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## **Grand California – The world premiere**

### **Caravan Salon Düsseldorf, August 2018**

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## **World premiere: New Grand California debuts in two vehicle body versions at the Caravan Salon**

- **Cutting edge Grand California campervan launches with fully fitted washroom and large rear sleeping area**
- **Crafter-based Grand California market introduction in early 2019 with two wheelbase options**
- **Grand California 600 with sideways-on rear bed and children's bed in the roof space**
- **Grand California 680 with 80 centimetres longer wheelbase and lengthways rear double bed**

Hannover, 23 August 2018 – The California family is growing: making its world premiere with Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles at the Caravan Salon in Düsseldorf (24 August to 2 September 2018) is the Grand California. The campervan with a refreshingly clear design is based on the new Crafter. It will launch in two versions with different wheelbases. Ideal for families: the Grand California 600 – a 6-metre version with sleeping area in the back and an additional children's bed in the redesigned camper roof space. An even larger sleeping and storage space in the back is provided by the 6.8-metre-long Grand California 680. Thought through down to the tiniest detail, the layout of the avant-garde interior of both versions also includes a fully fitted washroom, spacious kitchen and bright, modern living area.

The new Grand California will be in showrooms from early 2019, enriching the globetrotters' world through the addition of one of the most modern motorhomes of our time. For Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles it represents a further upgrade to the existing California range. For all customers who want to use a compact campervan not just for holidays but as their everyday vehicle too, the familiar Bulli-based California remains the favourite. In the size category above this iconic camper, however, the Grand California opens up a new spectrum of possibilities. These will be available from a starting price of under €55,000 (Germany) for the Grand California 600 (130 kW front-wheel drive with 8-speed automatic transmission).



### **Euro 6 TDI, optional all-wheel drive and 8-speed automatic transmission**

The new campervan is powered by four-cylinder turbo-diesel direct injection (TDI) engines. The most powerful version of the highly fuel-efficient Euro 6 engines delivers 130 kW / 177 PS<sup>1</sup>; this TDI will launch with an 8-speed automatic gearbox. In addition, the 177 PS TDI can be combined with (4MOTION) all-wheel drive, as an alternative to front-wheel drive.

### **Campervan interior with the feel of a luxury yacht**

With the Crafter-based Grand California, Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles has once again come up with a contemporary, young and charismatically designed campervan. Incorporated into its development was the great experience accumulated over three decades of the Bulli being used as a camper. For example, the interior: it impresses with its clear styling, bright colour scheme and carefully thought-out details. This impression is reinforced by the white cabinets and the elegant floor covering in the style of a ship's wooden deck. The combination of modern, stylish interior design and bright colour scheme forms a central feature of the excellently equipped Grand California.

The Grand California is fitted with swivel seats at the front and a double bench seat in the living area. Families with small children will appreciate the ISOFIX anchor points in the rear bench seat. A large dining table provides ample room for four people to sit down to eat together. The kitchen fittings include a 70-litre pull-out fridge with freezer compartment, a twin-hob gas cooker and a sink. The work surface in the kitchen can be extended to the left and right.

A key feature of the Grand California that differentiates it from the California based on the T6 is the fully fitted washroom. In addition to toilet and shower, the room has a fold-away wash basin, shelves with fixings for toiletries and a cabinet. The main and mirror lighting systems are in this case switched on automatically by a standard motion detector.

Further standard features of the Grand California include practical details such as an outside light above the sliding door and the connection for an outside shower (with adjustable water temperature), including hose and shower head in the back. An



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electrically powered step, which moves out in front of the sliding door, makes getting in and out easier, while mosquito nets in the sliding door and prop-open camper windows are also part of the standard specification. The Grand California is fitted as standard with the Composition Audio radio system.

Six USB interfaces ensure that smart phones and tablets are always supplied with sufficient power. Electrical devices of every kind can be operated from a total of four 230-volt sockets. Diverse direct and indirect sources of light keep the interior well lit in the evening. Most of the key motorhome functions can be controlled via a digital central display in the living area.

