

Vito Taxi Operation Manual

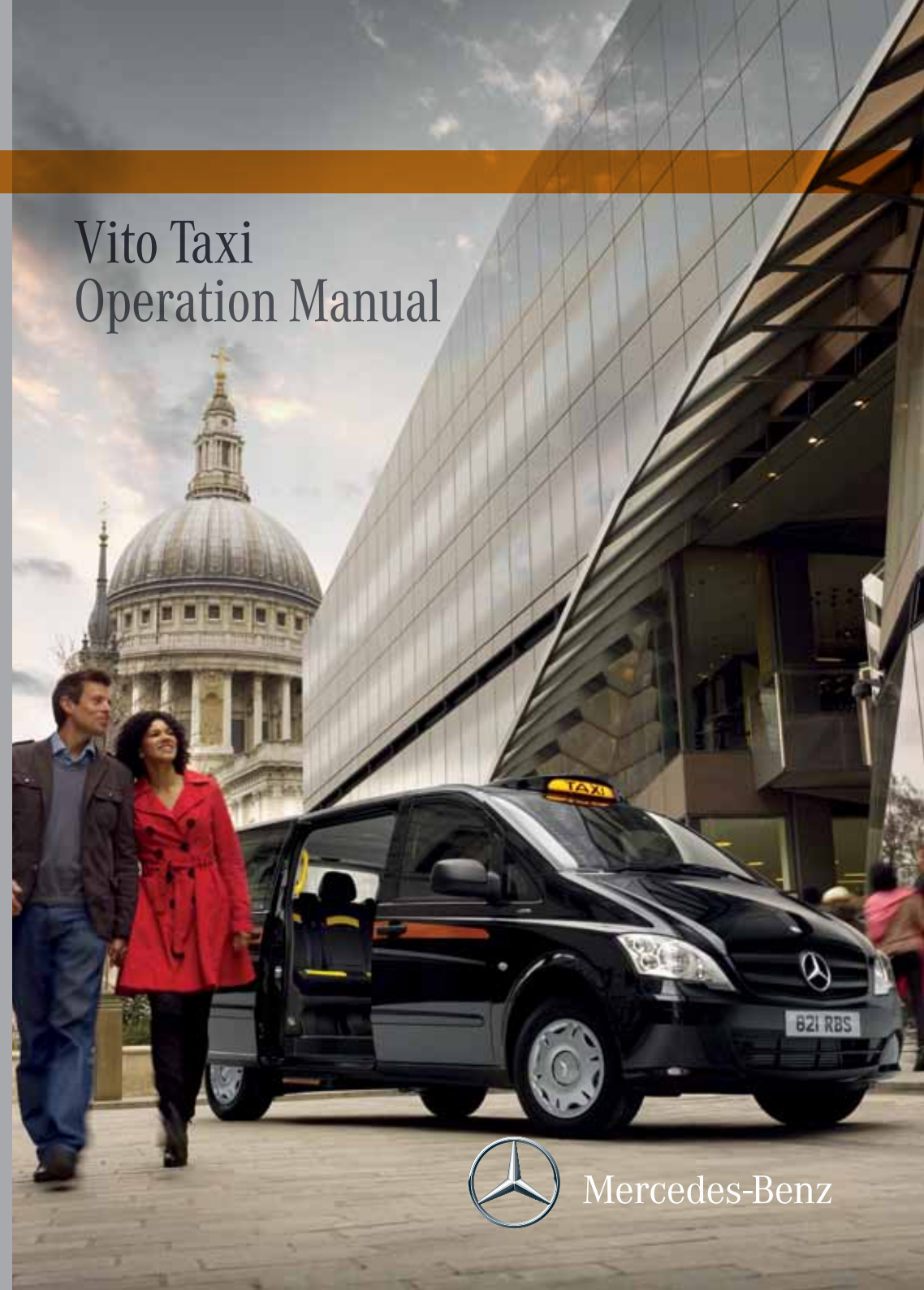
The Vito Taxi has been adapted by one80 Limited, in partnership with Mercedes-Benz, from an original Mercedes-Benz Vito.

Take-back of end-of-life vehicles. Coming full circle. At the end of its long life, you can return your Vito to us for environmentally-friendly disposal in accordance with the EC End-Of-Life Vehicle Directive. But that day lies a long way off.

