to apprehension. If safety concerns are holding you back, staying on-grid while you learn more about these technologies might feel more comfortable.

Staying on-grid while slowly integrating newer technologies is a cautious approach that lets you benefit from advancements without committing to a full system overhaul.

Did you know?

Vaulta's award winning batteries are repairable, and re-usable, giving them a second life?

3 Steps to Beginning Your Off-Grid Journey

Embarking on an off-grid adventure is about understanding your energy needs, choosing the right system, and managing the costs effectively. Here's a straightforward guide to getting started:

1: Understand Your Energy Needs

Before diving into off-grid life, you need to understand your energy demands. Think of your energy usage in terms of kilowatt-hours (kWh) and kilowatts (kW): kWh measures how much energy you store (like the size of a water jug), and kW measures how quickly you use that energy (like how fast you can pour water out of that jug).

Assess the energy usage of your appliances, lighting, heating, and cooling to determine your typical power needs. If you're unsure about your current energy use, energy calculators can provide a snapshot based on average household appliances. Knowing whether you need a steady trickle or a rapid flow of power will help tailor your system perfectly.

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Northern NSW Case Study

CONTEXT: Started on-grid

Experiencing blackouts, and high power bills (over \$1K/month)

SOLUTION:

- Chose Vaulta over competitors: Australian owned and made, well-priced, well supported
- 85kWh Vaulta system on track for less than 2 year return on investment

RESULT: Off-Grid

- Going off-grid eliminated more than \$50K of upgrades for customer (note this was sold before rebates were available)
- Gain independence, near 100% elimination of power bill



2: Decide on Your System

Your off-grid system's backbone will likely include solar panels, but for nights or cloudy days, you'll need reliable backup. Battery storage allows you to store excess solar power during the day for use at night. Consider how important it is to you to have an Australian made system that is designed with sustainability in mind.

Depending on your location and energy needs, adding a generator might also be wise. Keep in mind that generators, while useful, require regular maintenance and can be noisy. Talk with your installer about the best combination of solar, battery, and possibly a generator to ensure you have a reliable energy supply around the clock.

3: Weigh Up the Costs

The cost of an off-grid system can vary widely, from \$5,000 to \$30,000, based on how remote your location is and the complexity of your energy needs, and what the current rebates available are.

While this initial investment might seem high, it frees you from ongoing grid power costs, providing long-term savings and price stability. Be sure to consider total cost of ownership, not just up front costs. Systems like Vaulta's are designed for longevity, and allow for repair, ensuring a longer life. Remember, while grid-connected systems may seem less expensive upfront, they come with continuous electricity bills and the uncertainty of rising prices.

Starting your off-grid journey is a significant but rewarding step toward energy independence. By understanding your needs, choosing the right system, and effectively managing costs, you can enjoy a sustainable and self-sufficient lifestyle. Take the time to plan carefully, and you'll create a system that not only meets your needs today but is also scalable for future demands.



Government Rebates: A New Incentive for Home Batteries

From 1 July 2025, Australians installing small-scale home battery systems can access a new federal rebate under the Cheaper Home Batteries Program. It cuts upfront costs—making clean, reliable energy more affordable, especially for those going off-grid.

The rebate is delivered through Small-scale Technology Certificates (STCs), which are credits the government gives you based on how much clean energy your system is expected to produce or store over time. These STCs are sold by your installer to reduce your upfront cost, so you don't have to claim anything back later.

In 2025, each usable kilowatt-hour (kWh) of battery capacity earns 9.3 STCs. For example, a 10 kWh battery would generate about 93 STCs, which currently translates to a ~30% discount—depending on market rates.

Good News for Off-Grid Homes

If your property isn't connected to the electricity grid and relies entirely on solar and battery systems, you're considered off-grid—and you're eligible for the rebate. As long as your system includes compliant solar and batteries, installed by an accredited professional, you can access the savings.

Key Points:

- Available Australia-wide for homes, small businesses, and community groups.
- Covers systems from 5 kWh to 100 kWh (rebate applies to the first 50 kWh).
- Must be installed with solar PV (new or existing).
- Installers and equipment must be Clean Energy Council approved.
- STC value reduces each year, so earlier installation = bigger savings.

With Vaulta's high-performance "Vaulta Select Range", this rebate brings you one step closer to clean, self-reliant energy - on or off the grid.

[Read more about Vaulta Select](#)

Your Next Steps Checklist

Ready to kickstart your journey to energy independence?
Follow this simple checklist to get started:

1. Assess Your Energy Use

- ☐ Review your power bills
- ☐ Use online energy calculators (Vaulta's 30 second self-assessment tool does not track your data or request emails)
- ☐ Compare your consumption with industry averages
- ☐ Review Government rebates that are available

2. Consult with The Experts

- ☐ Contact Vaulta and get the best information and intro's to Vaulta's installer partners
- ☐ Discuss specific off-grid plans and system design

3. Understand Battery Storage

- ☐ Book a consultation with Vaulta to explore your battery options
- ☐ Learn about the benefits and specifications of different battery systems

4. Join the Community

- ☐ Connect with other off-gridders via online groups (e.g. Facebook)
- ☐ Share experiences and gain insights from those already living off-grid

5. Request a quote



Embarking on your off-grid journey is an exciting step towards energy independence and a more sustainable lifestyle. By understanding your energy needs, consulting with experts, diving deeper into battery technology, and connecting with the off-grid community, you are well on your way.

Remember, Vaulta is here to support you through this transition, ensuring you have all the tools and knowledge you need to succeed and power a more sustainable future.

**Book a meeting with Vaulta to
discuss your off-grid journey**



Powering a sustainable future

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