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Murvi Morocco XL

VICKY SARTAIN spends a bank holiday weekend exploring Cornwall in Murvi's spacious campervan

THE SKY-BLUE EXTERIOR of Murvi's Morocco XL campervan immediately put me in a hopeful mood. Having spent hours in traffic to reach Murvi's Ivybridge base in Devon, there was still another 50 miles to go to reach the campsite.

Once Murvi Director Rex Kneebone had pointed out all the van's sophisticated features and I'd transferred the weekend's kit unceremoniously into the living area, it was back behind the wheel. Luckily, the electric step at the main side door has a buzzer that warns not to drive off with it still in place!

It took me a while to get used to driving an automatic but I was soon glad of its extra help, especially on increasingly narrow and winding lanes. Besides, there were other things to think about, such as the views over the River Tamar as the Morocco cruised across the bridge into Cornwall.

This campervan is longer than some (6.36m), with the main weight of kitchen and washroom at the rear. As such it felt well-balanced, even around the sharpest bends.

Reversing sensors certainly helped too, and there was surprisingly good visibility all around through the small kitchen window at the rear and over the shoulder.

It was too late to bother unpacking on reaching the campsite, so the simplicity of reorganising the living area into a quiet bedroom was a relief. In the following days of transforming living space into bedroom, we were glad of the vinyl flooring (carpet can also be requested - along with variations in wall linings, worktops and door finishes), which could quickly be swept clean.

The next morning, opening the blinds to serene views over the Cornish countryside, we headed north to Bude Club Site, where the photos for this feature were taken.



LIVING AREA

By day there's plenty of space for two or more occupants and the comfortable long sofa is generous enough to seat four. In a neat storage compartment above the cab seats there's a small table-top that can be fixed to the side of the passenger seat, while a larger freestanding table lives in the wardrobe.

The living area lighting can be switched on and off by touching the light (no ugly switches), and the ventilation has a remote control. USBs and power sockets are dotted throughout and there's a Panasonic TV, with the whole space being naturally lit by a large skylight.



ON
TEST



STORAGE

We kept finding new compartments throughout the weekend. There's a neat little safe box hidden beneath the passenger seat, an over-cab slot for tables and chairs and vast storage beneath the sofa for all the bedding, while the wardrobe has adjustable shelves, a hanging rail, plus a small mirror on the inside of the door. The kitchen has generous storage too in its various drawers and cupboards, and offered far more space than we needed. At the back of the campervan, one door opens to reveal four large shelves to fit bulkier kit.



WASHROOM

The washroom has fantastic natural light through the skylight, generous storage and its all-white interior and mirrors made it feel large. The tap doubles up as a showerhead and to stop everything getting a good soaking, a curtain pulls around, screening off the toilet and sink.



at a glance

Price as tested £59,041

Prices start at £52,885

Club Care insurance £471

Base vehicle Fiat Ducato

Engine as tested

2.3-litre turbo diesel,
150bhp, automatic gearbox

Emissions category Euro 6

Length x width x height
6.36m x 2.05m x 2.56m

Berths Two travel and sleeping

Mass in Running Order
3,100kg

Maximum Authorised Mass
3,500kg

C1 licence required No

User payload 400kg

Warranty Three years base
vehicle; two years conversion

Converter Murvi

Tel 01752 892200

Web www.murvi.co.uk

COOKING

The L-shaped kitchen is a great space to work in. Worktop space is generous, with an extra drop-down panel at the end by the sink. We chose not to use the Panasonic microwave in favour of the three-burner hob with its electric hotplate. The overhead ventilation system through the skylight quickly carried away the cooking smells.

The whole area has plenty of natural light and in the evening could be well-lit by three LED strip-lights.

The Dometic fridge has a freezer compartment and was a good size for our long weekend needs.



SLEEPING

There's a knack to setting up the beds, which can be two singles or a double. Singles worked better, leaving an aisle between just about wide enough to walk through. Above, the large skylight (all the windows including the cab have blinds) offered great starry-night-sky views.

Evenings were chilly so it was nice to switch on the heating. We also liked the blue night light option on the LEDs that were less harsh on the eyes.



verdict

Attractive and well-designed inside and out - with great natural light.