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HORIZON YACHTS FD77

Dynamic space management and style highlight a yacht that takes comfort and all-around visibility seriously.



SPECS

LOA 80 ft., 7 in.
Beam 23 ft.
Draft 5 ft., 5 in.
Displacement 174,160 lbs.
Fuel 2,700 gal.
Water 400 gal.
Power Twin MAN V-8 1,200 hp diesels
Price (as tested) \$6.8 million

THE OLDIES SONG “I’m On The Outside Looking In” by Little Anthony & The Imperials laments a love lost and exhibits a desire to be back in. “An’ I wanna be, an I wanna be, an’ I wanna be back on the inside,” the singer croons.

Those words come to mind as I stand in the salon of the Horizon Yachts FD77, hull #1. I am on the inside looking out, and what a view it is. Horizon appears to have calculated the correct equation for blending inside and outside together on its FD (Fast Displacement) models, and it shows on the FD77.

Catching my attention first are the full-height frameless salon windows that reach 5 feet, 11 inches high in an

area that has 7 feet of headroom. Sidedeck access doors to the balconies and the triple-paned accordion aft deck doors are framed glass, too. Add in 23 feet of beam, and Horizon has solved the interior space conundrum. Open sidedeck railings come complete with dual safety lines, so passengers’ line of sight from any seat includes panoramic views of the coast or sea.

With a cozy design that includes a low-profile yet comfortable portside L-shaped sofa, a diamond-stitched ottoman, opposing dual chairs to starboard and a drop-down 55-inch Samsung LED TV concealed in the ceiling, the salon may become everyone’s favorite place to relax. But not so fast!

Horizon designed the FD77 to be an active yacht, for families and friends, in a casual but classy environment. Designers ditched a formal dining table with chairs for a more relaxed three-seat breakfast nook forward of the salon on the aft-end of the galley. It’s a great spot for morning coffee or to have the kids dine while the “oldies” go *alfresco* on the fully covered aft deck.

MAIN DECK FEATURES

Forward to port is the U-shaped galley. The large opening to the breakfast nook can be closed by a high-low privacy screen, and hidden glass pocket doors can enclose the galley for privacy. The appliance list is robust and includes a full-height Sub-Zero refrigerator, four freezer drawers, an additional Sub-Zero refrigerator/freezer drawer under the counter, a GE appliance suite — oven, cooktop, microwave oven, dishwasher — and a Blanco sink with a disposal. A full-height pantry, lockers and cabinets suffice for ample provisioning.

Owners who like to get up for a midnight snack will appreciate the FD77. Horizon designed the master stateroom forward on the main deck, maximizing space utilization and privacy, as the additional staterooms are below. The main-deck master also affords the guest rooms more space.

The master has a centerline king berth with draws and flanking nightstands. Hullside windows with opening ports allow ambient light and cool breezes to flood in and provide great views. An *en suite* head has a glass wall along the entryway that incorporates a Polyvision smart-glass installation. With a press of a button, the transparent glass delivers privacy-granting opaqueness, thanks to a smart film laminated between the glass panes.

Additional head features include a tiered vanity with an oversized sink, storage space for towels just below and lower cabinetry. To port is the toilet room, through which is access to the shower stall. I thought the layout was awkward at first before realizing it’s pretty useful. When done showering,



Horizon designed the FD77 to be an active yacht for families and friends.

The spacious, open and well-lighted salon (above), including a forward breakfast nook (below), is sure to be a favorite gathering spot. But the flybridge, which includes the helm (bottom), will compete for passengers’ attention.



Tester’s Opinion

It’s evident that Horizon Yachts has done its homework in not one but all aspects of the FD77 — from the seakeeping ability of the hull to the grand views from the salon’s oversized windows to the sleek design of the flybridge’s forward windows. The FD77 also offers dynamic space management and style.

one can dry off in the toilet area without dripping on the marble floor at the vanity or in the carpeted master. A nice touch is the shower stall's raised marble floor with a checkerboard design. Deep channels whisk away the water. Teak would be nice, but the marble is fashionable.

LUXURY ACCOMMODATIONS

Out of sight doesn't mean out of mind, as Horizon carries the luxurious settings and fixtures to the lower staterooms. Here, owners can take advantage of several configurations to accommodate most any sleeping arrangement. Forward is the bow VIP, complete with a step-up centerline queen berth that includes under-berth storage, hanging lockers, a 32-inch LED TV, and opening portholes. A private *en suite* head features a Tecma marine toilet, a sink/counter with storage below and a large shower stall.

To port is another VIP stateroom with queen athwartship berth, a closet, a TV and an *en suite* head. The twin guest stateroom has twin beds that can slide together to make a double berth and an *en suite* head.