The take-back of end-of-life vehicles applies in accordance with national regulations to vehicles up to 3.5 tonnes gross weight. The Vito has met the requirements governing the suitability of a vehicle's design for reuse and recycling for a number of years now. A network of vehicle take-back depots and dismantlers has been established which will process your vehicle in an environmentally-friendly manner. The ways in which both vehicles and parts can be recovered are subject to ongoing development and improvement. Consequently, the Vito will be able to comply with any future increases in the recycling quota within the stipulated time limits.

Please note: changes may have been made to the product since this brochure went to press (April 2011). The manufacturer reserves the right to make changes to the design, form, colour and specification during the delivery period, provided these changes, while taking into account the interests of the vendor, can be deemed reasonable with respect to the purchaser. Where the vendor or the manufacturer uses symbols or numbers to describe an order or the subject of an order, no rights may be derived solely from these. The illustrations and descriptions may include accessories and items of optional equipment which are not part of the standard specification. Colours may differ slightly from those shown in the brochure, owing to the limitations of the printing process.

All references to weights and dimensions are subject to manufacturing tolerances of +/- 5%.



Mercedes-Benz

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Driver compartment





Taxi function controls

The taxi function controls are located on the centre console (Fig. 1). This location enables the driver to easily access several key functions.



The taxi functions can be activated by pressing the relevant button. Each taxi function button incorporates an LED which, when illuminated, will indicate that the control is engaged (Fig. 2). To de-activate a function press the control button for a second time.



(Fig. 3) Clockwise from top left

- Intercom
- Drivers light
- Taxi locking
- Left hand side step
- Rear lights
- Right hand side step



The driver can switch the heating in the rear compartment on and off by activating the rear heater control switch (Fig. 4). This enables the driver to have full control over the rear heating and ventilation system. The master control switch on the dashboard needs to be depressed (red light on) in order for the heater controls to fully function. (Fig. 5). In addition the driver can control the temperature and fan speed settings via the overhead heater control. (Fig. 6).

Taximeter installation

The taximeter is housed within the roof console in the driver's compartment.



Operating instructions for the taximeter are contained in a separate publication, relevant to the product.

The roof mounted hire sign and fare payment illumination are controlled by the taximeter.



Intercom controls

The vehicle's intercom feature can be activated by locating the intercom button on the centre console, within the driver's compartment (Fig. 7).

The intercom is the top left hand button in Fig. 8.

To operate, the intercom button must be pressed once. The indicator light will illuminate, informing the driver that the intercom is engaged. The driver's voice can now be heard by the passengers. To turn off, the button must be pressed once more.

The passenger intercom controls are located on the Passenger Compartment Controls, (Fig. 9).

The intercom control can be found on both sides of the passenger compartment.

The intercom can be engaged by pressing the button once, and disengaged by pressing once more. The red light located above the screen division (Fig. 10) indicates that the passenger's voice can be heard by the driver when the intercom control is engaged.



Fig.7



Fig.8



Fig.9



Fig.10

Rear Wheel Steer system (RWS)

The vehicle is fitted with a revolutionary RWS system designed to provide optimum manoeuvrability (Fig. 13).

The control for the RWS can be found adjacent to the steering wheel, easily accessible to the driver. (Fig. 11, Fig. 12).

When the vehicle speed is below 5mph the rear wheel steer system is available for use. To operate ensure the rear doors are closed and the transmission is in 'D'. Press the button and the green light will come on and a continuous pip will be heard from the switch-pack to indicate the system is active. Once enough turn of the front wheels has occurred the RWS will move the rear wheels in the required direction.

The driver can cancel the operation at any time by pressing the button which will allow the rear wheels to straighten and shut down the system.

If during the movement the driver exceeds 5mph the system will automatically shut down and return the wheels to a straight ahead position.

If the red light illuminates this indicates a fault with the RWS system and the vehicle should be taken to an approved dealer for investigation.

The system is designed so that if an error occurs the rear wheels will be returned to the straight ahead position and will allow the taxi to be safely driven to your approved dealer. In these circumstances vehicle recovery should not be required, but the vehicle must be taken into the approved dealer as soon as possible.



