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When it comes to Cats, Why a Fountaine Pajot?

Catamarans have become more and more popular in the last 10 years because they represent a practical, comfortable approach to sailing and live aboard. They offer more room, more comfort and a lighter, brighter interior. Here are some other considerations...
Performance and control...

As you may remember, Fountaine Pajot has the best control cockpit in the business. It puts all the controls at the helm so one person can run the boat, but it also gives immediate, direct access to the cockpit as well as the deck. You do not need to walk out and around to get to the main cockpit.

We generally find that when we're sailing with guests, we take the wireless autopilot remote and hang out with the guests in the cockpit. All of the FP's give 360 degree visibility, standing or sitting, in the main saloon or cockpit (including forward, under the Jib) so you can dodge a boat crossing you, a crab pot, or whatever—without going to the helm. But, if you need to return to the helm to adjust sails, or whatever—it's just a couple of steps away with direct access. The cockpit and interior are on the same level with no clumsy step at the interface.

The other design consideration concerning comfort, is that the hull is foam cored and vacuum bagged for

lightness with strength and the deck is injection molded for a 30% reduction in weight and a 50% increase in strength. The boom is kept low so if a reef line or something get's snagged, you can reach it—you don't need a ladder. This low Center of gravity, and low center of effort in the sail plan means that our boat with the lower C.G. will have a much more comfortable motion at sea with less hobby horsing! (Other boats use balsa core, subject to rot, have a much higher "bridge deck helm" and do not use the same higher tech construction techniques—this contributes to their poor comfort factor at sea!)

In addition to this, Fountaine Pajot uses the new flat top main, with a much higher Sail Area to displacement ratio so they generally sail much better, especially in lighter air. All models are available with a fixed, or removable bowsprit so experienced sailors can add additional asymmetrical spinnakers or screechers for even better light air and downwind sailing characteristics.

Many experienced sailors commented on this superior control cockpit--just wanted to remind you.

It's also worth mentioning that our bridge deck clearance (distance from water to underside of bridge deck) is the best of the competition, and all of the designs have been developed in the last 3 years or so with more volume and room in the hulls which gives them the best load carrying capability in the market. The 41, for example, has a load carrying capability of about 8,000 #--today's owner wants the A/C, Generator and all of the amenities so this is very important – water and fuel alone eat up almost 2,000# then add the people, provisions and their gear to the other equipment (generator, A/C, extra batteries, watermaker, etc. etc.) and you can see that other typical boats with 5,000 # or less load carrying capacity can get into trouble quickly—see our article, goodcat/badcat, linked below for more details.

To learn more about Fountaine Pajot, please go to <http://www.bayacht.com/fpvisit.htm> There is so much more to talk about: Dedicated eng. Compartments, Category A, offshore rating, ISO standards, break-away keels—and so much more. We now have videos on all of the boats at our site. Call us to discuss your ideas.

And to learn about how to choose an offshore, live-aboard cat, see our special, comprehensive white paper: <http://www.bayacht.com/goodbad.htm>

Finally, Bay Yacht Agency is North America's largest most experienced dealer—since 1972. We offer 5 star, custom commissioning with full documentation and sea-trials that is unparalleled in the industry. Our "Best price/Best service guarantee", and experienced staff—including a project manager assigned to your specific boat, insures that you get the best value in a new Catamaran. Call us to discuss your ideas. You'll find us knowledgeable and helpful, having commissioned well over 100 boats in 20 years. We have full services—commissioning, financing, documenting, dockage and, of course, our unique, Boat-As-A-Business Program for those who want tax advantages and income to cover 80-100% of their ownership costs.

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