

# Your Article Request Delivered!

This PDF report has been downloaded from the YBW copyreport service.

Access the archive of thousands more boat reports, product tests, cruising guides and general articles covering all aspects of boating from the worlds most respected portfolio of marine magazines at

[www.ybw.com/copyshop](http://www.ybw.com/copyshop)

If you find this article useful, there's loads more each and every month in all of our magazines plus expert advice, news and competitions:

**PRACTICAL**  
**Boat Owner**  
BRITAIN'S BIGGEST SELLING YACHTING MAGAZINE SAIL AND POWER

**MOTOR BOAT**  
& YACHTING

**ClassicBoat**

**YACHTING**  
MONTHLY

**Yachting World**

**MOTOR BOATS**  
MONTHLY

## Subscribe and receive these benefits:

- Save money off the cover price
- Convenient delivery direct to you door (free p&p)
- Never miss an issue
- Money back guarantee

For more details and to discover our latest discount offer please call:

**0845 676 7778**

and quote MTDW or visit [www.ybw.com/ibsp](http://www.ybw.com/ibsp)

CONDITIONS OF SUPPLY: This article is supplied subject to the following conditions, namely that it shall not, without IPC Media Ltd's prior written consent, be downloaded, transmitted, printed, sold, copied or otherwise disposed of by way of trade [or affixed to or as part of any publication or advertising, literary or pictorial matter whatsoever], save that you are entitled on a non-exclusive basis to access, download, and print one (1) copy only of the article for your own personal, non-commercial use. All the above magazines are published by IPC Media Ltd, Kings Reach Tower, Stamford St, London, SE1 9LS (020 7261 5000). Website: [www.ipcmedia.com](http://www.ipcmedia.com). All the above magazines are a trademarks of IPC Media Ltd. © IPC Media Ltd 2005. All rights reserved and reproduction without permission is strictly forbidden.

# A real pro



**M**any buyers seeking a boat with build quality and good seakeeping will, somewhere near the top of their list, write 'Targa'.

In many cases, this will be a sun-kissed Fairline sports cruiser from the English fenlands. For just as many others, it will be something from Finnish

builders Botnia Marin.

Finland's Targas have carved out a reputation that marketing money just cannot buy. The police and armed forces use them, for the same reasons that the public do: they are damned fine boats, plain and simple.

The latest model in the line is the successor to the excellent 27,

in typically understated Scandinavian fashion designated the 27.1. Though a bit longer and a bit wider than its forebear, and capable of carving through the water even more adroitly, its main changes are in the detail.

The aft cabin now allows for a full, couple-friendly double berth to be made up, rather than just two singles. And the tall pilothouse has more space to enjoy, and a one-piece forward screen to enhance visibility.

The flybridge version of the boat comes with a fuller helm console that will accommodate more navigation instruments. Moreover, the deep and wide walkaround decks are now flush, rather than having a step down to the forward cockpit with its U-shaped seating.

The outside privy is retained,



but in a redesigned form which is more cleanly integrated into the front of the superstructure.

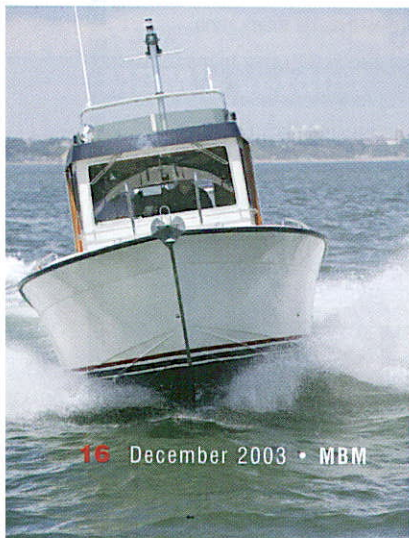
The idea of an outside toilet and shower compartment will put off some buyers. It does leave more living space inside, but there's still no second cabin or occasional berths.

Plenty of thought goes into the design and layout of Targas, and it is evident throughout the 27.1.

The helm features a clever

## specifications

<b>LENGTH OVERALL</b>	28ft 7in (8.76m)
<b>BEAM</b>	10ft 0in (3.04m)
<b>DISPLACEMENT</b>	3.4 tonnes
<b>ENGINES</b>	single 260hp-285hp diesel or twin 170hp diesels
<b>PRICE</b>	from £68,710 inc VAT £70,700 as tested
<b>ENQUIRIES</b>	Wessex Marine Tel: 01202 700702 <a href="http://www.wessexmarine.co.uk">www.wessexmarine.co.uk</a>





swivelling steering and throttle mount, which rolls up or down to suit your height or preferred driving position. Adjacent lies a large teak chart table, but lift the lid and you reveal a neat two-burner gas hob and sink.

The pilothouse has plenty of headroom, side doors to the decks, and the look and smell of a teak-lover's convention. An array of handholds contribute to its professional aura.

A solid vertical pole in the middle is a very useful handhold as you move around while underway, and also serves as a mounting point for the removable dinette table.

On the move, the 27.1 is incredibly well-mannered, although it does offer two totally different driving experiences.

From the inner helm, it returns

such a smooth, refined ride that you'll be reliant on a GPS display to give you any firm idea of speed. Even with incorrect trim applied, the hull remains as forgiving as your favourite aunt.

If it is excitement you're after, step up to the flybridge. Here, you quickly forget you are behind the wheel of something that shares

its aesthetics with a potting shed; you feel you've been transported onto some hybrid sportsboat.

Come to think of it, that is not far from the truth. With a single 285hp Volvo Penta KAD300/DP diesel engine, we recorded a top speed of 31 knots, which leaves plenty of scope for fast cruising at 22-26 knots.



## conclusions

### FOR

Versatile design. Fantastic handling. First-class build quality. Improved aft cabin.

### AGAINST

Tricky to board from the bathing platform. Unconventional styling. Outside toilet. Only two berths.

### VERDICT

There are more luxurious and spacious boats than the Targa 27.1, but few that will look after you as well, in terms of build quality and handling.

Although decked out like a comfortable warship, it still works as a friendly-family cruiser. Its styling you either love or hate; for the record, we love it.

**RATING** ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