Being offered as optional extras for the Grand California are features such as a roof-mounted air-conditioning unit (for use on camp sites), a solar panel system, a satellite dish, a Wi-Fi hotspot and Bluetooth loudspeakers that can be directly used via smart phone. On request, a DC/AC converter ensures that 230-volt devices can be supplied with power, regardless of there being any external electricity supply. The classic camping specification can, if desired, be supplemented with details such as a large awning on the passenger side, two California folding camp chairs and a camping table for outdoor use.

The Grand California will be available with the Crafter's leading edge driver assistance systems. These include Hill Start Assist, Front Assist (with collision warning) including City Emergency Braking function, Lane Assist, Side Assist, Rear Traffic Alert, sensor-activated side protection, automatic Park Assist, Adaptive Cruise Control, reversing camera and Trailer Assist.

*1) Note: The vehicle has not yet gone on sale and therefore Directive 1999/94 EC does not apply.*



## **THE GRAND CALIFORNIA'S BASE CONFIGURATION**

### **6.0 and 6.8 metre wheelbase and two roof systems**

- The 6-metre-long Grand California (600) provides a sleeping area in the back with sideways integrated bed (1,950 x 1,400 mm). Optionally this model can be ordered with a bed for children in the redesigned camper roof space (3,030 mm high) – the ideal mobile home for families.
- The 6.8-metre-long Grand California 680 has an even bigger sleeping area (2,000 x 1,700 mm), integrated lengthways in the back. In this version the Crafter is equipped with the super high roof (2,850 mm high) – a particularly luxurious campervan with a large sleeping area and lots of space for two people on major travels.

Both versions' main beds are fitted with an 80-mm-thick mattress, which lies on ergonomic spring elements. The middle part of the bed can in each instance be folded up to the side. Underneath it is a storage space that is secured by a two-piece (removable) partition. Going towards the living area the Grand California 680 also has a small floor-level cabinet and a roof-level cupboard on the driver's side.

### **White cabinets create a modern ambience**

With the exception of the sleeping and roof areas, the interior arrangements of both Grand California versions are identical. With its clarity and cleverly thought-out details, it reflects the qualities that made the Bulli-based California a best-seller. The cabinets in the Grand California are all in white. Going perfectly with them is the durable, elegant floor covering in the style of a ship's wooden deck. The combination of highly modern, stylish interior design and bright colour scheme forms a key feature of this new campervan generation.

### **Outside lighting and connection for outside shower come as standard**

In addition to the kitchen and spacious washroom (840 x 800 mm), the further standard features include details such as outside lighting above the sliding door and a connection for an outside shower (with



adjustable water temperature), including hose and shower head in the rear of the vehicle. Both are details that add a perfect touch to camp site life. An electrically powered step, which moves out in front of the sliding door, makes getting in and out easier, while a two-piece mosquito net in the sliding door is also part of the standard specification. The Composition Audio radio system is also present as a standard feature in the Grand California as it comes off the production line at the Crafter plant in Września (Poland).

### **Connected interior with central display**

One innovative feature is the optional control of the loudspeakers in the living area by Bluetooth – regardless of the infotainment system, they can be paired to a smart phone, tablet or laptop in order to hear songs from the user's own media library or via streaming. In addition, the Bluetooth loudspeakers can also be used via the infotainment system.

A total of six USB interfaces in the living and sleeping area and on the outside (accessible with the sliding door open) ensure that smart phones and tablets are always supplied with sufficient power. Four 230-volt sockets – in the rear storage space (1), in the kitchen (2) and in the living area (1) – provide power for electrical appliances of every kind.

All of the campervan's key functions can be controlled from the living space via a central display. The display unit is positioned to the right of the washroom door – in the very middle of the Grand California. The central display provides information such as the inside and outside temperature and the water tank and waste water levels. The digital system is used to control the heating, interior lighting, power supply and fridge. Also integrated within it are a clock and alarm.

