

Beneteau Gran Turismo 40 (2016-)

Brief Summary

Replacing the Gran Turismo 38, the new Gran Turismo 40 introduces a silhouette conceived by designers Nuvolari-Lenard and a redesigned cockpit with a center helm and optional lowering swim platform. Propelled by dual Volvo Penta 300 horsepower diesel engines (D6 370 optional) and incorporating the new Air Step 2 hull design, the Gran Turismo 40 provides a combination of increased fuel efficiency and maneuverability, while offering an appealing sense of style in its new shape.

Price

Base Price\$424700.00

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

- Swim platform can be lowered below sea level
- Design by Nuvolari and Lenard
- Powered by twin 370-hp engines
- Includes the latest AirStep technology
- Opening hardtop

Test Results

RPM	MPH	Knots	GPH	MPG	NMPG	STAT. MILE	NM	dBa
600	5	4.3	0.7	7.6	6.6	1179	1025.1	72
1000	7.8	6.7	2	3.9	3.4	600	521.6	78
1250	9.2	8	3.6	2.6	2.2	399	346.9	79
1500	10.2	8.9	6.2	1.6	1.4	255	221.5	82

RPM	MPH	Knots	GPH	MPG	NMPG	STAT. MILE	NM	dBa
1750	11.5	10	10	1.1	1	177	154.1	87
2000	15.9	13.8	12.5	1.3	1.1	196	170.7	89
2250	21.6	18.7	15	1.4	1.2	222	193.4	88
2500	27.2	23.6	17.5	1.6	1.3	240	208.8	88
2750	31.1	27	20.5	1.5	1.3	234	203.9	86
3000	35	30.4	25	1.4	1.2	217	188.5	88
3250	38.9	33.8	30	1.3	1.1	201	174.5	90
3500	42.3	36.7	37.5	1.1	1	174	151.7	92
3620	44.2	38.4	42	1.1	0.9	163	141.7	92

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

beneteau_granturismo40_chart_15.jpg

Specifications

Length Overall	41' 2" / 12.55 m
BEAM	12' 8" 3.86 m
Dry Weight	16,861 lbs. 7,648 kg
Tested Weight	18,194 lbs. 8,252 kg
Draft	3' 7" 1.09 m

Draft Up	
Draft Down	3' 7" 1.09 m
Air Draft	13' 7" 4.14 m
Deadrise/Transom	N/A
Max Headroom	
Bridge Clearance	13' 7" 4.14 m
Weight Capacity	
Person Capacity	10
Fuel Capacity	172 gal. 651 L
Water Capacity	106 gal. 401 L
Length on Trailer	
Height on Trailer	
Trailer Weight	
Total Weight	18,194 lbs. 8,252 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	5.3 sec.
0 to 20	
Ratio	N/A
Props	DPH G5
Load	3 persons, 1/2 fuel, 1/2 water, 50 lbs. of gear
Climate	92 deg., 48 humid.; wind: 5-10 mph; seas: light chop

Contents of Report

- [Mission Statement](#)

- [Major Features](#)
- [Inspection and Walkthrough](#)
- [Performance](#)
- [Handling](#)
- [Docking](#)
- [Observations](#)

Beneteau Gran Turismo 40 running shot

The new Beneteau Gran Turismo 40.

Beneteau Gran Turismo 40 running shot

Beneteau Gran Turismo 40 underway on plane.

Mission Statement

In its design partnership with Nuvolari-Lenard, Beneteau introduces a new sport cruiser in the Gran Turismo 40 that encompasses a balanced combination of performance and function in a 40' (12 m), twin cabin boat. The Gran Turismo 40 provides the practicality of being able to experience and enjoy the day on the water, with the maneuverability, performance and draft one would find in a smaller boat. Along with the added convenience and flexibility of accommodating a night at anchor or in a visiting marina, the climate controlled comfort of a cabin is suitable for two couples. Whether kept in dry storage, in a marina slip, or at the dock, or lift at home, the Gran Turismo 40 is an all-weather cruiser.

Beneteau Gran Turismo 40 floor plan

Overhead plan view of the Beneteau Gran Turismo 40.

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 40 to operate at planing speeds on a "cushion" of air. Air is sucked under the boat from forward vents on the chines and exits at the transom. By reducing water adhesion to the hull and reducing friction, the boat becomes easier to push. The result is reduced fuel consumption, increased maximum speed, and more nimble handling at planing speeds.

Beneteau Gran Turismo 40 air step

Air Step 2 Hull design on the Gran Turismo 40 showing the "air cushion" produced aft.

Retractable Sunroof. The electrically operated sunroof allows air to flow freely though the cockpit of the Gran Turismo 40 while both at anchor and underway.

~~Beneteau and Gran Turismo~~
Beneteau Gran Turismo 40 running shot

Shown is the sunroof fully retracted. Note the width near the full breadth of the roof.

~~Beneteau and Gran Turismo~~
Beneteau Gran Turismo 40

The sunroof retracted as seen from inside the cockpit.

