

ON BOARD

POWER

## North Pacific 590 Skylounge

*This stunning new North Pacific needs to be seen to be believed*

BY PETER A. ROBSON





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The Port of Everett Marina is the largest public marina on the West Coast of North America, and it boasts 2,300 permanent boat slips and an additional 5,000 feet of guest moorage. One of the most impressive vessels here is the North Pacific 590 Skylounge. This new model, built by Surrey, BC-based North Pacific Yachts, stands out as the largest and most ambitious yacht offered by the company to date.

**DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION** Although only 10 feet longer than its predecessor, the NP 590 boasts close to three times its volume and 60 percent more gross displacement. Its sleek and dramatic styling, including towering hull sides, a near-plumb bow, reverse transom and smoked glass windows, give it a megayacht presence. Perhaps the most striking feature is its enclosed skylounge which replaces the traditional pilothouse. North Pacific Yachts, founded by John and Trevor Brice in 2004, has built more than 150 trawler-style yachts in China, and the 590 is their crowning achievement.

The 590 is designed to cruise at nine or 10 knots. It is powered by twin 405 Cummins diesels with a top speed of close to 12 knots, though larger twins and single engine options are available. The solid glass hull is reinforced with a full keel and skegs in front of the rudders, providing additional protection. Decks are cored with closed-cell foam reinforced with rigid PVC for strength and durability. ▶

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*The NP 590 Skylounge offers a level of comfort and livability that rivals even the most stylish designer home.*



The idea for the NP 590 was born from Phil Adams, who wanted a larger vessel than his NP 49 to better accommodate his extended family. After extensive research into similar larger offerings around the world, Phil and his son Evan chose North Pacific to create this custom three-stateroom yacht. Evan was deeply involved in the yacht's development, including traveling to China during construction, and was so impressed with the company, he subsequently became North Pacific's sales manager.

**ON DECK** Boarding the NP 590 is via the wide swim platform and gently curved port and starboard staircases. A 14-foot RIB is transom mounted on a Freedom Lift, making it easy to launch and retrieve. A watertight door in the transom leads to the full height lazarette and expansive engine room.

The covered cockpit, equipped with a forward-facing settee and a hi-low teak table, offers comfort in any weather and is ideal for al fresco dining. Synthetic Flexiteek is used for the swim platform, cockpit sole and boat deck and provides the look of teak without the maintenance. A broad stairway sweeps up from the cockpit to the boat deck and skylounge above, though alternate access is available via stairs inside the saloon. I like that the stainless bollards, fairleads, cleats and doors are all oversize. They were provided by Taiwan-based megayacht supplier Aritex. A sturdy three-panel sliding hatch, also by Aritex, seals the cockpit from the boat deck when needed.

The asymmetrical cabin layout, with a 20-inch-wide exterior walkway on the starboard side, maximizes interior space while maintaining easy passage from bow to stern. A wing door on the side deck just ahead of the cockpit provides protection from wind and weather, a feature particularly useful when underway. The side decks have 26-inch-high bulwarks topped with stainless handrails, providing a secure feeling when moving around the yacht. Midway up

the side deck, adjacent to the dining/lounge area, is a pantograph door that offers convenient access to the side deck from midships.

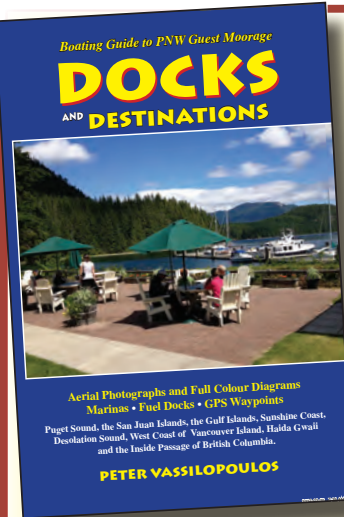
The Portuguese bridge at the bow offers a protected walkway, with a built-in table and settee on its forward side. The anchor gear is robust, featuring a double bowsprit, a Rocna anchor, a heavy-duty Lofrans Titan B windlass and 300 feet of half-inch chain. A clever bridle setup allows the strain on the anchor to be taken up by the bow eye just above the waterline, reducing the scope of the anchor chain compared to traditional deployment from the bowsprit.

#### INTERIOR DESIGN AND FEATURES

The saloon is entered via a substantial three-panel sliding door, another qual-

ity product from Aritex. The NP 590's interior is both modern and stylish, featuring a combination of rich, horizontal grain-matched teak with tasteful accents of darker Wenge wood. This contrasts beautifully with white fabric wall coverings, accents and headliner that balance the modern with the traditional to great effect. Light layering adds another level of luxury through indirect ceiling lights, rope lighting, valance lighting and pot lights. The interior is bathed in natural light, thanks to large square windows.

