

# Ocean 50 Super Sport

Don't let the elegance fool you—  
this boat is built to go.

by Dave Mull

**N**ot only is the Ocean 50 Super Sport beautiful on the outside, it stands up beautifully to the worst conditions the Great Lakes offer up. Although Ocean designed this boat primarily for offshore saltwater anglers, Lakeland boaters shouldn't feel deterred—the 50 Super Sport will take you wherever you want to go, whenever you need to get there.





I met up with Dave Powers and Dean Taylor of the Tradewinds Alliance Group at MacRay Harbor in Harrison Township, Michigan on Lake St. Clair. Powers and Taylor have a sweet setup for showing yachts. It's the only boat sales operation at the swanky MacRay digs, and it can show boats in the water year-round, thanks to the marina complex's enclosed wells. Not many Great Lakes locations allow you to keep a 50- to 60-foot craft in the water all winter.

The big boat rested easy in its slip when the three of us boarded for the sea trial. First I went down into the spacious engine room. I was immediately impressed by the awlgrip finish that's easy to keep clean and—like the 11.5-kw generator—comes standard. Batteries, Racor filters and the Oil X-Change-R system are all convenient to check and maintain, and there's plenty of shoulder room around the twin Cat C12 diesel engines.

From there we headed to the bridge, which has a clean, open look. The ignition switches and controls are concealed in a fold-out compartment, which also smartly protects them from the elements. Plus, the console had enough room for the engine monitors, in addition to a space shuttle's share of electronics.

Once underway, we easily negotiated the tight channels. The Super Sport draws about 4½ feet of water, which churned up some mud and sand in a couple of spots on our way out of St. Clair. We were soon on the big lake, and, by the ride, you wouldn't have known we were busting a 2-foot chop with an occasional 3-footer.

As I took the wheel, Taylor explained that the hull was a Dave Martin design, with the goal of cruising efficiently at 30 knots while delivering a smooth, dry ride.

"I'd say we achieved that goal," Taylor said.

The engines rumbled but not excessively, thanks to sound-deadening insulation in the engine room. As I pushed the throttle forward, it took about four seconds before the turbochargers kicked in and we blasted quickly up to 32 knots. Taylor said that when bringing the boat back from Atlantic City, New Jersey, they hit just over 40 mph in saltwater.

Powers explained that the 50's two down-angling strakes feed water into the suction area of the hull and to the props, reducing resistance. This results in less slippage and improved efficiency, even at lower speeds. Ocean calls the design an "evolved planing" and touts the configuration as the best rough-water hull in the



company's more than 25 years of building boats.

As a diehard angler myself, I was drooling at some of the fishing appointments on the 50 Super Sport. The cockpit has a circulating baitwell, tackle drawers, a step cooler, a freshwater sink and even a freezer.

The deluxe accommodations belowdeck aren't bad, either. The massive salon features a wraparound sofa to port, just aft of a step-up-level galley. To starboard is a dinette, just forward of a captain's chair and entertainment center. The layout makes the space communal; the chef can easily chat with guests in the salon and at the dinette. As you'd expect, the galley is loaded with features, including a convection/microwave oven, a three-burner range and special storage for cups and plates to keep them from rattling. There's also two freezers and two refrigerators, all drawer-style, from SubZero.

Three staterooms provide plenty of sleeping space for three couples to cruise comfortably.

The master stateroom is, unconventionally, not the forward cabin but to port. It has its own head, which boasts a roomy shower enclosure and a remarkably big cabinet above the commode. The forward guest stateroom has two floor plan options, one that offers a queen island bed (such as the one on our test boat) and a second that has a bunk bed. This cabin directly accesses the second head, to starboard just forward of the third stateroom, which has twin beds. Just outside, in the companionway, is a washer/dryer combo.

From the well-appointed fishing accessories to the luxurious live-aboard interior, the 50 Super Sport includes many nice touches, such as gas-assisted lifts for virtually every storage compartment, a beautiful wood finish throughout and cedar-lined lockers. Yes, this yacht is truly an express cruiser made for offshore angling, but that doesn't mean non-anglers won't find lots of things to love about it. ⚓

### Specs

LOA .....	50'6"
Beam .....	16'9"
Draft .....	4'5"
Weight .....	54,038 lbs.
Sleeps .....	6
Fuel capacity .....	780 gals.
Power .....	T/Cat C12s
Price .....	Contact dealer



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