

# BENIMAR TESSORO 840

This smartly designed three-berth packs a lot into its impressive interior, says Peter Baber

**T**he market for transverse-bed low-profiles measuring no more than 6m is a crowded one. But that hasn't stopped Benimar including this new model in its Ford Transit-based Tessoro range for 2025.

A shorter vehicle obviously leads to compromises on the outside, so while it is good to see the access to the toilet cassette on the offside, away from any potential awning, the hook-up point is on the nearside and quite close to the door, so the cable could potentially interfere with an awning.

Such design choices do allow for a generous garage at the back, however, accessible via two large doors.

Our test model was based on the new Ford Transit and had automatic transmission, a £2500 option. In the new Transit, this is controlled via a dial in the centre of the dashboard.

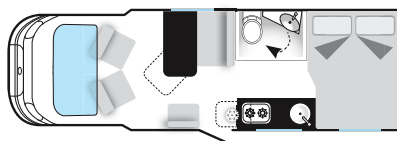
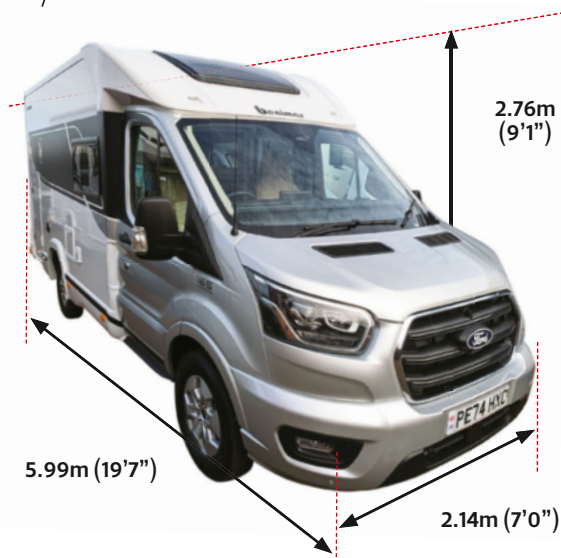
Having the handbrake on the outer edge of the driving seat means there's a clear gangway to the lounge and the two travel seats on the rear bench.

That gangway is made even clearer thanks to the clip-on table having an extension that can slide back.

When fully extended, the table comes within easy reach of both the swivelled cab seats and the small side seat. The TV bracket is in the panel above the travel seat, so any set can only be viewed by people in the two swivelled cab seats and the side seat. But then, this is a three-berth.

Plenty of daylight gets in through a large opening sunroof and sizeable windows, including one set into the habitation door. At night, there is good ambient lighting, one large LED over the travel seat and a spotlight next

**Price** £78,495  
**Sleeps** 3 **Belts** 4  
**Base vehicle** Ford Transit  
**Engine** 2.0-litre, 165bhp turbodiesel  
**Length/width/height** 5.99/2.14/2.76m (19'7"/7'0"/9'1")  
**MTPLM** 3500kg  
**MiRO** 2785kg  
**Payload** 715kg  
**Water (fresh/waste)** 100/105 litres  
**Leisure battery** 100Ah  
**Gas** 1 x 6kg



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to each of the cab seats. You press the spotlights to turn them on, although they are fitted quite high up.

The kitchen is rather unusual for a low-profile, in that the fridge is at the end of the unit. This makes it an easy stretch to get a beer if you are sitting outside, especially as the door is two-way opening. At 70 litres, it is probably big enough for the food of three.

Rather than folding out, the worktop extension clips on above the fridge. But you don't really need it, because the permanent work surface is pretty

good on its own, mainly thanks to the two-burner gas-only hob and round sink being positioned slightly back.

Mains and 12V sockets are located near here, too. A couple of LEDs light up the hob and the sink very well, and you even get an extractor fan. But you only have a combined oven and grill.

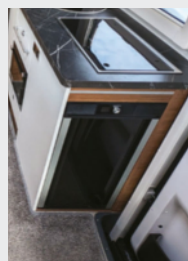
The only snag that we came across in the washroom was that the bottom rail for the tambour door has a junction at the corner, which it was all too easy for the door to get stuck in when you opened or closed it.

up close



**LEFT** Generous storage includes a large garage at the rear

**RIGHT** Handbrake on outer edge provides clear access to lounge



**LEFT** The 70-litre fridge is located at the end of the kitchen unit

**RIGHT** Transverse bed is reached by pull-out steps or a ladder





**1**

Fully extended, the table is within easy reach of the swivelled cab seats and the small side seat in the lounge

Rather than folding out, the work surface extension simply clips on above the fridge

Well-appointed main washroom has a large basin, an angled mirror and an oval toilet

Partition swings open to reveal the shower, which has two drains and plenty of storage



**2**



**3**



**4**

Otherwise, this is an impressive room, with a partition that swings to reveal a shower. In the main washroom, you get a large basin, a big, angled mirror and an oval toilet. The shower has two drain holes and plenty of storage.

You access the transverse bed via pull-out steps. The bed is comfortable, with two spotlights and two handy shelves. There is an Omnivent here – unusual, because it is back from the kitchen and there's a roof vent in the washroom.

The large third bed can be made up by lowering the table and adding two

padded panels (stowed away in the garage at the back when not in use).

The main storage is the generous rear garage. What looks like internal access to it is a cupboard under the bed, with a hanging rail and shelves. This is a bit of a stoop to reach, but probably more useful than a hatch to the garage.

You also get two narrow overhead lockers above the bed, another shallow wardrobe with a rail and a shelf behind the side seat in the lounge, and a large overhead locker on the opposite side. Kitchen storage is good for a 'van this

size, with three overhead lockers, a cupboard with a shelf, a pan locker, and a drawer with a cutlery tray. There are also deep shelves in the washroom.

**PRACTICAL MOTORHOME SAYS...**

This is a useful new 'van, managing to include a large garage, a versatile kitchen, a spacious, bright lounge ideal for three of you and a good washroom – and all in just six metres. There are a couple of niggles, such as the washroom tambour door, but it would be an excellent choice for a couple touring with a grandchild.

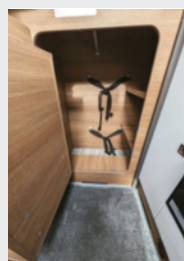


Above the comfortable bed are two spotlights and handy little shelves



LEFT Third bed is made up by lowering table and adding panels

RIGHT Cupboard with hanging rail and shelving below main bed



Wardrobe with hanging rail is located by the side seat in the front lounge