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In summary – The short version

Big camper for big journeys The new Grand California picks up speed

- **Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles transfers philosophy of the iconic California camper to the next class up**
- **New Grand California launches with full-feature washroom, large sleeping area in the rear and two wheelbases**
- **Grand California 600, featuring optional extra bed under the high roof, is the ideal camper for families**
- **Grand California 680 provides 80 centimetres more of wheelbase length and is perfect for travelling as a couple**

Hannover, May 2019 – Around 160,000 units sold make the California the world's most successful camper. Now Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles is bringing a second, larger California onto the market: the Grand California. The camper icon's clear concept is thus transferring with it to the next class up. The Grand California is based on the Crafter. It is therefore longer, wider and higher than the familiar California T6. That creates space for a washroom, a larger sleeping area in the rear, a fully fitted kitchen and a bright, stylish living area with the headroom to stand up. In order to fulfil all individual aspirations in terms of freedom of travel, the Grand California is also being offered with two different wheelbases and roof layouts, plus optional 4MOTION – all-wheel drive in place of front-wheel drive. The new camper is now available to order in the first few countries.

Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles has systematically tailored the Grand California to different purposes and life and travel situations. Ideal for families: the Grand California 600 – a 6.0-metre camper with sleeping area in the rear and a pull-out bed above the cab. One thing that any two people travelling together on a really long journey wish for is an even longer wheelbase and thus more room. For all such globetrotters we have developed the Grand California 680 with a length of around 6.8 metres. In the rear it offers an even bigger sleeping area and additional storage space.

Both Grand California models are powered by an efficient, latest design 130 kW / 177 PS four-cylinder turbo diesel engine (TDI). The



EURO-6 TDI is combined as standard with an easy-to-operate 8-speed automatic gearbox. The Grand California 600 with front-wheel drive costs €54,990, while the Grand California 680 starts from a base price of €57,100 (in each case prices for Germany). The prices for the 4MOTION versions are €59,310 Euro (600) and €63,651.26 (680).

In the future there will be California and Grand California

In launching the new Grand California, Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles is extending its camper range up to a new, higher class. For campers 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 model, however, the Grand California opens up a new spectrum of possibilities.

Systematically thought-out like a yacht

The Grand California is 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: with its clear layout and cleverly thought-out details it feels like a yacht on wheels. 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 Grand California.

Well equipped even at the base price

The Grand California is fitted with swivel seats at the front (including tip-up armrests) and a double bench seat. The seats are covered in robust, anthracite-coloured (Palladium) woven fabric (Valley pattern). Families with small children will appreciate the ISOFIX anchor points in the rear bench seat. A large, removable 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 forward and in the 600 version to the rear as well.

A key feature of the Grand California that differentiates it from the California T6 is its washroom. In addition to toilet and shower, the fittings here include a tip-up wash basin, shelves and a cabinet. The



lighting is automatically switched on by a motion detector, which is fitted as standard.

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 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 pop-open camper windows are also part of the standard specification.

Up to six USB interfaces and four 230V sockets supply smart phones, tablets and other devices with power. Also included as standard: all key campervan functions can be controlled digitally via a central operating panel in the living space. The information it provides include the drinking and waste water levels, the additional battery's charge level and the Wi-Fi status. Functions such as the heating and air conditioning, the infotainment system, interior lighting, the mode for the step and the Wi-Fi are controlled via the touch-screen display.

Useful options for life on the move

The further array of options in terms of connectivity include three infotainment systems inclusive of telephone interface, a Bluetooth sound system in the living area with subwoofer, Media Control (remote control via tablet or smart phone) and App-Connect. Via App-Connect, the Grand California is able to connect to Apple and Android smart phones in order to utilise apps, including navigation and phone apps, via the infotainment system. 'MirrorLink®' (Android), 'Apple CarPlay™' and 'Android Auto™' (Google) serve as the digital interfaces for this. Using Media Control and App-Connect it is also possible to integrate into the Grand California's navigation system routes previously planned on a smart phone or tablet.

Features such a roof-mounted air-conditioning unit (for use on camp sites), a solar panel system and a satellite dish are also being offered as options for the camper. On request, a DC/AC converter and a battery ensure that 230 V 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 an awning on the passenger side, two California folding camp chairs and a camping table for outdoor use.



