

Test Report: Nimbus 365 Coupé

Text by Lori Schüpbach, in: marina.ch – das nautische Magazin der Schweiz, November issue 2009, pictures by Nimbus, translation by Krüger Werft AG

Strong performance

The Swedish Nimbus brand - imported into Switzerland by Krüger Werft for 22 years - is well-known for its rugged and seaworthy boats that run strongly even in foul weather. The new "Nimbus 365 Coupé" is not different. At the same time however, she is equipped with many features to make a trip in sunny weather and calm waters even more enjoyable.



Why Nimbus calls her a "coupé" is not really apparent. In the automotive sector, a coupé is defined as a very sporty, closed vehicle with only two doors and frequently only two seats as well. The Nimbus Coupé series offers much more: a versatile concept with the right configuration for any weather and any water.

Three features stand out: the large glass sliding roof, the panorama view and the smart layout. The latter ensures that four to six people can comfortably sleep onboard, that the saloon is much larger than is envisioned from the outside, and that there is sufficient space under open skies in the bow as well as in the stern. But let's look more closely: the sun-tanning area in the bow is surrounded by a solid handrail. The glass/bottle holders integrated there are a clear indication of the frequent use this place will be put to, either in the harbour or at anchor.

Gang-boards on both sides of the hull and within the solid railing lead to the bow, with the starboard side being wider, deeper, more comfortable and also more secure. In this context, we must mention

the very useful sliding door leading from the cockpit to exactly this "side deck" – a most convenient feature, in particular during tricky harbour manoeuvring. The aft deck is furnished with a table and an L-shaped bench with one side permanently under the roof and well-protected from wind and weather (or the sun). An optional canopy (on the large model) offers the possibility of using the entire area at any time and under any condition. This assures that the boat can be quickly covered and uncovered in the harbour. The generous bathing platform confirms the impression that the Nimbus 365 Coupé delivers lots of space. A holder for four fenders, cold- and hot-water shower, and two large, self-bailing stowage areas, as well as a solid bathing ladder, complete the features.

Compact interior

Aft deck, saloon, galley and helm are all on one level. The bow cabin, midship cabin and the bathroom are situated two steps lower. Here also, the layout has been thought through: the front part of the U-shaped bench in the saloon can be folded with down using a solid and innovative mechanism, creating a passenger bench for two people – people who will enjoy a perfect view and even have the possibility of feeling the wind when the sliding roof is open. The pilot, of course, experiences the same at his stand-up station. The solid and beautifully designed galley cover (directly behind the pilot station) makes the saloon appear larger - cooker, sink and countertop are visible only when they are needed. The two cabins are striking as well: The master cabin in the bow features a double berth (1.98 x 1.68/1.30 m), lots of storage space and three portholes that can be opened. In the midship cabin, a large below-floor berth (2.16 x 1.38 m) and sufficient storage space are situated. Remarkable is the clearance when the mattress is laying on the floor. It may be bit more difficult to rise, but no-one will suffer from claustrophobia in this berth. The bathroom is yet to be appreciated; to call it a "plumbing unit" would be sacrilege. Equipped with a chromium-steel basin, an electrical toilet and a separate shower stall, it offers everything that can be possible on a boat of this size. Or maybe even something more - as is the standard with this boat.



Speed measurements: Gliding threshold 2600 RPM / Rated speed 3900 RPM /
Idle: 750 RPM, Top speed: 42 km/h at 3900 RPM, measured with GPS, 2 persons on board, almost
calm, no waves

Shipyard	Nimbus Boats (SWE)
L.O.A.	10.90m
Width	3.50m
Drought	1.00m
Weight	6300kg
Water tank	250l
Fuel tank	500l
Wastewater tank	130l
Capacity	10 persons
CE Category	B
Engines	Volvo-Penta D6-370 or
Test boat	2 x Volvo-Penta D3-400
Test boat	VM MR706LH with BSO2
Output	240kW (322PS)
Options	Bow thruster (6593.00), Aft thruster (6322.00), trim flaps (2025.00), canopy for long version (3902.00) and much more
Base price	From CHF 484,172.00
Test boat	CHF 545,000.00
Incl. VAT from Shipyard Sweden plus optional accessories	
Krüger Werft AG, CH-8274 Gottlieben / Tel.: 0041 (0)71 669 12 69 www.krueger-werft.ch	

Item by item

Engines

The high torque of the engine ensures a surprisingly high acceleration for the weight. Certainly, the Nimbus 365 Coupé has not been developed as a sporty little number, but her handling properties are impressive. She runs straight cally and is very stable in curves. Her bow and stern thrusters (both are offered as options) make even tight harbour manoeuvring as easy as a child's play.

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Handling characteristics

The test boat was equipped with a VM Marine Diesel engine (MR706Lh with 322 PS).

This engine (also known as Cummins Mercruiser) complies with the BSO 2 standard, making it a perfect choice for Lake Constance.

Alternatively, the boat may be ordered with two D3 or one D6 engine (400 and 370 PS, respectively) by Volvo-Penta. The latter one is perfectly suitable for the most ardent boater.



Features

The (electrically operated) sliding roof is certainly a pièce de résistance. The Nimbus 365 Coupé gives you that convertible feeling, but as soon as is necessary, everything is made water-tight. The sliding door next to the pilot's seat is a stroke of genius. The quick access made available by this door is very convenient when manoeuvring in harbour or when anchoring. Another (space-saving) sliding door separates the saloon from the aft deck.