



French builder Fountaine-Pajot launches their new entry-level cruising cat

Mahé 36

The new Joubert/Nivelt designed Mahé 36 from the French Catamaran builder Fountaine-Pajot hit the water this year and instantly made a splash with cruising families all over Europe. The reason? The relatively small cat packs all of the accommodations and sailing ability a family might need for comfortable and fast cruising in a boat that has a price tag that is not through the stratosphere.

The 36-footer has a modern look with lean hulls, plumb bows and neatly raked transoms. The cabintop angles slightly forward to avoid a boxy look and the large windows are designed to look like a pair of modern sunglasses.

The cockpit aft has seating for five and will be a comfortable outdoor saloon where in warm weather the crew will spend most of their time. The helmsman's station to starboard has a raised

captain's chair and good visibility all around.

The saloon joins the cockpit through a large glass door so the two spaces can become one large living area. The dinette, which can seat six, is the center of the saloon with the galley to starboard and the chart table to port.

The 36 can be had with either two sleeping suites, each with its own head, or in a three-cabin version with one head. The interior is finished in white with varnished birch cabinets so the overall interior is light and bright.

Fountaine-Pajot builds cruising cats from 36 to 60 feet and has seen their boats complete many oceanic passages and circumnavigations. The boats are built using modern vacuum-bag technology with cored hulls and light interior bulkheads. Exterior wood is kept to a minimum.

The 36, like her sister ships,

was designed to be light and to sail fast under a generous spread of sail. The polar curves for the 36 show remarkable speed potential, with 10 knots being a reasonable top end when reaching in a fair breeze.

Like all cruising cats, the Mahé 36 will cost a bit more than similar monohulls but at a base price of under 170,000 euros (\$220,000) the new boat may well fit into a family budget. For more information log on to www.fountaine-pajot.com.



MAHE 36 SPECIFICATIONS

LOA	36'2"
Beam	19'5"
Draft	3'7"
Displacement	11,000 lbs.
Sail area	870 sq. ft.
Water	70 gals.
Fuel	55 gals.