

# JOHN NEAL'S

## BOATS TO CONSIDER FOR OFFSHORE CRUISING

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Through our Offshore Cruising Seminars and my Boat Selection Consultations I have helped thousands of sailors locate the best ocean cruising boats for their planned voyages and budget. If you need knowledgeable, experienced (293,000 ocean miles) and unbiased advice from someone who has no financial interest in the boat you select perhaps I can help. Details on [www.mahina.com/consult.html](http://www.mahina.com/consult.html) or contact me at Mahina Expeditions, [sailing@mahina.com](mailto:sailing@mahina.com), tel 360.378.6131. v2.11

Able 32, 42, 48	*	USA	Superb quality, expensive. Chuck Paine designs.
Alajuela 33, 38	*	USA	Good value, well built. 38 has a long bowsprit and boomkin.
Alberg 35	*	USA	Well proven, cheap, narrow, short waterlines, graceful overhangs.
Alden 38, 43, 44, 46, 48, 54, 58		USA	Classy, well built, beautiful & expensive.
Allied 30, 32, 33, 35, 36, 39, 42	*	USA	Good value. Functional, practical but getting older now.
Amel 36-54 <a href="http://www.amel.fr">www.amel.fr</a>		FRA	Strong, well designed, excellent passagemaker, great value and low maintenance. Occasional blister problems in warm waters.
Amazon 29, 37, 44	*	CAN	Steel boats, attractive modern designs.
Amphitrite 43	*	FRA	Wauquiez built, strong & incredibly roomy with good storage. Odd deck design, but great boat and good value.
Annie 28	*	USA	Every boat built by Morris is a work of art!
Bayfield 29, 30-32, 40	*	CAN	Good value. A bit "plasticity" interiors but ok.
Bluewater 60	*	USA	Modern, top quality Chuck Paine design.
Bowman 36-58	*	ENG	Strong boats, good passagemakers, but shortish waterline.
Brewer 42	*	CAN	Improved version of Whitby 42.
Bristol 27-45	*	USA	Good boats. Later models were better quality.
Bristol Channel Cutter 28	*	USA	Well built, but cockpit and cabin not very comfortable.
Cabot 36	*	CAN	Ted Brewer design. Limited production.
Cal 2-30, 34, 36, 39, 40, 2-46, 3-46, 48	*	USA	Bill Lapworth designs. Many 2-46's have circumnavigated. Moderate quality, reasonably priced but look very carefully at bulkhead attachment and rudders.
Caliber 28, 33, 35, 38, 40. <a href="http://www.caliberyacht.com">www.caliberyacht.com</a>		USA	Fairly well-built. Michael McCreary designs. The 47 is not an attractive boat.
Cambria 40, 44, 46	*	USA	Fast, well-built, gorgeous and expensive.
Camper Nicholson 31, 32, 35, 38, 39, 40, 43, 47, 56, 58, 70	*	ENG	Famous yard, long out of business now. Very seaworthy designs. Watch for serious blister problems on all models.
Cabo Rico 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 45, 47, <a href="http://www.caborico.com">www.caborico.com</a>		CRI	Crealock and Paine designs. Expensive, semi custom. Some problems with water absorption into balsa-cored decks.
Cape Dory - all models	*	USA	Classic design, quality construction, but narrow and small.
Cape George Cutters 31, 36, 38		USA	Many owner completed, quality varies. Strong, fast and attract.
Cascade 36, 42		USA	1965-67 design still being built. Fairly narrow, many owner-built.
Centurion 36, 38, 40/41, 42/45, 47/49	*	FRA	Fast, attractive solid boats with very modest tankage
Cherubini 44, 48, 62	*	USA	Semi-custom, absolutely gorgeous, great sailing & expensive. Limited interior space compared to modern designs.
Contessa 26 & 32	*	CAN, ENG	Tania Aebi & B.J. Caldwell both circumnavigated in 26's, but these are TINY boats. The 32 is small, but a true classic
Contest 31, 35, 36, 38, 40, 41, 42, 44, 46, 48, 55, 60		HOL	More common in Europe. Well built, new boats are very attractive and expensive.
Countess 44 by Pearson	*	USA	Ancient John Alden design. Expensive to rebuild & update.
Corbin 39	*	CAN	Roomy and strong, but watch for hull blisters.
Crealock 31, PH 32, 34, 37, 40, 44 by Pacific Seacraft	*	USA	Good value and well built. Graceful overhangs, canoe sterns, short waterlines means these boats may hobbyhorse upwind.

