



Coachman Laser Xcel 855

Huw Hopkins went along to Coachman's 2023-season launch event, and takes an in-depth look at a model in the luxurious Laser Xcel range

At Coachman's preview of its 2023 fleet, the message was not to expect new lines.

A mixture of Covid-19 impacting production, uncertainties around international trade since Brexit, and tension in Europe means manufacturers are focused on enhancing existing products.

Companies have still benefitted financially from more customers in recent years, and Coachman is among those that invested in its facilities, acquired a new 23,000 sq ft building, and will be investing more than £1.5 million in production for 2024. For 2023, however, Coachman is refining its existing fleet.

Laser focus

There are now four models in the Laser Xcel range: the existing 845 and 875, with two new layouts – the 850, and this month's review, the 855.

At 7.9m long and 2.44m wide, each Laser Xcel model offers subtle variations. The 855 has my preferred, welcoming social area when you first step aboard. The L-shaped seating area is great for longer holidays – which you are likely to enjoy in these models – as social visits or evenings watching television are especially comfortable.

Below the bench is the structure to make up the front bed, which has a sliding action

to pull it out and make up with ease. And there is a dedicated storage area for the table.

The television is mounted to the near side wall – an Avtex TV is supplied in the

855 model as standard – with cupboards above and below, and at head height on the opposite wall.

The lower series of windows offers ventilation and a closed



The range has added new handles and a flyscreen to the 855

At a glance

Prices from £47,735

Berths Four

Length x width x height

7.9m x 2.44m x 2.65m

Maximum Technically

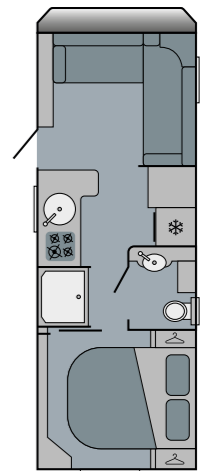
Permissible Laden Mass

1,950kg

User payload 160kg

For more information

coachman.co.uk



◀ Clockwise from top left: The fridge, microwave and worktop; an L-shaped couch; a spacious bathroom; the kitchen has an extendable work surface; the bedroom has plenty of storage



sunroof allows in plenty of light and offers great views.

Meal prep

The kitchen sits centrally in the caravan with a decent sized work surface next to a three-quarter height Dometic fridge freezer, and a Russell Hobbs microwave mounted at eye level. On the near side, a work surface sits on top of a deep cupboard, which also incorporates a sink that comes with a cover to allow more space for food preparation, as well as a worktop extension.

You can open the kitchen cupboard in two ways, and there are a series of drawers below the sink, as well as one beneath the Thetford oven. The kitchen window has a

new Softrollo flyscreen to stop pests coming in if you need ventilation while cooking.

Keeping clean

The bathroom area has doors to create a private area between the kitchen and the bedroom – both of which can be left open for easy passage throughout the caravan. The bathroom privacy window features a similar flyscreen to the kitchen, and the area also boasts new chrome taps to match the handles throughout.

The shower is comfortable for those around 6ft tall, and probably taller, and is height adjustable. The door that shuts off the bathroom area from the front of the caravan has a towel loop on the back, so it is

in easy reach without getting the space wet.

Opposite the shower is a spacious washroom featuring a Thetford C262 swivel-bowl toilet, a heated towel rail, a mirror and a separate roomy cupboard. The basin is a little small, but it looks great within the overall space.

Heating comes from a new Alde 3030 boiler and the familiar Whale connection points.

Sleeping soundly

The rear bedroom features a transverse island bed with two corner wardrobes and bedside tables, another corner cupboard and a wall bracket for a second television. There's enough room to walk around the foot of the bed easily.

Next to the window, there is a top half mirror. If you stand on the other side of the room, you can almost see a full-length reflection.

Verdict

Considering there are no great innovations coming out of Coachman this year, the Laser Xcel offers enough tweaks to this line to make the 855 an exciting investment.

It is precisely that, an investment, as it's a fairly costly caravan, but with so much space and neat features, this luxury 2+2 tourer could be great for plenty of holidays, with quality from a highly-regarded brand that performs well in our annual Owner Satisfaction Surveys.