

Aquila 48 (2016-)

Brief Summary

The broad expanse of the salon on the Aquila 48 is made possible because of the twin hull configuration and a beam of 23'6". Three or four staterooms are available below decks.

Price

Base Price \$1100280.00

Prices, features, designs, and equipment are subject to change. Please see your local dealer or visit the builder's website for the latest information available on this boat model.

Key Features

- 316 stainless steel swim ladder
- Large starboard and port bow locker
- Aft cockpit bar area with twin 316 stainless steel bar stools
- Entertainment system remote control located next to helm
- Sun deck forward of the helm station windscreen comfortable for 3 people
- Wet bar located behind helm station incorporating Corian work surface, sink and hot/cold faucet
- Comfortable open couch seating to starboard in salon
- Galley with 3-burner stove, 120V microwave, and 2-drawer refrigerator/freezer

Specifications

Length Overall	48' 3" / 14.7 m
BEAM	23' 6" 7.17 m
Dry Weight	47.620 lbs. 21,600 kg
Tested Weight	
Draft	

Draft Up	3' 7" 1.09 m
Draft Down	3' 8" 1.12 m
Air Draft	
Deadrise/Transom	N/A
Max Headroom	N/A
Bridge Clearance	N/A
Weight Capacity	
Person Capacity	
Fuel Capacity	356 gal. 1,350 L
Water Capacity	206 gal. 780 L
Length on Trailer	
Height on Trailer	
Trailer Weight	
Total Weight	
Aft Deck	
Salon Inside Width	
Salon Fore & Aft	

Salon Height	
Salon Volume	
Galley Volume	
Master SR Width	
Master SR fore & Aft	
Master SR Overhead	
Master SR Volume	
Eng. Room Volume	

Acceleration Times & Conditions

Time to Plane	
0 to 20	
Ratio	
Props	
Load	
Climate	

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Aquila 48 running shot

The Aquila 48 offers many features for a yacht designed as a power cat from the onset.

Overview

Power cats are nothing new. Like sailing cats before them, they are an evolution of market driven demands. Monohull sailors evolved into wanting stable, commodious, fast, and efficient yachts -- enter sailing cats. Power boaters saw similar advantages -- enter power cats. What is new is a pure bred power cat designed as such from inception versus a sailing cat that evolved into a power cat over time -- enter the all-new flagship 48' (15 m) power cat from Aquila. Aquila Yachts began in 2012 as a collaboration between MarineMax -- the largest boat dealer responding to demand for a pure power cat -- Sino Eagle Group with yacht manufacturing capabilities in the Far East. Further, several industry cat veterans brought hands-on experience to the venture. Together, they created Aquila. Initially conceived for MarineMax's charter business, the Aquila brand was created to differentiate and scale-up the yachts for private owners.

Features Inspection

At 48' (15 m), the Aquila 48 doesn't sound as large as she really is. She's huge! That is in part due to her enormous beam of 23'6" (7.16 m) -- nearly half the length overall. In addition to all the space, it makes for a very stable platform as displacement on cats is distributed far outboard. There are several available layout configurations, including a three-cabin owner's version and a four-cabin version suited for occasional charter where four equal staterooms are desirable.

Aquila 48 layout unknown

The Aquila 48 owner's version features a large and well-appointed master suite in the port hull complete with aft queen berth, center lounge and dressing area, and large en suite head with stall shower forward. The starboard hull features two equal queen guest cabins each with en suite head and stall shower. The aft guest cabin berth can be split into two singles.

In the owner's version, the entire port hull is dedicated to a palatial owner's suite, featuring a queen berth aft, a sitting/dressing room mid hull and a full en suite head and large stall shower all the way forward. Abundant light fills the space from large fixed portlights in the hull side, and fresh air enters from three well-placed overhead hatches. Storage is copious, and cabinetry and paneling is built with precision factory fit-and-finish.

The starboard hull in the owner's version features two identical guest cabins, each with en suite head and shower stall. The berths are forward and aft, respectively, and the heads are mid hull. Both guest suites feature a queen berth, and the after cabin has the added bonus of being able to optionally split the berth into two singles, making the cabin versatile for a couple or two kids.

Aquila 48 head
Aquila 48 head not yet known

The head and large stall shower are forward in the port hull of the owner's version. Counter space and storage are accented by natural light from a fixed portlight and fresh air enters from an overhead hatch.

Aquila 48 day bed
Aquila 48 day bed not yet known

The mid-section of the owner's suite features a day bed for secluded lounging or reading away from other guests onboard. This area also offers more storage and doubles as a dressing and closet area.

Aquila 48 queen bed
Aquila 48 queen bed not yet known

The queen-sized master berth is aft in the port hull and offers more storage and light from the overhead hatches and large fixed window.

Aquila 48 layout 2
Aquila 48 layout 2 not yet known

The four-stateroom layout features four identical cabins, each still with queen berth and en suite head with separate shower. The aft cabins in each hull have the berths that can optionally and convertibly be split into singles, adding versatility to the yacht depending on the accommodation needs.

In the four-cabin layout, the owner's suite in the port hull is replaced by a mirrored arrangement of the starboard hull, creating four equal staterooms ideally suited to charter.

Aquila 48 guest stateroom
Aquila 48 guest stateroom not yet known

The forward guest stateroom in the starboard hull with more than ample accommodation is filled with natural light. A blind covers the window for privacy when needed.

Aquila 48 aft guest stateroom
Aquila 48 aft guest stateroom not yet known

The starboard aft guest stateroom again offers plenty of space and comfort. Optionally, the queen berth can be converted into twin single berths.

Aquila 48 guest head
Aquila 48 guest head not yet known

Guest head with vanity and water closet features a separate stall shower with glass enclosure.

