

**A-CLASS
SPECIAL
ISSUE**

What motorhome



**FLAGSHIP
CAMPERVAN FROM
AUTO-SLEEPERS**

HELPING YOU BUY YOUR **PERFECT MOTORHOME**

MAY 2023
www.whatmotorhome.co.uk

TRAVEL IN STYLE



REVIEWED
Top new
A-class
models
of 2023



Used A-classes from under £40k



£468k liner for lottery winners

aru92zQ+vzdBw3QRFENL+A==

Mobilvetta K-Yacht 80

Two lounge areas and a UK-handed layout



WHO IS MOBILVETTA?

Mobilvetta's vehicles were first sold in the UK in the 1990s, when its Top Driver 52 was claimed to be the best-selling imported 'van here. After a short absence, the brand returned in the mid-noughties through the Marquis dealer network when both companies had become part of the Italian SEA Group. More recently, Marquis launched the K-Yacht range as its first A-class offering for some years, later adding the closely related Kea low-profiles. These vehicles now sit as the flagship motorhomes offered by Marquis with a very comprehensive spec and UK-handed bodywork.



YOU won't mistake a K-Yacht for any other A-class – these Italian models definitely have a look all of their own. There are five layouts in the range, including a compact model and two with rear lounges – thank importer, Marquis Leisure, for that UK-friendly approach (which also includes approval by the National Caravan Council). And the built-for-Britain angle goes further as these are amongst the very few A-class motorhomes available with the doors (both habitation and cab) on the UK side. That is, perhaps, most relevant in the cab as the driver can hop out without shuffling past

a front seat passenger.

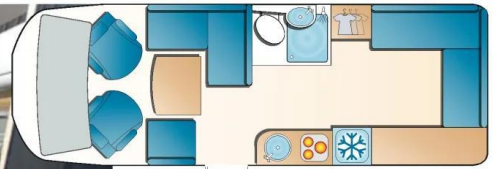
As you'd expect from Marquis, the spec list is long and the options list short – in fact, apart from dealer-fit items such as awnings, it's non-existent. As with every K-Yacht, the 80 even gets Fiat's nine-speed automatic as standard, along with the 160bhp engine (which will be superseded by the 180bhp motor once stocks of the former run out). It's built on a 4,400kg chassis, too, so the payload is generous at over a tonne.

Meanwhile, chassis spec also includes alloy wheels, a leather steering wheel, ESP, cruise control, Traction Plus, Hill Assist and Hill Descent

Control, Crosswind Assist, automatic air-conditioning, an electric parking brake, Zenec DAB radio and sat-nav, and a reversing camera.

Externally, there's a barbecue point and 120W solar panel, plus storage at the rear that's accessible from either side. Stretching under the end lounge, this area (with a maximum height of 570mm) is not a full garage but it's a useful space for outdoor furniture and the like. An external shower and 230V socket are fitted here, too.

Inside, there's not just a lounge in the stern but one up front that takes advantage of the full-width A-class cab and panoramic windscreen, as



FACT FILE

BASE VEHICLE Fiat Ducato

PRICE FROM £110,995

BERTHS 4

TRAVEL SEATS 4

LENGTH 6.99m

WIDTH 2.35m

HEIGHT 2.95m

GROSS WEIGHT 4,400kg

PAYLOAD 1,016kg

ALSO CONSIDER

Bürstner Lyseo | 744 Harmony Line

Rapido 854F

BUY A MOBILVETTA FROM...

The Mobilvetta range is imported to the UK by a sister company from the Trigano Group, Marquis Leisure, which has 13 outlets around England. Marquis branches can be found in Lancashire, Northants, Gloucestershire, Berkshire, Dorset, Devon (Exeter and Plymouth), Hampshire, Sussex, Surrey, Suffolk, South Yorkshire and County Durham.



In Scotland, Mobilvetta motorhomes are also sold by The Motorhome Company in Perthshire.

well as the swivelling captain's chairs. The table is fixed, lighting is plentiful and three or four folk could dine here comfortably. Above is the typical, manually operated drop-down bed. It measures 1.89m by 1.30m and has a single reading lamp on the offside but no roof vent.

Unusually, the K-Yacht 80 also has a second drop-down bed at the rear and this one is electrically controlled. It's not dissimilar in size (1.85m by 1.34m) and has an LED strip light on the nearside as well as a large rooflight but it's a shame it doesn't come down lower for easier access and greater headroom. Open storage

pockets on the back wall are a useful addition for night-time knick-knacks.

The central kitchen, along the nearside, has a modern Thetford cooker with two gas burners and one induction ring powered by mains 230V. Then, under the sink (with its split cover) is a Thetford Duplex combined oven and grill. Cabinets have a striking gloss, duo-tone finish with chrome handles and the galley is completed by a tall fridge (Thetford again) with 141-litre capacity and a bottle drawer.

The reason to buy this model, though, will be the rear lounge, which eschews the usual U-shape

for an L-settee and a sideboard that incorporates a pop-up TV bracket. Triple aspect glazing here adds to the appeal but the sofa suits feet-up lounging best as it's a tad high off the floor.

Finally, the bathroom is on the offside and includes all its facilities in one zone. It's not a big space but it is strikingly appointed with yacht-like wall panelling, a backlit shower tower and large mirrors. A swing-wall feature creates a generous shower compartment with twin drains in the floor.

Don't forget, too, that the K-Yacht comes with part faux leather upholstery and Alde central heating as standard.