

Beneteau Gran Turismo 46 (2017-)

Brief Summary

Replacing her 44 foot predecessor, the Beneteau Gran Turismo 46 incorporates a redesigned main deck and cockpit, which includes two large electrically reclining seats. The Gran Turismo 46 offers the handling ease of Beneteau's previous smaller model, while making use of many of the details found in her 49' big sister. This once again illustrates Beneteau's ongoing attention to the evolution of technology and customer feed-back. Propelled by dual Volvo Penta 435-hp IPS 600 engines, Air Step 2 engineering provides increased fuel efficiency and maneuverability.

Price

Base Price\$567600.00

Prices, features, designs, and equipment are subject to change. Please see your local dealer or visit the builder's website for the latest information available on this boat model.

Key Features

- Bench seat in 2 places. Optional convertible electric chaise lounges
- Pivoting bench seats with integrated storage lockers
- Teak folding table for 6 people
- Lounge with sea view
- Fully equipped standard galley with two-burner glass ceramic hotplate, refrigerator/freezer,

- and high and low storage
- Large L-shaped bench seat for 5 people
- VIP cabin with double bed convertible into single beds

Test Results

RPM	MPH	Knots	GPH	MPG	NMPG	STAT. MILE	NM	dBa
600	4.3	3.7	0.7	6.1	5.3	1316	1144.2	69
1000	7	6	1.6	4.3	3.8	930	809.1	75

RPM	MPH	Knots	GPH	MPG	NMPG	STAT. MILE	NM	dBa
1250	8.3	7.2	3.3	2.6	2.2	547	475.7	73
1500	9.5	8.2	5.9	1.6	1.4	343	298.3	75
1750	10.7	9.3	9	1.2	1	253	220.4	75
2000	12.4	10.7	13	1	0.8	203	176.9	78
2250	16.3	14.2	16.5	1	0.9	212	184	82
2500	20.1	17.5	20	1	0.9	215	187.2	81
2750	23.1	20	24.5	0.9	0.8	202	175.2	80
3000	27.9	24.2	29	1	0.8	206	178.9	81
3250	31.7	27.6	34	0.9	0.8	200	173.7	82
3500	35.5	30.8	41.5	0.9	0.7	183	159.1	86
3600	37.2	32.3	44	0.8	0.7	181	157.5	87

[View the test results in metric units](#)

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Specifications

Length Overall	48' 1" / 14.6 m
BEAM	13' 9" 4.19 m
Dry Weight	23,208 lbs. 10,526 kg

Tested Weight	25,012 lbs. 11,345 kg
Draft	3' 9" 1.14 m
Draft Up	
Draft Down	
Air Draft	
Deadrise/Transom	N/A
Max Headroom	N/A
Bridge Clearance	N/A
Weight Capacity	
Person Capacity	
Fuel Capacity	238 gal. 901 L
Water Capacity	106 gal. 401 L
Length on Trailer	
Height on Trailer	
Trailer Weight	
Total Weight	25,012 lbs. 11,345 kg
Aft Deck	

Salon Inside Width	
Salon Fore & Aft	
Salon Height	
Salon Volume	
Galley Volume	
Master SR Width	
Master SR fore & Aft	
Master SR Overhead	
Master SR Volume	
Eng. Room Volume	

Acceleration Times & Conditions

Time to Plane	4.3 sec.
0 to 20	
Ratio	N/A
Props	N/A
Load	2 persons, 2/3 fuel, 1/2 water, 50 lbs. of gear
Climate	72 deg., 89 humid.; wind: 5-10 mph; seas: calm

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Beneteau Gran Turismo 46 running shot

The Beneteau Gran Turismo 46 has an LOA of 48'6" (14.78 m) with a 13'9" (4.15 m) beam. Whether for intermediate term cruising, weekend excursions or day trips, she is well suited for the comfort and needs of two couples or family enjoyment.

