

◊ VANLEIGH VILANO FIFTH-WHEEL ◊ RV LEVELING BASICS ◊ RENEGADE RV'S VILLAGIO MOTORHOME

familyRVing

ENHANCING THE RV LIFESTYLE

MAY 2020

RV Tranquility



VOL. 57 NO. 5 • \$3.99 US
FamilyRVingmag.com

VALUE OF FMCA MEMBERSHIP • PAGE 4

THIS ARTICLE IS REPRINTED FROM THE MAY 2020 ISSUE

By Robbin Gould, Editor



RENEGADE VILLAGIO

A Type C motorhome that continues its manufacturer's tradition of durability and luxury-focused design.

Early this year, Renegade RV, a subsidiary of REV RV Group, debuted the 2020 version of its Villagio Type C motorhome. This 25-footer is built on a Mercedes-Benz 3500 Sprinter chassis and powered by a Blue Tec 3.0-liter turbo-diesel engine. These attributes are combined with detailed production techniques to produce a sturdy vehicle well suited for everything from full-time live-aboard travel to weekend commutes — designed for “functional luxury travel” as the Villagio’s brochure states.

The 2020 Villagio is offered in four floor plans, all with an exterior width of 92.25 inches, an interior height of 6 feet 10 inches, and a street-side slideout. Depending on floor plan, the slideout room houses a standard dinette (theater seating optional) and either a 60-inch-by-74-inch conventional bed or a 65-inch-by-72-inch Murphy bed, with an option to convert to a 65-inch-by-78-inch Murphy bed. Other interior configurations vary by floor plan also: among them, a coach-wide rear bath or a smaller bath and larger living

area, and a 48-inch-by-79-inch cab-over bunk or a smaller storage area above the cockpit.

CONSTRUCTION

According to company literature, the Villagio and its motorhome siblings are built for “extreme” durability, reliability, and longevity. Company designers begin by selecting chassis they consider to be high quality, and then take a proprietary approach to manufacturing.

The roof, sidewalls, and floor are vacuum-bonded and laminated, as

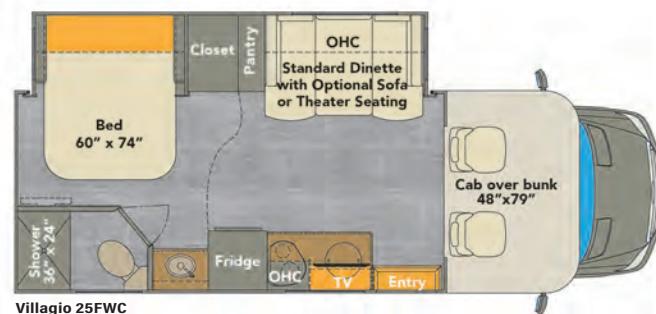


← Clockwise from left: The galley has a two-way refrigerator, a microwave-convection oven, and an LED TV viewable from the slideout. A cabover bunk is available. Here, a view of the conventional bed. Each floor plan has a shower with surround. Opposite: “Carbon” exterior decor.



Photos: Renegade RV

RENEGADE VILLAGIO



Villagio 25FWC

are all slideout components. The roof is crowned, which creates “attic” space directly below, allowing wiring, cooling ducts, etc. to be installed. This results in an interior ceiling height of 6 feet 8.5 inches.

The front cap is fiberglass. Renegade motorhome caps are actually two-piece structures. After extensive travel, and inevitable chips to the exterior of the coach, the bottom portion of the cap could be replaced should the owner so choose.

The Villagio’s floor is a sandwich of two nonorganic composite substrates. The main floor is a seamless sheet of this composite material, which contains no wood products; it resists all moisture, therefore guarding against the growth of mold or mildew. The underbelly is the same material, with a dark covering. The material is said to be extremely durable against the outside elements.

The Villagio features full-body exterior paint in four color choices: Carbon, Dune, Ocean, and Ruby. The coach is outfitted with framed windows, aluminum side-hinged baggage doors, and steel wheels with chrome simulators. Its 16-foot lateral-arm Girard awning with wind sensor comes with integrated LED lights. A standard topper awning shields the slideout. The coach comes prepped for an exterior entertainment center.

Other exterior features include cab steps, a power entry step into the coach living area, a 3,500-pound-rated hitch with a seven-way plug, an LP quick connect, and four-point hydraulic leveling. Diamond Shield protection is offered as an option.

