

BABY PRINCESS

A pleasant surprise is how you can describe this latest boat from Princess Yachts — the V39. It is the kind of boat that can instantly lure you into taking it home.

Text by Frances and Michael Howorth

Photographs by Princess Yachts International plc



When underway, the boat's size enables it to go really fast

Specifications

Length (overall)	13 m (42' 6")
Beam	3.81 m (12' 5")
Displacement (approx.)	9,100 kg (20,062 lbs)
Fuel cap	700 l (185 gal)
Water cap	332 l (88 gal)

A fully equipped, designated galley comes as a surprise on a boat of this size



The polished ebony interiors reflect a definite attention to detail



Space is effectively utilised on this boat with the master stateroom placed bow side



It's been quite a while since British boat builder Princess has introduced a model with hull length below 40 feet, but the V39 has emerged to change just that. The boat opens up a whole new entry-level category for the firm based in Plymouth. She provides a welcome proposition for those who prefer smaller boats that combine style, performance and quality from an established brand.

Princess V39 was unveiled to a world audience at the London Boat Show in January 2012. When we boarded her we did not expect to be impressed; in fact, had we been asked beforehand, we would have questioned, why was Princess building a small boat rather than a big one. Now, having seen the new baby, we are wondering why they waited so long. If we had little more money in our bank accounts we would definitely be in line to buy one.

The hull and deck have been produced using resin infusion technology to reduce weight, increase structural

The placing of the helm station facilitates a good view



strength and improve efficiency. It is a system that the company seems to have adopted for construction throughout the range. Add two Volvo D6-330 engines and you get a boat that is both exhilarating and economical to drive. She has a quick transition to the plane along with some nifty cruising speeds, which can top out just below 40 knots.

There can be no denying that, in this new model, there is definitely big boat styling inside a small footprint. Ever since the brand was acquired by LVMH there is, to the trained eye just a little bit of Feadship ideology creeping into the Princess brand.

Her interiors are incredibly light and spacious and finished really well.



Main deck



Lower deck

It is apparent that there is a definite 'attention to detail' within the workforce. Perhaps with the new available finance, the company has been able to combine better quality materials, craftsmanship and detailing

throughout. Here, it has all worked to great effect providing the feeling of a much larger craft.

The saloon and well-equipped galley combine for a highly sociable entertaining space. Cleverly, the

main saloon converts to become a double berth cabin, which may not be something you'd want to do on a regular basis, but it does add great versatility. Everywhere there is plenty of storage of the type normally found on sailing boats; no space seems to have been wasted. The galley area has a standard-sized, two-burner gas hob, but comes with an electric option if a generator is fitted. There is a small microwave combi oven, an under-the-counter fridge freezer, and the whole area presents itself as fully equipped to take care of a cruising family who do not want to eat ashore every single day. Perhaps the most pleasing of all features on this brand new boat is the way the sunroof opens up over the main saloon. In doing so, it converts a cruising boat



The black retractable roof works well as an additional sunbathing area

into a sports boat and demonstrates at the flick of a switch quite how versatile this 42-footer really is.

Accommodation below is generously proportioned and contemporarily styled. The forward and larger one of the two cabins has a wide double bed, an en suite head with secondary access to the saloon, whilst the aft cabin can be fitted with optional sliding berths to provide easy conversion to a double when required. It has a cosy sofa and large cupboard too.

The design of this Princess is both practical and elegant. The expansive teak-laid cockpit comes complete with a large wet bar with fridge, a small sink unit and generous U-shaped bench seating around a folding table. The transom platform is large enough to accommodate a tender and can be fitted with a lift to make launch and recovery very simple.

The order book of Princess Yachts looks promising already, with four boats under construction at their shipyard that is equipped to finish one boat within 18 days. The V39 is incredible value-for-money compared with other boats her size, and is accommodating enough for family guests. Small yes, but she is truly a sports cruiser without compromise, with ample storage throughout. This baby Princess is definitely a new addition to our, "We want one now" list. **IB**

For further information, contact:
Jayendra Kachalia
Navnit Marine
Tel: +91 222 172 0707 / +91 982 114 8888
Email: jayendra@navnitmarine.com
Website: www.navitmarine.com