Mission Statement

Replacing the Gran Turismo 44, where the aft cockpit was dominated by bench booth seating and a sun pad, the Gran Turismo 46 opens up this area to a striking degree. The result is less encumbered movement more suited to entertaining in the evening or watersports activities during the day -- all while still providing ample seating. By means of two large glass doors swinging to port and starboard, the Gran Turismo 46 can

be fully open to the cockpit, creating one large, single-level space, or be closed creating an inside salon and outside cockpit.

Now to be clear, all of the Gran Turismo lineup with stepped hulls, which includes all but the 49, are powered with outdrives. In conjunction with Volvo Penta, Beneteau developed a prototype stepped hull to be certified for IPS installation. Once it was developed, the Beneteau engineers went a step further and optimized it for both IPS and sterndrive installations.

The Gran Turismo 46 that we are now on, is the result of that collaboration and is therefore, the first stepped hull boat that is IPS powered. Anywhere. This means that now, Beneteau can meet the demands of European customers with sterndrive power, and North American customer demands for IPS power, all with the same boat.

 Beneteau Gran Turismo 46 profile shot

In profile, the Gran Turismo 46 retains the thematic lines and Euro-styling of Beneteau's new Gran Turismo Series. Note the sterndrive lower unit which provides efficient propulsion (IPS propulsion also offered).

 Beneteau Gran Turismo 46 floor plan

Plan view with interior cockpit doors open. The aft port and starboard seats swivel to allow the glass doors to swing closed.

Standard power in the Gran Turismo 46 is the Volvo Penta sterndrive D6 370-hp propulsion system, with a joystick, providing easy maneuvering and docking evolutions. The Air Step 2 hull design allows three times more air beneath the underwater portion of the hull, according to the builder. This design allows the Gran Turismo 46 to approach a cruising speed up to 35 knots, the company says.

Major Features

Air Step 2 Hull Design Technology. Air Step 2 technology is the incorporation of a hydrodynamic forward and aft hull design that allows the Gran Turismo 46 to operate at planing speeds on a "cushion" of air. Air is sucked under the boat from vents on the chines and forward and exits at the transom. By reducing water adhesion to the hull and reducing friction the boat becomes easier to push. What results is reduced fuel consumption, increased maximum speed, and more nimble handling at planning speeds.

 Beneteau Gran Turismo 46 running shot

The Beneteau Gran Turismo 46's hardtop has a long, black overhang which provides protection for the cockpit. Because it is black, in profile, it is not disturbing to the aesthetics of the boat.

Optional Two Cabin with Two Heads (with Separate Showers) or Three Cabins with Two Heads. It is always appreciated when a builder offers options, and in the Gran Turismo 46, they are provided in the accommodations layout. With the third Pullman stateroom, the owner gains the added sleeping quarters, but loses the lower seating area, which to many, may seem of little consequence in exchange for crew quarters or an added berth for additional guests for weekend outings or cruising.

Beneteau Gran Turismo 46 standard layout

The standard layout has the galley at the foot of the companionway and a U-shaped settee to starboard.

Beneteau Gran Turismo 46 optional layout

The optional three-stateroom layout uses the space where the settee was placed to create a Pullman cabin. This space can also be used as an office, laundry room or simply for storage, depending on an owner's need.

Optional Twin Volvo Penta D6 IPS600 435-hp Diesels. While the joystick and IPS drives provide ease and confidence for close-quarters handling to even the most novice of operators, the 870 horses provide an exceptional power to displacement ratio for this 23,000 lb. (10,433 kg) sport yacht. Beneteau tells us that this is the first time it has ever combined its Air Step hull design with IPS pods, so in this configuration it should theoretically pick up efficiencies from both of these technological advances.

Pods or Sterndrives. It is not often that consumers have the choice of either sterndrive or pod drive propulsion systems, but buyers of the Gran Turismo 46 have this option. Both systems have their advantages. The sterndrive option comes with Volvo Penta D6 diesels rated at 370-hp – 65-hp per engine less than in the IPS version.

Beneteau Gran Turismo 46 running shot

The Gran Turismo 46 can come with 370-hp sterndrive power or 435-hp IPS pod drives. Both configurations use the Volvo Penta D6 diesel.

