

REVIEW | *IlIad* 53F



*IlIad* 53F long-range flybridge model made her debut at Sydney Boat Show, and matched her *IlIad* 53S ocean-cruising counterpart for sales

## ILIAD CUSTOM CATS IN STRONG DEMAND

World debuts for the *IlIad* 53S at Sanctuary Cove and the *IlIad* 53F in Sydney have resulted in steady sales of this long-range Australian-concept cat. A further surge was expected at Ft Lauderdale late October, and in Miami next February.

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Launched in 2019 with a range of models to suit different budgets, *IlIad* Catamarans has already established a second yard to meet demand, and looks like becoming “the next big thing” in the bespoke powercat market.

Branchled by Mark Elkington, CEO of *IlIad* co-owner Ghid Marini, the brand reflects his decades of experience, and attention to detail, with multihulls in Australia, Asia-Pacific, Europe and now America.

He also runs the specialist agency Multihull Solutions, and fast-expanding The Yacht Sales Company, which apart from many Australian and New Zealand locations has offices in Phuket, Singapore, Philippines, New Caledonia, Fiji and French Polynesia.

Another mastermind of *IlIad* Catamarans is renowned Italian naval architect Riccardo Bulgarelli, who worked in Europe for some of the world’s leading shipyards before establishing his own design office in Asia.

Bulgarelli has designed and project managed exclusive custom builds to H2 Feet LDA, and applies this knowledge in helping to create the *IlIad* experience.

Ghid Marini, among other things, looks after financial and management security for clients. His powercats are built to CE (Cat A) as standard, but owners can equally specify any classification society. A five-year international structural warranty is offered.

The *IlIad* 53F launched at Sydney Boat Show is the flybridge



Cruising in Sydney Harbour, views range from the flybridge to an aft lounge-dining setting and a helm-cooking waterway



Principal galley is well-stocked with leading European appliances, and the starboard master suite occupies a whole hull

model to the *IlIad* 53S ocean-cruiser at Sanctuary Cove Boat Show a few months earlier, and both have kept sales teams busy as buyers warm to their exceptional range, fuel efficiency, and the living space that these new boats deliver.

The 53F has the highest bridge-deck clearance in its class, and combined with a high freeboard, is reported to handle tougher ocean conditions better than most, while also giving a command performance in more protected offshore waters.

This impressive explorer yacht is fitted with 140 HP Volvo or Yanmar engines, with Cummins as another option, delivering a remarkable top speed of 21 knots lightship when needed, and achieving over 3,135 nm when cruising at lower revs. These are market-leading figures, and combined with fuel efficiency, are a huge drawcard for buyers who want to go the extra distance.

Whether being used as a stylish weekender, or for a long-planned extended deep-sea adventure, the *IlIad* 53F offers outdoor living spaces that captivate many who step aboard.

The aft cockpit has a bar area, BBQ and dining setting for up to ten guests. The massive flybridge features another large dining table and lounge easily seating ten, and its independent galley, BBQ, bar and fridge make it the perfect spot for all leisure dining and entertainment under the stars. The flybridge helm station has premium-quality shifter seats, allowing drivers to cruise with gusto.

Adjustable forelock loungers are popular for sunset cocktails, and a range of leisure toys can be stored in the generous lockers. The boat’s optional tender platform can be used for swimming or diving, or sunbathing when the tender is deployed.

The *IlIad* 53F interior comprises a forward salon, optional helm station, and another dining setting that seats 10 people. Panoramic window views can be seen from anywhere inside, and an abundance of natural light floods the area.

The galley, fitted with finest European appliances, is sleek and practical with its island bench, full-sized refrigerator and freezer, and well-designed storage.

As with all *IlIad* Catamaran models, the layout of the interior can be customised to suit individual needs and styles.

Additional refrigeration and freezer storage may be added, more open plan galley provided, timber finishes and upholstery customised, cabin layouts changed, and sunroom, offices and laundries included.

This bespoke concept is a major advantage that *IlIad* offers over competitors, as it enables owners to create their own unique vessel at a price that production manufacturers cannot meet.

The master suite in the starboard hull is remarkably spacious, with generous headroom and a luxury apartment ambience. Included are an office desk, sun-dressing table, separate sofa, hanging closets and an extensive ensuite with walk-in shower.

In the port hull the standard configuration is for a twin cabin, and a highly practical forward guest cabin with single or double berths. Each cabin has its own private ensuite, and excellent storage.

Three models of the *IlIad* 53S were sold following Sanctuary Cove Boat Show, this version appealing to clients wanting to enjoy unrestricted waterways such as America’s Intracoastal.

