



Sailfish 5.0 m Cuddy - Reef Runner Series

A 5.0 m aluminium cuddy cabin runabout based on a well proven 5.0 m sailfish hull. It's light, strong, easy to drive and very economical to run. In short, it's one of the better light trailerboats on the market today. Peter Webster spent a very interesting morning learning how it all comes together.

There's probably no greater challenge for boat builders than to produce an alloy catamaran that works successfully with two relatively small outboard motors.

Just about everybody would like to have a catamaran, so the issue is not so much whether a catamaran is a good thing or a bad thing - simply, it's more about whether you can afford it and/or justify the higher cost of a boat that has to have two engines.

Over the years, there have been many spectacular (and usually very expensive) cats produced by the likes of

Noosacat, Kevlacat, Dominator, Cairns Custom Craft and so on, but the common denominator they share is their cost.

Pro rata, they are all much more expensive than a comparable monohull of the same length.

This is one of the reasons why we pricked up our ears when the chance came to run the Sailfish 5.0 m Cuddy. If you've not heard of the brand, Sailfish is a small family business based in Alstonville, NSW, a township just outside of Ballina on the Richmond River. From fairly humble beginnings,

Sailfish has built up quite a reputation in NSW, and more recently, southern Qld.

The test boat is a new version of a three year old hull design. It has been built in quite large numbers for a very diverse audience, but fishing is the central theme.

Responding to requests for a boat that is pretty much 100% fishing, this cuddy version was developed.

There certainly isn't any waste space - although there's probably room for a transverse double berth underneath the windscreen and dash arrangement, it would be a tight squeeze for the

