

2013 WINNER

BEST HIGH- TOP CAMPER

Europe's oldest campervan brand has created the ultimate high-top. The Club Joker pairs design ingenuity with uncompromising build quality

Westfalia Club Joker

❖ **Price** from £49,336 (at launch) ❖ **Sleeps** 4 ❖ **Belts** 4 ❖ **Base vehicle** Volkswagen Transporter
❖ **Engine** 2.0-litre 84bhp ❖ **L/W/H** 5.29/2.28/2.8m (17'4"/7'6"/9'2") ❖ **MTPLM** 3000kg
❖ **Payload** 460kg **CONTACT** www.westfalia-mobil.net

THE RETURN OF the Westfalia Club Joker this year was exciting news for UK camper fans. Not only was the world's oldest campervan manufacturer coming back to our shores, it was doing so with its first VW T5-based conversion in more than a decade. The original Club Joker was a landmark T25-based high-top camper with a unique, full-featured layout. The latest example doesn't stray far from the philosophy of its predecessor, but in terms of luxury, quality and kit it's entirely new.

Westfalia has long been the leisure converter of choice for car manufacturers; it was once VW's official campervan manufacturer, and spent years building Ford- and Mercedes-based campers for sale through those companies' respective dealer networks. The reason for this is Westfalia's knack for ingenious design solutions, and its uncompromising focus on quality.

Instead of the distinctive kinked roofline of the original, the new Club Joker has an 'overcab' bulge sticking out at the front of the habitation area to accommodate the huge extending

"The original Joker was a landmark. In terms of luxury, quality and kit, the latest Club is entirely new"

double bed in the roof. The layout positions the washroom and kitchen in the two rear corners, with a half-dinette lounge that makes up into a double bed. The kitchen is L-shaped and wraps around the rear, preventing movement through the rear hatch. Thankfully, Westfalia's designers have left the rear of the kitchen area open, so that when the hatch is up, the whole area feels light, and items can be passed in and out.

The washroom is similarly innovative. It's compact, but packed with functionality. There's just enough space around the swivelling toilet to

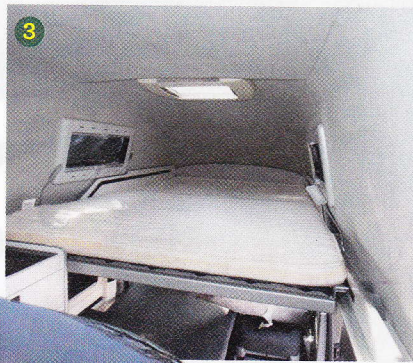
use the shower. An aperture in the washroom wall allows you to pass the showerhead through the rear hatch, for outside use. Even the showerhead mount is smart: it's fitted with a suction cup that allows it to be attached to the GRP washroom cubicle for use inside, or to the rear window for use outside.

This camper also has masses of storage space, all organised to make the most of the interior room and ensure there's a place for everything.



1 The Club Joker's sculpted travelling seats offer comfort for sitting and dining 2 The L-shaped kitchen wraps around the 'van's rear 3 The overcab 'bulge' provides plenty of room for the large, extending double bed 4 The suctioned showerhead mount allows it to be fitted for use inside or outside the 'van 5 The Club Joker is the first VW T5-based high-top conversion in more than ten years





Our testers say:
"The Club Joker combines luxury, build quality, inspired packaging and thoughtful ergonomics: all elements that are critical in any high-top camper, particularly one that will very likely serve as a family vehicle."

Jeremiah Mahadevan

