



# **Coachman Travel Master**

Coachman has been building high-quality caravans for more than 35 years and is now breaking into the motorhome market. **Candy Evans** takes a look at one of its first models

#### **Swedish manufacturer**

Kabe has had a financial interest in Coachman Caravans for a few years, and around a year ago it took full control of the company.

As Coachman has a reputation for high-quality in the UK, so does Kabe in Europe, and its influence is now showing here in the form of the new Travel Master motorhomes. These mirror the parent company's Travel Master series but with some UK touches, such as having the door to the living area on the passenger side for UK roads.

I saw the Coachman Travel Master 565 for the first time at the Caravan, Camping and Motorhome show at Birmingham's NEC. The 565 is the twin-bed version of three models in the series.

# Big and beautiful

The 565 is a big beast and you'll need C1 on your driving

licence to drive it. It also has a price tag that tops £100,000, but the quality certainly shows throughout the motorhome.

It's built on the Mercedes Sprinter for a start, and has a 170bhp engine with a nine-



speed automatic gearbox.

Accessories such as a 140W solar panel, wireless phone charging, a 130Ah battery, a premium sound system and air conditioning come as standard.

# **Up front**

The cab has a functional feel but otherwise the luxury is obvious from the front to the back. The cab seats are clad in black leather with the Coachman name inset into the fabric, along with the new Coachman crest, and they are supremely comfortable.

There are plenty of storage spaces around to keep your stuff neatly out of the way, with nets and doors to hold things securely on the road.

The hidden bed above the seating area





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One particularly sleek feature is the drop-down double bed, which is almost invisible when it's stored away in the ceiling, flush with the kitchen ceiling. Beneath this are two side-facing sofas, creating an open lounge space with the cab seats swivelled.

## **Chef's quarters**

The kitchen is mainly opposite the entrance door. The cooker has an electric hotplate alongside three gas burners above a full grill and separate oven, all set next to a large sink unit.

There's not much workspace but the sink has a cover that can be pressed into service for food preparation if needed. Under the sink you'll find some substantial drawers and other clever storage solutions, which include a pull-out rack and a couple of containers for separating your recycling.

If you're on an electric hookup you can take advantage of the microwave opposite, but it's set very high up above the large Dometic fridge, which isn't a great place for getting out hot food or liquids.

The top cupboards in the kitchen are differentiated from the rest of the furniture by having sleek glossy front panels. They also have plenty of shelves inside.

### **Central washroom**

Behind the kitchen is a toilet

cubicle with a great array of hooks and rails for towels or similar. There's also a smart vanity unit with plenty of space for your toiletries alongside the basin, as well as cupboards above and below it.

If you open the door of the toilet you can create a full-width washroom connecting the toilet cubicle with the square shower cubicle on the other side of the motorhome.

#### Sleep in peace

At the back of the TM565 is the master bedroom with twin beds and luxurious mattresses. It feels very cosy, helped by the fabric-covered walls and padded headboard.

As you might expect from a

At a glance

Prices from £108,500

Berths Four Travel seats Four

Maximum Authorised Mass

4,500kg User payload 850

User payload 850kg For more information

coachman.co.uk



◆Clockwise from top left: The drop down bed is flush with the ceiling line when not in use; the garage can be accessed from either side; the twin bedroom is luxurious; the kitchen is compact but chic; the Mercedes cab comes with faux leather seats

Swedish-designed vehicle, this is a well-insulated motorhome and much thought has gone into the heating design. It has energy-efficient windows and heating convectors inside the door step for example.

#### **Verdict**

This new Coachman motorhome isn't the cheapest on the market but it's well designed, luxurious and draws on a great heritage so if it's within your budget – and your driving licence – it's definitely worth taking a look.

■ You can see Candy's video review of the Travel Master online at myccc.co.uk/videos or in the magazine app

**76** April 2022 campingandcaravanningclub.co.uk campingandcaravanningclub.co.uk campingandcaravanningclub.co.uk