CS 36	*	CAN	Attractive, fairly well built. Occasional blister problems.
CSY 37, 44	*	USA	Sturdy, roomy & reasonably priced but old.
Dana 24 by Pacific Seacraft		USA	An attractive solid, expensive and slow pocket ocean cruiser.
Deerfoot Yachts	*	Var	Fast & innovative, aluminum & fiberglass hulls.
Dickerson 36, 37, 40, 41, 50	*	USA	Nicely proportioned & well-built boats. Earlier 36's are very reasonably priced but lack interior space.
Durbeck 46	*	USA	Big and roomy, long overhangs, short waterline.
Endurance 35, 38, 40	*	Var	Peter Ibold design, some owner completed. Built by various yards in ENG, USA & Canada.
Esprit 37 by Nordic, aka Valiant	*	USA	Perry design. Comfortable, well proven, good value.
F & C 44	*	ARG	Modern Frers designed cruising ketch.
Farr Pilot House 50, 56, 60, 63 <a href="http://www.farr-pilothouseyachts.com">www.farr-pilothouseyachts.com</a>	*	SWE	Powerful, fast and glamorous. Excellent quality. First boats were built by Najad. Hold value very well.
Fast Passage 39		USA	Some built in Canada, some by Tollycraft. WA. Good boats.
Fisher 30-46		ENG	Sturdy and slow motorsailers. Great for high latitude cruising.
Fraser 41, 46, 50	*	CAN	Good, sturdy, fairly modern cruisers.
Freya 39	*	USA	Good value. Many owner-completed, so quality varies. FAST, full-keel design capable of 200 mpd!
Garcia 46-50+		FRA	Gorgeous, fast, semi custom, highest quality aluminum.
Gladiateur 33	*	FRA	Very sturdy, short on tankage, Wauquiez built.
Goderich 35, 37,41	*	CAN	Attractive Brewer steel boats. Short production run, rare.
Gozzard 31, 36, 44		CAN	Good design & construction. Totally committed quality company.
Hallberg-Rassy, 31 - 64 <a href="http://www.hallberg-rassy.com">www.hallberg-rassy.com</a>		SWE	Well built, comfortable, with good tankage & storage. Newer Frers designs have better sailing performance than earlier Enderlien boats. Strong resale value, excellent systems integration and detail. Watch for teak deck maintenance issues.
Halmatic 30	*	ENG	Similar to Nicholson 31. Watch for blisters.
Hinkley 30-64		USA	Attractive, highest quality, and expensive. Hold their value well. Modest tankage & storage.
Hood 38	*	FRA	Wauquiez built, Hood design, strong, fast, & attractive but short on tankage. Centerboard rattles downwind. Solid choice.
Hylas 46,49, 54, 54 raised Saloon, 70		TAI	Frers & S & S designs. Good sailing qualities, tankage & storage. High quality on later Jachney-era models.
Island Packet 32, 35, 350, 37,38, 40, 420, 44, 45 <a href="http://www.ipy.com">www.ipy.com</a>		USA	Good value, exc. company. Roomy & comfortable with good tankage & storage but some odd features. Continually improving
J/42; J/44, J/46, J/160 <a href="http://www.jboats.com">www.jboats.com</a>		USA	Fast downwind, pound upwind. Minimal tankage and storage. Several have lost keels and rudders.
Jason 35 from Miller Marine	*	USA	Many owner-completed. Several have cruised extensively.
Jongert 50, 55, 60, 67, 73		HOL	Heavy, expensive, extremely well-built steel and aluminum yachts, highest quality. Not going to win any races, though!
Justine 36	*	USA	Gorgeous Paine design, Morris built cruiser. Rare.
Kaiulani 34, 38	*	USA	Lovely steel Brewer & Yohe designs. Very limited production.
Kanter 42, 45, 60, 65 <a href="http://www.kanteryachts.com">www.kanteryachts.com</a>		CAN	Steel & aluminum boats, semi-custom. Highest quality. Chuck Paine & Ted Brewer designs.
LM 27, 28, 290, 30, 315, 32, 380		DEN	Some have inside steering. Well-built and impressive.
Little Harbor 42 - 90		TAI & USA	Ted Hood designed heavy displacement. Semi-custom. Expensive and solid as a rock, but strange pinched sterns.
Luders 33, DOVE	*	USA	Older, well built by Allied.
Malo 36, 38, 39, 45 <a href="http://www.maloyachts.se">www.maloyachts.se</a>		SWE	Highest quality offshore boats with good sailing performance. Attractive, reasonably priced. Strong company, good service.
Mariah 31	*	USA	At least one circumnavigation. Pacific Seacraft built.
Mason 33, 43, 44, 53, 54, 63	*	TAI	Some of the very best Ta-Shing Taiwan built boats.
Moody 38, 42, 47, 54, 64	*	ENG	Good designs of only modest quality. Compare to Catalina.
Morgan 382, 383, 384	*	USA	Ted Brewer design for around \$60K. Some problems ...
Morris 26, 28, 30, 32, 34,36, 42,		USA	Chuck Paine design. Superb quality, highest quality US yard

