



## Special DELIVERY

The Ducato-based Torino is not your average delivery van.

**T**rakka has earned itself a boutique builder's reputation. It's well known as much for its special-purpose vehicles as conversions on Toyota vans, 4WDs and European vehicles like VW, Mercedes-Benz Sprinter and the Fiat Ducato.

The Torino has been around for a couple of years, but our test unit had some refinements. There's no doubt the Ducato makes a good motorhome base, not only for van conversions but for cab chassis building.

### OUTSIDE

Upon collecting the Torino, we were taken aback by its striking, metallic aqua green colour, not the standard white. The Ducato is a very stylish-looking van with enormous windows just about all around. They are noticeably larger than those on the previous Torino, mainly because they are factory-fitted by Fiat rather than Trakka.

Trakka's Martin Poate says the Torino has passed necessary ADR safety standards with

certification for gas and electrical systems.

What sets the Torino apart from normal delivery vans, apart from its striking colour, are the awning, classy external light and gas cylinder compartment on the nearside. There's also a rail on the sliding door for a small clip-on table.

More discreetly along the offside are the 240V power socket and the water filler. Two 80 litre tanks for grey and fresh water are hidden underneath, and an electric-powered step

that automatically retracts when the motor starts is a thoughtful extra.

There's no external storage, but behind the rear doors is a very usable area for chairs, a bucket and a hose. Clipped to the back of the shower cubicle are the external table and awning accessories.

### INSIDE

Trakka's design team has made excellent use of space with a layout that includes a shower cubicle. There's no fixed bed,



### Trakka TORINO

#### BASE VEHICLE:

Fiat Ducato

#### ENGINE:

2.8 litre intercooled turbodiesel

#### MAX POWER:

93kW@3600rpm

#### MAX TORQUE:

300Nm@1800rpm

#### TRANSMISSION:

Five-speed manual/front wheel drive

#### BRAKES:

Front and rear discs

#### EXTERNAL LENGTH:

18ft (5.5m)

#### EXTERNAL WIDTH:

6ft 7in (2.0m)

#### EXTERNAL HEIGHT:

8ft 2in (2.5m)

#### SEATING:

Five

#### BERTHS:

Two

#### TARE WEIGHT:

2525kg

#### GVM:

3510kg

#### PRICE:

\$88,240 (base price, not as tested)

but with a van that will travel as much in town as on the open road, that's not a great disadvantage. Both the driver and passenger seats swivel, and there's an every-which-way table.

Given the wide side door, there's no need for rear entry and the welcome flyscreen on the rear kitchen window ventilates without unwanted insects. When opening the sliding door, the

fridge/freezer unit and Sharp microwave, and storage includes three drawers, small slideout pantry, angled cupboard and two overhead lockers.

The lounge seat has three seatbelts: two sideways, one facing forward. For dining, the swivel table lifts out from behind the sliding door and can be used in comfort by two or three people. The table sits on a single moveable leg fixed to a small

**Power steering, a light clutch and the stubby dash-mounted gear stick make it plain fun to drive**

cabinet behind the passenger seat blocks the handle, but this may soon be modified by Trakka.

The L-shaped dinette is behind the driver's seat, and behind that is a floor-to-ceiling cabinet containing the fridge and microwave, with the shower and toilet tucked into the corner. On the opposite side between the sliding door and rear door is the kitchen bench.

Trakka uses lightweight laminated plywood for cabinet work and there's no shortage of light, helped by a marine-style central Heki hatch.

The compact kitchen area has almost everything you'd need in a small motorhome, except a grill. The benchtop, fitted with both Cramer three-burner stove and stainless steel sink, has a surprising amount of working space. Both the sink and stove have smoked glass lids. Opposite is the two-door Indel B

cabinet behind the passenger seat which can store a TV/video unit.

The lounge converts into a slideout double bed with the seat backs rearranged to make up the mattress. This makeshift bedding, 6ft 4in x 4ft 3in (1.95m x 1.3m), is surprisingly comfortable.

The small shower cubicle includes a flexible hose shower, Thetford cassette toilet and vanity sink.

The shower floor has a slatted wooden base with a bilge pump underneath, large window with curtain and the internal cubicle finish is exactly the same as the rest of the cabinet work. The exhaust fan is an all-in-one package, with reversible fan and two halogen downlights.

Two 100ah house batteries supply 12V load to the Torino for lighting, outside step, water pump and fridge.

The lighting system has one set of controls by the sliding door and another

# Trakka Torino



## WE LIKED:

Effective use of interior space  
Large Torino windows  
Driving the Ducato  
Swivelling front seats  
General finish

## WE WOULD HAVE LIKED:

To keep the vehicle for longer  
Fitted sheets for bed

**Above:** The compact shower cubicle has everything you need.

**Above right:** You'd pay heaps more for a view like this in a hotel!

**Below left:** The bed is quickly made up using the seat back cushions.

**Below right:** The table is stored beside the sliding door and can easily be set up or removed.

behind the driver's seat. Hot water is stored in a 22 litre tank and heated by either a 240V element or a heat exchanger on the motor. There is also a Webasto diesel-fired cabin heater.

## ON THE ROAD

The 2.8 litre turbodiesel, in tandem with the five-speed gear box, handled our windy road test with ease.

The driver and passenger seats are reasonably ergonomic and comfortable, the large external mirrors give good rear visibility and there is plenty of storage in

the driver's cab. Power steering, a light clutch and the stubby dash-mounted gear stick make it plain fun to drive.

## SUMMING UP

With a base price of \$90,000, the Torino is well placed in the small cab chassis motorhome territory, but for those who want both a passenger vehicle and a sophisticated camper, the Torino is certainly a winner.

For more information contact Trakka on (02) 9472 9000 or visit the website, [www.trakka.com.au](http://www.trakka.com.au)