Aquila 48 guest heads

The guest heads are more compact than the owner's, but still offer adequate space and convenience of electric toilets. Light and air are both plentiful with windows and opening hatches.

Main Deck

The main deck is arranged with the galley aft and the salon forward. Again, there are several owner customizable configurations from which to choose. Locating the galley aft opens it up to the aft deck area while placing the salon forward opens up nice forward-facing views through wrap-around windows, which will be pleasant on the hook or a mooring.

Aquila 48 cockpit

The forward cockpit offers breathtaking forward-looking views and plenty of fresh air.

The salon even extends outdoors with a forward seating cockpit, again taking advantage of wonderful views and cooling breezes. The salon features a large C-shaped settee and dining table to port. A straight settee or an optional indoor forward-facing lower helm station are the two available layout choices to starboard.

Aquila 48 salon

The Aquila 48 features a forward salon with panoramic wrap-around windows, offering stunning views. The standard layout has a large settee and dining table to port with a straight settee opposite to starboard. Access to the forward bow cockpit is via a sliding door.

Aquila 48 main deck

Access to the port and starboard staterooms are via outboard stairs going down from the main deck, which also serves to separate the forward salon from the galley area.

Aquila 48 main deck

Looking aft from the salon, the galley is to port, the stairs to the flybridge are to starboard, and the sliding doors to the aft deck are in the background.

Aquila 48 helm

The starboard forward salon settee can optionally be replaced by an indoor lower helm station.

The galley is commodious and offers a range of modern amenities. Large dual stainless sinks, two-burner electric stovetop, a microwave oven, countertop grill, and dual under-counter refrigerators, plus counter space for food prep and storage space complete the picture.

Aquila 48 galley

A large galley occupies the aft portion of the main deck on the port side and is handy to the dinette and the aft deck.

Access to the flybridge from inside the boat is via a wide staircase. Notice we wrote stairs, not ladder. This makes getting to and from the flybridge much easier and safer.

Aquila 48 fly bridge unknown

Opposite the galley are the wide inside stairs to the flybridge. Additional countertop, ship communications, and electrical distribution panels complete the main deck arrangement.

Fly Bridge

Once on the flybridge, there are huge dedicated areas for sunning, lounging, dining, grilling, and of course, commanding the Aquila 48.

Aquila 48 layout unknown

The Aquila 48's flybridge is another enormous area onboard, featuring dedicated spaces for all on-deck activities. Front and center is the helm. Forward of the helm are the sun pads. Behind the helm is a grill and wet bar. Continuing aft is a large dining table surrounded by a C-shaped settee. Access to the flybridge is via the stairs from inside the cabin or via port and starboard stairs leading forward down to the main deck.

Aquila 48 sun pad unknown

The flybridge features sun pads alongside the helm station.

Aquila 48 fly bridge unknown

Open-air grilling on the flybridge will be a way of life on the Aquila 48. The dining table aft will comfortably seat six-to-eight people for a meal al-fresco style.

Aquila 48 fly bridge table unknown

With the flybridge table folded down, the settee provides a spacious lounge.

The helm is separate and spacious with a single seat on the centerline. Sightlines from the flybridge helm are excellent and unobstructed. We particularly like the port and starboard forward stairs from the flybridge down to the port and starboard side decks. This makes easy access to the bow of the Aquila and quick passage back to the aft deck area via three stairs on either side.

Notice how we keep referencing “stairs.” That is one of the things about this genuine power cat that sets it apart from an evolved sailing cat. Stairs are stairs, wide and easily negotiated with ample handrails to boot. No narrow, flimsy ladders on this yacht!

Enormous Aft Deck and Convertible Beach

The aft cockpit features more lounging space and access to the centerline swim platform (which lowers) and dual boarding platforms on the aft end of each hull.

The center section of the aft deck can be lowered to sea level, creating a private beach.

The galley can be accessed from the aft deck via an opening window creating a bar top with a pair of stools.

Construction

The hull and deck of the Aquila 48 uses a vinylester resin infusion process, resulting in a light, yet incredibly strong structure. As if a strong laminate weren't enough, it is interesting to know that the twin boarding platforms extending off each hull are entirely sacrificial. Cats typically encounter docks with their aft ends, and it's comforting to know that in the event a docking ever goes terribly wrong, the worst that will happen is a sacrificial boarding platform gets damaged. The watertight integrity of the hull will not be compromised. And the concept of keeping water out of the boat doesn't end there, both bows feature watertight collision bulkheads as well in the event a submerged object is ever struck underway. While damaging a yacht is never a pleasant thought, it is reassuring to remember that such an event isn't likely to be life-threatening on the Aquila 48 with these thoughtful and important safety features.

Power

Standard propulsion is a pair of Volvo Penta D4-225 diesels coupled to V-drive gearboxes and turning 23", four-blade props. Optionally, she can be fitted with Volvo Penta D6-330s or D6-370s. At 55,556 lbs. (25,199 kg), fully loaded, the Aquila 48 is no lightweight, but she's not excessively heavy either. It's key to remember that she's meant to be a comfortable cruiser and to that end, mid-range engines such as the 330s might be a good choice as a compromise between, speed, power, and efficiency. With a pair of 330s installed, owners can expect to cruise right around 8.2 knots while consuming about 3.8 gallons per hour combined, we're told that the boat is capable of 22.2 knots at full throttle, burning 39 gallons per hour.

Observations

We like the selection and varied areas on the boat, giving everyone their own space when they need it and comradery when they want it. She's a boat that works for owners, guests, parents, kids, and charter groups. Everyone has their own spacious and nicely appointed private space along with areas for the whole group to congregate or for smaller groups to relax. We also like the solid construction and thoughtful details throughout the yacht. Attention to detail and safety are important on any vessel and Aquila has not let us down.