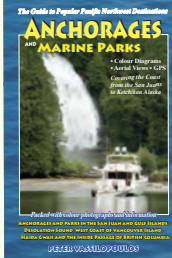
The galley, located two steps up from the saloon, is fully equipped with luxury appliances, including a space-saving oven with French doors. The raised bar counter between the galley and lounge/dining area offers a great transition. ▶



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Guests can sit at the counter on raised stools or lower them to join the large hi-low folding leaf dining table and its curved seating. This is arguably the best place to relax with excellent views, to commune with the chef and simply enjoy the experience with family and friends. A day head across from the galley is a convenient feature. Wide, curved, varnished teak staircases with leather wrapped stainless handrails lead to the skylounge and accommodation areas.

**SKYLounge** The skylounge, with its nearly full-width helm station, is a standout feature of the NP 590. It offers 360-degree views, an L-shaped seating area and an office desk with a computer station. The helm is equipped with three wide Garmin touch screens and a Dockmate remote control, allowing for precise maneuvering from anywhere on the vessel.

A sliding glass door opens onto the boat deck, where an L-shaped settee and table provide a sheltered outdoor space. The boat deck also has ample room for a davit and dinghy storage, as well as additional seating and space for water toys and fishing gear.

**ACCOMMODATION** The accommodation on the NP 590 is spacious and beautifully appointed. Extensive light layering options throughout add another level of luxury. The master suite features large rectangular hull windows, a king-size island berth and extensive storage, including more than 20 drawers and 10 cupboards. The ensuite bathroom is equally impressive, with a large, tiled shower, double sinks and a separate toilet area.

The VIP stateroom in the bow offers an island berth, ample storage and easy access to the shared head, which also features a separate shower. The guest stateroom to port has two single beds that can slide together to form a double and a third single bunk that folds away when not needed.

**ENGINE ROOM AND SYSTEMS** Access to the engine room is through the lazarette from the outside transom door or an interior staircase in the saloon. It can be configured for various uses, including crew quarters, a utility room, workshop or playroom. The engine room is a mechanic's dream, with everything finished in gloss white paint and clean, organized spaces around the

twin 405-horsepower Cummins diesels. The polished stainless engine mounts are particularly impressive. Aqua Drive shaft seals are great as they transfer the thrust of the props into the heavy hull stringers instead of pushing into the transmissions and engines. Stainless trays on top of each engine are a smart feature, with room to store tools and parts while working on the diesels. Powerful ventilators make it cool down here even with the diesels running.

The NP 590 is equipped with many advanced systems, including a Termodinamica reverse cycle air system that provides efficient heating and cooling throughout the vessel and allows each area of the vessel to be controlled independently. It consists of a single, variable speed inverter compressor that only pushes out what is needed, resulting in less power draw.


The Wavelift active fin stabilizers enhance stability both underway and at anchor. The yacht also features an 1,800-gallon-per-day watermaker. A 20 kW Northern Lights generator is more than ample for the ship's loads and can quickly charge the ship's 28,800 watts (at 24 volts) of lithium-ion batteries. As Evan put it: "There's never a discussion as to whether we can turn this or that on. Just like in a house. Anything can be turned on at any time." In the rare case of excessive demand, the dual Victron Quattro inverters can produce 120 and 240-volt AC power to make up the difference.

**PERFORMANCE** Evan was our captain for the day and he used the Dockmate remote from the cockpit to ease us expertly away from the marina. This was my first experience with the Dockmate system in action, though I had written about the system previously as part of an article on joysticks. Dockmate's remote unit can be operated from anywhere on the vessel and controls both engines, the gears, the throttles and the thrusters. Evan says he always uses it when docking, which

is not surprising considering the mass of the 590. I quickly became a fan.

During sea trials in Possession Sound, the NP 590 proved to be an easy and stable performer. Like most trawlers, comfort, seakeeping and livability are more important than speed. The most economical cruising speed was 9.1 knots at 1,400 rpm, burning just 9.1 gallons per hour—a testament to the vessel's excellent fuel efficiency. Our miles per gallon increased to about a half-mile at 10 knots. Our top speed was 11.8 knots. Throughout all speeds, the NP 590 maintained smooth and graceful handling. Sound levels in the skylounge were remarkably low at 64 dB, making for a quiet and enjoyable ride. Despite the added weight of the skylounge, the

590 was extremely stable. We found that the stabilizers did decrease roll slightly, but in the relatively calm waters of the Sound, they were not necessary.

**CONCLUSION** The NP 590 Skylounge is a testament to North Pacific Yachts' commitment to quality and innovation. With its luxurious interior, spacious layout, and advanced systems, the NP 590 offers a level of comfort and livability that rivals even the most stylish designer home. Whether entertaining a crowd or enjoying a quiet cruise, this vessel provides the perfect blend of elegance and functionality. Priced between \$3.3 and \$3.7 million, the NP 590 represents a new high for North Pacific Yachts. 



**LOA** 18.7 m / 61' 4"  
**LWL** 17.25 m / 56' 7"  
**Beam** 5.59 m / 18' 4"  
**Draft** 1.62 m / 5' 4"  
**Gross Tonnage**  
 46,720 kg / 103,000 lbs  
**Fuel Capacity** 6,814 L / 1,800 USG  
**Water Capacity** 1,514 L / 400 USG  
**Holding** 568 L / 150 gallons  
**Power:** Twin Cummins 405 hp  
 9 Litre QSL diesels

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