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The Grand California can additionally be tailored to individual wishes using a wide spectrum of further features. Globetrotters, for instance, who opt for a Grand California 4MOTION can further optimise the drive characteristics on off-road terrain with an optional differential lock. Further extras include LED headlights with LED daytime running lights, towing brackets and a technical upgrade to a permitted total weight of 3.88 tonnes. The new camper's look can meanwhile be further personalised with features such as a Chrome Pack and two-tone paintwork options.

Cutting edge driver assistance systems provide added safety

The new Grand California is being offered with cutting edge driver assistance systems. As standard across the board: Cross Wind Assist and Hill Start Assist. Optional: Front Assist (with collision warning) including City Emergency Braking function, Lane Assist, the Blind Spot Sensor lane change assistant including Rear Traffic Alert, sensor-activated side protection, automatic Park Assist, Adaptive Cruise Control, Rear View reversing camera and Trailer Assist.



In detail – The long version

THE GRAND CALIFORNIA'S BASE CONFIGURATION

The Grand California 600

The Grand California 600 is equipped with a new camping high roof. It is 5,986 mm long, 2,040 mm wide (excluding wing mirrors) or 2,427mm (including the mirrors) and, depending on configuration, between 2,971 and 3,094 mm high. Its wheelbase is 3,640 mm. Inside there is headroom of 2,180 to 2,200 mm. The Grand California (600) provides a sleeping area in the back with sideways integrated bed (1,930 x 1,360 mm). This version of the camper can optionally be ordered with a high bunk bed above the cab and living space (dinette) – the slatted frame is simply pulled out and then measures 1,600 x 1,220 mm (passenger side) and 1,900 x 1,220 mm (driver side). This extra bed's load-bearing capacity is 150 kg.

The Grand California 680

The Grand California 680 is 6,836 mm long and fitted with a Crafter high roof. On this model the wheelbase between the axles measures 4,490 mm. While the width is identical to that of the Grand California 600, the height works out, depending on configuration, at a measurement of 2,839 to 2,967 mm. The headroom is between 1,970 and 2,030 mm. By virtue of the longer rear section, the Grand California offers more space in the back. The sleeping area in the rear is arranged lengthways and is thus even bigger (2,000 x 1,670 mm on the right and 1,900 x 1,670 mm on the left) – an especially luxurious camper with lots of room for two people on long journeys.

Rear area with spring plate mattress and lots of storage space

The beds in the rear sleeping area of both models are fitted with an 80 mm thick mattress on a spring plate sub-construction. It can in each instance be folded up to the side. Underneath it is a 800-litre storage space that is secured by a two-piece (removable) partition. The side storage space in the rear of the Grand California is 180 litres big. The Grand California 680 offers more capacity here, as it has an additional floor-level cabinet towards the living area and a roof-level cupboard on the driver's side.

All in all the Grand California 600 has four cupboards in the rear. One serves completely as storage space. Two house the gas bottles and the drinking water tank. The fourth is fitted out as an equipment



cupboard. Inside it are the FI circuit breaker switch, a battery cut-off switch, the relief valves for the water system and the subwoofers of the optional sound system. As mentioned, the Grand California 680 is additionally equipped with two further cupboards for storage.

Access to the rear cupboards is either from the living area or via the rear wing door (1,522 x 1,740 mm). Its opening is so big that even sports equipment and bicycles can be loaded with ease. Available as an option is a bicycle rack on the right half of the wing door for transporting two bicycles (35 kg load capacity). The living space opens out through the large, side sliding door (1,311 x 1,620 mm). An electrically powered step (fitted as standard), which moves out in front of the door, makes getting in and out easier.

White cupboards create a modern ambience in the living area

With the exception of the sleeping and roof areas and the kitchen's length, the living space of both Grand California versions is set out identically. With their clarity and detailed solutions, which have been cleverly thought-out as on a yacht, the design and layout reflect the qualities that make the Bulli-based California a best-seller. The cabinets in the Grand California are all in white. The same applies to the eleven top cabinets, the doors of six of which fold up and five down. Going perfectly with the bright fittings is the durable, elegant PVC floor covering in the look 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, 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 features that add a perfect touch to camp site life. A two-piece mosquito net in the sliding door is likewise part of the standard specification of the Grand California, which is being made at the Crafter plant in Września (Poland).

New era interfaces and sound 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. Up to four 230 V 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.

