



# Favourite cruising multihull

Summing up the last 25 years of cruising catamaran and trimaran production in just one boat...is an interesting challenge. How do we find one which, alone, explains the multihull's inexorable progress in the nautical market?



After the 380, there was to be a revolution, with the S2, equipped with an electric winch and a rigid bimini...



Ideal for family cruising, the 380 is really emblematic of the 2000s



the first test we carried out with the Lagoon 380 filled our tester with enthusiasm... What followed proved him right!



We owe a lot to this boat: when it was launched, the Louisiane revolutionised the cruising world!

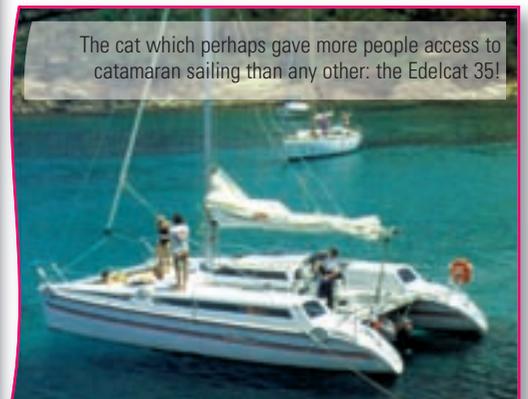
We could have presented the Louisiane, the revolutionary catamaran thanks to which everything (or almost everything) happened. From 1983 onwards, in fact, when Fountaine-Pajot brought out this cruising catamaran, crowned in glory after the performance of the big Charente-Maritime, the leisure sailing world was rocked. From then on, nothing would be the same. History moves on, and today, only the most obtuse sailors still think that cruising in a monohull is pleasanter than in a cat. As for racing, everything changed in 1978, when a little yellow trimaran took victory by a few seconds in the Route du Rhum, ahead of a giant monohull...

Amongst the cruising boats which deserve to be included in our hall of fame, there is also the 'exceptionally gifted' Edelcat 35. A catamaran which was so well designed that it was as suitable for blue water cruising as it was for day outings, charter, or for a sailing school, and could satisfy the most demanding owner (at the time). Thousands of us discovered the pleasure of cruising aboard a chartered cat on this boat, in the West Indies or elsewhere. A must, certainly, whose success (more than 150 examples built), which continues today, is well deserved.

And then there are all the others, those that made an impression on us for various reasons: the brilliant Corsair F27, capable of racing like no other, but also able to take the family for a weekend's cruising; a folding trimaran which is so innovative it is still much sought after on the second-hand market. There is also the hard-wearing Snowgoose, the English cat 'par excellence', strong, comfortable and capable of taking you to the other side of the world. And what about the Pahi, the genuine monument to contemporary naval architecture, designed by the no-less-monumental James Wharram?

But finally, the one which seemed to us to best explain the development (or should we say, the revolution) in cruising multihulls, is well and truly the Lagoon 380.

When it was brought out, in 1999, we wrote that it offered the accommodation of a 50-footer in just 38 feet. All this, for an unbeatable price... 11 years after its launch, the Lagoon 380 is still in the builder's catalogue, and as we write these lines, n° 600 in the series has been launched. A unique success in the history of the nautical industry.



The cat which perhaps gave more people access to catamaran sailing than any other: the Edelcat 35!