Full-Beam Master Stateroom. Both the fore and aft staterooms in the three cabin configuration provide the equivalent of queen-sized beds. The aft owner's stateroom, with its en suite head, is located at the most comfortable position near the yacht's center of gravity, and spans the full 14' (4.27 m) of the Gran Turismo 46's beam.

Beneteau Gran Turismo 46 master stateroom

The full-beam master has large windows port and starboard to bring in light. There is full-standing headroom at the foot of the bed and in the head compartment. To the sides of the bed, headroom is reduced but becomes easy to get used to.

Beneteau Gran Turismo 46

The forward stateroom has full standing headroom at the foot of the bed and in the head. Large windows port and starboard let in lots of light. There are large hanging lockers port and starboard.

In the three cabin configuration, the forward head is shared. In both configurations, the forward head doubles as the day head.

Optional Hydraulic Swim Platform. Whether utilizing the platform for a small tender, or simply for its namesake's use, departing the Gran Turismo 46 at anchor either way is ergonomic and functional. The 14' x 4' (4.27 m x 1.22 m) platform has electric/hydraulic lowering capability, allowing the yacht's operator ease and flexibility in tender launch and retrieval, as well as convenient and safe access for swimmers into and out of the water. This is an expensive but important piece of optional equipment. It solves the problem of where to store the tender as well as to provide a "teak beach" that family and friends will love when it is partially submerged.

Beneteau Gran Turismo 46 platform

The Gran Turismo 46 swim platform is shown here lowered. It will fully submerge to launch a tender.

Retractable Sunroof. The electrically operated sunroof allows air to flow freely through the cockpit of the Gran Turismo 46 while both at anchor and underway. As an added measure of safe operation, one will find that during high-speed turns, general maneuvering and docking evolutions, it is often beneficial to have the roof retracted for added visibility.

Beneteau Gran Turismo 46 grill and platform

The aft deck has a sunroof that provides needed shade.

Aft Salon Doors. Perhaps the most innovative feature of the boat is her port and starboard two-part swinging doors with pivoting outboard, inside seats. We have never seen anything quite like it, and the design serves two important purposes:

1) The design allows the aft end of the coupe to be completely open from one side of the cabin to the other. This maximizes space for guests to walk around and to move in and out of the salon. This is particularly useful during cocktail parties and on a hot summer day at anchor when bathing suits and lots of swimming and watersports are the order of the day.

2) When there is a chill in the air, or during a mid-summer shower, the salon can be “buttoned up” by swinging the glass doors closed. In the process the settees in the aft end of the salon pivot inward, creating a “rounded” salon door effect – something we usually only see on large, very expensive motoryachts. And while the Gran Turismo 46 employs four glass panels instead of two rounded tempered-glass sliding doors ensconced in a stainless steel frame, the effect is still very much the same. It simply looks elegant, in addition to providing weather protection and added room.

Underway

As we leave the dock we’re immediately impressed with the maneuverability. The combination of pods and a bow thruster is a good one, but we’ve found that even more so when docking and the position of the bow needs to be tweaked just a bit. Here, the joystick seemed to work just fine and we were soon on our way.

Performance

The Gran Turismo 46 has a LOA of 48’6” (14.78 m), a beam of 13’9” (4.19 m), and a draft of 3’9” (1.14 m). With an empty weight of 23,208 lbs. (10,527 kg), 67% fuel and 2 people onboard, we had an estimated test weight of just over 25,000 lbs. (25,012 lbs. / 11,345 kg). With the twin 435-hp Volvo Penta IPS600s turning 3600 rpm, we reached our top speed of 32.3 knots. Our best economic cruise came in at 2500 rpm and 17.5 knots. It was at that speed that the 20 gph fuel burn translated into a range of 187.2 nm while still holding back a 10% reserve of fuel. [Beneteau Gran Turismo 46 chart](#) We reached planing speed in 4.3 seconds, accelerated to 20 mph in 7.1 seconds, and 30 mph in 13.7 seconds.