A further innovative feature is the Bluetooth sound system with subwoofer for the living area. It is made up of the loudspeakers arranged in the vehicle at the front, centre and rear, a subwoofer (in the equipment cupboard) and an amplifier (underneath the front passenger seat). Regardless of the infotainment system fitted, users can pair the loudspeakers with their smart phone, tablet or laptop to listen to songs from their library or via streaming. In addition, the Bluetooth loudspeakers can also be used via the infotainment system. In 'Camping' mode all loudspeakers are operated at the same volume level, while when the vehicle is being driven the volume of the rear speakers is lowered and of the front ones slightly increased.

Digital operating panel makes camp site life easier

All key campervan functions can be controlled from the living space via a central operating panel. The touchpad is positioned to the right of the washroom door – in the very middle of the Grand California. At the top operating level – the main screen – there are six menu items / indicators:

- The 'Light' menu
- The 'Temperature' menu
- The 'Settings' menu
- A field for activating the 'Camping' mode for the sound system
- The 'Water Level' indicator
- The indicator for the 'Additional Battery Charge Status'

Whenever one of the menu items is touched the associated sub-items open up, such as, for instance, the complete heating and air conditioning control system on the 'Temperature' menu.

Also displayed on the main screen are the date and day of the week, time, outside and inside temperature and Wi-Fi activity. On the very right of the operating panel there are also three further touch-sensitive fields:

- The 'Main Menu' (this Home button makes using the system easier)
- Access to the 'Infotainment' menu
- A 'Stand-by' switch (for deactivating the indicators)



Seating for four and a large dining table

The Grand California is equipped with swivel seats at the front and a double bench seat (840 mm wide) 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. While on the move, the table is stowed in the rear of the vehicle.

Easy-to-use kitchen with practical details

The row of kitchen units in both models is identically equipped, but different in size. While width (400 mm) and height (880 mm) are the same, the length of the work surface measures 980 mm (Grand California 600) and 1,400 mm (Grand California 680) respectively. On both models the work surface in the kitchen can also be extended forward (towards the front of the vehicle) via a pull-out panel. The working surface in the Grand California can also be extended to the rear using a push-in panel. By virtue of its even greater interior length, in the Grand California 680 the right-hand extension of the work surface is fixed.

The kitchen fittings include a pull-out, internally lit 70-litre fridge (which can be reached from outside too via the sliding door), including a freezer compartment at the very top. The settings for the fridge are made via a control panel inside it (they include cooling level, boost mode, night mode and lighting). Similar to the California T6, there is also a twin-hob gas cooker and a sink with fold-out tap fitting. In addition, the kitchen is equipped with diverse drawers, pull-out storage compartments and tip-up shelves. Gas cooker and sink are in each case 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, as mentioned above, 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. The high-level cabinets provide storage capacity of 42 litres.

Washroom with shower, basin and toilet

A key feature of the Grand California that differentiates it from the California T6 is the washroom. It is 820 mm wide and long and



1,850 mm high. Every element is thought through down to the tiniest detail. For example, the WC: inside the cassette toilet an optional "SOG" vacuum system creates mild 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, a fold-away mirror that can be fixed in place, shelves with fixings for toiletries, a cabinet with integrated toilet paper holder (protecting it from getting damp), a towel holder for 4 towels, a skylight for ventilation and a mushroom vent. The main and mirror lighting systems in the washroom are automatically switched on by a motion detector, fitted as standard. The three drains in the shower tray (2) and wash basin (1) are also fitted with odour traps. The WC cassette is easily serviced from outside. Also accessible from outside is the filler neck for the water tank.

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 600mm 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 lights are controlled via buttons and the central operating panel 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 extra bed, there are reading lights there too. In the washroom there is main and mirror lighting. The cargo space also has a light.

110 litres of water for the washroom and kitchen

Integrated within 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. As mentioned above, the water and gas 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 options have been 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 Metallic and Indium Grey Metallic, Candy White and Cherry Red, Candy White and Deep Ocean Blue or Candy White and Mojave Beige Metallic. In addition, three different 16- and 17-inch wheels are being offered for the Grand California: a silver 16-inch steel wheel with black central covering, a black 16-inch steel wheel with silver hub cap and the alloy 'Lismore' wheel.

Roof with high bed and panoramic sunroof

Customers opting for the Grand California 600 have the choice of a large storage space above the cab or the child's high bunk bed optionally integrated there, complete in the latter case with a built-in panoramic tilting sunroof (700 x 850mm) 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 camper can be fitted at the rear 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 W and is powered via the external 230 V electrical supply. Its functions are controlled either directly from the unit, via remote control or via the central operating panel.

