

Cruisers Yachts 38 Express (2014-)

Brief Summary

38' (11.6 m) is a popular size for a mid-range express cruiser and many models are on the market -- but all builders are constrained by pretty much the same geometric design parameters and propulsion physics. So how does a builder differentiate its product? Cruisers Yachts does it with exterior styling and with an interior lavished in exotic woods, high-style materials, and fine fit-and-finish. The 38 Express (formerly known as the 380 Express) also has an optional mid cabin arrangement that allow an owner to match the design to an individual lifestyle and planned use. For those people who have not been aboard the Cruisers Yachts 38 recently, we suggest a visit. The reason is that the builder is using many new materials and décor items that are at once modern, classy and practical.

Price

Base Price

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

- Hull colors in Black, Blue, Mocha, and White accent gel coat
- Interior wood colors in cherry and wenge
- Double helm captain seat and helm companion seat
- Digital depth finder and Mercury Smartcraft VesselView with GPS
- Hydraulic steering system (IB)
- Island berth in forward stateroom
- Privacy curtain in aft and forward staterooms
- Straight sofa with storage in dinette

Specifications

Length Overall	38' 0" / 11.6 m
BEAM	12' 6" 3.8 m

Dry Weight	20,000 lbs. 9,071 kg
Tested Weight	
Draft	44" 1.1 m
Draft Up	
Draft Down	
Air Draft	
Deadrise/Transom	N/A
Max Headroom	6' 6" 2.0 m
Bridge Clearance	11' 0" 3.3 m
Weight Capacity	
Person Capacity	
Fuel Capacity	300 gal. 1,136 L
Water Capacity	64 gal. 242 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	

Mission Statement

The 38 Express from Cruisers Yachts was designed to compete in the hugely popular express cruiser market segment. She offers cruising accommodations in an open layout and her spacious cockpit provides ample room for entertaining.

Cruisers Yachts 380 Express

The long forward deck has high rails. A forward sun pad is standard and converts to the chaise lounge position.

Distinguishing Features

- **Choose Power and Drive System.** The 38 Express can be powered with gas, diesel, sterndrive, outdrive, or IPS drives.
- **Two Interior Layouts.** Choose from either a single stateroom with an aft U-shaped settee or an aft stateroom layout. In either case, she can comfortably sleep 5.
- **Color Choices.** In addition to having a choice in layout, Cruisers Yachts offers choices in color for the hull stripe, fabrics, cockpit seating, interior seating and cockpit weather screen enclosures.

Cruisers Yachts 380 Express

Hull color choices for the 380 Express.

Cruisers Yachts 380 Express

... and fabric choices.

Cruisers Yachts 380 Express

... cockpit seating colors.

Cruisers Yachts 380 Express

... interior color choices.

Cruisers Yachts 380 Express

... and color choices for weather screens.

Features Inspection by Function

Gathering and Entertaining

Cockpit

Without a doubt, the entertaining aspect of the 38 Express starts in the cockpit. Flooring is either a snap-in carpet over the fiberglass-lined cockpit deck, or choose low maintenance Amtico. A U-shaped lounge to starboard is fabricated in-house from multi-density foam to provide the most comfort under specific areas of the body. Dri-fast foam is also used to ensure that no one sits on a wet seat. Premium vinyls are French-stitched.

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Guests are accommodated in the open cockpit with plenty of seating and premium materials. Across is a wet bar with solid surface counters and a stainless steel pedestal sink. Options include a cockpit refrigerator or icemaker, and an electric grill and a 16,000 BTU cockpit air conditioning system. Another option to consider is a pedestal TV that mounts right above the wet bar.

Cruisers Yachts 380 Express

The cockpit features an open and roomy layout with guests surrounded by quality materials. Forward is a comfortable seat to watch either the wake shrinking in the distance or, since this seat is elevated, the view ahead. A curving seat allows the bench to be used in multiple positions, and naturally storage is underneath. Overhead, a standard hardtop with two skylights provides much needed shade allowing for longer times spent out on the water. At the bow, there's another sun pad, but unlike the aft convertible sun lounge, this one can safely be used while underway.

Aft Deck

Of course, the gathering doesn't have to be focused in the cockpit. Behind is yet another area for guests to gather, particularly when at anchor. An electrically actuated aft facing seat easily converts to a chaise or sun lounge with the push of a button behind the wet bar, and this makes a good place to relax while watching those enjoying the spacious swim platform. A platform reboarding ladder is to port, right in line with the walkthrough to the cockpit. Cleats are located up high, well clear of the trip/toe stub zone. A hot/cold shower

is provided as standard for washing off after reboarding.

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Converting the aft facing seat to a sun lounge makes for an even more inviting area at the stern of the 38 Express.

Salon

Guests will also enjoy the comfort level down below. The 38 Express has 6'6" (2 m) of overhead clearance to alleviate any concerns about claustrophobia. Additionally, the boat has no less than six opening hullside windows and two overhead skylights. All have screens to keep unwanted guests out of the cabin and an additional screen can slide across the open companionway, a simple but necessary feature that seems to be forgotten by so many other builders. Wood blinds provide privacy.