Fig.11

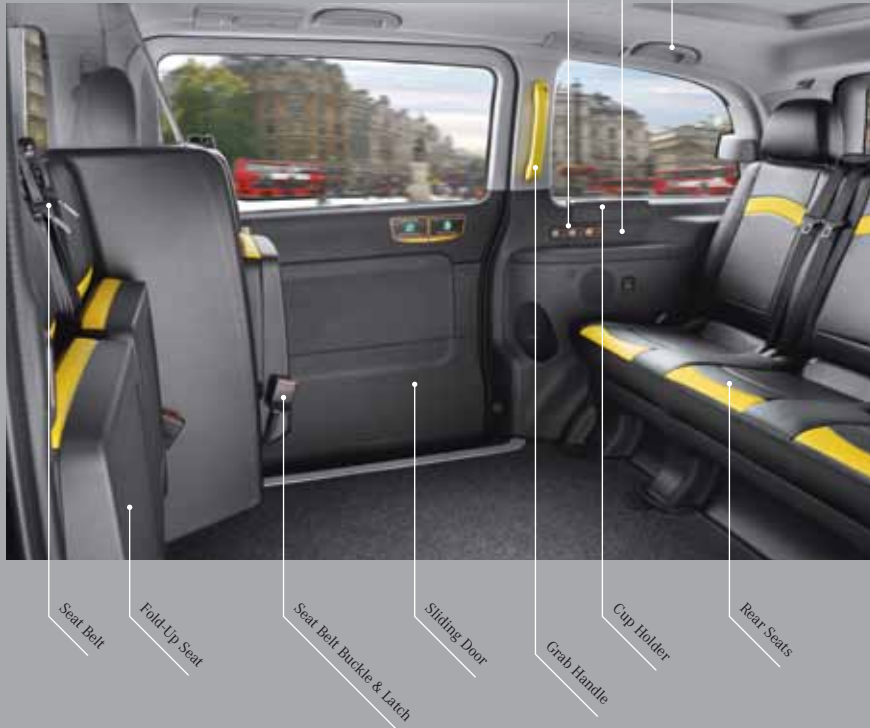


Fig.12



Fig.13

Passenger compartment



Door locks

The vehicle's door lock system can be controlled by the driver using the taxi function controls.

The vehicle lock on the taxi function control panel (Fig. 14, Fig. 15) can be activated to either lock or unlock the doors as passengers either enter or exit the vehicle. The control will illuminate to indicate that the control has been activated.

A red light on the interior of both sliding passenger doors will also illuminate to indicate to the passenger(s) that the doors are locked. The doors will always be locked when the vehicle is in transit.



When exiting the vehicle the passenger may activate the sliding side doors by pressing the adjacent door-open button (Fig. 16), or by pressing the grey push button set within the door handle.

Once the door open function is activated, the electric door will automatically open allowing the passenger(s) to enter/exit with ease.



Partial lock function

The partial lock function is an additional safety feature of the Vito Taxi which gives the driver full control over the locking and unlocking of both the front and rear doors. The button is located on the centre console switch-pack and is the forward-most RH button, shown right.



The partial lock functions are as follows:-

When the vehicle is stationary and all doors are unlocked, the partial locking is off and the switch halo is not illuminated.

A short press of the switch will engage the partial lock by locking the front doors but leaving the passenger doors unlocked so that passengers can access the vehicle while the driver remains secure in the front. When partial lock is engaged the switch halo continually flashes.



If partial lock is engaged and the driver has the brake pedal depressed, all doors are locked and the switch halo will remain on (not flashing) while full lock is engaged.

A long press of the switch will disengage the partial lock so that all doors are unlocked and the switch halo will be turned off.

In any partial lock condition, once the vehicle moves and the speed reaches 3mph, the door lock solenoids will activate and all doors will be locked from the inside and outside and the switch halo will remain on.

Once the vehicle comes to rest and the driver release the footbrake, the rear doors will unlock to allow passenger access but the front doors will remain locked for driver protection. If the driver wishes for the rear doors to remain locked the footbrake must remain depressed.



Lighting & visibility

Inside the passenger compartment, roof mounted, bright LED lights assist passengers in getting in and out of the vehicle, (Fig. 20).

These lights can be operated by both driver and passenger. The driver may use the rear lights control located on the taxi function panel (Fig. 17), whilst the passengers also have a lights control located on either side of the passenger compartment, (Fig. 18).

The driver has an additional light control on the taxi function panel that enables the illumination of a drivers light located within the driver's compartment, (Fig. 17).

In addition to the in car lighting, are various high visibility grab handles and high visibility seating strips, (Fig. 19) to aid visibility in low level light and also to aid the visually impaired.