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. The Grand California's awning is 2,500 x 3,000 mm in size, while that of the Grand California 680 measures 2,500 x 3,500 mm. The awning's crank handle is always close at hand: it is kept in the roof storage space behind the wing doors. As mentioned above, on the outside of the right half of the back door it is possible to fit a bracket for two bicycles with a load capacity of 35 kg. The standard gas heating, meanwhile, can as an option be replaced by a heating system run on gas- or diesel-generated electric power. With the diesel-generated electric heating option a 2.8 kg gas bottle is sufficient for cooking. Also available as options for the base vehicle are an electric supplementary air heating system (1,400 W) and an auxiliary air heater, inclusive of auxiliary coolant heater.

Solar system makes 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 600 the solar cells are integrated in the camper roof at the front, where they develop 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 power output of up to 174 watts. Linked to that it is also possible as an option to use the 230 V connections via a DC/AC converter and battery, thus making the Grand California completely self-sufficient when out and about.

Top level info- and entertainment



It is also possible to factory order a satellite dish (for TV reception) and Wi-Fi (LTE hotspot router) to extend the entertainment and infotainment functions. Also 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 Climatronic) and various radio and navigation systems (all inclusive of telephone interface). As well as the Composition Audio (TFT display) and Composition Media (8-inch touchscreen) radio systems, the spectrum includes the Discover Media navigation system (likewise 8-inch touchscreen). Features integrated in the 8-inch systems include a USB interface (Apple-compatible), voice control, App-Connect and Car Net.

Via App-Connect, the Grand California is able to connect to all current Apple and Android smart phones in order to utilise apps, including navigation and phone apps, the media library and apps like Spotify and WhatsApp via the infotainment system. 'MirrorLink®' (Android), 'Apple CarPlay™' and 'Android Auto™' (Google) serve as the digital interfaces for this. In addition, the Discover Media infotainment system offers the navigation function and Volkswagen Media Control. Media Control makes it possible to access the infotainment system from a tablet as well. Using Media Control it is possible, for instance, to feed address book and calendar entries into the navigation system as destinations.

The mobile online services of Car-Net 'Guide & Inform', Car-Net 'Security & Service' and the online fleet management system Connect Fleet connect the camper perfectly with the transport infrastructure. Via 'Security & Service' the driver can access assistance in a wide range of situations. The functions include 'Service scheduling' (scheduling a service with the garage). It is also possible to check whether the Grand California has been locked or if the lights have been turned off. 'Guide & Inform' allow use of a wide range of online services. These include 'Online POI Search', 'Online Destination Import', 'Route Import', 'Fuel Info' and 'Parking Info' (location and price), 'News', 'Weather' and 'Online Traffic Information'.

Cutting edge driver assistance systems provide added safety

The Grand California is being offered with the most modern driver assistance systems. Included as standard: Hill Start Assist. The



optional Cross Wind Assist, driver assistance systems include Front Assist with City Emergency Braking function, Lane Assist, Blind Spot Monitor, Rear Traffic Alert, sensor-activated side protection, Park Assist, Adaptive Cruise Control, Rear View reversing camera and Trailer Assist.

All these systems significantly increase safety and/or make driving much easier. The Blind Spot Sensor makes overtaking on motorways safer; Rear Traffic Alert recognises any vehicles approaching the back of the Grand California from the side; Front Assist and the City Emergency Braking function provide protection within the limitations of the system from running into the vehicle in front; Park Assist makes getting in and out of parking spaces child's play and can prevent expensive insurance claims; while Trailer Assist makes manoeuvring with a trailer easier. The Grand California is also one of the first campers of this class with electromechanical power steering. Without this, systems such as Lane Assist and Trailer Assist would simply not be possible.

THE GRAND CALIFORNIA'S DRIVE SYSTEMS

The engine being used in the Grand California, which is as standard front-wheel drive, is a highly modern, high torque four-cylinder turbo-diesel direct-injection engine (TDI) optimised for low emissions and delivering 130 kW / 177 PS. The job of changing gear is taken on as standard by an 8-speed automatic gearbox. A combination of SCR catalytic converter, particulate filter and oxidising catalytic converter ensures that the Grand California fulfils the Euro 6b emission standard.

The turbo diesel sends maximum torque of 410 Nm to the front-wheel drive system. As an option, Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles is also 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 is also 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.