EXCITE CAT 810

The Excite Cat 810 has character and its behaviour is exemplary, even in rough seas...

CONCEPTION AND DESIGN

Excite Cat called on Philippe Subrero (in partnership with Xavier Fay for the interior) who had already scored a hit with the Lagoon Power 43. Under the travel-lift, the hulls revealed their vertical sides: the step is hollowed out from the bow, then runs about thirty cm below the waterline to the stern. The angle of the bow is pleasing to the eye and the entry is fine; the semi-triangular hull is softened by rounded sections. The propeller tunnel begins where the shafts exit the hull and fixed flaps prolong the bow all. Two small suspended rudders and a pair of four bladed props complete the mobile equipment. Excite Cat can be delivered with or without fins; our test version (flying bridge + 2 x 160 HP) was intended for occasional beaching on the Atlantic coast, so was fitted with them.

LINES AND PRESENTATION

Philippe Subrero confirms that he has a good eye for a line with this boat, as the styling exercise was risky in a catamaran this small. On the catway, Excite Cat is pleasant to look at and well-proportioned; the flying bridge is integrated into the overall line and can comfortably accommodate 3 persons. The slope of the cabin roof, the numerous glazed surfaces, the oval portholes, the tubular stainless steel guard rail and the inclined stanchions all demonstrate the attention that has been paid to the aesthetics. The silhouette is very compact and gives a real ‘cruiser’ look to this lively little boat.

ON DECK

The bathing platform and opening ‘gate’ make for easy access aboard; a pair of telescopic davits (optional) simplify storage of the dinghy (choosing a dynamic model with a sailing rig, as on our test boat, gives further possibilities at anchor, and allows you to keep in touch with the pleasures of sailing). The fishing rod supports fixed into the coaming underline one of this boat’s vocations; for game fishing aficionados, fitting a ‘fighting seat’ would turn the Excite Cat into a very useful, mobile and easy-to-use fishing boat. Access to the flying bridge is via a good-quality metal ladder equipped with handrails and non-slip steps in teak. The ergonomic side decks lead to the sunbathing deck, where there are two lockers for mooring lines and fenders; the chain locker, bow roller and windlass are proof that the boat has been equipped seriously.

ENGINES, TRANSMISSIONS

Engine accessibility is satisfactory; a small amount of dismantling is necessary to gain access to the gearboxes (under the saloon to port, under the galley to starboard).
The ladder giving access to the flying bridge is a bit steep… Be careful when descending in heavy seas!

There is another steering position on the flying bridge, as well as a comfortable three-sector settle.

There is a lot of storage space on the foredeck, as well as a sunbathing or children’s play area, at another.

**Technical specification**

- **Builder:** Excite Cat, Alicante, Spain
- **Architect:** Philippe Sobrere
- **Interior designer:** Xavier Fay
- **Overall Length:** 8.16m
- **Beam:** 3.85m
- **Draft:** 0.75m
- **Displacement:** 4.4t
- **Propulsion:** 2 x 160HP (2 x 215 l)
- **Transmissions:** V-drive
- **Fuel:** 200 l
- **Water:** 100 l
- **Price:** 153,800 €
- **Price of flying bridge:** 10,151 €
- **French distributor:** Le Comptoir du Catamaran

**Average range:** 150 miles with 2x160HP

**Consumption:** 2 x 24 l/h at 16-17 knots

**Max speed (test version):** 21 knots

**Fuel tank:** 220 litres without the flybridge

**Price from:** 135,157 € to 153,800 €

- **without options, according to version**
- **Price of flying bridge:** 10,151 €

**Bearings:** 3.85m

**Displacement:** 4.4t

**Draft:** 0.75m

**Overall length:** 8.08m

**Interior design:** Xavier Fay

**Architect:** Philippe Subrero

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**STEERING IS TOO LOW-GEARED.**

**FLYING BRIDGE IS QUITE STEEP.**

**COULD BE IMPROVED.**

**ENGINE SOUNDPROOFCING COULD BE IMPROVED.**

**THE LADDER LEADING TO THE FLYING BRIDGE IS QUITE STEEP.**

**STEERING IS TOO LOW-GEARED.**

**CONCLUSIONS**

Was it surprise at the size of the boat and its excellent handling? Whatever it was, this lively little boat won me over by its seaworthiness and stability, and a surprise and the Excite Cat remains reassuring and fun even in rougher seas.

Pronautique d'Auray's high build quality is obvious; the foam/pb/pb/pb/yester sandwich stiffens the hull and solidifies its performance, soundproofing and solidity. At 15 knots in a sea and there was no creasing from the hull. The choice of engines on our test model gave lively and powerful performance and would be sufficient for all conditions, in my opinion.

The 2 x 160HP version without the flybridge is much cheaper and would be an excellent choice for someone who wanted to follow the Canal du Midi, before embarking on a trip around the Mediterranean.