44, 45, 454, 46, 48.6, 52 <i>www.morrisyachts.com</i>			building cruising boats. Expensive. Semi-custom. These have to be among the most beautiful boats ever designed!
Mystic 57, 60	*	ENG	Dubois design, Bowman built, beautiful.
Najad 330, 361, 370, 390, 420, 490, 520 <i>www.najad.com</i>		SWE	Quality, attractive boats. Excellent sailing performance. Good tankage, storage and high level of craftsmanship.
Nauti-Cat Motorsailers 35,40,43, 53, <i>www.nauticat.com</i>		FIN	Later S & S designed models are much better performers than earlier tubby models. Newer boats are very high quality.
Niagara 31, 35, 42	*	CAN	Well-built & roomy. Good value, but watch for soggy deck cores.
Nordic 34,40,44,45		USA	Attractive boats, some solvable problems with mast step deflection on the 40 & 45. The 40 & 44 are back in production.
Norseman 400,447	*	TAI	Strong, fast, and attractive. Have held their value well. Rusty fuel tanks may be an issue.
North Wind 43,50, 58		SPA	S&S designs, fairly good construction quality. Very few in NA.
Ocean 60, 71	*	ENG	Powerful boats, many have had blister problems
Ocean Cruising 42	*	USA	Only a few built by Hank Hinkley. Classy, top quality.
Orion 27	*	USA	Offshore capable. Pacific Seacraft built.
Outbound 42, 44, 52		CHI	Attractive, fast, well-built boats with great customer service.
Oyster 42, 45, 485,49,53, 55, 56 61, 62, 63, 66, 70, 82, 100		ENG NZL	Attractive, expensive and first class! Weak resale value and larger models make this an excellent, though expensive choice.
Pacific Seacraft 34, 37, 40, 44	*	USA	Well built boats, good resale. Graceful overhangs, short W/L.
Pearson 35, 365, 422, 424, 520	*	USA	Moderate construction quality, but quite a good value.
Passport 41, 415, 435, 44, 456, 470, 50 <i>www.wagnerstevens</i>		TAI	Modern Perry cruising design. Good storage/tankage.
Pretorien 35	*	FRA	Strong, fast & attractive, built by Wauquiez. Great value for under \$85,000. Modest tankage, some have saildrives, a neg.
Rhodes Bounty II	*	USA	Ancient design, classic but very expensive to update & refit.
Regina of Vindo, 38, 43, 49 <i>www.reginayachts.se</i>		SWE	Gorgeous, exquisitely built, highest quality deck saloon. In a class of their own for quality and design.
Rival 36-41, Rival Bowman 42	*	ENG	Strong, good-looking and sailing boats.
Rustler 36, 42		ENG	Totally impressive, quality boats and company.
Sabre 34, 362,38, 402, 42, 402, 425, 452, <i>www.sabreyachts.com</i>		USA	Built in Maine, modest quality, limited tankage and storage.
Sadler 34	*	ENG	Unsinkable, fast, great performance. Good choice.
Saga 35, 43, 48 <i>www.sagayachts.com</i>	*	CAN	Modern Perry design. Fast innovate and narrow. The 43 is a very tried and proven design, but is a bit tender.
Santa Cruz 52		USA	Strong, fast and fun, but pounds upwind!
Saturna 33	*	CAN	Attractive, Bill Garden designed pilothouse cutter.
Scanmar 35	*	SWE	Limited production but good design.
Sceptre 41, 43	*	CAN	Modern pilothouse with good sailing performance.
Seawind 30, Seawind II 32'	*	USA	Solid boats, good value, built by Allied Yachts, NY.
Seguin 44, 51 by Lyman-Morse		USA	S & S & Hood design, highest quality, fast. Semi-custom.
Shannon 32, 36, 39, 43,43 II, 47, 53. <i>www.shannonyachts.com</i>		USA	Good reliable boats. Hold their value well.
Skye 51	*	TAI	Similar in appearance to Swans. Deck problems.
Southerly 32-67		ENG	Innovative swing-keel yachts
Southern Cross 28, 31, 35, 39	*	USA	Good boats. Fairly well built.
Spencer 35, 42, 44, 54	*	CAN	Older, solid boats, built in Vancouver, B.C. Fairly dated now.
Stellar 52	*	TAI	Total quality S&S design, well built, great detail work.
Sundeer 56, 64	*	USA	Excellent & expensive. Innovative design & incredible performance. Good systems layout. Built by TPI.
Swan		FIN	Newest models poorly suited for ocean cruising with open cockpits and limited tankage & storage. Teak deck issues.
Shearwater 39, 45	*	RSA	Strong, traditional appearance, fairly good performance.
Sweden Yachts, <i>www.swedenyachts.se</i>	*	SWE	Expensive & well built. Racer-cruiser designs, short on tankage and storage.
Tartan 3500, 37, 3700, 41, 4100,	*	USA	Well proven, several 37's have circumnavigated. Some designs

