



STORY: GEOFF MIDDLETON PHOTOS: GEOFF MIDDLETON; SUE RICHARDSON

Hanse 320

Hanse's new baby could be a winner in more ways than one

The 320 is a cracker of a little boat. Its overall size belies its interior volume and solid feel which seems more like a 34 or 35-footer. Its two-cabin layout, roomy cockpit and ample decks give it a spacious feeling and would certainly make a great weekend cruiser for a couple or even more.

Designed by Judel/Vrolijk and Co, the 320 is well proportioned with a highish freeboard, a wide 10ft8in beam and a broad transom, hence the roomy interior and big cockpit.

It has a tall two-spreader rig, a long boom and the traditional Hanse self-tacking jib. Other quality items are the adjustable backstay and solid boom vang as standard.

In standard form, the 320 doesn't have a mainsheet traveller, but Windcraft have "Australianised" it and added a traveller just forward of the wheel.

As with most modern boats, all the control

lines come aft to two largish self-tailing Lewmar winches on the cabin top.

Down below is a standard two-cabin setup with the pick of the two probably being the aft cabin. It has a big double berth with hanging lockers and plenty of storage. The single head is roomy and there's a hot and cold shower.

The galley is a traditional U-shaped affair with a deep, top-opening fridge, a two-burner gas stove with oven and a double sink. Another nice touch is the starboard lounge which has a pull-down armrest converting it into two chairs.

The interior is trimmed in a classic mahogany style with nice touches like the wooden window surrounds.

The 320 is no slug. We registered 5.5 to 6kts on the breeze and over eight on a reach — and this was in no better than 12kts of breeze.

The boat is also very manoeuvrable thanks to the big wheel and rack and pinion steering gear.



Price as tested: \$186,790
 Hull type: Monohull
 Material: GRP hand laid, polyester resin
 Length overall: 9.63m
 Beam: 3.30m
 Draft: 0.175m (standard); 1.43m (optional)
 Mainsail area: 28.47m²
 Rec. max. HP: 30
 Fuel: 110lt
 Water: 260lt

FOR MORE INFORMATION
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08 Year in Review