

MOBILVETTA ADMIRAL K6.3

There's plenty of Italian style and clever design to admire in this smart new camper, says Peter Baber

This two-berth is Mobilvetta's first van conversion. The Italian brand is known for producing luxurious A-classes, with its popular K-Yacht range inspired by nautical design.

How easily would this translate into a campervan? On first impressions, viewing the 'van at Marquis Leisure's Lancashire branch, we'd say well.

With the vehicle kitted out in black, you get a standard Fiat Ducato cab, with an eight-speed automatic gearbox included. There's a host of features designed to make driving less stressful, including cruise control, traction plus, electronic stability control, a rear-view camera and cab air conditioning.

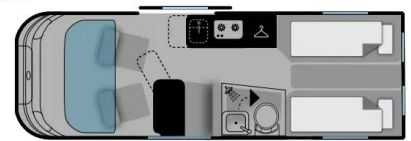
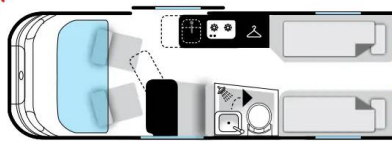
But it's perhaps only after you have swivelled the cab seats, and come into the front dinette, that the similarities with other Mobilvettas are apparent. There's the same high-gloss finish on the lockers, and a fetching striped floor throughout. The clip-on table in front of the two travel seats in the bench at the back is particularly innovative.

Not only does it have drinks holders, but it folds, so you shouldn't have to squeeze in. It also has a thin extension that swings out, so even the person in the driving seat has a place to dine.

This whole front dinette is heated by two vents from the Truma Combi 4 diesel heating system. It's well lit, too, during the day by the sunroof, the Heki and the large windows, and at night by a striplight under the locker, ambient lighting and a light next to each cab seat. A mains and aerial socket behind the bench means a TV set could easily be viewed by anyone in the cab seats.

If you think the table is innovative, take a look at the kitchen. At first

Price £79,995
Sleeps 2 **Belts** 4
Base vehicle
 Fiat Ducato
Engine 2.3-litre 140bhp turbodiesel with eight-speed automatic transmission
Length/width/height
 6.36/2.05/2.65m
 (20'9"/6'7"/8'7")
MTPLM 3500kg
MiRO 3124kg **Payload** 376kg
Water (fresh/waste)
 85/75 litres
Leisure battery 100Ah
Gas 2 x 5kg or 2 x 7kg



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glance, you might wonder where the sink is. Has Mobilvetta dispensed with the need for one? No – just unclasp the catch at the back of the unit and slide out the moulded extension.

You also get a chopping board that doubles up as a sink cover, making a huge workspace for a 'van that is only 6.36m long. So it's a shame the only mains socket is at the other end of the kitchen, the other side of the two-burner hob.

The kitchen includes an 84-litre compressor fridge and a combined

oven and grill (unusual in a Continental 'van). You might have a bit of squeeze to reach the oven, however, because the gangway to the back, between the washroom and the kitchen, narrows to just 45cm at one point.

That washroom has a stylish door handle, a basin in front of a large lit mirror, and more mirrors on all sides at the top. Light comes through an opaque window and from LEDs, and you open the shower by swinging out a partition that clips firmly (no flimsy plastic catches here) and unravelling