Cruisers Yachts 380 Express

Two layouts for the lower deck allow a choice in the accommodations level, depending on whether the 38 Express is used more for entertaining or overnighting.

We spend so much time away from the docks in all sorts of weather and always appreciate those times when rainy weather makes an appearance and the lower decks are as inviting a place to gather as the cockpit may be.

Cruisers Yachts 380 Express

Cruisers Yachts has again created a beautiful salon with plenty of open space and high overheads.

Cooking and Dining

The galley is below and Cruisers Yachts ensured that it was well equipped. Flooring is low-maintenance simulated teak, and the counters have an eye-appealing solid surface made from polymer resins and natural minerals allowing it to achieve the look of granite but with a much lighter weight and more durability. A covered sink adds even more usable counter space to an otherwise limited amount. An elegant cabinet at the end of the counter holds stemware and bottles. The usual cast of appliances is present with a microwave, two-burner stove with sea rails and a refrigerator/freezer. The sink is plumbed to the 11-gallon (41.6 L) water tank. Behind the flat screen TV is dedicated storage for flatware. Additional dry storage is in the deck.

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A well-appointed galley is below decks and accommodates all the ingredients necessary for meal prep.

A second location for cooking is right on deck. By opting for the cockpit grill, meal prep is made convenient to the on-deck gathering areas without the fuss of maneuvering up and down the companionway to the cabin area.

Accommodations

The 38 Express is offered in two interior layouts, a single cabin or a twin. With the single, the sleeping quarters are forward and, what would be the aft stateroom, is now a U-shaped settee. This is a sensible arrangement as there are plenty of customers that simply don't spend the night onboard. It's simply a vehicle to cruise to wherever, and the lower decks are for entertaining and hanging out. Filler cushions can be used to convert the settee into a sleeping space all the same.

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With the aft cabin selected, guests can stay in two separate bunks behind a bulkhead for privacy. However, sometimes there are families, or two couples, that make a regular habit of spending weekends away from the dock and as such need another place to call home. Now the aft cabin makes sense and over/under berths are provided while still having a separate doublewide seat and table in the same space. The forward stateroom offers owners a queen sized island berth with a cushioned headboard. There's storage both in drawers underneath, and under the mattress, in side hanging lockers, and in overhead cabinets. Privacy is from a standard curtain or an optional bulkhead with door. The TV in the galley is on a cabinet door that swings open and locks into position to allow for viewing from the forward berth.

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The forward berth features plenty of storage and natural light. Opening portlights provide ventilation. And if there's still another guest onboard that needs to be accommodated for an overnight, the 84" (213 cm) dinette couch converts to a single berth with the optional sleeper sofa.

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We expected a wet-head but instead, Cruisers Yachts created a separate walk-in shower with glass enclosure. The solid-surface counter has a Venetian-style backsplash. An electric exhaust fan provides ventilation.

Operations

The operations will naturally start with the well-laid out, and beautifully appointed helm positioned just ahead of a doublewide helm seat with flip-down armrests and individual flip-up bolsters. Cruisers Yachts went with the stylish, non-glare combination of earth-toned wood grains, stainless detailing and a hand-stitched

leather steering wheel and instrument panel that adds as much to the class as to the functionality. The multifunction display takes center panel with either the SmartCraft VesselView or the EVC display to the left, depending on whether MerCruiser or Volvo Penta power is chosen. Electronic controls and either fly-by-wire (IPS), hydraulic (inboard) or rack & pinion power assist steering (I/O) are standard. Joystick operations are optional, but standard with IPS. A vent for the cockpit air conditioner will also serve to elevate the captain's comfort level. Cruisers Yachts still went with the VHF and ignitions well below at the lower panel, close to the knee strike zone.

Cruisers Yachts 380 Express

No one ever said that Cruisers Yachts doesn't assemble a good looking panel.

The bow and foredeck is accessed via a windshield walkthrough with molded steps right next to the helm. A railing provides security while maneuvering through the steps. At the bow, Cruisers Yachts includes as standard an anchor windlass, anchor, 30' (9.1 m) of 5/16" chain, and 126' (38.4 m) of 5/8" line. This all runs through an anchor roller and a mooring cleat is provided as well as foot control switches. Fenders and dock lines have dedicated storage in the transom trunk.

Cruisers Yachts 380 Express

Hull side windows to either side provide light and ventilation. Underway, the 38 Express should provide a smooth ride characteristic of all Cruisers Yachts that we've tested.

Power Choices

The Cruisers Yachts 38 Express is offered with a wide selection of power choices as well as drive choices. For sterndrive power, 400-hp gas engines from Volvo Penta can be ordered with or without a joystick, same goes for the 380-hp engines from MerCruiser. Diesel sterndrives will be from Volvo Penta's 300-hp D4s. IPS pods are the 400-hp 550Gs. And gas inboards are from MerCruiser's 425-hp 8.2 HOCs.

Observations

Whether cruising to remote locations, to weekend getaways or just roaming from marina to marina, the Cruisers Yachts 38 Express will provide comfort and luxury. Between her open space and high overheads she presents a roomy feel that speaks of a much larger boat. And with so many choices to dial into the specific tastes of her owner, we think that the 38 Express will easily continue to compete in this popular market segment.