Space Odyssey



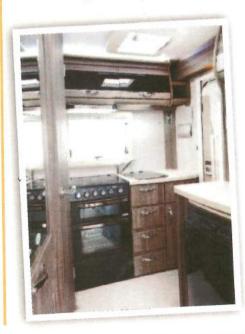
Discover Touring takes a first look at the everpopular Bourton motorhome, from British manufacturer Auto-Sleepers.

he tried and tested Bourton continues to be one of Auto-Sleepers' most popular models in its flagship range of motorhomes based upon the reliable Mercedes chassis. The two-berth 'van provides spacious living without requiring extra length to accommodate fixed beds.

Exterior

There's nothing garish about the two-tone exterior of the Bourton. It's white cab, colour coded bumpers, scratch and impact resistant GRP body and silver grey sidewalls remain understated with unobtrusive decals. The standard low-profile model incorporates an opening skyview window and panoramic rooflight but you can opt for an overcab luton, which provides sleeping accommodation for a further two people.

A 25-litre underfloor mounted LPG gas tank avoids the need for messing around with gas bottle changeovers. And we'd recommend adding the optional Premium Pack that incorporates an 80W solar panel, Thule Omnistor awning, reversing camera and cruise control plus full winterisation.



Living & Sleeping

Living space is what the Bourton is all about – there's bags of it, belying the width of the 'van.
Two side-facing sofas (and a choice of three furnishings in multiple colour ways), long enough to become full-length single beds at

night consume the forward area of the body. Couple these with the rotating cab seats and you've enough seating to accommodate a party of eight comfortably if you're entertaining. That said, if your idea of motorhoming is heading off into the sunset as a couple and sprawling out with a sofa each, the Bourton will suit just fine.

At night, the two sofas, if not made as aforementioned single beds, transform into a vast, luxurious superking size bed 6'4" wide.

Kitchen

Fixed at the rear of the motorhome, the rightangled kitchen area leaves the living area clutter-free. A 4-burner duel-fuel hob (3 gas, 1 electric) beneath an extractor fan plus full size oven and separate grill allows the most sumptuous of meals to be prepared, especially with the additional slide-out work surface. A microwave oven offers quick snacks and, beside the entrance door, is a large, black refrigerator with freezer compartment.

Washroom

On the offside, the washroom combines a separated shower cubicle together with an electric flush cassette toilet and handbasin. Noted is the best positioning of the shower area 'behind' the toilet – there's no need to reach the loo by passing through a potentially wet shower tray.

Storage

Overhead airline-style lockers provide plenty of storage space for two, including bulky items in the roomy voids beneath the sofas. There's a wardrobe for clothes and a locker

accessed externally, perfect for storing levelling blocks and hook-up cables.

Final Say...

If you don't like the idea of making a bed up every night, this might not be the 'van for you. But for those who value daytime living space without dragging around an additional bedroom, the Bourton will work very well. Couple this with Auto-Sleepers' attention to detail and build quality and you have a motorhome that will last and look good for years to come.

TechnicalSpecifications:

Base vehicle chassis: Mercedes-Benz Turbo
Diesel 163bhp engine with optional upgrade
to V6 190bhp or 7-speed automatic gearbox
Mass in Running Order (MIRO):2,983kg
MTPLM:3,500kg
Max Payload:517kg
Exterior Length:6.48m
Body width:2.26m
Height:2.86m
Berths:2
Designated travel seats:2
Cost:from £66,495

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Auto-Sleepers
www.auto-sleepers.com