Handling

The Gran Turismo 46 is a superb handling boat. She has a large turning radius characteristic of an IPS boat and responds smartly to the helm inputs. During our maneuvering tests, she rolls a comfortable 9-degrees into the turns and when crossing the wake of our camera boat, she showed the clean transition with no pounding that we've come to appreciate, and indeed expect, from the air step 2 hull design. Calm test conditions prevented us from getting much more. When taking power off she settled into the water at a fairly level attitude and accelerates with minimal bowrise with no loss of forward visibility.

Docking

Docking the Gran Turismo 46 is actually a breeze... we started easy, with a side to docking and she responds so well to the stick that it was a non issue. We were able to lay her up alongside and hold her there so we could tie her up with ease. With that done, we wanted to up the ante a bit and back her into a narrow slip, so into the marina we went. As expected it was another non event taking a minimum of skill to maneuver her back into the slip with exacting precision.

Features Inspection by Function

The Beneteau Gran Turismo 46 offers a wide variety of features for a sport yacht of her class. While engineered for performance, she possesses the amenities and comforts buyers have come to demand in a boat of this caliber, size and design.

Entertaining

Swim Platform and Cockpit

Tied stern to, passengers conveniently access the yacht from the swim platform, where the enclosed grill and sink are located, well-positioned on the cockpit transom, with convenient access from the swim platform. This positioning has several advantages, the most obvious of which is simply to pick up usable space.

Beneteau Gran Turismo 46 transom grill

Beneteau Gran Turismo 46 grill

Grill with retractable hood keeps the smoke outside and makes clean-up quick and easy.

Relaxing Seats. Proceeding up two steps from the swim platform, either to port or starboard, one immediately notices the large side by side, electric reclining seats, with easy access lighted controls. These

seats are unusual on any size boat, much less a sporty express cruiser such as this one. The seats each recline, much like a household “Lazy-Boy”. This attribute makes it ideal for taking the sun, or just relaxing with a good book (or bottle of wine), and enjoying the ocean air in a seat far more comfortable than most chaise lounges we see. Turning toward the cockpit interior, the sliding glass doors allow the option for opening up the entire space for entertaining or the ability to cruise in any weather condition.

~~Beneteau Gran Turismo~~ Beneteau Gran Turismo 46 aft seats

In this rendering, we can see the reclining seats at the transom, as well as the pivoting bench seats inside the salon which are turned inward.

~~Beneteau Gran Turismo~~ Beneteau Gran Turismo 46 chair

These photos more accurately portray the recliner seats on the aft deck. Note the control buttons at right.

~~Beneteau Gran Turismo~~ Beneteau Gran Turismo 46 sun roof

Both the interior and exterior cockpits convert easily into a sun lounge. The European layout is featured in the picture above. The galley is located aft on North American boats.

~~Beneteau Gran Turismo~~ Beneteau Gran Turismo 46 settee

The folding cockpit settee table is both telescoping and removable to allow for free flow of foot traffic through the space. Please note that the European layout is featured in the picture above. The galley is located aft on North American boats.

The Bow

Proceeding along the gunwale forward, we note that the stainless steel hand rails are fashioned outward so as to make passage easier. Their height meet CE and ABYC requirements. The picture below shows the dual chaise lounge cushions for enjoying the afternoon at anchor. The anchor itself rests on a metal fixture with roller that extends beyond the fiberglass stem.

~~Beneteau Gran Turismo~~ Beneteau Gran Turismo 46 bow lounge

Twin sun pads easily become chaise lounges when at anchor.

Salon and Helm

Salon. Returning to the cockpit and entering the salon, one cannot help but notice its attractive, ergonomic layout. The contrast of color features offered by Beneteau are warm and inviting. It was designed to make life onboard as convenient as possible for a variety of uses. The innovative aft closure is positioned as far back as possible to create optimum interior space. The aft doors seem to almost disappear completely when opened. The L-shaped settee wraps around a table that can be lowered for cocktails and which has fold up leafs for dinner. Most important, the table can be removed altogether to completely open up the space if desired.

Beneteau and Gran Turismo
Beneteau Gran Turismo 46 interior cockpit

The salon with settee table deployed. Note the port and starboard bench seats which are pivoted outboard against the doors. Shown in the picture above is the European layout. The galley is located aft on North American boats.

