

WINNER

Best coachbuilt motorhome

Swift Bolero 744PR

Swift's well-established and popular Bolero range now offers this uber-flexible layout for fully laden couples or family groups

- Price £65,310
- OTR **Sleeps** 4
- Belts** 4 **Base vehicle** Fiat Ducato
- Engine** 150bhp, 2.3-litre turbodiesel
- L/W/H** 8.07/2.38/2.79m (26'6"/7'10"/9'2")
- MTPLM** 4250kg
- Payload** 875kg
- Water (fresh/waste)** 100/100 litres
- Leisure battery** 100Ah
- Gas** 2 x 13kg
- CONTACT** www.swiftgroup.co.uk

Twin-lounge motorhomes are the ideal solution for couples who like to have a bit of room on tour, for entertaining or for taking the children or grandchildren away with them from time to time. This floor plan is also well-suited for the damper climes of Blighty, as even if the weather forces you to keep indoors there is plenty of room for parties of four or more – even sulky teenagers – to stretch out.

Swift's Bolero range was 10 years old in 2016, and in that time has established itself as a very popular mid-market choice. Now the 744PR model – with a CI licence-friendly 4250kg all-up weight – offers just such a sociable layout in a little over 8m – with a bit of extra flexibility in that you can have the rear lounge as either two separate settees or a U-shaped lounge to give you extra room for entertaining. And you get extra comfort as it comes with the much-prized Alde central heating.

That length shouldn't intimidate you, though, as powered by the Fiat Ducato's 150bhp 2.3-litre engine, this Bolero will smoothly navigate most roads you choose to take it down.

Those two lounges convert easily for sleeping. The rear lounge makes a 2.01 x 1.85m (6ft 7in x 6ft 1in) double, using frames you slide out from under the parallel seats. Or you can just use the two settees as two 1.85 x 0.68m (6ft 1in x 2ft 3in) single beds.

The main two front lounge seats also contain frames that slide out to make a double that's 2.01 x 1.51m (6ft 7in x 4ft 11in) As this 'van is intended for multi-person use, you'll find TV

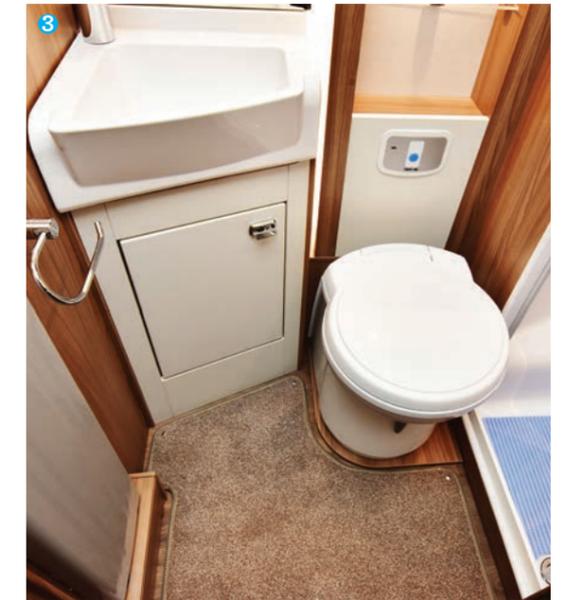
brackets in both lounges, so you never have to squabble about what to watch. USB and mains sockets should please those who have other digital devices as well. And to cope with the inevitable wear and tear from occasional guests, the Nirvana upholstery that's fitted in here is partly made from SwiftShield, the manufacturer's very own velvet-feel stain-resistant fabric. In fact, the decor and soft furnishings ensemble is decidedly upmarket: the oyster and Aralie Sen gloss finish on the overhead lockers draws the eye, and both lounges are well lit both day and night thanks to large windows and well-positioned low-energy LED lighting.

The central kitchen has a high spec level, including a Dometic oven with a four-burner hob and a 190-litre fridge/freezer. There's plenty of storage in overhead lockers, cupboards and drawers, and the whole catering area is nicely finished off with illuminated splashbacks, which really look the part.

Opposite the galley, in the washroom, you'll find a separate shower compartment with an Ecocamel shower head for increased performance, and plenty of storage under and above the washbasin. The washroom is well lit and has its own Alde radiator.

The Bolero 744PR's generous 875kg payload will cope with the needs of fully laden couples or larger parties, and there's plenty of room to store kit inside, with large spaces under the beds for bedding, plus overhead lockers and shelves. However you tour, this will be a fine 'van to enjoy your adventures in.

Peter Baber



- 3 Midships washroom features a separate shower compartment, corner sink and vanity unit, and Alde wet central heating boiler
- 4 Bolero's Black Edition trim, married to Swift's SMART Plus wood-free body frame construction, gives the range sharp looks as well as durability

- 1 With a spacious triple-aspect rear lounge and super-comfortable soft furnishings, the Bolero 744PR will make a fine place to be holed up in
- 2 The front lounge also has the 'wow' factor, with plenty of space and lots of natural light flooding in

Our testers say: "The SMART Plus construction in the Bolero should give years of trouble-free service. The 744PR's enormous end lounge can easily handle four – or even six – and don't forget the high spec throughout. This 'van is a winner."

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