Optional Electric Swim Platform. Whether utilizing the platform for a small tender, or simply for its namesake's use, departing the Gran Turismo 40 at anchor either way is ergonomic and functional. The platform has electric lowering capability, allowing the boat's operator ease and flexibility in tender launch and retrieval, as well as convenient 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 place that everyone aboard will enjoy when it is partially submerged. As an option, the platform is offered in teak.

~~Beneteau and Gran Turismo~~
Beneteau Gran Turismo 40 swim platform

The Gran Turismo 40's swim platform shown in optional teak decking.

~~Beneteau and Gran Turismo~~
Beneteau Gran Turismo 40 platform

The Gran Turismo 40's swim platform is shown here lowered at the dock. It will fully submerge to launch a tender.

Outdoor Galley. Conveniently located on the transom is the outdoor galley, for preparing and making steaks, burgers and other fare without the need to go below. Stationed facing the swim platform aft, standing at and accessing the cooking area does not impede movement about the boat by other members of the party on board and is an efficient use of space that would otherwise go unused. Once the meals are prepared, service can be provided in the cockpit settee.

~~Beneteau and Gran Turismo~~
Beneteau Gran Turismo 40 transom

Stern view of the Gran Turismo 40 showing swim platform and outdoor galley.

~~Beneteau and Gran Turismo~~
Beneteau Gran Turismo 40 grill

Outdoor galley arrangement showing the electric grill and sink.

Inspection and Walkthrough

Approaching the Gran Turismo 40 from the dock, it can be seen that many of her characteristics underline the balance between a strong sporting character and function due to its openness. The boat is easily accessible from the dock when tied stern to simply by stepping onto the swim platform.

Beneteau Gran Turismo 40 stern

Platform and transom on the Gran Turismo 40 tied stern-to the dock for relative ease in access. Note the 30 Amp shore power connection to starboard.

The Cockpit and Foredeck. Once on board the Gran Turismo 40, the companionway from the platform into the cockpit is to port, as seen above, past the aforementioned outdoor galley on the transom. The transom gate is accommodating and large.

Beneteau Gran Turismo 40 floor plan

Plan view of the cockpit and foredeck on the Gran Turismo 40.

From the transom forward to starboard is an L-shaped settee with a folding table which opens out. There is easily enough room for entertaining eight to ten people in the cockpit area, which also has a separate drink and glass storage area to port adjoining a small refrigerator and ice box. The Beige Crème Luxe outside upholstery colors compliment the teak slatted deck.

Beneteau Gran Turismo 40

Looking forward into the Gran Turismo 40's cockpit with the sunroof open. Table and settee are to starboard with bench seat and refrigerator to port. In the center is a cabinet for storage.

The cockpit table also lowers to provide a sun bathing lounge seat and the removable side glazing frees up the cockpit completely. In addition to the sunroof, this creates an open air experience while still maintaining the integrity of the GRP hardtop, combining the protection of passengers and the sensation of an open craft.

Forward of the settee is the helm station, with a twin helm bench seat and an additional passenger bucket seat to its right. The helm of the Gran Turismo 40 is positioned on the centerline, providing a full field of view to both the left and right.

Beneteau Gran Turismo 40 helm

The Gran Turismo 40's helm, controls and electronics. Note the leather-wrapped grab rails to the left and right.

Beneteau Gran Turismo 40 helm instruments

Helm instrumentation and Simrad display. Note the air conditioning vents to the right and left of the compass.

The wheel is two tone leather and chrome, and positioned just below the instrumentation. Compass, speed, log, depth sounder and a Simrad NSS 12" multifunction screen GPS chartplotter, 4G radar, and autopilot are symmetrically incorporated into the console. Throttles and joystick are appropriately positioned to the right and in close proximity to the wheel.

Beneteau Gran Turismo 40 controls

The Gran Turismo 40's operational and trim controls.

The Volvo Penta sterndrive system is a standard feature, with a joystick docking system, providing unencumbered ease during maneuvering and docking evolutions in conjunction with the optional bow thruster.

Beneteau Gran Turismo 40

A view of the Gran Turismo 40 helm station.

The helm station of the Gran Turismo 40 appears to be a very inviting place from which to operate a boat. With its centerline location, exceptional visibility and "all components within reach" design, the experience for the operator could easily equate to that of operating a sporty center console. Looking out onto the foredeck, there are twin sun pads for enjoying some fun in the sun at anchor, which is lowered and hoisted by an electric Lewmar motorized winch controlled remotely from the helm.

Beneteau Gran Turismo 40 running shot

Twin sun pads make the foredeck an inviting space.

Beneteau Gran Turismo 40

The Gran Turismo 40 at anchor.

The Cabin, Galley and Berth. Entering the cabin by proceeding down the companionway from the cockpit to the left of the helm, the steps are wide and comfortable to negotiate. The salon features an L-settee, with a table, to port and the galley to starboard. The upholstery is finished in a Courchevel shell fabric and the table is finished in a mat walnut wood.

Beneteau Gran Turismo 40 floor plan

Plan view of the Gran Turismo 40's cabin.

