



Tiara 32

Factory Rigged and Ready

BY JOHN F. KING

I have long admired the Tiara line of boats. They have great lines, are tops in owner satisfaction for quality and performance, and for my taste, they are very classy. Tiara has been on my short list, and I have considered buying one more than once. The reason I haven't, is because I have always considered them to be almost too plush for the way I use my boat. I am an avid fisherman and could not imagine how I would be able to prevent the buttery smooth leather settee from being stained by fish blood or worse. Although hard-core fishermen are not Tiara's core customers, these boats do look very sporty with a tower, and many Tiara owners do fish their boats. Will fishermen buy fancy boats? Judging by Tiara's success to date and the introduction of their new 32 with a full fishing package, the answer appears to be a resounding yes.

Buying a boat is a big decision, and boat builders know that couples make the decision with sometimes very different visions of how the boat will

be used. Mr. Buyer might be considering the engine room layout and the space on the bridge for electronics, while Mrs. Buyer is considering living accommodations and space requirements for entertaining friends and family. With a Tiara 32, you can have both.

The company has figured out that the secret to selling boats with gorgeous interiors is to keep fishermen out of the cabin when they are being fishermen.

Putting up a sign that reads "No Fishermen Allowed" would not work, if the sandwiches and cold beer are in



An option on the Tiara 32 is a factory installed Raymarine electronic package.

cabin, they will find a way in. The design and layout of Tiara's 32 has anticipated this, and has put all that they will need at hand. The tackle center is very spacious, with plenty of room for storing every lure, jig, feather and plug that might be needed. The companion seat contains a cold cooler for drinks, snacks and ice, and there is room beneath the helm seat to install an icemaker. A clear, covered storage space on the companion-side dash contains the charts, navigational aids, GPS coordinates and related paperwork detailing the location of the day's hot bite. The acrylic sliding cabin door also has a sliding screen door and a privacy cover, giving you three "barriers" to the cabin. There is even a fresh water source, complete with hot and cold water in the cockpit, essential for transforming fishermen back into "cabin-worthy guests".

I have purchased and replaced folding drink-holders in every variety known to man, but my buddies still find ways to break them. Tiara's solution is to mold in drink holders. In fact Tiara's solution to many of the needs of boater's is to mold it in. In doing this Tiara has created one of the cleanest looking boats that you will ever see. Everything is finished in a creamy-smooth gel-coat, and all of the corners are rounded. This has a number of benefits. There are no sharp edges to bang against in a rough sea, and, the boat will stay looking great for a long time since a rounded edge is stronger and it will not separate or show fatigue by spider-cracking. And, for those of you who are hands-on guys, it is also easier to clean and wax. This attention to detail is evident throughout the boat, including the engine room.

The 32 that I reviewed had twin Volvo D6 310s neatly tucked below the bridge deck, which can be raised by a motorized hydraulic ram fully exposing the engine room. For quick checks there is a center-mounted hatch. Also mounted on the centerline between the engines is a very compact Westerbeke generator. The "engine rooms" on express boats are always tight. As you consider the layout of the 32 you come to appreciate how much equipment Tiara has been able to fit into this space and yet still allow

room for viewing and servicing all the important systems. Serviceability is maintained throughout the boat. The in-deck fish boxes come out allowing easy inspection of every below deck component. The boxes themselves have built-in drains, but I would like to see Tiara take it a step further and seal the insulation of these boxes with a skin of fiberglass. Speaking of fiberglass, a new feature on the 32 is a full fiberglass fuel tank, very nice.

You can generally count on a flat calm day if you are planning to do a sea trial, and the day that we took the 32 out was no exception. Such a day provides an enjoyable day on the water, but is so good for checking out the ride when the seas are heavy. On the flip side, it is great for verifying the fuel consumption and speed charts. This may have been the first time that I can recall a builders spec chart matching the actual performance of the boat on test day. The boat is a good runner, very nimble, fast to plane and quick in the turns. Although she carries an 18-degree dead rise at the transom, the 32 lands a little hard if you get her airborne, and the Volvo 310s have plenty of power to do that. It is rare to find a boat that cannot be improved by the judicious use of trim tabs, but this boat fits that category.

The Volvo D6 310 hp package is a very good power plant for this 16,000 lb. Boat, and if you want even more power, there is an option to upgrade to the D6 370 hp package. I like a lot of speed and would always opt for more power, besides, it's my experience that boats get slower with age, so it's a good idea to start with as much power as you. Either set of Volvo's comes standard with single lever electronic controls and glendinning synchronizers. The optimum cruise rpm is 3300, which gives you a 26-knot gallop with a range of 260 miles from the 256-gallon fuel tank. When all is said and done you are getting a bit better than a mile per gallon, and in the liquid world at these speeds that is good economy. The power curve on these engines will deliver this plus 1 mile to the gallon performance at ranges from 1900 rpm through 3500 rpm, so you can choose your speed with little impact on consumption. Kick down to



Companion seat contains a built-in cold cooler.



A tackle center with room for all your lures, jigs, feathers & plugs.



Wide rails, a nice feature on a hot fish.



A queen-sized pedestal bed in the forward cabin with storage below.



A compact galley, complete with coffee maker.



Lounger that converts into a full-size bed below and a single sized bed above.

your speed with little impact on consumption. Kick down to trolling speed and you can triple your range...Cabo anyone?

Everywhere you look on this boat, you will find something to like. The oval portholes are beautifully polished stainless steel. The overhead hatches are well placed for ventilation and have Ocean-Air™ screens built in. The anchoring system has foot controls on deck and a helm-mounted remote control, unusual in a 32. The bow rails are heavy-duty stainless steel, props are nibral, steering is hydraulic and shafts are Aquamet, all standard. Also standard is a Charles battery charger, Vacuflush head, Marine Air 12,000 BTU air conditioner, TV/DVD player, etc. etc. All top notch, all standard and all factory installed for a base price around \$280,000. Order the fishing package with the beautifully crafted, custom hardtop and you will get rod-holders, spreader lights and skylight hatches, outriggers, a helm seat with bait prep station, in-gunnel rod holders, a large cockpit fishbox and a 36 gallon transom baitwell. All factory installed for a package of (\$25,990). Add the Raymarine Electronics package, also factory installed, and you get a fish-ready boat with a very clean installation. Of course, I still think the 32 would look great with a marlin tower!

Well, as you can see, I covered this from my perspective, that of a fisherman. I understand the Tiara is beautifully appointed and has much to offer inside the cabin, but my wife wouldn't let me in.

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