

PRESS RELEASE

Garelochhead Coaches expands Scottish fleet with high-capacity Volvo B8L MCV eVoSeti

Family-run operator Garelochhead Coaches has brought Scotland's first bespoke Volvo B8L MCV eVoSeti into service.

The 98-seat tri-axle double-deck bus will operate from the Garelochhead depot on a local school transport route. The new high-capacity Volvo B8L eVoSeti replaces a smaller single-deck coach, significantly reducing the need to run multiple vehicles on the same route.

Keith Shand, Transport Manager for Garelochhead Coaches, says: "The support offered by Volvo Buses is unmatched, we have a really strong relationship with the team there – that's what keeps us coming back."

Joining the operator's 22-strong fleet, including three other high-capacity Volvo coaches, the new addition will also support contract hire requirements during school breaks. These include services with increased capacity needs, such as large group travel, rail replacement work, and events at the nearby Faslane Naval Base.

"As well as the service we receive from our local dealer, Volvo Truck and Bus Centre North & Scotland, the vehicles themselves are fantastic. We've had some great feedback from our drivers about how pleasant the B8L eVoSeti is to drive. Our customers are also really pleased they can transport big groups within one vehicle, especially for our school contracts," Shand continued.

Powered by Volvo's proven 8-litre D8K engine, the vehicle offers superior fuel-efficiency and produces up to 350 hp, with a peak torque of 1,585 Nm. It's driven through a six-speed, push button ZF automatic transmission. Built to Garelochhead Coaches' bespoke specification, the double-deck features under-seat lighting to the aisle seats, moquette seats with leather headrest inserts in the company's blue and neutral colour branding and three-point seatbelts. The fully PSVAR compliant bus features a generous wheelchair bay, front, back and side digital destination displays, and a manual wheelchair ramp in the front entrance.

For driver comfort, the model is fitted with an air suspended seat, DAB radio and PA system. The livery has been finished in a metallic paint, including a tree guard to protect the upper deck window. For passenger luggage, racking is fitted over the front wheel arch. To enhance the flexibility of the bus, enabling the vehicle to carry out service work or rail replacement if required, an interior next stop announcement system and induction loop for hearing-impaired passengers is also fitted.

Established for more than two decades, Garelochhead Coaches is based on the west coast of Scotland, approximately 40 miles outside of Glasgow. With a depot in Garelochhead and a

second on the Isle of Jura, its services stretch across Glasgow, Argyll and the west coast of Scotland.

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