

Worcester sauce

Combining high spec from the Marquis County range with a layout from the Cotswold

ONE of eight Mercedes County models, the Worcester is one of the latest creations from Willersey-based Auto-Sleepers, and it's available solely through the Marquis dealer network. It's a luxury two-berth based on the Mercedes Sprinter and boasts a huge rear washroom, a large lounge and a comprehensive kitchen.

The lounge is comfortable and bright, with practical upholstery and 'proper' curtains. Swivel those front seats and an island leg table be positioned between them to act as a coffee table. Otherwise, you'll use the sensibly-sized free-standing table.

There's also a counter for drinks underneath the TV cupboard, which holds a flatscreen Avtex TV/DVD-player (included with the optional Premium Upgrade). The TV swings out of the cupboard on a wall-mounted arm and can be seen from anywhere in the lounge. Despite the limited storage for bulkier items, there is plenty of space for clothes and other belongings.

The kitchen is positioned just inside the door, and is a good, well-equipped galley with every luxury. Not only do you get a domestic-style cooker (oven and grill, as well as a single hotplate), but also a microwave that has a silver finish, just like the huge 150-litre fridge/freezer below.

There's an extra pull-out worktop section just below the counter, between the cooker and sink. The drainer stores within the sink's

flush glass lid when not in use, though not alongside the metal cutlery rack that attaches itself to the same lid. There's an extractor fan above the cooker, with a pair of spotlights, and an opening window behind the worktop. Up top, within the pair of eye-level lockers, are metal racks with Auto-Sleeper's usual array of plates and cups in situ.

The washroom, which runs along the rear of the Worcester, doubles as a changing and shower room. The separate shower unit is on the nearside and has a Perspex folding door, as well as a height-adjustable showerhead and a soap and bottle rack. The rest of the washroom is trendy with its glass bowl washbasin, dark decorative panel and frosted Perspex panels fronting the storage below. The fixed bench cassette toilet is on the offside, beside the frosted opening window. There's a single opening roof vent above the washbasin, and in the shower there's an extractor fan.

If you wish to use the single beds, then these are instantly available upon the removal of the backrest cushions. The transverse double takes little more time to sort out. You'll need the two small infill cushions from the luton locker to make the cushions stretch the entire length of the bed, but the resulting mattress is very flat.

Auto-Sleepers and Mercedes are names with a passionate following, and the Worcester is certainly a winner as far as comfort and facilities are concerned.

FACT FILE

PRICE FROM £61,495 (£65,495 with Premium Upgrade)

BERTHS 2

TRAVEL SEATS 2

DIMENSIONS 7.29m L, 2.35m W, 2.88m H

MAXIMUM WEIGHT 3880kg

BASE VEHICLE

MERCEDES SPRINTER 316 LWB

ENGINE 2.1CDI 163bhp (automatic gearbox with Premium Upgrade)

COOKING/HEATING

COOKING Three-burner hob with single electric hotplate, oven, grill, Daewoo microwave

FRIDGE 150-litre SES fridge/freezer

HEATING Truma Combi 4 mains/gas

BOILER Truma Combi 4 mains/gas

RIVALS

AUTO-SLEEPER COTSWOLD EB

BESSACARR E540

BENTLEY DONINGTON



Worcester has won a Caravan Club Design and Drive award

WHICH motorhome says...

The excellent kitchen, washroom and lounge, and the Mercedes chassis, all make for an appealing - If expensive - package.