### **Seating for four and a large dining table**

The Grand California is equipped with swivel seats at the front and a double bench seat in the living area. Families with small children will appreciate the ISOFIX anchor points in the rear bench seat. A large dining table provides ample room for four people to sit down to eat together. Arranged above the removable table are several practical



storage compartments. On the move, the table is stowed in a retaining bracket in the rear of the vehicle.

### **Easy-to-use kitchen with practical details**

The kitchen fittings include a pull-out 70-litre fridge with freezer compartment (accessible from outside as well via the sliding door), a twin-hub gas cooker, a sink with fold-out taps and an array of drawers, pull-out storage compartments and tip-up shelves. The work surface in the kitchen can be extended to left and right; to the left via a pull-out panel, to the right by means of a push-in extension piece. By virtue of its even greater interior length, in the Grand California 680 the right-hand extension of the work surface is fixed.

Gas cooker and sink are in each case also separately covered by a pivoting glass plate. When folded down, these too serve as work surfaces. In addition to various floor-level cabinets, the Grand California is also equipped, unlike the Bulli-based camper, with high-level cabinets in the roof space. Above the kitchen the individual cabinet elements are each 652 mm wide. They provide lots of space for kitchen utensils of every kind. An optional retainer to stop items falling out, which can also be ordered retrospectively, holds everything securely in place.

### **Washroom with shower, basin and toilet**

A key feature of the Grand California that differentiates it from the California based on the T6 is the washroom. Every element is thought through down to the tiniest, often important, detail. For example, the WC: inside the cassette toilet the optional SOG system creates negative pressure and sucks away any smells, so that they never get into the interior. In addition to toilet and shower, the washroom is equipped with a fold-away wash basin, shelves with fixings for toiletries, a cabinet with integrated toilet paper holder (protecting it from getting damp), four towel holders and a skylight for ventilation. The main and mirror lighting systems in the washroom are automatically switched on by a standard motion detector. The three drains in the shower tray (2) and wash basin (1) are also fitted with odour traps.



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### **Large windows and skylights provide lots of light**

A light and airy atmosphere is created on board the Grand California by the prop-open camper windows (two in the 600 and up to six in the 680) and thanks to the 700 x 600 mm skylights above the living space and the double bed at the back. All camper windows are fitted with two-piece pleated blinds (mosquito net and black-out fabric). Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles has also developed a new black-out concept with magnetic curtains for the driver's cab.

### **Ambience, work and reading lights for evenings in the campervan**

In the evening a matrix of diverse indirect and direct light sources ensures a pleasant level of brightness. The different lights are controlled via buttons and a central display in the living area next to the washroom door. In the living area and the kitchen there is indirect lighting running all around the top cabinets. This can optionally be supplemented by indirect ambient lighting running all around inside the cabinets. Work lights fitted as standard under the top cabinet units create bright light in the kitchen area. Also fitted to the bottom of the top cabinets are reading lights in the sleeping and living areas. If the Grand California is equipped with a panoramic tilting sunroof and children's bed in the roof space, there are reading lights there too. In the washroom there is main and mirror lighting. There is lighting too in the luggage compartment.

### **110 litres of water for the washroom and kitchen**

Installed in the Grand California are a water tank with a capacity of 110 litres and a waste water tank that holds 90 litres. The twin-hub gas cooker and the water and air heating system are supplied by two 11-kilogram gas bottles. The water supply and the toilet tank are accessible from the outside.





## **THE GRAND CALIFORNIA'S CUSTOMISATION OPTIONS**

The options for custom configuration of the Grand California are very extensive, as a motorhome's purposes and areas of use also cover a wide spectrum.

### **A typical feature of the California is paintwork in two colours**

The two-tone paintwork concept is adapted from the California 'T6'. The single colour paintwork options are Candy White, Reflex Silver or Indium Grey. Available as two-colour paintwork are combinations of Reflex Silver and Indium Grey, Candy White and Cherry Red, Candy White and Deep Ocean Blue or Candy White and Mojave Beige Metallic.