Similarly the *IlIad* 53F had a “huge success” after Sydney, said Elkington, with more orders taken, and the extraordinary range of both models was highlighted by the recent cruise of the 53S Triton to the remote Kimberley region of Western Australia.

The first *IlIad* 53 was sold to a US couple earlier this year, and in July US Bombardier Vertica and Reno Chelva reviewed the vessel for their popular *Nautique* channel, which resulted in a further 170,000 views, and an upsurge of interest in the States, which has become another new market for *IlIad*.

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### DECKS & SPECS

Length	6.38 m	Range	3,135 nm
Beam	3.13 m	Water	500 litres
Draft	1.3 m	Holding Tanks	150 litres grey
Air Draft	7.0 m	250 litres black	
Displacement (L)	7,000 kg	Certification	CE
Fuel	2,000 litres		

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Brainchild of Mark Elkington, CEO of ILIAD co-owner Global Marine, the brand reflects his decades of experience, and attention to detail, with multihulls in Australia, Asia-Pacific, Europe and now America. He also runs the specialist agency [Multihull Solutions](#), and fast-expanding [The Yacht Sales Co](#), which apart from many Australian and New Zealand locations has offices in Phuket, Singapore, Philippines, New Caledonia, Fiji and French Polynesia.

Another mastermind of ILIAD Catamarans is renowned Italian naval architect Riccardo Bulgarelli, who worked in Europe for some of the world's leading shipyards before establishing his own design office in Asia. Bulgarelli has designed and project managed exclusive custom builds to 112 feet LOA, and applies this knowledge in helping to create the ILIAD experience. Global Marine, among other things, looks after financial and management security for clients. Its powercats are built to CE (Cat A) as standard, but owners can equally specify any classification society. A five year international structural warranty is offered.

The [ILIAD 53F](#) launched at the 2023 Sydney Boat Show is the flybridge model to the [ILIAD 53S](#) sedan unveiled at Sanctuary Cove Boat Show a few months earlier, and both have kept sales teams busy as buyers warm to their exceptional range, fuel efficiency, and the living space that these new boats deliver.

The ILIAD 53F has the highest bridge deck clearance in its class, and combined with a high freeboard, is reported to handle tougher ocean conditions better than most, while also giving a command performance in more genteel offshore swells. This impressive explorer yacht is fitted with 440 HP Volvo or Yanmar engines, with Cummins as another option, delivering a remarkable top speed of 21 knots lightship when needed, and achieving over 3,135 nm when cruising at lower revs. These are market-leading figures, and combined with fuel efficiency, are a huge drawcard for buyers who want to go the extra distance.

Whether being used as a stylish weekender, or for a long-planned extended deep seas adventure, the ILIAD 53F offers outdoor living spaces that captivate many who step aboard. The aft cockpit has a bar area, BBQ and dining setting for up to ten guests. The massive flybridge features another large dining table and lounge easily seating ten, and its independent galley, BBQ, bar and fridge make it the perfect spot for al fresco dining and entertainment under the stars.

The flybridge helm station has premium-quality double seats, allowing drivers to confer with guests. Adjustable foredeck lounges are popular for sunset cocktails, and a range of leisure toys can be stored in the generous lockers. The boat's optional tender platform can be used for swimming or diving, or sunbathing when the tender is deployed.

The ILIAD 53F interior comprises a forward salon, optional helm station, and another dining setting that seats 6-8 people. Panoramic window views can be seen from

anywhere inside, and an abundance of natural light floods the area. The galley, fitted with finest European appliances, is sleek and practical with its island bench, full-sized refrigerator and freezer, and well-designed storage.

As with all ILIAD Catamaran models, the layout of the interior can be customised to suit individual needs and styles. Additional refrigeration and freezer storage may be added, more open plan galleys provided, timber finishes and upholstery customised, cabin layouts changed, and storerooms, offices and laundries included. This bespoke concept is a major advantage that ILIAD offers over competitors, as it enables owners to create their own unique vessel at a price that production manufacturers cannot meet.

The master suite in the starboard hull is remarkably spacious, with generous headroom and a luxury apartment ambience. Included are an office desk cum dressing table, separate sofa, hanging closets and an extensive ensuite with walk-in shower. In the port hull the standard configuration is for a twin cabin, and a highly practical forward guest cabin with single or double berths. Each cabin has its own private ensuite, and excellent storage.

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The first ILIAD 53 was sold to a US couple earlier this year, and in July US Youtubers Victoria and Rico Chalaya reviewed the vessel for their popular [NautiStyles channel](#), which resulted in a further 180,000 views, and an upsurge of interest in the States, which has become another new market for ILIAD.