

# Vehicle Handbook

## KIA Bongo Microcamper



v20250318

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## Operating the vehicle

### 🔧 Vehicle dimensions

- Height: 2,2 m
- Height with roof top tent: 2,8 m
- Width: 1,8m
- Length: 5,2m
- Weight: 2060 kg
- Max. weight: 2800 kg
- Max. water fording depth: 0,5m
- Tyre pressure normal roads: 3.0 bar
- Tyre pressure off-road: 1.0 - 2.0 bar

### ⚙️ Gears

The KIA Bongo has a 6-speed manual gearbox, which is simple to use.

To get in reverse, pull the button on the gearshift lever up, and then move to R position.

### 🛢️ Fuel System

The KIA Bongo has a 60L fuel tank. The filling is on the passenger-side, it has a black cap. Be sure to **NOT** fill the tank with the blue cap (see below).

The fuel type is Diesel. At the fuel station ask for **Euro Diesel**. Not all fuel stations have *Euro Diesel*, they have just regular 'Diesel'. Only in emergencies you can fill up with regular Diesel.

You can open the fuel cap with the car key.

The fuel consumption is anywhere between 10-20L/100km - depending on the terrain.



## AdBlue / Urea / DEF


Some cars also have an AdBlue/Urea/DEF tank on the backside of the car, with a blue cap. AdBlue is used for emission control.

AdBlue should be filled only once every 5000-7500 km - so most likely you won't have to think about this. We try to keep it topped up.

Should you receive DEF warnings on the display, please contact us.

## 4-wheel drive

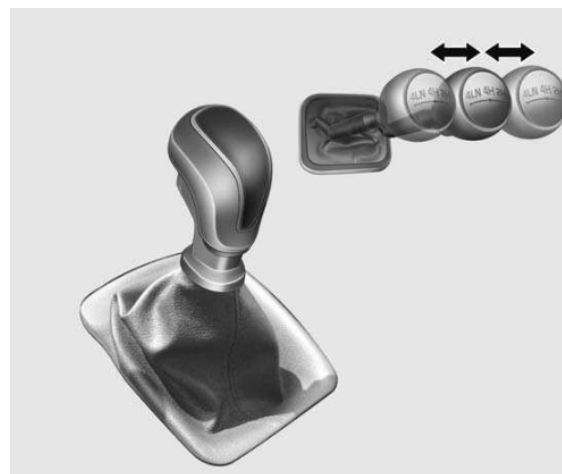
The KIA Bongo has a 4WD system that can be enabled when you enter rougher terrain.

 Never enable 4WD on asphalt/beton, only on soft roads and soft undergrounds.

To enable 4WD, move the 4WD lever **one** click to the left.

The normal position is H2 (High-2) - and you can move this to H4 to engage the front wheels as well. You can do this while driving slowly or in standstill. **Don't forget to turn 4WD off when you are on asphalt again.**

Going back to 2WD is the same in reverse.



## High-low range gears

To overcome steep inclines and declines or drive on sandy, snowy or muddy surfaces, it is possible to switch to low range gears.

2

To enable low gear: stop the vehicle completely, put the normal gearbox in neutral, and then move the lever to the leftmost position (L4).

Do **NOT operate this lever when in motion.** This may lead to serious damage to the transfer case.

Low gears will give you more power in the low ranges, basically dividing your normal gears by 2 or 3.

## Traction control

When driving off-road we recommend switching **off** the traction control (yes, this sounds counterintuitive, but traction control works against you on tracks). Simply push this button:



## Spare tyre and jack

The spare tyre is located under the pick-up bed. You need the key to take off the lock, and use a wrench to put the wheel down (see illustrations below)

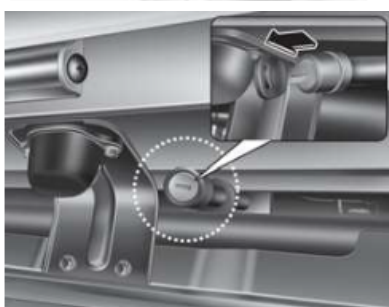
The jack is stored behind the small 'hood' compartment in the front of the car (open it with the lever left under the steering wheel)

The tools to change a tyre are located underneath the rear bench.

Be sure to visit a mechanic after changing a tyre to firmly attach it and to get the puncture repaired if possible. This usually costs 10-20 GEL.



3



4

## Accessories

### Camper Cabin

Inside the cabin you will find the main bed, storage space and electricity outlets. The table is held in place using a magnet, so just pull it to fold out.

### Windows

All windows of the cabin have mosquito nets as well as blinds. You can slide them out from up or down, but be careful as it's fragile.

To open the windows of the cabin, you have to unlock the handles. Be careful: first **press the small button**, and then turn the handle.

To close the window, **never pull on it!** Press it all the way to the outside, you will hear clicks, and only after the last click, it closes down.

