



Fantastic Finish

Bonadeo's 34 Walkaround is a tricked-out cruising and fishing machine.

Larry Bonadeo—the owner of Bonadeo Boatworks in Stuart, Florida—ignores naysayers. He builds two or three custom sportfishing boats a year and has a keen sense of what customers want. So when critics claimed the 34 Walkaround would be radically different from the successful 368 Walkaround he already built, Larry politely paid no heed and kept building.

Larry's team finished the new Bonadeo 34 Walkaround in time for the 2013 Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show, and he stood by the boat's side to explain the concept. "Everyone thought the 34 would be so astronomically different than the 368," explained Larry, who along with his son Tony founded Bonadeo Boatworks and delivered their first boat in 2006. "I felt the cockpit would be smaller but it would have the same overall look and feel, and after a weight and balance study and working hard on the design, that's exactly how it turned out."

Powered by twin Mercury Verado 300-hp four-stroke engines, the Bonadeo 34 Walkaround is built for rough water travel and has the added bonus of a cabin with an oversized queen berth and head. The "Variable Warped" inverted-bell hull bottom has a unique, varying deadrise that allows the boat to knife through waves yet land softly enabling the captain to maintain a 30-mph cruising speed in true 3- to 5-foot seas. Having the ability to run

that fast gets the fishing team back to home port the same day after going 100 miles off shore. Range isn't a problem since the boat has a 325-gallon fuel tank and gets 1.5 miles per gallon with the Verados running at 4,000-4,300 rpm for a distance of nearly 500 miles.

"Running in big water is what Bonadeo is about," said Tony Bonadeo, Larry's son and VP of operations, who walked me through the 34 Walkaround. "[Even though] the 34 runs in the mid-50s at top speed, top speed isn't what we were after. The water may be calm in the morning when we run from Stuart to The Bahamas, but we can still get back for dinner by backing it down to 30 mph if the water is rough. And in the unlikely event an engine dies, the 34 Walkaround planes on a single outboard."

It's that combination of custom construction for safety and the exquisite attention to detail for ease of use and comfort that makes the Bonadeo 34 Walkaround stand out. The boat is built using composite, carbon fiber and Kevlar, with techniques ranging from vacuum bagging to resin infusion to hand-laid fiberglass, depending on the area of the boat. The boat weighs only about 12,000 pounds fully loaded, which is on the light side

By Don Minikus



Versatility was the design focus for the spacious queen cabin as well as for the cockpit seating.

for a 34-footer. "Saving weight saves fuel," said Tony. "There are no seams, and we glass the entire boat together. This is not a traditional build where the builder screws and glues everything into place. Everything is fiberglassed into place and hand-finished out."

Offering custom features that make boating easier is paramount at Bonadeo. For example, the outboards can be automatically flushed with fresh water at the flip of a switch. As the chief rigger, Tony pays extra attention to all the cables and wires that connect the ship's system. "We have a separate pump and mechanical room under the dash that's just aft of the cabin," Tony pointed out as we stepped into the cabin through starboard-side door and he showed off the rigging. "As you can see, all the wires are heat-shrink labeled. If you have to chase wires it's not a guessing game." The cabin's 6'5" headroom includes the bed, head and rod storage, and is perfect for a night's rest, getting out of the sun or just for keeping gear and clothes dry.

The futuristic helm features a clear Lexan cover over another clear panel that the electronics are mounted upon, which allows vision through the dash—spacious enough for two 15-inch multi-function display screens—and into the equipment room. The Ongaro stainless-steel steering wheel is positioned on a teak helm pod, and the Mercury DTS throttles and shifters are comfortably placed, along with the trim tab controls. The helm seat offers space for three people either standing or sitting, and the beefy composite and carbon fiber T-top offers numerous handholds. "Some people will set up a second steering station on the T-top, and it has non-skid on top if you want to use it for a lookout," Tony explained. Additional options include a hidden, folding cruising seat on the transom, a basic fish box, and a 50-gallon live well, locking rod storage along the gunwales, tackle storage, and multiple rod holders. "Of course, multiple live wells can be set up depending on what the owner wants. As a custom builder, we listen to what our clients say and create the boat of their dreams." 🦋



SPECIFICATIONS

LOA: 34'
Beam: 10'
Draft: 23"
Weight (with fuel and engines): 12,000 lbs.
Fuel: 325 gals.
Water: 50 gals.
Power: 2x Mercury Verado Four-Stroke 300-hp outboards
Top Speed: 50-60 mph
MSRP: Call for price

CONTACT

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