NEW BOAT VIKING 52 OPEN



more than 40 years, the name Viking Yachts has been synonymous with hard-core angling, outstanding seakeeping capabilities, and a commitment to excellence as one of the industry's leading sportfishing builders. Now the company has intro-

duced its latest model, the 52 Open, representing a new direction and creating more options for offshore anglers.

Viking likens the 52 Open to a bluewater SUV, and the similarities are not hard to see. The sporty 52 Open is just as well suited for billfish tournaments as it is to safely and comfortably take the family on weekend cruises.

Utilizing Viking's proven hull design and technology, the 52 rides like a big boat, but its open design means it doesn't require the same maintenance as a large convertible sportfisherman.

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"The 52 Open allows owners to have a big boat without the hassle and maintenance of a traditional big boat," says Peter Frederiksen, Viking Yachts' director of communication. There are less outside surfaces to clean on the Open, so, at the end of the day, washdown chores go faster and easier.

Entering through a walk-through transom door brings you to the 52's spacious 148-square-foot cockpit. A notable feature on the 52 Open is the mezzanine that affords guests an elevated view of the action in the cockpit. As a bonus, it houses large storage areas. Beneath the steps to the mezzanine are a freezer and engine room access.

Up into the bridge is a storage area to starboard as well as a refrigerator with an icemaker. An L-shaped settee is to port. Three Murray helm seats with teak

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accents are set in front of the helm, providing excellent visibility. "People like the idea of having the helm on one level without a flybridge," says Frederiksen. "Those who like to fish with a small group find the 52 can easily be owner operated." The bridge is air conditioned, a fact that anglers in the tropics will appreciate, making the 52 an all-season boat.

Below, teak and holly sole floors complement the high gloss teak joinery. Galley cabinets lined with maple are a thoughtful touch. An L-shaped lounge with storage beneath is to port, featuring a hi-lo teak cocktail table. "We put storage everywhere we could fit it," says Frederiksen.

Forward, there are two well-appointed staterooms. The master's double walk-around berth lifts on gas struts to expose a storage area. The head with stall shower boasts brass fixtures, a teak faced vanity, and a Corian countertop. Unique features include a central vacuum system in the saloon, separate washer and dryer, and individual temperature controls.

Power is delivered by a common rail

1,360-horsepower MAN engine in the Awgrip finished engine room, complete with powder-coated web frame engine beds and a Delta-T ventilation system.

Frederiksen sums it up best, "The 52 Open is for someone who has different needs than a traditional sportfish can answer, but who doesn't want to give up the seakeeping abilities they've come to expect in a Viking Yacht."

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