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Auto-Sleepers 2019

A new van conversion combines the best bits of two existing models



The classic Symbol lounge with one rear travel seat



A transverse double or lengthways singles are possible



Symbol Plus is based on the 5.99m Boxer window van

THE Symbol is the longest-running of all Auto-Sleepers' best-selling van conversions, with its layout dating back to the previous generation of Peugeot Boxer – and even the Symphony model before that. It remains the only van conversion in the range based on the medium-wheelbase (5.41m) window-van.

The Stanway, meanwhile, is longer – at 5.99m – and boasts a spacious L-shaped rear kitchen, but its pullman dinette lounge can't convert to single beds (just a lengthways double) and it isn't quite as well suited to those lazy days when you just want to sprawl with a good book.

But what if you could combine the best of both worlds? A Symbol at the front and a Stanway at the rear, all still in the modest footprint of a long-

wheelbase (just sub-six-metre) Boxer. Well, now you can, and it's all down to the power of customer feedback. Auto-Sleepers' buyers said that this is the model the Cotswold firm should make – and now it has.

That L-shaped galley is a star feature, complete with eye-level microwave, Triplex cooker with combined oven/grill and even a coffee maker. Alongside the kitchen is a washroom with practical tambour door access.

Up front, the lounge arrangement is a classic design with a single forward-facing seat adjacent to the sliding door and a long settee facing the entrance. The seats convert into either a transverse double bed or lengthways singles (without using the cab seats).

Of course, being an Auto-Sleeper, you can expect this new Symbol Plus to come with a lengthy range of equipment, especially when fitted with the *de rigueur* Premium Pack. A fitted gas tank, Al-Ko Air Top rear suspension, reversing camera, sat-nav, alloy wheels, metallic paint, solar panel, external barbecue point and Peugeot's gutsy 160bhp Euro VI engine will all be fitted. And don't worry if you need an automatic as Auto-Sleepers gets around the non-availability of such an option from Peugeot by offering a Fiat base with the Comfort-Matic transmission instead.

If it's a coachbuilt you're after, then the – usually automatic – Mercedes range will see the arrival of the all-new rear-wheel drive Sprinter cab in the 2019 season.