



Coffee with a view (above left). Banana pancakes on the road (above right). Wood chopping for the day, done (right).



uncommon in this part of the world,” say Lowndes and Hanahoe. “The old design always intrigues other travelers and frequently sparks conversation.”

The van’s age and model mean that it travels slowly, and there is no air-conditioning or cruise control installed. But, the partners note, these shortcomings are what make traveling in the Peugeot so unique. “Due to its lack of speed, we resort to taking the back roads, which are always where the best impromptu adventures begin,” they say. Since getting their conversion on the road, the couple has explored parts of Italy, Switzerland, Austria, Croatia, Slovenia, and Bosnia and Herzegovina. “Our favorite travel experiences are always when we’ve parked up somewhere beautiful and remote with a glass of wine and sore bodies from whatever activity we have just finished,” they say. “We have had very few bad experiences in the van so far, to be honest, and we certainly don’t dwell on any experiences we didn’t enjoy.” ■

DETAILED VEHICLE INFORMATION

Peugeot produced the J7 between 1965 and 1980. This compact front-wheel-drive van features all-around independent suspension, ample cargo space, an easy-to-access engine, and a light, comfortable driver’s cabin. J7s are cheaper and roomier than their Volkswagen counterparts, and yet are just as distinctive in their retro aesthetic. The original J7 interior featured a heavy use of plastic, but Lowndes and Hanahoe gave their van a country-cabin-style facelift using scrap pallet wood and other natural materials.

Manufacturer	PEUGEOT	Year	1972
Model	J7	Mileage	100,000 KM (62,137 MI)

Pausing to take in the views (above).