4600, <a href="http://www.tartanyachts.com">www.tartanyachts.com</a>			have centerboards. Modest tankage.
Taswell 43, 49, 56, 58, 60, 72, <a href="http://www.yachtworld.com/taswell">www.yachtworld.com/taswell</a>		TAI	Quality, attractive, good sailing performance. Limited tankage on some models, good storage and attractive design.
Tashiba 31, 36, 40	*	TAI	Perry designs, built by Ta Shing, the best yard in Taiwan.
Topper Hermanson 40+	*	USA	Semi custom steel or aluminum Van de Stadt designs.
Trintella		HOL	Roomy and well built. Newer designs are aluminum and exp.
Triton 29 by Pearson	*	USA	Good value, sturdy. Earliest fiberglass production boat.
Valiant 32, 37, 39, 40, 42, 47, 50.		USA	Major blister problems on Valiant 40 hull numbers 116-250. No problems with any of the excellent Texas built boats. Proven designs, strong company.
Vancouver 27	*	CAN	Also built in Taiwan & England. Solid pocket circumnavigator
Vancouver 28, 34, 36, 38		ENG	High quality semi-traditional yachts built by Northshore Marine
Vanguard 32	*	USA	Good value but old. Phil Rhodes design, built by Pearson
Vega 27, by Albin Marine	*	SWE	At least six have circumnavigated. Inexpensive, fast.
Victoria 30, 34		ENG	Chuck Paine design, Morris built.
Vindo 29, 34, 38, 39		SWE	Attractive, well built, but high maintenance.
Vineyard Vixen 30, 34	*	USA	Attractive design, rare.
Westerly 26 – 43	*	ENG	Not flashy, but fairly well-built boats.
Westsail 28, 32, 39, 42, 43	*	USA	Sturdy boats. 39's are rare & attractive. Perry design.
Whitby 42, 44	*	CAN	Brewer designs, good value. Roomy and fairly well built.
Yankee 30	*	USA	S & S designed. Inexpensive and capable. Great value.

### Catamarans

Antares 44		ARG	Most impressive construction details and quality. No saildrives!!!
Atlantic 42, 48, 55 <a href="http://www.chriswhitedesigns.com">www.chriswhitedesigns.com</a>		RSA	Chris White design, quality construction. Now building in Chile at Awloplast.
Catana 401, 431, 471, 521		FRA	Good design, but customer service seriously lacks on delivery.
Dean 441		RSA	Modern, solid, and fast.
Discovery 50		GBR	New design; elegant, quality, spacious
Dolphin 46		BRA	Daggerboards, nice performance and comfort balance
Fontaine Pajot 38, 43, 44, Casamance 45, 46, 56, 60, 75		FRA	Attractive designs, good quality, less expensive and lower quality than Catana
Gunboat 48-90		RSA	Carbon rocketships, very expensive, also now building in China
Kronos 45		FRA	Wauquiez-Beneteau built.
Lagoon 38, 41, 47, 57, 67		FRA	Beneteau built, good charter boat, O.K cruising boat.
Leopard 38,42,47, 62		RSA	Good design, well built. Only moderate bridge deck clearance.
Manta 42 <a href="http://www.mantausa.com">www.mantausa.com</a>		USA	Well designed and built. Great cruising boat.
Outremer 40-64		FRA	Fast and strong.
PDQ 32, 36, 42, 44	*	CAN	Long successful production run. Now called Antares 44.
Prout 38, 45, 50	*	ENG	Reasonably priced, well proven, long production run.
Seawind 33		AUS	Quality boat.
Soubise 46		FRA	Excellent, super fast and high quality, semi-custom.
Voyage 380, 440, 500, 580		RSA	Lightweight, low freeboard & bridge deck clearance, good value

ARG Argentina  
AUS Australia  
CAN Canada  
CRI Costa Rica  
DEN Denmark

ENG England  
FIN Finland  
FRA France  
GER Germany  
HOL Holland

NZL New Zealand  
RSA South Africa  
SCT Scotland  
SWE Sweden  
SPA Spain

TAI Taiwan  
Var Various  
\* Out of business  
or production  
V2.1

