



From this viewpoint the lounge looks like an entirely separate room from the kitchen

LUNAR LEXON 590

Twin-bed caravans are in every manufacturer's ranges, but there is only one like the latest Lexon... this is a caravan with four 'rooms'

Until the latest addition to the Lexon range arrived, twin-bed layouts conformed largely to a predictable pattern, with shower facilities in a room across the rear of the caravan. The Lexon 590 breaks that mould, giving buyers a refreshing new take on the established idea of a caravan made for couples who each like their own bed space. The difference between the Lexon 590 and all other twin-bed

caravans is that the shower room is on the offside, forward of the bedroom. This pushes the bed area further away from the lounge than in more familiar twin-bed layouts, creating two clearly separate areas. Even without pulling across the pleated partition, walking past the rear of the shower room and kitchen feels just like entering a different room; and the corridor width at floor level here is about

TESTED BY

Val Chapman

PHOTOGRAPHY

Richard Chapman

the same as a that of a doorway in a house.

The heating system is the Truma 6kW, with the addition for 2015 of Isotherm ducting behind the seat backs, sending warmed air upwards; it's designed to improve evenness of heat distribution. The warm weather of our test day didn't enable us to test this aspect of the 590 but we're sure to get the opportunity in cooler weather with another Lexon.

▶ **IDEAL FOR** Ideal for couples looking for a twin-bed layout with a difference

**THE
TOTAL PRICE
£19,994**

The retailer delivery fee of £495 is added to the price of the caravan

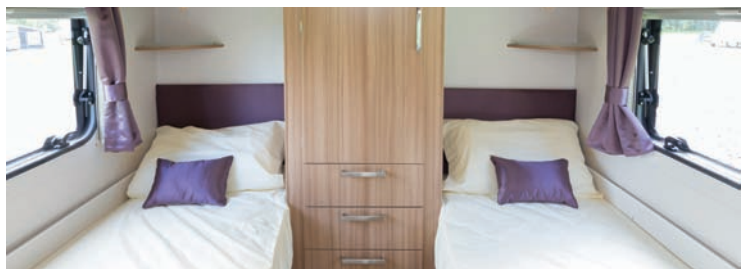


The dresser gives you the ideal place for your television... or booze



Importantly, a towel rail runs across the ceiling of the shower

REVIEW



Rimmed shelves above each bed are handy for a book or gadgets

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Showering

The shower is at the forward end of the washroom, rectangular and adequately sized at 73cm x 67cm. The wheelarch intrudes into the space, but does give you a large shelf for shampoo bottles! The shower door is ingeniously designed, folding into two-thirds

TEST LOCATION

Little Orchard Caravan Park, Weeton, Lancashire

and one third of its width, with the smaller section shaped to accommodate the wheelarch. There's no flexing when you open and close the door. Importantly, a towel rail runs across the ceiling of the shower; there's also a towel loop on the rear wall of the washroom.

If there's a downside, it's the small cabinet. Three good-sized shelves give enough space once you're on a pitch; but remember to stow them away for towing! A socket in the base of the offside bed could be used to run a cable under the washroom door for a hairdryer.



The top of the chest of drawers extends to give you a table that's 77cm deep and 60cm wide

Sleeping

The Lexon 590's raison-d'être is its twin-bed room cosily situated against the rear wall. No other tourer twin-bed room feels as separate as this from the rest of the caravan.

The furniture configuration enhances this feeling, with a wardrobe between the two beds. Two large semi-circular shelves above each bed take care of phones and books; they're even large enough for an iPad, and neat edging in frosted acrylic stops items falling into the pillows. The 590 has, of course, the facility to make a double bed across the lounge, with a pull-out-slat central base, but we'd guess most buyers of this model will regard it as a two-berth.

Storage

Both beds have exterior hatches to the space underneath. At 78cm wide, they're large enough for you to slide in good-sized folding

chairs. You have two ways of getting at this storage space from inside the caravan. Hinge-down doors run almost the full length, from the wardrobe to the foot of the beds, and two metal spring hinges hold up the bed bases.

The wardrobe rail is 63cm wide. Beneath, three drawers and a drop-down-door cabinet take care of small clothing items – more than most couples would need on holiday. Add in the two capacious locker areas running the length of the bedroom at head height, and the 590's bedroom storage arrangements have got to earn an 'excellent'. Four top lockers line the lounge walls. Drop-down doors lead into the spaces under the settees.

Dining

The dining table has its own section inside the kitchen cabinet. It's a wider space than the table needs, which means it's very easy to extract and replace.