With the doors retracted the salon space opens up completely, offering ample room to move freely. This allows for entertaining as many as twelve guests onboard at the dock or at anchor. When closed, the space is climate-controlled by an independent 15,000 BTU air conditioning/heating system dedicated solely to this space.

The helm station controls are well positioned for cruising operation as well as ease of access for maneuvering and docking. The joystick control and throttles are both positioned to the right side of the console. There is a separate helm seat aboard from the double-wide companion seat.

Beneteau and Gran Turismo
Beneteau Gran Turismo 46 controls

Beneteau and Gran Turismo
Beneteau Gran Turismo 46 helm

The combination of walnut, leather and chrome create an attractive helm console, and the Simrad 16" Evo 2 is positioned directly forward of the wheel. The rocker switches and general layout are symmetrical.

Lower Deck, Galley and Cabins

As earlier mentioned, the Gran Turismo 46 comes in both two and three stateroom configurations. The two cabin configuration allows for a settee to starboard across from the galley. In the three cabin configuration, this space is replaced by the dual Pullman berth which shares the forward head with the VIP stateroom.

Beneteau and Gran Turismo
Beneteau Gran Turismo 46 interior

Looking down below deck through the companionway from the interior cockpit. The U-shaped settee provides comfortable seating for four people. At left is the galley counter.

~~Beneteau and Grande Turismo~~ Beneteau Gran Turismo 46 settee

Looking from the settee to the galley and cockpit companionway: the 24" television is well positioned at the end of the galley counter for clear viewing from the settee. The table is telescoping, and can be lowered to function as a coffee table. Lower it all of the way and it becomes a foundation platform for another berth. The cabin materials consist of Alpi wood matt Walnut with a Brown Oak laminated deck. The galley provides a double stainless steel sink with mixer tap, a two burner Kenyon ceramic cooktop, Corian countertops, a refrigerator and freezer, and four storage cupboards. With leather covered handrails in all of the appropriate positions, cooking underway is feasible.

~~Beneteau and Grande Turismo~~ Beneteau Gran Turismo 46

~~Beneteau and Grande Turismo~~ Beneteau Gran Turismo 46 owners suite

Shown is the master stateroom, which has full standing headroom at the foot of the bed. Note the companionway that leads below decks.

The owner's suite is located abaft the galley, and offers the room of the full beam of the boat at its widest point, just under 14' (4.27 m), providing a residence space of over 150 sq. ft. (14 sq. m), with a headroom of 6'4" (1.93 m) at the foot of the bed. With its private en suite head, three storage lockers, one hanging locker and a seating area, the stateroom provides room and comfortable amenities.

~~Beneteau and Grande Turismo~~ Beneteau Gran Turismo 46 cabin

In the two cabin configuration with the settee, the forward VIP berth can be set up as a twin combination (seen at right) or a full-sized bed (at left).

The forward VIP cabin has the conventional island berth – with the unconventional ability to split it in two, and swing the two single berths outboard. This gives the cabin much more utility, something we like. The overhead hatch and side windows, with opening port holes for ventilation, provide natural light. There are two relatively large hanging lockers. Both heads have Quiet Flush electric toilets and showers separated by a translucent door. They contain storage cupboards (two in the VIP head, three in the owner's), opening portholes and two 110 volt electrical outlets. Teak slatted decks are standard in each head.

The Gran Turismo 46 has a 24,000 BTU air conditioning/heating system for the areas below decks. There is an 11 gallon (42 L) water heater, which works off either the engine heat exchangers or 110 volt AC.

Beneteau Gran Turismo 46 profile shot

Beneteau has created a lot of functionality on the Gran Turismo 46 to enable her owners to use the vessel for nearly any purpose.

Observations

We are truly impressed with the creative thinking that has gone into the new Beneteau Gran Turismo 46. The market for boats in this size and price range is, unfortunately, relatively small, even world-wide -- so it behooves Beneteau to build a boat that can serve as many owners' needs as possible. We think that they have certainly done that with the new Gran Turismo 46. We look forward to testing her in the near future.