

Hanse 430e

An easily sailed yacht with plenty of admirers

There's a lot to embrace about the Hanse 430e. There's the epoxy hull option, and a so-called Windcraft package from the importer that includes cruising comforts such as a cockpit table for staging lunch under the boom tent, a windlass for push-button anchoring, a three-blade folding propeller, VHF radio and CD player, and Simrad wind instruments.

Thankfully, the big open-ended cockpit, flat non-skid decks and the twin steering wheels all come standard.

A deep (optional all-lead) keel helps offset the high-aspect, tapered, twin-spreader performance Sparcraft alloy rig deck-stepped with a solid vang and adjustable worm-driven backstay. The mainsail is 63m² and easily raised by an optional electric halyard winch.

With three cabins and two heads, the 430e is accommodating for those holidays away. Our demo yacht had its forepeak stateroom double-berth bed on the centreline.

The ambience on the 430e was modern.

Dark mahogany timber with a satin finish and white leather together look smart. Amidships, the saloon has a dinette and U-shaped lounge to seat four in real comfort. Opposite are two built-in chairs.

You get a two-burner gimbaled gas stove/oven and a massive 130lt fridge with top and bottom access in the 430e's galley.

We flew a full head of sail in a strengthening 20-knot northeaster on Pittwater that was very much to the Hanse's liking. We maintained 6.5 to 7kts upwind and, on a beam reach, cracked 8.5kts. In messy water, the yacht felt solid, with little or no creaks and was responsive.

The enjoyment factor on this easy-to-sail yacht is high. What's more, with a self-tacking headsail, there is no grinding as you work your way to windward. My kind of comfortable cruiser and, with the right gear as found here, a smart club racer to boot.

STORY & PHOTOS: DAVID LOCKWOOD



Price as tested: \$474,080
Hull type: Monohull
Material: Composite vacuum-bagged hull using SP Systems epoxy
Hull length: 13.15m
Beam: 4.18m
Draft: 2.20m (standard deep-draft)
Mainsail: 63.0m²
Rec. max. HP: 55
Fuel: 220lt
Water: 320lt

FOR MORE INFORMATION
 Windcraft Australia, Suite
 2, 1714 Pittwater Road,
 Bayview, NSW, 2104
Phone: (02) 9979 1709
Web: www.windcraft.com.au