→ SPECS | RENEGADE VILLAGIO

MANUFACTURER

Renegade RV, 52216 S.R. 15, Bristol, IN 46507; (888) 522-1126; www.renegaderv.com

MODEL

2020 Villagio

FLOOR PLANS

(4)

CHASSIS

Mercedes-Benz Sprinter 3500

ENGINE

3.0-liter Blue Tec turbo-diesel; 188 horsepower; 325 pound-feet torque

TRANSMISSION

(2019 chassis) 7-speed automatic

AXLE RATIO

3.92 to 1

TIRES

All Season LT215/85R16

WHEELBASE

170 inches

BRAKES

disc with dual-piston floating calipers; “drum in hat” emergency brake

SUSPENSION

standard Mercedes-Benz with multiple aftermarket upgrades

STEERING

multifunction steering wheel

BATTERIES

chassis — (1) 70Ah AGM; house — (2) 110-amp-hour AGM

ELECTRICAL SERVICE

30 amps

EXTERIOR LENGTH

24 feet 9 inches

EXTERIOR WIDTH

92.25 inches

EXTERIOR HEIGHT

11 feet

INTERIOR HEIGHT

6 feet 8.5 inches

GROSS VEHICLE WEIGHT RATING (GVWR)

11,030 pounds

GROSS COMBINATION WEIGHT RATING (GCWR)

15,250 pounds

GROSS AXLE WEIGHT RATINGS (GAWR)

front — 4,409 pounds; rear — 7,721 pounds

OCCUPANT AND CARGO CARRYING CAPACITY (OCCC)

varies based on specs

INSULATION

high-density block foam throughout roofs, walls, floor

FRESH WATER CAPACITY

34 gallons

HOLDING TANK CAPACITIES

gray water — 29 gallons, heated; black water — 29 gallons with tank flush, heated

PROPANE

20.3 gallons

FUEL CAPACITY

24.5 gallons

FUEL REQUIREMENTS

diesel

WATER HEATER

6 gallons

HEATING SYSTEM

18,000-Btu furnace

AIR CONDITIONING

13,500 Btu with heat pump

REFRIGERATOR

7 cubic feet

TOILET

porcelain

WARRANTY

house — 1 year limited; structural — 3 years/36,000 miles basic; chassis — 3 years/36,000 miles limited; powertrain — 5 years/100,000 miles limited

MANUFACTURER’S SUGGESTED RETAIL PRICE

\$138,000



↑ The Villagio features vinyl flooring, a padded ceiling, LED lights, hardwood maple cabinetry, and a full-wall slideout.

INTERIOR

When stepping inside, RVers are greeted by a sleek, smooth design. Solid-surface countertops are complemented by hardwood maple cabinetry — not just cabinet doors and drawers, but cabinet stiles and passage doors as well. Deluxe decorative valances and roller-style night shades grace the windows. Heavy-duty vinyl flooring runs throughout. LED lights in the padded vinyl ceiling provide ample illumination. The living area is outfitted with a powered skylight. Customers can select one of two interior décor choices: Gray Mist or Sandstone.

The living area also includes an LED TV with a sound bar. Occupants can relax in seating that’s covered with soft-touch fabric.

Cooking duties in the compact curbside galley are handled by a two-burner, flush-mounted propane-powered cooktop and a 1-cubic-foot microwave-convection oven. The galley also contains a 7-cubic-foot double-door two-way refrigerator and a stainless-steel sink with a cover recessed into the polished solid-surface countertop. Depending on the floor plan, pantry and wardrobe storage are just aft of the galley area

or across the aisle. Drawers are outfitted with full-extension guides with a soft-close feature.

In the street-side slideout is the dinette area mentioned earlier. All Villagio floor plans include a conventional dinette as standard equipment, with optional theater seating available, as well as a sofa on the FW floor plans. Overhead cabinets provide storage in this area.

The previously mentioned beds, also in the slideout, are juxtaposed with the rear bath. Regardless of layout, the Villagio’s bath area features a shower surround with door, a skylight, and a porcelain bowl toilet. The vanity holds a stainless-steel sink with a brushed-nickel faucet and is accompanied by a mirrored medicine cabinet.

Up front in the cockpit, the pilot settles in behind a multifunction steering wheel. He or she can take advantage of Adaptive ESP technology, designed to stabilize the vehicle in critical driving situations, and also access the rearview, side-view, and backup cameras. Powered, heated mirrors also aid in driving. A table designed for use in the cab is available as an option.

If an additional sleeping berth is

desired, the Villagio can be selected with the 48-inch-by-79-inch cabover bunk, which comes with a ladder. Or customers may opt for a shorter, more streamlined front that contains overhead storage with dedicated doors instead. Storage needs have been addressed in various ways, as each floor plan contains ample pantries, wardrobes, overhead cabinets, and exterior compartments.

Various coach operations can be monitored and controlled via a multi-plex system with a color touch panel; the system also can be accessed via a Bluetooth app. A 1,200-watt pure sine wave inverter and a 3.6-kw propane generator come standard. A 3.2-kw diesel gen set is available, as is a Winegard Connect 2.0 Wi-Fi extender. The Villagio comes prepped for an optional 175-watt solar panel. Also worth noting is the motorhome’s Auto Gen Start (AGS) feature, which can be utilized with either the propane or optional diesel generator; it works off the parameters of interior temperature, battery voltage, and/or time of day.

RV shoppers looking for a functional yet luxurious diesel-powered motorhome will want to consider the Villagio. ●