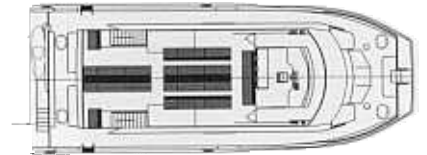
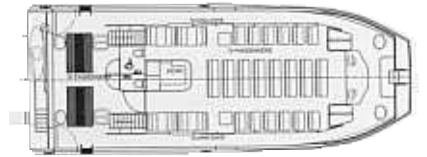


'Island Adventure' Passenger cat for California



Upper Deck Arrangement

"The first day that we put this boat on line was the highest grossing day in the company's history," said Alex Brodie, operator of the Ventura, (USA) based Island Packers' new 19.5 metre catamaran. That's saying a lot for a company that has been around since 1968.

The 'Island Adventure' isn't their first catamaran; Island Packers, which has a transportation concession to the Channel Islands National Park off the Californian coast, had already learned what a difference the Teknicraft design can make on a company's bottom line. A few years back they contracted Bellingham-based All American Marine, to build one of Nic de Waal's Teknicraft catamarans, and in 2000 the 'Islander' was launched. "Not only did the 'Islander' carry more people – three times as many as our 49 passenger monohulls – but it was able to do it twice a day," said Brodie.

Even though Island Packers "downsized" from two monohulls to the 'Islander', the number of people served that year went up from 50,000 to around 70,000. Today, added Brodie, "between the two boats, we pretty much have it covered." With "the extra speed and capacity, we can run bigger groups or several smaller groups. Even more importantly in our operation, it gave us the flexibility of offering a variety of trips."

That's no small point in today's economy, as schools and other groups in the public sector are searching for ways to cut costs, including putting larger groups together, or going on half-day, rather than full-day, trips. That makes these catamarans' 149-passenger size, speed, and comfort perfectly suited to the task. A second, identical boat also helps Island Packers standardise their operations. Now, said Brodie, "my crew can jump from one to the other."

Besides serving as a floating classroom, the 'Island Adventure' and its sister craft are used regularly for whale watching, dinner cruises, and shuttling hikers, kayakers, snorkelers, and picnickers to and from the beautiful Anacapa, Santa Cruz, Santa Rosa, and Santa Barbara Islands.

The vessel's Teknicraft design is known not only for its speed for the horsepower and low wake wash, but also for its sea-keeping ability and comfortable ride, even in rough seas. "A typical day for us in



The helm station

spring and winter is a four to six foot wind chop – six feet tall and six seconds apart – and these boats just eat that stuff up," said Brodie. During the winter, "we're able to take our boats in some pretty nasty stuff."

The new catamaran is identical to the 'Islander' with two exceptions: its life rafts are outboard-mounted rather than inboard-mounted, and it has an additional genset. The 'Island Adventure' measures 19.5 metres by 7.3 metres, with a draft of 1.68 metres, and is powered by a pair of emission-compliant Cummins KTA19 M4 engines that generate 518kW (700hp) at 2,100rpm each.

Twin Disc MG 5114A SC marine gears with 2.5:1 ratios turn five-bladed 36x42-inch Osborne propellers on three-inch Aquamet shafts, and a pair of Onan 20kW engines serve as auxiliary backup. During



Functional interior fitout

sea trials, with 1,800 litres of fuel (5,200 litre fuel capacity) and seven people on board, the 'Island Adventure' reached a top speed of 27.2 knots at 2,250rpm, and a cruising speed of 24 knots at 2,100rpm.

While Brodie did shop around, for a "comparable price, I was getting a whole lot less of a boat from other manufacturers," he said. Not only did All American Marine deliver "on time and on budget," he added, "I told them I wanted to run this boat on the Fourth of July, and my partner was so sure that we wouldn't be running until the middle of July that he didn't even book any trips. But I had it here on July 1, and we had her certified and working on the Fourth. We've been running steady ever since."

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Cummins engineroom

'Island Adventure'

SPECIFICATIONS

Type of vessel:	Passenger catamaran ferry
Owner:	Island Packers
Designer:	Teknicraft
Builder:	All American Marine
Length overall:	19.5 metres
Beam:	7.3 metres
Draught:	1.68 metres
Main engines:	2 x Cummins KTA19 M4, each 518kW (700hp) at 2,100rpm
Gearboxes:	2 x Twin Disc MG 5114A SC, 2.5:1
Propulsion:	2 x five-bladed Osborne propellers
Maximum speed:	27.2 knots
Cruising speed:	24 knots
Passengers:	149