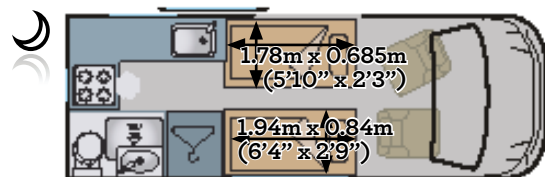
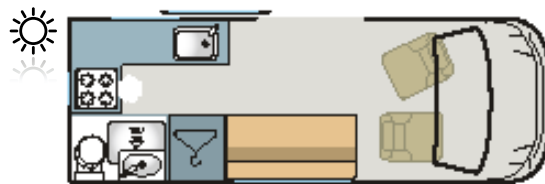


MURVI

Morocco XL

Murvi Motorcaravans recently unveiled its extended version of the well-received Morocco. GENTLEMAN JACK takes a look

☉ **Price** From £50,623 (£54,888 as tested) ☉ **Sleeps** Two ☉ **Seats** Two ☉ **Base vehicle** Fiat Ducato ☉ **Engine** 2.3-litre 150bhp TD (130bhp std) ☉ **L/W/H** 6.36m/2.57m/2.05m (20'11"/8'5"/6'9") ☉ **MTPLM** 3500kg ☉ **Payload** 400kg ☉ **Water** (fresh/waste) 73/45 litres ☉ **Battery** 2x115Ah ☉ **Gas** 25-litre tank (10kg)



Previously we've met both the extra-long Fiat Ducato panel van and the Murvi Morocco; but this is the first time they've joined forces.

By way of an introduction, a few words should help to clarify Ducato's nomenclature of its base vehicles. The LWB (long wheelbase) high-top Ducato has a wheelbase of 4.014m (13'3") and an overall length

of 5.99m (19'8"). The XL Ducato is still built on the same 4.04m wheelbase but has a greater overall length of 6.36m (20'11"). The latter is often mis-described by the light commercial vehicle trade and the press alike as being an XLWB (extra long wheelbase) van whereas in fact it is an XL LWB van.

It's important to differentiate because we've recently heard of the XL

being slated as being much more difficult to manoeuvre than its slightly shorter relative. This is not the case because the two share the same kerb-to-kerb turning circle. However, it is longer and will therefore require more space on your drive or in the supermarket car park.

The driving force behind Murvi is Rex Kneebone. His company must have won more trophies and awards

for design-and-build than any other UK manufacturer, but he remains a hands-on proprietor, listening to his customers' suggestions and carefully evaluating them before including, modifying, or rejecting them.

Morocco is really a single-bed version of the evergreen Morello. A downside of choosing an LWB Morocco over a long wheelbase Morello is that in order to make room for the nearside bed to slide-out, the kitchen lost some of its base storage. No such compromise is required in the XL version – its kitchen is the size of a small country – plus a capacious full-height boot is added to the rear of the washroom.

Morocco's contemporary interior blends plain solid-colour locker doors with modern, striped soft furnishing fabrics. Carefully chosen fittings and accessories provide a practical, airy and clutter-free environment.

Although not unique, Morocco is still unusual in panel van conversions in that it offers two single beds without sacrificing the uncluttered open-plan lounge and unobstructed side-door aperture. This is good news for all potential Murvi owners but particularly so for my disabled motorcaravanning pals. Murvi is used to fitting access and mobility aids and will always go the extra



WIDTH
2.57m (8'5")



LENGTH 6.36m (20'11")

HEIGHT 2.05m (6'9")

Contact Murvi Motorcaravans Ltd, 4 East Way, Lee Mill Industrial Estate, Ivybridge, Devon, PL21 9GE. Tel 01752 892 200 Web www.murvi.co.uk

WHAT MOTORHOME? High-top two berth



TABLE FOR TWO
Certainly – but also a choice of two tables. One sits on a pedestal leg, the other is freestanding... so perfect for alfresco dining



ROOM WITH A VIEW
Panel van conversions' sliding side doors give easy access for all, in particular for wheelchair users via ramps or a lift



GOODNIGHT
Two comfortable but differently-sized single beds either side of the central aisle can be slid together to make a huge double



STORAGE SOLUTION
Space in the sofa base – which becomes the nearside bed – can be accessed at any time. It's ideal for duvets or sleeping bags



OPEN-PLAN LOUNGE
Soft furnishing fabrics are classy and understated. Armrests on the cab seats are a cost option (£200). Avtex TV is part of a £550 upgrade pack

CARAVANGUARD
INSURANCE
QUOTE
£290.50*



DIVIDE AND CONQUER
Lined overhead lockers have removable shelves to optimise storage. Taller motorcaravanners may wish for a 90-degree opening



WELL CONNECTED
External gas outlet with stop valve sits behind colour co-ordinated access flap at nearside rear. The external shower is on the offside



BOOT CAMP
Useful and secure storage space at the rear is lined and fitted with adjustable height shelving and an overhead light



SERVICE WITH A SMILE
A habitation service engineer's dream – the flue now exits through the side panel rather than the back door as it did previously

★ 'VAN REVIEW |

mile to make sure that it offers 'motorcaravanning to all'. Huge respect!

Standard specification includes the 2.3-litre Multijet Euro5+ 130bhp engine with six-speed manual gearbox. The 2.3-litre 150bhp and 3.0-litre 180bhp engines are available as extra-cost options and the superb Comfortmatic automatic transmission is available with any engine.

We think that the 400kg payload should be adequate for most couples, although if you intend transporting gold bullion the MTPLM can be increased to either 3950kg or 4250kgs. As it is already built on the heavy chassis the weight upgrades cost just £250.

Murvi only sells direct to the customer, which has both advantages and disadvantages. The disadvantage is that there won't be a local dealer and you may have to return it to the factory if there are any warranty claims requiring its expertise. However, for many, advantages such as better value for money (no retailer top-slicing the profit), a short chain of communication, plus a workforce 100% dedicated to the product, will outweigh any perceived disadvantages.

As I've always found with Murvi motorcaravans, digging deep in this one just confirmed initial impressions that it's built to last. Murvi owners agree - as evidenced in our Owner Satisfaction Survey and by the number of returning customers, many becoming serial Murvi owners. Is there a better recommendation? ©

PRACTICAL MOTORHOME SAYS...

This is a dedicated two-berth for dedicated motorcaravanners. This 'van is aimed at those who prefer to sleep in single beds (usually). Have a think about the 5.99m version before signing on the dotted line



GREAT GALLEY
Efficient use of space, plus good worktop and natural light, pushes all the buttons. A choice of hobs, ovens and fridges is available



WORKTOP PREMIUM
Furthest forward section of the worktop raised into position also provides a cantilever table for those needing to sit at tasks



HOT STUFF
Control panel for very powerful dual-fuel (diesel/230V) 8kW Webasto Dual Top boiler with blown-air heat distribution

MOVING REARWARDS
Spacious kitchen is to the right, with a large wardrobe on the left, ahead of the rear washroom. Sliding windows allow through ventilation when in transit



WASH AND GO
It's a great washroom but there's not much thigh room on the toilet for those of us built for comfort rather than speed



ONE FOR YOU AND FOR ME
Separate cupboards for each motorcaravanner's toiletries should avoid a major falling out. Notice the large opening rooflight



SAFETY FIRST
A CO detector, smoke detector, fire extinguisher, fire blanket, first-aid kit, warning triangle and spare 'van bulbs are all standard