Fig.17



Fig.18



Fig.19



Fig.20

Seatbelts & head restraints

All seats within the vehicle are equipped with three-point inertia reel seatbelts, (Fig. 21).

These should be securely fastened by all occupants during vehicle transit. This is achieved by pulling the strap over the shoulder and across the body.

The buckle should be securely fastened in the adjoining catch.

To disengage the seatbelt, the passenger should press the red catch release button and pass the retractable strap back across their body.

The three forward-facing seats within the passenger compartment each have an individual head restraint, (Fig. 21).

The three rearward facing, fold-up passenger seats, (Fig. 22) are positioned against the rear of the driver's compartment.

The division screen acts as a secure head restraint for these three seats.



Fig.21



Fig.22

Intermediate step

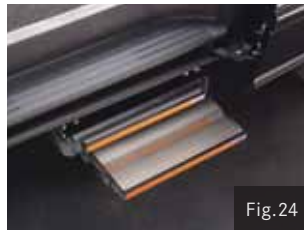
In addition to the automatic electric sliding doors, an extendable intermediate step can be used to aid less mobile passengers, (Fig. 24).

These steps are located on both sides of the vehicle. The steps can be operated individually by the driver from within the driver's compartment, whilst the parking brake is applied. This feature can be activated by pressing the LHS step, or RHS step buttons on the taxi function panel, located on the vehicle's centre console, (Fig. 23).



When activated the relevant button will illuminate on the control panel. The step will extend from its retracted position to its fully extended position (Fig. 24). The steps can be retracted by pressing the appropriate button for a second time. Each step will automatically retract when the parking brake is released.

The electric side step fitted to your vehicle should be maintained in accordance with this schedule to ensure the optimum performance and increased life of the internal components. The warranty provided on this component covers the step unit against the sudden and unforeseen failure of parts and faulty workmanship for a period of 3 years or 150,000 miles whichever comes first. It is accepted that whilst every effort has been made to minimise the ingress of water and road debris into the step, due to the conditions the step will experience as a result of the area in which it is situated water and road debris will enter the step. The step design has been tested in the harshest conditions introducing water, dust, road salt and other contaminants whilst operating the step over 41,000 cycles. The step must be serviced as per the instructions detailed within this schedule to ensure that all dust and debris is removed from the telescopic slideways every 6 months or 10,000 miles whichever comes first. Failure to carry out this maintenance may invalidate the warranty and could result in the premature failure of the step. No liability will be accepted for steps that show signs of damage or abuse in addition to claims for consequential labour, parts, losses, damage or alternative vehicle usage.



Owners should be able to demonstrate that the steps have been maintained in line with the schedule as shown on page 19 in the 'General notes and safety comments' section.

Ramp stowage & deployment

A lightweight manual ramp for wheelchair access is stowed in the luggage compartment, at the rear of the vehicle, (Fig. 25).

The folding ramp can be unstrapped and uncoupled from its location in the rear of the vehicle, then deployed at either side of the vehicle.

To ensure the ramp is safely deployed, the ramp must be secured by locating the ramp pegs on the underside of the ramp, into the locations at ramp level at the vehicle side entrance, (Fig. 26).

Check the ramp is in place and securely fixed before loading the wheelchair, (Fig. 27).

Once the ramp is securely located, the wheelchair may be loaded. The ramp can then be detached, folded and stowed once again safely into the rear luggage compartment, (Fig. 25).





Wheelchair restraint

Once a wheelchair has been loaded, it must be secured using the safety harness restraints provided. These can be found in the vehicle's glovebox.

Two harnesses are supplied and should be inserted into the two available sockets, located below the rearward-facing occasional seats, (Fig. 28).

These sockets may be extended or retracted to enable the driver to reach to the wheelchair. This can be achieved by using a switch directly behind the division, located in driver's compartment, (Fig. 29).

The harnesses should then be securely attached to the lower arm of the wheelchair, (Fig. 30).

Ensure that all straps are then pulled tight making sure that the wheelchair is unable to move during transit, (Fig. 31).

Once the wheelchair has been secured, the occupant restraints should then be applied.



Fig.28



Fig.29



Fig.30



Fig.31

Occupant restraint

Safety harnesses ensuring occupant restraint are supplied in the vehicle's glovebox, along with the wheelchair restraints. These should be fitted after the wheelchair has been secured.

The occupant restraint harnesses comprise of a red, 2-point shoulder harness, and a pair of black lap harnesses.