Throughout the FD77, multitudes of woods and fabrics are used to add style while breaking up the monotony of single-source materials. American oak that is lightly glossed is bright and easily maintained. High-gloss walnut accents are used to trim walls, furniture and edges. Solid wood flooring in the salon, lower foyer, galley and other areas blends nicely. One item, the washer/dryer closet door, is composed of gloss multidirectional walnut panels, more like a piece of art that adds to the high-end feel.

OUTDOOR TIME

The view from the aft beach club is impressive. Not only does the 1,500-pound-capacity oversized hydraulic platform act as a shallow beach, swim-out stage or tender lift, but the lazarette is designed like a resort deck area, with a sofa lounge that converts to an oversized sunpad, chairs, a table and teak flooring. Included is a mini galley with a cooktop, a refrigerator/freezer and a washer/dryer combo. Access to the beach is via a hydraulic full-width transom door, which also offers good shading for sunny days. A pantograph door is in the middle, for access when the big door is closed.

Another great idea is the aft-deck dining table. With two sets of table leg sockets, the table can either be set close to the aft built-in transom seating or set forward with full chair seating all around it. This configuration allows for varied dining and seating options, from standup cocktail parties to seated dinners. Eight settings can easily be placed at this generously sized teak table. An aft-deck day head is convenient by location and reduces traffic into the salon. A refrigerator, ice-maker and dropdown TV



DETAILS

Standard Equipment

Twin MAN V-8 1,200 hp diesels, frameless windows, popup fore-deck lights, 2 Onan generators (29 kw), 2 Glendinning 100-amp power cables, Speich windshield wipers, Steelhead ES1500 davit, Teleflex steering, Maretron monitoring system, Sea Recovery water-maker, 2 20-gallon water heaters and more.

Optional Equipment

Twin CAT C18, MTU V10 or MAN 1400 diesels, and much more. Consult with a dealer.

Builder

Horizon Yachts, Kaohsiung, Taiwan; horizonyachtusa.com

West Coast Dealers

Denison Yacht Sales, Newport Beach, Calif.; (949) 791-4220; denisonyachtsales.com

Emerald Pacific Yachts, Seattle; emeraldpacificyachts.com; (206) 587-0660

Outdoor social spaces can be found from stern to stem, including a spacious beach club (above), bow seating and sunning lounges (below), and covered cockpit dining. The main-deck master provides privacy and expansive views. Even the engine room is well designed and spacious.



are nice touches.

An oasis of relaxation awaits on the foredeck. A multiperson sunpad has an elevation sufficient to make it a great viewing platform and is ringed on three sides by a sturdy grabrail, and a well-padded bench spans the front of the flybridge just aft of the sunpad.

RUN FREE

Of note are the running attributes of the FD77. It's a steady platform thanks to the ABT Zero Speed Stabilizers, and Horizon has redesigned a key component that not only reduces pitching but increases efficiency. A typical bulbous bow has a rounded front section that essentially pushes water away from the hull in an effort to reduce hull drag, among other things. Horizon redesigned its bow and now incorporates a high-performance "wave-piercing bow." Watching this work while we are underway is an eye-opener. The more-pointed bulb parts the oncoming water at and just below the waterline. The water breaks against a much smaller part of the point, styled like an inverted hull, and slips down the bulb and away from the hull. I have been on several of the Horizon FD models and can attest to the premier ride and seakeeping ability of the hull design, even in 6-foot seas.

The view from the aft beach club is impressive.

Making all of this go are twin MAN V-8 1,200 hp diesel powerplants coupled to ZF gearboxes. Capable of 18 knots at wide open, the FD77 can journey safely between ports, even in less-than-desirable conditions. At 10 knots, its range measures about 1,650 nautical miles, based on a fuel capacity of 2,700 gallons, given approximately a 10 percent reserve.

TOP DECK FEATURES

A key feature of the open flybridge deck is the fixed front windshield. Integrated into the flybridge and hardtop, it offers commanding visibility and protection from the elements. Three large forward panes and wraparound side panes — one per side — allow the captain and guests to enjoy the open-air deck with less wind and noise. If desired, the glass side panes can be extended, or Bimini curtains can be added.

The helm is full of electronics, including four 17-inch Garmin multifunction displays, Garmin rudder/speed, depth and autopilot displays, and Boning engine displays. Controls for the ABT Trac stabilizers and thrusters and the MAN throttle controls are close at hand. Twin Stidd helm seats are accompanied by port/starboard viewing benches for guests.

A two-level bar with a refrigerator, ice-maker, sink, storage and three stools is to port. Across is a L-settee with glass cocktail table. Aft is a grill station with a high-low 24-inch propane barbecue.

Interesting is the freestanding sunpad in the aft center of the deck. It's a great sunning spot, but it also conceals the pre-wiring Horizon builds into the yacht in case a Jacuzzi is added post-delivery. It's the forethought and planning for future enhancements that help Horizon be ahead of the curve. ❤️