



Sprite Lite 2

The wraps are off the Sprite Lite - a new range of lightweight tourers for the cost-conscious. Andy Jenkinson shares his first impressions



One-piece sides combine with plain but modern styling. Steel wheels are fitted on the Sprite Lite range.

NO sooner has the Sprite been re-launched, with its super-stylish new looks inside and out, than another new Sprite range is released!

In these tough times, buyers are looking for good value for their cash, especially with larger items such as caravans. First-time caravanners want to buy new, but they're often faced with buying an expensive tourer with some features they won't even use (we don't use our caravan's shower, for instance).

On paper, the concept of introducing tent-owners to basic caravanning would seem to be a winner. The Sprite brand is well known for its heritage of good value and lightweight tourers, and it has now come up with a three-model range of Sprite Lites.

Model:	Sprite Lite 2
Price:	£9,995
Length:	4.34 m
Width:	2.25 m
MIRO:	915 kg
MTPLM:	1036 kg
Berths:	2

We like: Concept of affordable lightweight caravans, good finish, large rear changing room, large front lounge area, quality of upholstery.

We don't like: No loose-fit carpet strip; at this price and weight, not much else!



Cleverly based on the 2011 Sprite shell, the new range has had some spec taken out, yet it remains perfectly accommodating.

The Sprite Lite 2 has an Al-Ko chassis, steel wheels, low-key graphics and an external TV connector battery box. It's built with one-piece sides, and the GRP front panel comes with a generous-sized locker; with only one gas bottle holder, it leaves room for empty water containers etc.

When you step inside the Sprite Lite 2, one thing you don't notice is that it's an entry-level tourer. Sure, there's no oven, and no carpet is fitted, but it all looks well finished - and with plenty of roof locker storage, too.

The layout follows the Alpine 2, with a rear washroom, front dinette and side kitchen. In the front lounge area you're treated to a large wrap-around seating arrangement, which adds to the spacious feel. The seating is comfortable and supportive, and bolster cushions are included for the front window seat.

Seat bases have beech slats, with access only from the top; however, the central front seat does have a locker in its base. Twin single beds can be made up, or you can pull out the slats and create a large double bed.

Lighting comes with two corner spots and a ceiling light. The designers have added a roof vent centrally in the lounge area. Roof lockers over the front lounge are broken up by a shelf over the front window; for a couple, there's more than enough storage.

Looking towards the rear; can you believe it's a budget tourer? Good finish and plenty of storage are what the Lite 2 is all about.

The Sprite Lite is aimed at cost-conscious first-time buyers. Its profile is from the 2011 Sprite range, and there's no harm in that!

If you've only ever been camping in a tent or an old tourer, the Sprite Lite's kitchen will impress you. It comes with a 115-litre fridge, a twin-burner hob and grill, and a granite sink with the same quality finish as in the dearer Swifts.

Storage space in cupboards and roof lockers is excellent, and one of the roof lockers is fitted with a mains socket so that a microwave can be fitted. Worktop is very good, and there's a plug socket for a kettle or other small appliances.

Opposite the kitchen is a side dresser, which is where the gas-only Truma room heater is fitted. The dresser offers extra worktop, and there's another mains socket with TV aerial connector. Storage



The super front lounge area offers a couple so much room.

is provided by a roof locker and shelves to one side. The control panel for the electricity supply is fitted above the entrance door.

Step into the rear of the Sprite Lite and you'll notice just how large this area is. The Sprite Lite 2 doesn't have a shower, but it does have a dual-fuel, quick heat-up Truma water heater. Owners will typically use site facilities to the full, as many caravanners do, and the washroom offers plenty of room for changing.

A manual-flush cassette loo is fitted, along with a deep hand basin and cupboard storage beneath. In the nearside corner, a large built-in wardrobe provides excellent hanging space and somewhere to stow the free-standing table.



The side kitchen impresses with its fridge, hob and storage plus a wired locker for the microwave.



The quality of design and upholstery is first class for an entry-level model.



No one can deny the size of this super double bed!



The locker for the microwave (if required) has a mains socket wired in.



It's all simple - normal hitch, hand brake and jockey wheel - but it does the job.



Beech slats are used for seat bases, but access underneath is via the tops only (no side access flaps).



Graphics are low-key.



Twin-burner hob by SMEV comes with a grill beneath.

Simple control panel for the electrics and water system.



The end washroom lacks a shower but it comes with an excellent wardrobe.

Verdict

Does the Sprite Lite 2 live up to its name? It certainly does! If you're looking for a new tourer that you'll use only a few times a year, and you don't want to change your car, the Sprite Lite 2 could be all you'll ever need.

What we especially like about this new range is that it's perfectly practical and affordable - and it's light. For those wanting the essential basics, along with comfort, space and easy storage, the Sprite Lite 2 will fit the bill perfectly.

More information: www.swiftgroup.co.uk