

**T**he Sailfish Canyon Master was a very welcome addition to this year's AGB competition.

Some of the judges hadn't had much experience in cats; others had plenty. But everyone came in from the trials with their eyes wide open and their jaws on the ground. The Sailfish Canyon Master's seagoing ability is off the scale. The company motto is, 'Unlimited boundaries' — it's spot on, right there!

The twin 135hp Honda four-strokes pumped the big cat along with silent exhilaration. Sure it's big, but with an all up weight of only 2500kg with some fuel it's still very towable if set up correctly. The deck room is simply enormous with 2.5x2.2m of fishing space, big side decks and a very workable transom layout — an area of difficulty for many competitors.

You could park an elephant on one side and it's so stable the hull will barely move. Catch a marlin or big tuna and you can easily drag it aboard through the walkway between the engines and divers will love the access with the swing-down ladder.

Some will say two engines are better than one and two certainly give great peace of mind, particularly when you lose sight of land. The Sailfish's ability to plane home on one engine was terrific, especially when we logged 47kmh with

one engine tilted clear of the water. She will hold that speed consistently with virtually zero torque-steer. You certainly have to get used to twin-hull handling, but once mastered that, the big 7.3m Sailfish can be thrown around beautifully.

The internal design and layout is comfortable, simple and practical. This is a great boat for a day trip with the family, or perhaps the local footy team! The helm and dash feels great and the visibility through the immense enclosed hardtop is sensational. You can fit it out as you wish; Sailfish also offers full camper/cruiser layouts but, for our money, it's hard to beat the Canyon Master layout.

These strong alloy cats are built for the rough stuff. There's a 25mm solid box section right down the keel. You can run it up the beach, even the rocks, and this tough hull can take it. The easy planing ability of the efficient hull achieves a top speed of around 75kmh but from the enclosed helm it doesn't feel as fast. More importantly, the Sailfish has terrific long-range capability as it planes at ridiculously low revs, burning very little fuel. There's 175lt of fuel in each of the two tanks — ample for extended offshore sojourns.

While this Sailfish may be a newcomer to AGB, the brand certainly isn't a

newcomer to the market — it's been around for decades. It's come a long way in development and this product's finish is something to behold. This is quality at a very realistic price. As Editor Ange said, "This little cat ain't no pussy!"

#### THE JUDGES' NOTEPAD

**ANGELO SAN GIORGIO:** We couldn't believe this thing planed at 47km/h on one engine — that's insane! It has stability, manoeuvrability and a mind-blowingly soft ride. It looks sensational; we loved the blue side panels and the overall attention to detail. Great vision, loads of hand-holds, an easily read dashboard, a terrific non-skid finish on the decks — it's the full package.

**JOHN FORD:** Lots of volume, great in the ocean. One of my first boats was a cat so yep, I like 'em — and this one's from a reputable long-term manufacturer. The coloured sides look stunning and the 135 Hondas are sensational. It's great to have the peace of mind that two engines bring. This one will throw a cat amongst the pigeons!

**KEVIN SMITH:** It's BIG! It's similar to what I'd used for years back in South Africa. There are good ones and bad but this is top of the class. It's fairly light to

**"The layout is sensational."**

**— Matt Jones**





Clockwise from below: Two decades of manufacturing experience shows on the Sailfish; nothing beats the stability of twin hulls; two powerful Honda 135s will get you home quickly and safely from out wide; the well-planned dash layout offers plenty of space for modern widescreens.

**“It has stability and a mind-blowingly soft ride”**

**– Angelo San Giorgio**



tow for its size at around 2500kg and there’s plenty of deck room for a big gang of fishos. Two hulls are better than one and two engines are even better again! There’s so much space you could run a disco on board — take all your mates and you can still swing a cat, dog or anything else that takes your fancy. Great facilities, great long-range capability — and very efficient. Gutsy engines with Honda’s immediate BLAST technology — it’s Top Cat!

**MATT JONES:** I’m so impressed with this boat. It was my first time in a cat and I’m blown away with the ride. It just rides over and caresses the tops of the waves with that cushion of air. When you look at the speed you can’t believe how fast you are actually going. The layout is sensational — as a diver it’s perfect, particularly with the door out back. You feel totally in command, with great visibility and a great finish. The

polished aluminium bow rail looks like it’s been crafted from stainless steel. This company has over 20 years of experience and it shows. The Hondas were super responsive and having two of ’em is very reassuring. This sailfish certainly makes me purr!

**JOHN WILLIS CHATS WITH GAVIN DALEY (SAILFISH):**

The standard has become so much higher in alloy market so we just keep improving our products. Nothing beats the stability of a cat. Even with the big cabin area you still have deck space of about 2.2x2.2m so you can easily fish four or more anglers comfortably. The finish is sensational — the paint shop is really lifting the bar. She’s solid, and don’t forget the 25mm square solid extrusion down the keel on each side. There are plenty of options including our enclosed cabins and overnighter fit-outs. 🐾

