

**WINNER**  
Caravan of the Year

**TEST** COACHMAN PASTICHE 525/4

# Coachman Pastiche 525/4

**Ideal for  
a young  
family or  
grandparents!**

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*Bunks for toddlers or teens, or for storage when they're not holidaying with you. This is a three-generation caravan*

## **COACHMAN PASTICHE 525/4**

**PRICE** £21,745

**BERTHS** 4

**MIRO** 1428kg

**MTPLM** 1585kg

**BODY LENGTH** 5.8m

**SHIPPING LENGTH** 7.45m

**BODY WIDTH** 2.32m

**DEALERSHIP** Coachman

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**H**igh arched shoulder-lines and a sunroof spanning the whole width have ensured Pastiche grab attention since the start of the 2012 model-year. Grey skirts and defining lines on wheel arches, plus big, bold graphics, combine to ensure these caravans look much more chic than previous models. Not much changed about the exterior appearance as Coachman took the Pastiche range into 2013. There is, however, some great Pastiche news: the arrival of a new model with an innovative layout.

The 525/4 looks, on the outside, every inch the quality caravan that you'd expect for its price, complete with AL-KO's ATC stability control (notice the panel on the drawbar). From the outside, though, there is no clue to the layout innovation that sets this caravan apart from all others.

The 525/4 has twin bunks, in a cohesive bedroom area at the rear; so, too, have lots of caravans. But none have a kids' bedroom configuration like the one in the 525. And no other

caravan has an L-shaped kitchen whose rear wall divides off the bedroom area brilliantly.

Behind the wall is a spacious entrance hallway with somewhere to hang your coats and place your shoes in a specifically designed recess, out of the way alongside the door.

The L-shape of the main kitchen area is mirrored by an L-shaped dresser unit opposite.

Up front, the settees create a double bed, of course, but they're also long enough to make single beds – unless you're very tall.

The more we looked at the 525 the more family versatility possibilities we could envisage. It's a caravan for parents and two young children, with a proper bedroom for them, well away from the main living area. The shower room is alongside the bunks, and it's plenty large enough for a parent to shower the children. The washbasin is 48cm long and 28cm wide, making it near enough the size you'd find in a house.

The 525 is also a caravan for parents and two teenage offspring, especially girls; the







A unique layout, an L-shaped kitchen with an L-shaped dresser opposite



## VERDICT

### Exterior 8

Distinctive shoulder lines and big, bold graphics make sure you can't miss a Pastiche on the road.

### Lounging 8

Long settees and firm upholstery, with four equally firm cushions and armrests that enable you to adjust the height by removing a top section.

### Dining 7

The usual choice – dining for two at the pull-out table, or for four, using the free standing table; it's stored neatly in the wardrobe.

### Sleeping 8

A lovely, practical bunk bedroom and easy-pull-out double bed base at the front end of the lounge.

### Kitchen 9

It's not often we give nine but this awesome kitchen surely merits it! Bags of space and bags of storage.

### Storage 9

A nine again! Under the bunk, under the seats, lots of top lockers, brilliant solutions for shoes in the wardrobe and a unique hallway recess for coats and shoes.

### Showering 8

It's not a full-width shower room but it's the next best thing, with ample space.

### Interior 8

Lighting style, pale woodwork and light cream and fawn fabrics combine to create a modern style. The interest is in the weave and the use of faux-suede on armrests and seat backs.

### Towing 8

With ATC on board a high mark is assured; on its road test the 525 behaved solidly dependably.

### Value for money 8

High spec, loads of style; but the kitchen and bunk bedroom design alone ensure the 565 represents good value.

**CARAVAN RATING**  
81/100



Pale wood, pale fabrics and loads of light coming in through the rooflight

bunk area has a mirror and a power point for a hairdryer within the area that can be enclosed by a pleated partition.

It's also a caravan for grandparents who sometimes like to take grandchildren on holidays. When they're not with you, the bunk area is great for storage, and it's so far out of the way that anything put on the bunks wouldn't be in your line of sight. When the children are with you, they have their own, separate space. Equally as importantly, so do you!

So, this is a caravan with three-generation appeal. And it's also a caravan for people who enjoy cooking on holiday, for the kitchen is enormous, both in terms of storage and surface.

Unusually, Pastiche have fixed drainers. But in the 525 there's no need to worry about the drainer taking up valuable surface area.

There's plenty of room, to the left and right of the sink and drainer, and an additional space to the right of the (dual fuel) hob. The L-shaped dresser unit opposite the kitchen houses the fridge, with more worktop above it and alongside, stretching towards the door, above a double-doored cabinet. The microwave is found above this area as well, with two lockers alongside it.

There's more storage in this dresser than in many caravan kitchens. Yet in the 525, there's another cabinet, 84cm wide, plus three drawers and four top cabinets, in the kitchen itself, opposite. Add in four top lockers plus four shelves and you're probably getting the picture that this is one of the most capacious kitchens anywhere, in any caravan.

We've analysed the practicalities, but how about the styling, for which Coachman is

renowned? Pastiche look more modern and chic than ever before, with pale cabinetry and plain, pale fabrics. Everything you touch is solidly constructed and finely crafted. Handles are big and chunky, combining matt and shiny metal. Lighting is concealed. And there's plenty of it.

Equipment level is high, and includes an extractor fan (importantly this one is directly above the hob) and AL-KO's stability control system, ATC.

## WE LIKE

- ♦ Separate bunk bedroom
- ♦ Truly enormous kitchen
- ♦ Over-locker lighting style
- ♦ Six power points

## WE DISLIKE

- ♦ No negatives. In its class, this is a brilliant caravan



A circle of LED lights surrounds the top of the shower unit.



This is as large a washbasin as you'll find in a caravan



Beds for young caravanners cosily tucked away in a corner