The woodwork is finished in Alpi Walnut and a host of color and palette options are available. There are four storage cupboards, two storage lockers, and two opening portholes. The salon flooring is Ivory carpet and direct and indirect lighting is incorporated throughout the space. A 24" TV and DVD player can be mounted to the galley front cupboard panel to be viewed from the settee. This interior cabin can be climate controlled with a 16,000 BTU marine air conditioning system.

Beneteau Gran Turismo 40 salon

Salon of the Gran Turismo 40, showing settee and table to port and galley space to starboard. Note the 24" TV mounted to the forward galley cupboard.

The galley consists of a 21 gallon (79 L) refrigerator with freezer, two-burner stove, stainless steel sink, microwave, waste bin locker and drawers incorporated into the carpentry with a solid surface countertop.

The Gran Turismo 40's galley (above) and microwave in the overhead cupboard (below).

~~Beneteau Gran Turismo 40 galley~~
~~Beneteau Gran Turismo 40 microwave~~

The Gran Turismo 40 comes equipped with one head, positioned to starboard, aft of the galley. It enjoys a stand up shower, with a telephonic shower head, a bowl ceramic sink, electric flush water closet, and cabinets above and below the sink. The fresh water tank has a capacity of 53 gallons (201 L).

~~Beneteau Gran Turismo 40 head~~
~~Beneteau Gran Turismo 40 head~~

The Gran Turismo 40's head.

~~Beneteau Gran Turismo 40 head~~
~~Beneteau Gran Turismo 40 head~~

The bowl sink below the porthole, with a hard surface countertop.

The forward master cabin has an island double berth with a marine mattress, padded headboard, two LED reading lights, two overhead lights, two shelves, two hanging lockers, two 110-volt electrical sockets, two panorama windows with opening ports and shutters, opening deck hatches with mosquito blind, three drawer storage area beneath the bed and indirect lighting under the bed.

~~Beneteau Gran Turismo 40 stateroom~~
~~Beneteau Gran Turismo 40 stateroom~~

The Gran Turismo 40's master stateroom.

The aft guest cabin has two single berths which can be converted into a double, with marine mattresses, two panorama windows with opening portholes and shutters, one opening hatch with a blind, two hanging lockers, two storage lockers, one bed head with a drawer and two LED reading lights.

~~Beneteau Gran Turismo 40 twins~~
~~Beneteau Gran Turismo 40 twins~~

The Gran Turismo 40's aft guest stateroom.

Engines. The Gran Turismo 40 is powered by two Volvo Penta 300 horsepower diesel engines, and D6 370 horsepower plants are a special order option, but with the air step hull design, the 600 horses of the standard engine option is sufficient for this sport cruiser, weighing in at just under 17,000 lbs. (7,711 kg).

Performance

~~Beneteau Gran Turismo 40 running shot~~
~~Beneteau Gran Turismo 40 running shot~~

The Gran Turismo 40 while underway.

Let's move to her performance. The test boat had the special-order D6 Volvo Penta engines in it. With those 370-hp D6s we got up to 38.4 knots at 3620 rpm, and did so with a fuel burn of 42 gph that produced a

range of 141.7 nm. Best cruise came in at 2500 rpm and 23.6 knots. That speed dropped the fuel consumption down to 17.5 gph and increased the range to 208.8 nm. All while still holding back a 10% reserve of fuel in the tank. We reached planing speed in 5.3 seconds, accelerated to 20 mph in 5.7 seconds and continued through 30 mph in 10 seconds flat.

We've already talked about Air Step in this report, and now we're starting to see how it translates into respectable performance numbers. But more so, is it beneficial to the boat's handling?

Handling

Gran Turismo boats consistently impress us with their handling characteristics and gentle demeanor and the Gran Turismo 40 is no exception. Every time we approached a wave we braced for an impact that never came. She handles rough water and chop with grace and style that guests will find comfortable. She's responsive to the helm and produces a dry ride, at least during our tests. And with only a 5-degree bow high attitude, visibility remains excellent throughout the cruise envelope.

Docking

Upon returning to the dock, we were tasked with bringing her into what was probably the tightest docking we've done. She was to be positioned at a boat show with only inches to spare both fore and aft, and frankly, it gave us a perfect opportunity to test the responsiveness of the sterndrive joystick. Not surprisingly, it was dialed into the Gran Turismo 40 perfectly and we used just tiny pulses of the stick to ease her into this extraordinarily tight position. This bodes well for those considering a move up from a smaller boat in that there should be no concern about being able to handle it at the dock.

Observations

Returning to the location and function of the helm, it's apparent that the Beneteau Gran Turismo 40 is an "operator's" sport cruiser. While providing the creature comforts for a full weekend, or more of cruising, it's the thrill of operating this boat that might be her true testament.

Her docile handling characteristics combined with the fit-and-finish that seemed to be borrowed from Beneteau's larger MCY Series make for a pleasing combination both at the dock and on the water. We found her to be consistent with the good handling characteristics of the Gran Turismo line with a touch more flair to her comfort level that one would expect being a newer model.