



Comfort & Space

Tour all year with this new two-berth from caravan specialists, Coachman



Coachman has been manufacturing caravans in the UK for more than 30 years, testament to the quality and appeal of its products; Coachman caravans are very popular and have a large fan base.

Coachman's caravans have rightly evolved with advances in technology over the years (such is the confidence in their products, Coachman offers a ten-year water-ingress warranty), and the company's brand new model range, the Acadia, benefits from this

evolution to create ten lightweight 'vans with layouts suitable for couples and families. Here we look at the shortest of the range, the two-berth '460'.

Exterior

Coachman has perfected the front-end design for caravans. You could say that the Acadia almost looks futuristic end-on with its curvaceous, aerodynamic moulded front panel and large, stylish blackened panoramic

window (there are actually three opening windows but from the front, it appears as one) that wraps over the front roof.

To the side, the aluminium sandwich construction walls (hence the caravan is particularly lightweight for towing) are simple to look at, with a modicum of patterned decals extending the shape of the window. External lockers provide access to the voids beneath the internal sofas and there's also electric hook-up and barbecue points.

But, it's what the caravan sits on that's all-important for stability while towing and Coachman has used the Al-Ko galvanised steel chassis, regarded as the 'best in the business' on which to place its Acadia range.

Living & Sleeping

This two-berth has no fixed bed or separate bedroom, which is why it's as short as it is, making it much easier for first-timers to tow. At the front is a traditional caravan layout with two parallel sofas in a soft grey dogtooth pattern with coordinating charcoal grey buttons. Bolster cushions are at both ►



ends of the sofas and there are modish checked scatter cushions, too.

The sofas are oh-so-comfy – our reviewer had a bad back at the time and resting on these was like heaven on earth! Not too hard or soft; just right. At night, these sofas can remain as single beds, or with an easy-to-pull slatted frame that is otherwise housed beneath the central chest of drawers, can be turned into a larger-than-kingsize double bed that is 6'7" long and 5'7" wide. Bedding can be stored beneath the sofas during the day.

This living area is radiantly light, too, with the front windows extending to create a panoramic skylight, windows on either side and a large rooflight, too.

Kitchen

You'll be able to cook up a veritable feast for two – or indeed friends and family that might be visiting – in the central kitchen. This is on both sides of the 'van, with a full Thetford oven, separate grill and dual-fuel four-burner hob, including flame failure device.

Beside is a stainless steel sink and elegant chrome swan-neck tap and additional pop-up workspace. But we don't think you'll need it for on the nearside is a large worksurface beneath which is a 115-litre Dometic fridge-freezer and, above, a Russell Hobbs microwave.

Washroom

The washroom takes up the full width of the caravan at the rear, and is very spacious. On the offside is the Thetford C260 swivel toilet,

a good location as you won't be removing the toilet cassette from its locker inside an awning on the nearside. There's also a towel rail (the Acadia range includes Alde central heating), boutique-style vanity bowl with swan-neck mixer tap and an excellent-sized shower cubicle with shelving for shampoo bottles.

With the space available, the washroom can easily be a dressing room, too, as the full-height wardrobe with drawers beneath are located here.

Storage

The Acadia 460 feels particularly spacious in all areas and that's thanks to two clever design elements: firstly the through-flow from front to rear without furniture sticking out and, secondly, the overhead cupboards. These appear slimmer than they really are, making them unobtrusive, but they've a great deal of storage space in them.

There's plenty of space in the kitchen area, too, and we love the heated storage cabinet beside the entrance door; ideal for drying off



wet shoes. Above this is a useful shelf that's perfect for keys.

Final Say...

The Acadia 460 is a very comfortable caravan that will suit first-timers and experienced caravanners alike well. It's lightweight so can be towed efficiently by most cars, including hybrids. Al-Ko's AKS 3004 stabiliser is also fitted for more stable towing. And, for peace of mind, a Phantom VanGuard remote control alarm system with PIR will help prevent theft.

We particularly like the spacious feel inside. If you're travelling with children, simply add an awning! And, as the Acadia has been tested to Grade Three classification for heating and insulation, you'll be able to use the 460 all year. ■

Technical Specifications

Mass in Running Order (MIRO):1231kg
MTPLM:1355kg
Max Payload:124kg
Interior Length:4.62m
Overall Length:6.25m
Body width:2.26m
Overall Height:2.65m
Berths:2
Awning Size:TBC
Price:£22,345 otr (includes PDI & delivery)

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