BOATS NUMARINE 60 FLY SANLORENZO SL 78

DAN'S TAKE: This striking new model from Alen Yachts doesn't pretend to be anything other than an exceptional runabout, and it serves that role beautifully.

ften times as a marine journalist you come across beautifully photographed (and yes, photoshopped) images of boats that are a little deceiving. With the help of the right angle, the right lens, and the right lighting, you'll catch yourself drooling on your keyboard only to be left disappointed when you meet the boat in person. The Turkish-built Alen 55 has the opposite problem.

While the images are striking at first glance, there is much more to like about this model in person. From above, it looks like the 55 has adequate sunpad and lounge space, wide-enough side decks, and nice teak trim. In reality, the aft sunpad can easily fit three adults, there is plenty of space around the console, and there is enough teak to keep a boat detailer up at night. And man, is this boat deep. Exceptionally tall bulwarks should help keep guests protected and dry and feeling secure underway in a way that the knee-high gunwales of some center consoles can never do.

A grill, wet bar, and seating for six in the saloon satisfy the alfresco dining needs that the day boat crowd has come to expect. And make no mistake: this is a day boat. The interior below doesn't pretend to be something it's not. There's a modern head to port and the main space is used as a dedicated lounge where as many as six guests can hide from inclement weather or where the kids can go to watch a movie after a morning of swimming.

According to Alen Yachts, the 55's twin, 800-horsepower D13 Volvo Pentas should offer up a top speed of 35 knots with a 30-knot cruise. —*Daniel Harding Jr.*

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