

One of the great things about reviewing boats is the amazing differences between the different yachts that you get to look at. Catamarans are no exception. With any number of options available to the buyer, I think it's best to think of catamarans as platforms that can be optimised to be high performance or



extremely luxurious. While some owners want performance and fast ocean crossing capabilities, many others simply want all the comforts of home in a floating palace that is stable, voluminous and well built. Of course, there are those who want boats that offer a bit of both and there are many cats built locally that fall into this category.

With a clear focus on luxuries at sea, Royal Cape Catamarans has extended its already successful Majestic 500 into the new Majestic 530. While many sailors will complain about there not being enough bridge deck clearance and the boat being heavy, there is simply no question that this is a boat that is fabulous to live on. I've spoken to two different owners and they are really clear that what they have purchased is the equivalent of a floating condominium that can be moved to a new anchorage every time you get tired of the scenery.

One of the recent Majestic 530s is skippered by a good friend of mine, Chad Ferreira. He and his fiancé Dawn are currently in St Lucia doing charters. I've had the pleasure of sailing on the boat and spending time onboard and there is no question that this is all about luxury.

The first thing you notice when boarding is the deck area. It's simply massive and there are numerous areas to sunbathe. Coming aft, you enter a large entertainment area, complete with two tables, a large stainless braai and a complete live well for the keen fisherman, all under a hard bimini with roll down sides for when it gets a little chilly.

Royal Cape Catamarans will customise your Majestic 530 to meet your specific needs. With a separate Sportsdeck aft, it is easy to optimise this area to cater for each owner's specific needs. If holidays are about trolling lines and fishing, they'll happily install bait lockers and live well facilities. For the owners that want to scuba dive, then it's lockers for dive gear and dive tanks with a fully fitted compressor. Of course if it's about great food and good friends, and eating and drinking while in a remote anchorage, then maybe the way to go is to install a large commercial BBQ and extra fridges. Either way, there is space on the aft platform for a large rigid inflatable or even a large wet bike; just order your cat the way you want it.

On Fennessy, the owner opted for the standard saloon layout which has a large galley to port and a large saloon table to starboard. Another option would be to locate the galley in one of the hulls, which would allow for an enormous saloon area

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Top left. The spacious and functional galley.

Bottom left. There is room in the cockpit to operaate the boat or simply relax and entertain.

Above. One of the bathrooms - spacious and truly functional.

which might be appropriate if the boat was going to be used for dinner cruises. With the majority of these boats going into the charter market, the options are endless, and Royal Cape Catamarans are able to customise the layout to meet specific requirements.

The galley not only has all the standard things like microwave, fridge, freezer and oven, but also a large dishwasher and an ice machine! To help with the other chores she also has a large washing machine and separate tumble drier. This is a floating home, or more accurately, a floating hotel with a permanent crew ready to cater to your every whim.

Cabin layouts can be 4, 5 or six

cabins and you have the option of having an owner's cabin, or two, with a large bathroom up forward, complete with your own bath tub - great if you are travelling in cooler climates, but probably impractical if you are following the sun and living in an endless warm environment. With many owners still maintaining active links with their business ventures, there is a large, private office area in the owner's stateroom.

General quality of the finishes on the Majestic 530 is good and options include leather upholstery and air-conditioning in the standard package. Royal Cape Catamarans can offer a complete package that includes instruments, sails and a

dinghy for owners who simply want to bring groceries and leave on their new adventure. All safety gear is included and the boat carries full CE certification. To make it even easier, many owners have opted to employ full time crew, in order to fully enjoy their time cruising.

Royal Cape Catamarans also offer customers a fully functional Fractional Ownership where owners can buy a specific percentage of a Majestic 530 that will allow them to make use of the boat for a pre-determined period each year - which is a great way to maximise your enjoyment while minimizing the cost.

Information from: www.royalcapecatamarans.com &





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