

It's 20 years since the Nuevo was introduced.
Now, meet its birthday-badged descendent ●



NEW STYLE



exception is the modest change of the Peugeot lion on the bonnet becoming an exclusive Diamond Edition Auto-Sleepers' badge.

The coachbuilt retains its full scratch and impact resistant GRP body with modish platinum silver sides, while stripe decals in black, white and silver bring body and cab together as one. At the front of the low-profile overcab is an opening wind-up skylight window, this is in addition to the Heki rooflight that sits on the roof.

Standard fixtures include an external gas BBQ point, a 25 litre underfloor LPG gas tank, a pre-installed Sargent Cat6 vehicle tracker, central locking for both the cab and habitation doors and, particularly useful when pitched during a spell of inclement weather, rear corner steadies.

LIVING & SLEEPING

It's when you step inside that the birthday celebrations really commence. To match the platinum silver sides of the exterior, there's a new interior colour scheme exclusive to this special edition model, with sumptuously soft silver-grey furnishings. It's certainly plush. Above, overhead lockers on both sides of the van have two-tone doors with chrome handles; the →



Auto-Sleepers, based in the Cotswolds, is one of the longest-established motorhome-specific manufacturers in the UK. In 2021, the company celebrates its diamond anniversary.

To boot, 2021 also marks the 20th year of production for Auto-Sleepers' Nuevo. When models come and go in quick succession all too frequently, that 20-year milestone indicates the popularity and longevity of the Nuevo. It is, indeed, one of Auto-Sleepers' most popular models of all time.

To celebrate the two anniversaries, Auto-Sleepers has created a Limited Edition specification for the Nuevo, which is available in two layouts, the EK, a two-berth, low-profile motorhome, and the ES, which is suitable for four occupants. Here, we step inside the Nuevo EK.

EXTERIOR

So what's new on the outside of this limited edition model? Not a great deal, long-term fans that like the sleekness of the Nuevo will be pleased to know. The



First Look

chrome continues throughout, including the hand grab by the habitation door and in the washroom.

We like the layout of the EK, with its pair of side facing settees that, coupled with the swivelling cab chairs in coordinated fabrics, create a very comfortable and sociable lounge area. A freestanding dining table, otherwise stowed in the wardrobe, allows for dignified dining.

The lounge area is flooded with light from the side windows, rooflight and skyview window during the day; at night over locker mood lighting creates a calm warmth while spotlights allow for reading and tackling the crossword. When it's time to snooze, the two sofas effortlessly come together, by way of a central pull-out frame, to create a queen-size double bed.

KITCHEN

The kitchen takes up approximately two-thirds of the rear of the van, with the offside habitation door separating the sink and fridge/freezer. The space is well thought out and extremely user-friendly for couples. A four-ring hob (3 gas, 1 electric hot plate) plus separate oven and grill sit alongside the sink with draining board and cutlery drying rack; a splashback protects the rear wall while 12v extractor fan (with downlights) helps prevent condensation when steaming the veg.

There's a slide-out work surface but, if you're preparing a sumptuous gourmet dinner, the sideboard above the fridge (which will easily store enough ingredients for a gourmet dinner and more) provides ample preparation space, and is also useful for resting that well-deserved drink beside the settee. As for drinks, this special edition model includes a cocktail cabinet with crystal wine glasses. You also receive a melamine crockery set with cool bag for picnics.

WASHROOM

To save space, there's no separate washroom and shower area, but clever design allows a combined shower and toilet compartment.

This incorporates an electric-flush cassette toilet, and a swing-wall to create the shower area with an integrated handbasin. There's a small cupboard for lotions, an all-important roof-vent to prevent the build-up of moisture, and a convenient, retractable clothesline that's just right for drying towels and damp clothes after a day at the beach or pool.



STORAGE

Unless you're determined to empty the contents of your house into the Nuevo, it has ample storage for couples, with overhead lockers in all the right places, storage cubby holes above the cab and good storage solutions in the kitchen. Particularly useful is the under-seat storage, which, on the nearside, can be accessed from an external drop-down access door, while the seat tops are on gas struts to prevent closing while you're defying around for that misplaced shoe.

There's also a large, underfloor mounted, external skirt locker that's useful for outdoor equipment.

FINAL SAY...

Why does *Touring Magazine* like this special edition Nuevo van? Frankly, it's not about the birthday badge on the bonnet. Aside from the evident comfort of the Nuevo and its exclusive furnishings, there's a host of specifications that set this van apart in its mid-luxury class, including some for the environmentally-conscious tourist. Yes, there are power-saving LED lights throughout, though many vans now provide these.

What is different about the special edition Nuevo is the provision of its leisure battery, in place of the usual wet lead-acid variety, is the more expensive lithium ion phosphate leisure battery (LiFePO₄ or LFP), which has a longer lifespan, is lightweight by comparison (thus more payload efficient), has an improved discharge and

Auto-Sleepers Nuevo EK

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charge efficiency and has up to 3000 cycles without decreasing in performance.

In addition, Limited Edition Nuevo models are fitted with Truma's Aventa Compact Plus Conditioning system and iNet alongside Truma's combi heater/boiler. The inclusion of the iNet allows optimum climate control from your phone, so it's not left running continuously (unadvisable, anyway). Anyone that has returned to their sealed up motorhome after a day on a hot Mediterranean beach will know the feeling of opening the 'oven' door and retreating until the van interior has cooled down. With the combination of the iNet and air conditioning, you'll be able to return to a perfect internal environment. We like that, and we think you will, too. *

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

BASE VEHICLE CHASSIS:

Peugeot Euro 6 turbo diesel 165bhp (optional Fiat Ducato 140/160bhp automatic gearbox)

MASS IN RUNNING ORDER (MIRO) 2,874kg

GROSS VEHICLE WEIGHT 3,500kg

MAX PAYLOAD 626kg

EXTERIOR LENGTH 5.75m

BODY WIDTH 2.32m

HEIGHT 2.90m

BERTHS 2

DESIGNATED TRAVEL SEATS 2

COST from £60,200 (OTR)

NB. MIRO and payload may change according to any optional extras supplied.