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## A factual comparison of Leopard and Fountaine Pajot..

The opinions expressed here are those of the writer and the reader should check out the points discussed and make his own evaluation. Eric Smith, Bay Yacht Agency and it's agents make no guarantees for the accuracy of the information presented here and recommend the reader verify the facts for himself.



The Boats, like the Leopard often show very well at a boat show, but have serious short comings when you're looking for a serious offshore, live-aboard catamaran. Remember, they were originally designed for charter, and they just don't have the load carrying capability or bridge deck clearance that is normally designed into long range cruising boats like the Fountaine Pajot which is a higher performance, better suited boat for long range cruising. (In addition to the hull shape and larger SA/Displacement ratio, we use the new, modern square topped main (see pix above)—exceptional performance, and good looks are standard on all FP models!

I strongly recommend you read the article "Good Cat, Bad Cat" which outlines the important features to look for in any boat intended for longer range cruising:

[www.bayacht.com/goodbad.htm](http://www.bayacht.com/goodbad.htm)

While chartering may be an interim step, I assume that ultimately you want a boat for your personal enjoyment? Also, it's important to note, that many boats, like the Leopards, use the older technology of balsa coring in the hull, which is a definite disadvantage as there are countless stories of balsa core getting water intrusion which seriously compromises the structure. Fountaine Pajots are vacuum molded with foam core which does not have this problem. Also the decks of the Fountaine Pajot are injection molded with foam also, and this process takes over a thousand pounds out of the weight of the deck, while increasing strength, improving the overall finish and contributing to a lighter, stronger boat with better performance.

Some of the other important notes that weren't apparent at the boat show:

1. Both the 44 and 48' Fountaine Pajot, now have an owner's cabin with a forward head and shower (the boat show models did not—unfortunately). See our web page

[www.bayacht.com/fpvisit.htm](http://www.bayacht.com/fpvisit.htm)



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2. There is a Bimini for the Helmsman control cockpit which is extremely well set up, but can fold out of the way when not needed. This is a boat for serious cruisers, not just for charterers who sail in a 50 mile circle! With the top folded back, you have unobstructed view of the sails, or a beautiful night sky!
3. In the main saloon, the slatted covers for the sloped, forward windows on the competition, is necessary for sun blocking, but greatly limits the view out—you can only see out when sitting at exactly the right height. The FP has more vertical windows, with an eyebrow for sun protection. This patented solution gives you exceptional visibility out at all times!
4. The FP galley comes with an optional second Refrigerator/Freezer with several choices of location so you can preserve galley storage space and organize your storage as you like.
5. Our boats are all custom commissioned. You really should find out what this means to your enjoyment of your boat. Please read this article if you do nothing else—  
<http://www.bayacht.com/aaa/nl-artic/Commissioning.htm> When you talk to us, you're talking to a company who is experienced. With over 39 years in the business, and 20 with Fountaine Pajot. BYA has commissioned more Fountaine Pajot catamarans than anyone else in the industry. We commission them, sail them, manage them, deliver them, vacation on them and charter them. We have hands on experience with the products we sell, and we choose equipment that is easy to service anywhere—including in the continental U.S. and the Caribbean. Who you work with, matters. How much experience does the person you are working with at the competition have, specifically with the boat you are considering? We have, literally, 1000's of hours of hands on experience that you can get the benefit of.
6. With our boats, you have your choices when setting it up as a business. Choose the kind of boat you want (Including owner's version) keep it where you want, leave the program whenever you want. In a Charter company program your choices are limited, and you do not qualify for the active, business tax advantages so you must charter the boat much, much more in order for the charter company to break even. In our program you do qualify for the tax advantages so your boat is available to you more, and receives much better care and maintenance with less wear and tear. Compare the differences: <http://www.bayacht.com/aaa/nl-artic/mgt-vs-charter.htm>
7. We offer the best service and price guarantee in the business. When you choose us, you can do so with confidence. Please check out: [www.bayacht.com/service.htm](http://www.bayacht.com/service.htm) And then, don't take my word for it, see what our clients say:  
<http://www.bayacht.com/resource/password/Insider/testimonials.pdf>

What you pay is important. That the boat suits your particular needs and expectations, is even more important. I would welcome an opportunity to talk to you in depth, and, perhaps you would like to take a second look in light of your new knowledge? I'm here 6 days a week—please call if you would like to make an appointment. Also, keep in mind, the special pricing ends at the end of this October if you're thinking of tax advantages this year, or a boat for next spring, you need to get in touch ASAP.

*Eric, Chris, Bobby, Rudy*

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Call us, we love to talk catamarans! 410-263-2311

For the latest news, please visit: <http://www.bayacht.com/nl0396.htm>