The red shoulder harness should be hooked to the fixing point located between the rearward facing occasional seats, (Fig. 32).

The two straps should then be placed over the occupants shoulders.

The two lap harnesses should now be fitted to the two sockets available either side of the wheelchair wheels, (Fig. 32). The opposing end of each harness should then be passed under the wheelchair arms and over the occupants lap, (Fig. 34).

The two shoulder harness eyelets should then be pressed together between each lap harness and securely fixed using the lap harness, latch and socket (Fig. 34).



Fig.32



Fig.33



Fig.34

Grab handles

High visibility grab handles are located on each side of the passenger compartment, (Fig. 35).

These aid passengers when entering or exiting the vehicle.

Additional high level grab handles are also located either side of the passenger compartment (Fig. 36), one above the sliding door and a second, adjacent to the rear seats. These aid passengers attempting to stand from a seated position, and also during exit from the passenger compartment.

Further handles are provided on each sliding door. (Fig. 37).

Should a passenger need any additional aid in entering or exiting the vehicle, the intermediate step or fold-away ramp can be used to assist their mobility.



Fig.35



Fig.36



Fig.37

Fare table and taxi number

The vehicle's fare table and taxi number are clearly displayed on the sliding side door, (Fig. 38).

The Fare Table, (Fig. 39) provides the passenger with the following information:

- General taximeter and driver information
- Journey distance
- Journey duration
- Fare amount (Mon-Sun)
- Minimum fees
- Additional charges
- Payment methods
- Contact information

The overhead passenger lighting may be used to provide better vision in situations where light levels are low.



Fig.38

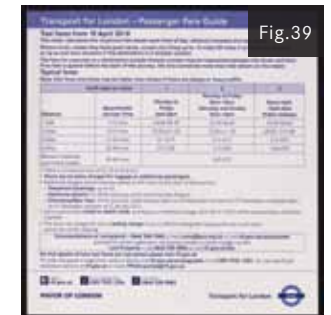


Fig.39

Passenger information

Several high visibility information labels are located around the Mercedes-Benz Vito Taxi:



L1: "Red light indicates doors are secured"
Location: front of both sliding side passenger doors, below the red lock indicator.



L2: "Hearing Loop" & "Seatbelt"
Location: centrally positioned on both sliding side passenger doors.



L3: "Head Restraint" & "Intercom"
Location: centrally positioned at the top of the driver/passenger division screen.



L4: "AutoDoor: Pull handle to activate"
Location: outside window of sliding side passenger door. Positioned in lower corner, nearest to the door open handle.

General notes & safety comments

Leather Seating

If the vehicle has E-Leather seat upholstery the seats will develop a 'lived-in' look over the course of time and wear. Seats should regularly be maintained using the appropriate products to maintain their condition. Several proprietary brands are available but it is recommended that you use products that can be specified and purchased from your local Mercedes-Benz Commercial Vehicle Dealer.

Tyre Pressures (195/65 R16)

Tyre Pressure Front: 3.3bar (48psi)

Tyre Pressure Rear: 3.5bar (51psi)

Maximum speed: 106mph

Snow Chains

In the event snow chains are required, contact the vehicle manufacturer or your Mercedes-Benz Commercial Vehicle dealer. The taximeter must be recalibrated after Snow Chain installation.

Intermediate Step Maintenance

Intermediate electric steps must be serviced at least every 10,000 miles or 6 months. This is in addition to twice weekly opening each step to clean and lubricate the step. Servicing involves:

- Remove bottom cover plate.
- With step in open position, wipe clean all exposed ball tracks, removing all dust and debris.
- Re-grease all exposed ball tracks with a general purpose grade semi-fluid grease.
- Replace cover plate and screws, lightly apply a light coating of oil or grease to screws.
- Torque to 5Nm.

General Precautions

Wheelchairs must always be carried in the recess to the left hand side of the centre division with the passenger facing the rear of the vehicle. All wheelchair restraining harnesses should be correctly fitted.

Never carry a wheelchair passenger unrestrained, positioned sideways, or facing forwards. In these positions, the wheelchair passenger cannot be properly restrained.

Braking, cornering and acceleration can cause a wheelchair passenger to move if the wheelchair brakes are not applied. Harsh driving can cause wheelchairs to slide, leading to potential serious injury. It is therefore extremely important to avoid harsh acceleration, braking or cornering.