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Weekend Cruising at its Finest
Tested By Capt. Brandon De Natale

The Sabre 36 Sedan Flybridge is new for 2003 and is also available as an extended Hard Top version. The Flybridge offers great versatility with the option of either driving the boat from the flybridge or inside depending on the weather. And with plenty of optional equipment each boat is customized to the owner's specifications.

Performance

Designed with the couple in mind the 36 Sedan offers the finest in accommodations and performance. Built on the proven hull of the 36 Express, the Sedan will run at a top speed of 34 mph. Gone are the days of heading around the point to drop the hook. Now running 50-100 miles can be done easily and effortlessly.

The Sabre's hull is strong and sturdy, incorporating knitted bi-axle fiberglass laminates and vacuum-bagged hull core. She also has 18 degrees of deadrise at the transom and sports wide chines and spray rails. We tested the 36 Sedan in relatively calm water but when we came across the occasional wake we found her to be one of the most comfortable and driest rides in her class.

On Deck

When stepping aboard, you will be delighted by the size of the cockpit. There is plenty of room for several chairs and the layout is perfect for entertaining a few guests. You will also notice that the outside of the vessel has just enough teak to keep a salty profile but not too much to cause unwanted maintenance.

The side decks are large enough to pass from stern to bow and the extra large stainless steel railing provides excellent support. The deck sole is wood free and offers a non-skid that gives a strong footing all around. Up on the bow you will find plenty to hold onto and with the optional windlass dropping the hook can be done on the flybridge.

Bridge Deck

Up on the flybridge there are two pedestal chairs and a bench that seats two. Over to port is the built-in chart table and a large area for storage. To starboard you will find the helm station and plenty of room for all your electronics. The ladder leading down to the cockpit is extra wide and it's easy to keep your footing even while underway. Another great option is the addition of the radar mast, which is mounted on the overhang from the flying bridge. This is an excellent location for your radar and other equipment.

Below Deck

Stepping into the main saloon you will immediately see the detail and craftsmanship that Sabreline puts into all their boats. The interior is American cherry and there is ample seating with the L-shaped settee to port, which converts to a double berth, with high/low table. There is also an entertainment cabinet that stores a TV and other electronics. Just forward of the saloon is the lower helm station. This is a great

area that helps keep the skipper in the action while still being social and connected to the rest of the group. To port of the helm station is an area that would serve well for storing and looking at charts. There is great visibility all around with the help of the large windows throughout the boat, which allow for plenty of light and ventilation.

The U-shaped galley is down and to port. On the way down you will notice the ship's switches are located on the side of the helm station. In the galley there is everything one will need, while out for a weekend or extended cruise. There is plenty of storage all around and with a convection microwave and cook top, preparing meals is a cinch. Also, double stainless steel sinks and a Norcold refrigerator/freezer round out the amenities.

To starboard you will find the head, which is appointed with Corian countertops and standing shower stall with rounded Plexiglas door. You'll have all the comfort features of home while out on the water.

Forward up in the bow is the master stateroom with an island berth and full-length bulkhead mirror. There's storage beneath the bed and also in storage lockers outboard and above. The stateroom also features a generous sized cedar lined hanging locker and private access to the head.

Engines

The engines can be accessed through the floor in the saloon. The space is quite open and provides enough room to check all vital fluids and perform routine maintenance. The standard power for this vessel is a pair of 315-hp Yanmar 6LP diesel engines which provide a cruise speed of 18knots. There's also the optional 370-hp Yanmars, which would provide a cruising speed of 24 knots.

In Conclusion

The Sabre 36 can accommodate four comfortably, but it is truly a couples boat. It's the perfect escape vehicle that allows you to get far away from all the world's worries but it's also fast enough to get you back in time to start all over again come Monday morning. With a range of over 300 miles at 24knots, you're able to extend your weekend cruising ground and open up a whole new world of possibilities.