

Marquis 40 Sport Coupe

The company's smallest model is still big on style and space.



Having spent time aboard the Marquis 65 at its introduction in Miami two years ago and more recently having tested the 59 ME, we were anxious to see if the 40 Sport Coupe measured up to what we had so admired in her statuesque sisters. We headed to Harborside Yacht Center in Milwaukee to meet with sales manager John Niemann.

At first glance, it's obvious that the 40 SC belongs to the same family and differs only in its profile and size. The Italian influence of this express cruiser comes honestly through the collaboration of Wisconsin-based Marquis Yachts and Italian naval architectural firm Nuvolari & Lenard.

The entire Marquis line, including the 40, is built to exceed the "A" classification, the most rigid of the European CE categories. An "A" classification indicates that construction specifications are geared to confront Force 8 (40-knot) winds and 13-foot seas.

This is a very special yacht that happens to be as tough and safe as it is easy on the eyes. One of the first things you'll notice is its head-turning exterior lines, thanks to Marquis' 3-D fiberglass molding process.

Upon boarding the 40 SC from the swim platform, you'll note that the transom is wedge-shaped, and each length of the wedge has a handrail—a great idea. To port is a step up to the transom door that opens to the aft deck. Butting against the transom is a generous bench seat with backrest fronted by an inlaid table that will seat four on deck.

One of the most innovative features aboard the 40 SC is the extendable cockpit. With the push of a button, the transom lounge and table slide aft. This creates more than 60 square feet of cockpit space, great for entertaining.

Moving forward takes you through the tinted bi-fold doors that separate the main salon from the aft deck. The doors open to the width of the salon and provide an unobstructed flow to the helm. Looking into the salon from the aft deck gives the illusion of a much larger boat due to the flood of light from all directions. It starts with the large raked windshield. The roof is practically solid glass, half of which is retractable. There are three large cabin windows to port and three to starboard, plus two hull windows amidships, one on either side. Forward over the master state-

room is a large hatch, two ceiling windows and four ports in the hull. At dusk, just flip on the salon ceiling lights, both white and blue, adjust the dimmers...and uncork the wine.

The salon is well appointed, featuring deep-brown paneling, zebrawood cabinetry with high-gloss lacquered trim, a dark cabin sole and color-coordinated fixtures. A 26-inch LCD TV, stereo system, DVD/CD player and Sirius satellite radio all come standard.

For the cook onboard, the port-side galley boasts a solid-surface countertop, a liquor cabinet with a curved glass door, a two-burner range, a microwave/convection oven, an undercounter refrigerator/freezer and plenty of storage.

Just forward of the salon is the helm, which features a two-seat bench centered behind the wheel. The controls are located to starboard, with the IPS joystick to port. Using the innovative technology behind IPS, the joystick allows the operator to easily maneuver the yacht in tight spaces and during docking. A second joystick helps with stern docking.

The engine room is reached through a hatch in the aft deck. Our test boat featured twin 435-hp Volvo Penta diesels and IPS 600 series drives. We were amazed at the spaciousness of the room concealing the hardware. At 435 hp, the yacht will cruise at 36 mph and hit 41 mph wide open. At cruise, it burns 30 gph for both engines.

Belowdecks, forward, is a roomy two-berth guest stateroom and the spacious master. Both share a common head with a good-sized enclosed shower, with the option of a sauna. In the master stateroom, the island queen berth offers storage in its base. A full-length hanging locker, storage cabinet and drawers provide plenty of space for your belongings. ↴

Specs

LOA	40'10"
Beam	13'11"
Draft	3'7"
Weight	29,000 lbs.
Fuel capacity	300 gals.
Base power	T/Volvo Penta 8.1s w/IPS
Base price	\$583,995
Power as tested	T/Volvo Penta D6s w/IPS 600s drives (435 hp)
Price as tested	\$742,447

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