

WINNER: BEST FAMILY MOTORHOME

There's nothing wrong with a traditional layout when it's well executed and well equipped

Swift Escape 686



- ⊕ **Price From** £38,730 OTR
- ⊕ **Sleeps 6** ⊕ **Travel seats 6** ⊕ **Base vehicle** Fiat Ducato
- ⊕ **Engine** 2.3-litre 130bhp turbodiesel
- ⊕ **L/W/H** 6.92/2.31/2.94m (22'8"/7'7"/9'8")
- ⊕ **MTPLM** 3650kg
- ⊕ **Payload** 596kg
- CONTACT www.swiftgroup.co.uk



IN A MARKETPLACE that's bursting with innovation, it's somehow reassuring that such a traditional design still works so well. The Escape is

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narrow enough to be wieldy on smaller roads, yet its tall overcab body results in a cavernous interior space. The proven layout is simplicity itself: there's a double bed above the cab, which folds up to maintain headroom when not in use; the travel seats combine with the dining table to create a second double; and there's a third in the back, formed from the rear lounge sofas.

FLEXIBLE LIVING SPACE

It's a squeeze for long trips six-up, but makes for a flexible space for a family of four to live in comfortably on tour, with two kids above the cab and that huge double in the rear, which can be left

made up for the adults while leaving the main lounge free as a living space. Here you'll find four belted travel seats, but they can be extended to allow six to sit around the table, which is sited opposite the compact but well-equipped kitchen. Alternatively, you can stow the rear berth during the day and make the most of the huge second lounge as a living space or a play area for kids.

Of course, one of the Escape range's biggest selling points is price: here's a large six-berth 'van that can be bought for less than £40,000 and has a sufficiently strong standard kit list augmented further by 2014's spec bumps. There's a small but usable washroom, too; the only drawbacks are the lack of external access to the storage areas, and that you'll need B and C1 entitlement on your licence to drive the 686, thanks to its 3650kg maximum weight.

ALASTAIR CLEMENTS

1 The Escape 686 got new graphics for 2014

2 There are six belted seats and the dining area is ideally located opposite the kitchen

3 The U-shaped lounge can be left as extra living space or made up as a large double bed