



21 Sent to work down the mine

Some vans have a really tough time. These Transits spent their entire working life down a salt mine in Cheshire, England, transporting people and explosives through miles of tunnels. What's more, to reach the mine workings, each Transit had to be cut in two to fit in the lift shaft, before being welded back together underground.

24 Flying Transit

This Transit took to the air to become the world's first van to leap over 15 cars. Stuntman Steve Matthews undertook the challenge in 1985 to raise money for cancer research.



26 Beware back seat drivers

This colourful promotional Transit circled London's newly completed M25 orbital motorway for seven days and seven nights in 1986.



29 Even faster deliveries with Transit Supervan III

The outrageous Transit Supervan story reached its third chapter in 1995 as the high-performance delivery machine gained a new-look bodyshell, along with one of Ford's latest 650 PS 3.5-litre grand prix-racing engines. This vehicle survives, albeit now with a Cosworth 2.9-litre 24-valve engine, in the Ford Heritage Collection.



22 Transit takes to the water

In 1985, Ford apprentices from Dunton, U.K., built a floating Transit to take part in the annual raft race at Southend, Essex.



23 Super-fast Transit Supervan MkII

In 1985, 14 years after the debut of the original, Ford introduced Supervan II. This was based on another Ford ex-Le Mans car, the C100, and powered by a DFY Cosworth V8 engine. It clocked 174 mph (280 km/h) at the Silverstone race circuit, U.K.



25 Heading off for a quick break

Transit has always been a great towing vehicle, but this one went that extra bit further. With Supervan II doing the pulling, this combination broke the world caravan towing record in 1985 at an impressive 170mph.



27 Buried in snow for six months

In October 1985, Seville resident Juan Garcia was caught by a freak snowstorm 3,000 metres up a mountain pass. He abandoned his Transit Kombi, which was subsequently buried under five metres of snow. He returned six months later in the spring, and was amazed to find that the Transit's bodywork was only slightly damaged. He was even more amazed when the Transit started first time, allowing him to drive safely home.



28 A big noise in the Transit world

Widely held to be the noisiest Transit in the world, this custom van features a total of 65 amplifiers and 61 subwoofers, which combine to deliver a chest-thumping 155 decibels of sound.



30 On a slippery slope

The 2006 Transit ensured that customers were even more spoilt for choice, being the first van ever to offer front-wheel drive, rear-wheel drive or a sophisticated new intelligent all-wheel drive (AWD) system – ideal for icy winter conditions or tacking off-road tracks.