### **Roof space children's bed and panoramic tilting sunroof**

Customers opting for the Grand California 600 have, as outlined above, the choice of large roof space storage or a children's bed (length 1.65 metres) as an optional extra, complete in the latter case with a built-in panoramic tilting sunroof (700 x 850 mm) and thus a clear view of the night sky. Children climb up to the bed via a solid ladder fixed to the bed's frame. On the driver's side the bed can also be extended. A USB interface next to the reading light on the driver's side ensures ample juice for playing on a smart phone or console. To make sure that nobody falls out, there is also a child safety net.

### **Separate air-conditioning system for the Grand California when stationary**

Travels in southern climes can lead to very high temperatures inside the campervan when parked up on camp sites. In order to help rectify this, the Grand California is equipped with prop-open windows and two skylights, which are larger but lower in profile (less wind resistance) than those of many competitors. In addition the Grand California can be fitted at the back with a roof-mounted air conditioning unit, that is then used instead of the rear skylight. The very light (32 kg), compact unit develops a cooling output of 2,200 watts and draws its power from the external 230-volt electrical supply.



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### **Camping table and chairs for breakfast in the open air**

The classic camping specification can, if desired, be supplemented with details such as a large awning on the passenger side, two California folding camp chairs and a camping table for outdoor use. The chairs and table are housed while on the move in retaining brackets on the inside of the back doors. On the outside of the right half of the back door it is possible to fit a bracket for two bicycles. The standard gas heating can as an option be configured as a heating system run on gas- or diesel-generated electric power. With the diesel-generated electric heating option there is a 2.8-kg gas bottle on board for cooking. Also available are an electric supplementary air heating system (1,400 watts) and an auxiliary air heater, inclusive of auxiliary coolant heater.

### **Solar system and 230-volt connection make the vehicle self-sufficient**

When desired, a solar energy unit on the roof feeds power to the Grand California's battery system. On the Grand California with the standard wheelbase the solar cells are integrated on top of the camper roof at the front, where they develop a rated power output of up to 104 watts. On the Grand California 680 the unit is located in the rear section of the roof. It develops a rated power output of up to 174 watts.

### **Top level info- and entertainment**

It is also possible to factory order a satellite dish (for TV reception) and an LTE/WiFi hotspot (router) to extend the entertainment and infotainment functions. As an optional extra, the entire vehicle can be protected by an anti-theft alarm system.

Like all Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles, the new Grand California can, of course, also be equipped with details such as an air conditioning system (manual or automatic), telephone interface, various radio navigation systems, Volkswagen Media Control (including tablet integration), App Connect (smart phone integration via apps) and a towbar.



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### **Cutting edge driver assistance systems provide added safety**

The Grand California will be available with the Crafter's leading edge driver assistance systems. These include Hill Start Assist, Front Assist (with collision warning) including City Emergency Braking function, Lane Assist, Side Assist, Rear Traffic Alert, sensor-activated side protection, automatic Park Assist, Adaptive Cruise Control, reversing camera and Trailer Assist.

### **THE GRAND CALIFORNIA'S DRIVE SYSTEMS**

The engines used in the Grand California, which is as standard front-wheel drive, are leading edge, high torque four-cylinder turbo-diesel direct-injection (TDI) units optimised for low emissions. Ideal for a large campervan, one of the drive system combinations is the TDI delivering 130 kW / 177 PS<sup>1</sup> and 8-speed automatic transmission.

The 130-kW turbo diesel sends maximum torque of 410 Nm to the front-wheel drive system. As an option, Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles will also be offering this engine in the Grand California in combination with 4MOTION all-wheel drive. A multi-plate clutch then seamlessly distributes drive system power between front and rear axle. In normal situations power is delivered primarily to the front axle to save energy. However, as soon as there is a risk of losing traction, the rear axle is smoothly engaged in a fraction of a second. In addition to this it will also be possible to have the new campervan supplied with a differential lock. That makes the Grand California 4MOTION also well equipped for major globe-trotting trips on rough terrain.

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