WHAT WE LIKE

- ▶ The four separate areas
- ▶ The generous kitchen surface
- ▶ The excellent amount of storage space
- ▶ The three TV points

WHAT WE DON'T LIKE

- ▶ The ceiling lights lack the style exuded elsewhere in the 590

TOW MATCH

We recommend towing a caravan no more than 85% of the kerbweight of your car

Not sure what your car's kerbweight is? Check it out at

CaravanTOWMATCH
outandaboutlive.co.uk

So, this is one caravan designed for two in which the freestanding table is likely to be used regularly, even though, for breakfast and snack times, the dark brown slate-effect top of the chest of drawers extends to give you a 77cm-deep and 60cm-wide table.

Lounging

One feature of the lounging arrangements surprised us. The 590 is clearly designed for keen television watchers, for there are three sets of connection points, each with not only mains power but 12-volt sockets, too. Two are in the lounge and the third is on the wall of the bedroom that borders the kitchen, with a TV bracket alongside.

At 1.5m long the settees are designed to accommodate four, rather than six. Curved armrests at the front and big, rectangular ones at the rear, plus four cushions, create a home-from-home look.

Test New caravan



It's a central-corridor kitchen but there is plenty of space here



The cabinet alongside the fridge is a generous width and depth, with a shelf 45cm from the base, allowing for tall cereal boxes



This is one of three sets of connection points, each with 12-volt sockets as well as mains power

Cool mauves, shiny purples and weave-pattern upholstery create a modern feel. Corner lights integrate smoothly with the top-locker styling. Cylindrical brushed steel spotlights focus light down nicely from each of the four corners.

The ceiling lights, however, are not quite as modern as the rest. There's one in the lounge and two more further down the caravan. Maybe we're so attuned to concealed lighting that we've come to expect it, but it made these lights look less stylish than the others.

Kitchen

When we started to analyse the kitchen we realised that what makes it different from the majority of caravans is that, like the bedroom, it's a very clear-cut segment of the layout. It doesn't attempt to integrate into the lounge-dining area. That's because it is the same length as

the shower room opposite, so the latter's wall takes on the role of outer border to the kitchen. On this basis, the living space is clearly divided into three distinct sections; the bedroom, the lounge, and the kitchen.

The latter's surface stretches 1.8m from the (dual fuel) hob to the rear edge. That's much longer than many kitchens in comparable-length caravans. Even when you subtract the area taken up by the 40cm-diameter sink, this is a still a generous work area.

Storage space, too, is practical in quantity, and well designed. The cabinet aft of the fridge is 35cm wide and 69cm deep, with a shelf 45cm from the base, so the area beneath the shelf is perfect for tall items. If this isn't enough for your culinary needs, and it may well not be, you can make use of the cabinet in the dresser. It's 69cm wide and 54cm deep, with a shelf roughly in the centre. There's a

TECHNICAL STUFF

BERTHS 4
LENGTHS BODY 5.76M
 OVERALL 7.3M
WIDTH 2.33M
HEADROOM 1.95M
WEIGHT MIRO 1270KG
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BUY THIS IF...

Twin beds are your choice and you're looking for something different from the majority of tourers

ALSO CONSIDER...

Any other twin-bed caravan, but keep in mind that this one is totally different!

OPTIONS TO GO FOR...

Wrap-around seating in addition to the chest of drawers, at £129

OUR VERDICT

The 590 is a refreshing invention; a modular layout that clearly defines three 'rooms' in the living space.

Closer analysis reveals something else. There's a fourth element to this layout that's more modular than any caravan we've yet seen. It's a sort of vestibule: a rectangular area that starts in the doorway and stretches across the caravan in a precise rectangle to reach the dresser opposite. The more time we spent in the 590 the more we felt that all four sectors work well separately and gel together to create a unique layout that is exceptionally well designed.

large drawer here, too; just in case the cutlery drawer within the kitchen cabinet isn't large enough to swallow up all your knives and knick-knacks. When you add in the two top cabinets alongside the microwave, the 590's kitchen is definitely generous on the storage side.

Towing

Lexons are equipped with the ATC stability control system. Calm conditions and no outrageous behavior from surrounding lorries during the 590's test tow meant that the little box of electronic gadgetry that detects and corrects the first twitch of snaking had no reason to activate. The 590 sped the 20-plus miles from the Lunar factory to Little Orchard Caravan Park with solid-as-a-rock stability. And, at 1500kg, it's towable by a good range of mid-sized towcars; it certainly doesn't need a car as heavy as our Sorento.