### Slide-out kitchen

The cabin has a slide-out kitchen on the side. It is important to note that the slide has a locking system, both when closed and when fully extended. Be easy on the slide system and don't apply too much force, or it will break.

When the kitchen is fully extended, you will find there a drawer fridge, a gas stove, storage space for utensils and food, as well as a water tap with sink.

To connect the water and gas, use the quick-connect hoses. Make sure not to mix up the water and gas connection points!

To release the quick-connect hoses, pull on the side of the socket, and it will pop out.

### Gas Stove

The van has a dual-burner gas stove. To use it:

1. Connect the hose using the quick-release connector on both sides.




5

2. Turn on the gas bottle valve (just a little bit) and the valve on the connection pont.

When finished, always close the gas valve completely.

The gas bottle is located inside the back of the cabin, in a separate box. You can reach it from the rear-hatch. A gas leak alarm is also installed for your safety.

The gas valve on the side can only be turned on and off when the gas cable is installed.

 **Refilling Gas:** When you run out, most **older gas stations** (marked LPG/Gas/გაზი) and roadside gas trucks can refill your bottle. Fill a maximum of 10GEL, don't ask for a 'full' tank.

### Shower

You can connect the shower head to the outside water point and enjoy a refreshing shower. If you want some privacy simply open the shower tent on the side of the cabin.


## Battery system



The camper is equipped with a dual 12V battery system. This means that there is a starter battery to start the car, and a secondary battery for all other equipment, LED lights, etc. The starter battery is protected from draining, so you can always start the engine. The secondary battery charges via solar power and while driving.

This means that with regular usage and sunny days, you will likely not run out of electricity.

On the electronics panel you will find an indicator display that will show you how much energy is left in the battery. It will shut down automatically when the battery reaches 30%, to protect the system.

 **Pro Tip:** Charge your devices and power banks while driving instead of when parked!

## Water tank

The cabin has a 60L water tank. An indicator of the water level is located in the camper unit, it's

6

not very accurate but will give you an idea of how much is left.

There is a water tap in the camper's kitchen. To use this, switch on the water pump button at the entrance of the camper's cabin. Make sure you turn off the pump again after use, and also if the water runs out. It should not run 'dry'. This will break the pump, leaving you without easy access to water.

You can fill the water tank by opening the filling point on the side of the cabin. It may be locked with a key. Please only fill the tank with **clean** water, for example from a mountain stream tap point or ask at a carwash or gas station.

## USB / 12V outlets

There are several USB outlets in the vehicle that you can use to charge your phones, tablets, cameras and other devices. The bed reading lights have USB chargers built in as well.

If you bring car chargers that work on a 12V 'cigarette' plug, you will find such an outlet on the dashboard and at the electronics panel in the camper's cabin.

## 230V inverter



The 230V inverter in the cabin is for connecting equipment running on 230V such as laptop chargers, small appliances, etc.

Please make sure that you do not exceed the inverter power rating of 300 Watts (a hair dryer is too much!).

You can check the power usage of a device by looking at the labels on the device's charger. If you connect multiple devices, the sum of all wattages is your total maximum power usage.

The inverter will continue to drain the battery even if no devices are connected, so ensure that you turn it off whenever you finish using it.

7



## ☀️ Awning

On the sides of the cabin you will find an awning to protect from (light) rain and give some shadow. Do not use the awning in heavy wind, it will break. Do not leave it out when you go away from the camper, as sudden wind might break it.



## 🔧 The art of car maintenance

Before handing over the vehicle, we thoroughly inspect and service it. However, if you're renting long-term, you'll need to perform basic checks.

We advise you to do these checks at least **every week**, after **500** regular kilometres or after **200** kilometres of off-road driving. This is for your own safety and proper maintenance of the car!

Only do these checks when the engine is cold, a good moment is in the morning before you leave.

### 🔧 Check the engine oil level

Open the engine cover/hood: open the locks under the flaps under the passenger seat, and fold the whole passenger seat backwards. Find the oil level stick. Take it out, clean it with a piece of toilet paper and stick it back all the way in. Now take it out again, and check if the oil level is between MIN and MAX

If the level is close to or below 0, you need to fill up the oil. Please contact us for details.

### ❄️ Check the coolant level

To check the coolant level, open up the small hood in front of the car, and check the level of the left reservoir. There are marks for low and full. The fluid is likely red.

If the level is too low, you need to fill up with antifreeze or *distilled* water. Don't use tap or mountain water! Contact us for details.

### 🔍 Visually check for leaks under the car.

Any liquid spilled on the road, drops hanging under the car?

### 👁️ Visually inspect the tyres

Check if you see nails in the tyre, new damages to the sidewall. Check if the pressure is similar on all tyres.

👁️ While driving, always keep an eye on:

- **Engine temperature**  
The temperature gauge should never



go much above 90 degrees.

If it does go higher, stop the car, let the engine cool down and check the coolant level.

- **Warning and 'check engine' lights**  
Red lights mean: stop immediately  
Orange/yellow lights: something needs to be checked
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