up close



Standard Fiat Ducato cab includes eight-speed automatic gearbox



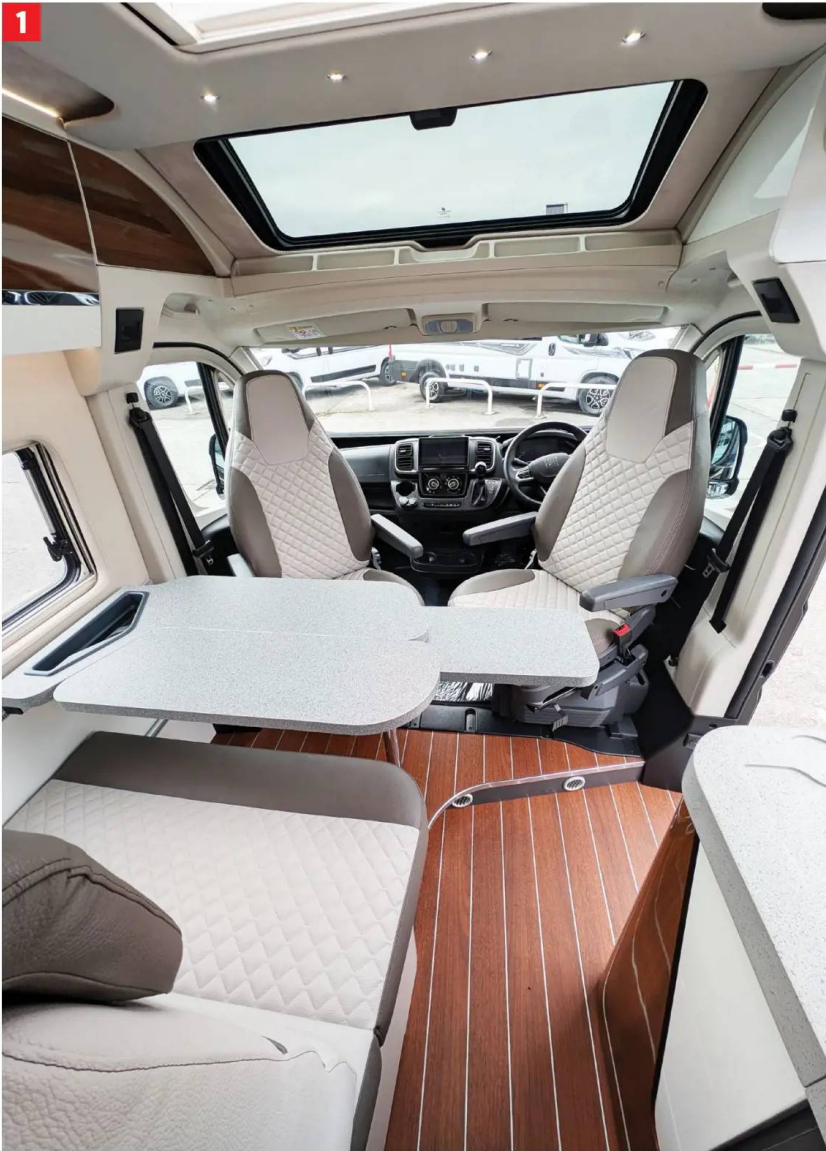
Neat clip-on table folds up, so there's no need to squeeze into the lounge



Kitchen sink, normally hidden away, is only revealed when...



... you slide out the ingeniously designed extension to the unit



- 1** Narrow extension flap swings out from the clip-on table to provide more space at mealtimes
- 2** If you're wondering where the sink is, just unclasp the catch on the unit and slide out the moulded extension
- 3** Well-lit and ventilated washroom houses a sizeable handbasin surrounded by large mirrors
- 4** Swing out the partition and unravel the shower hose that is neatly hidden away when not in use

the shower hose from its cubbyhole behind the partition. Headroom isn't great, but there is a small roof vent.

Our test model came with a double bed at the back – very comfortable if you are under 6ft – with swan-neck reading lights, a Heki and striplights underneath the lockers.

You can opt for two single beds here, and we think we would, because of the storage options. The double lifts in the middle to provide a space for large items (once you have removed the support struts); that aside, there

is only one little cupboard under here and a small chest. The single bed might mean less space for bikes, but you'd get more storage – and longer beds.

There are six overhead lockers back here, none of them particularly large, and there's only one in the lounge.

You also get a cubbyhole under the table and a tiny drawer in the step. There is a half-height wardrobe under the fridge, but the narrow gangway makes it quite awkward to reach.

The sliding kitchen extension has plenty of space for dry food storage,

but it's not clear how easy it would be to store large pans here. Otherwise, the overhead locker is only average, and the space under the oven is taken up with a cutlery drawer.

PRACTICAL MOTORHOME SAYS...

In looks, the Admiral lives up to its classy name, and it boasts some great innovations, such as the table and the kitchen extension, which on the whole work well. We would possibly opt for the single bed version, to get the best storage opportunities.



Comfortable double bed, although singles provide more storage space



The double bed lifts in the middle to provide storage for larger items



Mobilvetta's thoughtful design touches include a neat robe hook



Discreet little drawer in the step, but it's not very deep