

Bavaria R40 Fly (2017-)

Brief Summary

The salon and aft deck of the Bavaria R40 Fly are set up for entertaining and, below, the accommodations are roomy and comfortable for two couples or a small family weekending or coastal cruising. Both cabins are ensuite. She's powered by twin 370-hp diesel sterndrives, giving the fuel efficiency and slow-speed handling of pod drives, without the expense.

Price

Base Price\$660000.00

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

- Height-adjustable sport steering wheel
- Two-burner ceramic cook top
- Bathing platform with integrated telescope bathing ladder
- Stainless steel bow fitting with anchor roller
- Electrical pressurized water pump with filter
- Z-Drive with electric steering
- EVC electronic throttles for twin engines
- Shore supply, 230 V

Test Results

RPM	MPH	Knots	GPH	MPG	NMPG	STAT. MILE	NM	dBa
600	4.7	4.1	0.6	7.8	6.8	1678	1459	70
1000	7.4	6.4	2.2	3.4	3	737	641.1	70
1250	9	7.8	4	2.3	2	485	422	72

RPM	MPH	Knots	GPH	MPG	NMPG	STAT. MILE	NM	dBa
1500	9.8	8.5	6.2	1.6	1.4	337	292.9	73
1750	10.4	9	9.3	1.1	1	238	207.3	74
2000	10.9	9.5	14	0.8	0.7	167	145	75
2250	16.5	14.3	19.5	0.8	0.7	181	157.1	79
2500	20.5	17.8	21.5	1	0.8	204	177.2	79
2750	25.8	22.4	22.5	1.1	1	246	213.6	82
3000	31.8	27.6	26	1.2	1.1	262	227.5	82
3250	36.5	31.7	32.5	1.1	1	241	209.2	83
3500	39.5	34.3	37.5	1.1	0.9	225	195.9	84
3650	41.1	35.7	41.5	1	0.9	212	184.5	85

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

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Specifications

Length Overall	41' 6" 12.65 m
BEAM	13' 1" 3.99 m
Dry Weight	21,164 lbs. 9,600 kg
Tested Weight	22,529 lbs. 10,218 kg

Draft	3' 6" 1.07 m
Draft Up	
Draft Down	
Air Draft	
Deadrise/Transom	
Max Headroom	6' 5" 1.96 m
Bridge Clearance	15' 7" 4.57 m
Weight Capacity	
Person Capacity	12
Fuel Capacity	238 gal. 901 L
Water Capacity	92 gal. 348 L
Length on Trailer	
Height on Trailer	
Trailer Weight	
Total Weight	22,529 lbs. 10,218 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	9.0 sec.
0 to 20	
Ratio	
Props	
Load	4 persons, 3/10 fuel, 1/6 water, 50 lbs. of gear
Climate	78 deg.; wind: 3-6 mph; seas: light chop

Bavaria R40 Fly static

The Bavaria R40 Fly has an LOA of 41'6" (12.7 m), a beam of 13'1" (4 m), a draft of 3'6" (1.07 m) and a dry displacement of 21,164 lbs. (9,600 kg).

Mission Statement

The Bavaria R40 Fly's design has four main focuses: Performance, Handling, Entertainment and Accommodations. She is a mid-range cruiser that runs like a sport boat but has the size and amenities of a yacht. The salon and aft deck are set up for entertaining and, below, the accommodations are roomy and should be comfortable for two couples or a small family for weekendening or short-hop coastal cruising.

With a height above the waterline of 13'1" (4 m), she can navigate most of the rivers and some of the canals of Europe. Check before going.

Bavaria R40 Fly dual helm

Dual helm stations are equally comfortable to control the boat from because visibility is excellent from the lower helm.

Overview

Both forward and mid cabins include separate heads and have island berths with an abundance of cabinet storage. This makes the R40 ideal for two-couple cruising because each has privacy; an important consideration when buying a boat this size.

All of this room is made possible because sterndrive propulsion is used, which moves the engines back to the transom, freeing up space forward. Twin Volvo diesels, coupled to Duoprop sterndrives, give this boat the feel of being much more agile when compared to similar boats with straight inboard power or even pod drive power. Because she is a sterndrive, she has the fuel efficiency of a pod drive without the drawbacks.

A major option that should be considered is a hydraulic swim platform that can create a private "beach" on the stern as well as carry a tender.

Major Features

- **Twin Volvo Penta D6-370/DP engines.** Our test boat was powered with the optional twin Volvo Penta D6 370 DP diesel engines. They are rated at 370 horsepower each, at the crankshaft, and are connected to Volvo Penta Duoprop outdrives.

- **Flying Bridge.** The advantages of having a flybridge boat are the fun of operating it from the upper station and the elevated position allows for better all-around vision for both the skipper and the guests.
- **Twin Master Staterooms.** Below are a pair of staterooms so similar in size and layout that the owner may have a hard time choosing which one to designate as the master suite. Island berths with en suite heads feature separate stand-up showers.
- **Optional Hydraulic Swim Platform.** The aft swim platform measures 9' (2.74 m) wide and 62" (1.58 m) fore and aft. It covers the outdrives and has an optional feature that allows it to be lowered into the water 12" (30.5 cm) deep to be used as a sandbar beach or a tender lift that can support up to 880 lbs. (400 kg)
- **12V TV System.** The boat is wired for 12V TV sets, and one was installed in the master cabin of the boat we tested. This means that videos can be watched without the generator running.

Bavaria R40 Fly hull side ports

Hull side ports allow in natural light to give an open feeling while down below.

Performance

The Bavaria R40 Fly has an LOA of 41'6" (12.65 m), a beam of 13'1" (4 m), and a draft of 3'6" (1.07 m). With an empty weight of 21,164 lbs. (9,600 kg), 76 gallons (288 L) of fuel, and four people onboard, we had an estimated test weight of 22,529 lbs. (10,219 kg).

With twin 370-hp Volvo Penta D6 370 DP diesel engines powering our test boat, we recorded a top speed of 35.7 knots (41.1 mph) at 3650 rpm. Best cruise came at 3000 rpm where the boat ran 27.6 knots (31.8 mph), burned 26 gph, getting 1.1 nmpg, giving her a range of 227.5 nautical miles with a 10% fuel reserve of the boat's 238-gallon (901 L) fuel capacity.

In acceleration tests, our test boat went from 0 to 20 mph in 9.6 seconds and to 30 mph in 17.6 seconds.

Bavaria R40 Fly propellers

The Volvo Penta Duoprop outdrives each spin a pair of counter-rotating propellers that help to reduce slip when full power is applied.

Maximum bow rise on acceleration was 10 degrees, and, once on plane, the boat rode at a perfect 3-degree bow-up angle with zero trim. Just to find out how fast we could go on a single engine, we put one in neutral, and recorded a speed of about nine knots; this is a good number to know if one engine fails.

Handling

For her size, we were impressed by how agile the handling of the R40 Fly was. The added weight of four people on the flybridge did not seem to reduce stability, nor did we lean excessively in turns and at nearly full speed.

Bavaria R40 Fly sudden turns

A notice on the flybridge does warn about sudden turns above 25 mph, which is never a good idea in any boat this size.

Through a series of aggressive turns, the sport-boat feel of the Bavaria R40 Fly really shined. There was not the slightest bit of slide, and the outdrives powered the boat through the relatively tight turns, which straight inboards or a pod drive system would not have been able to do.

Bavaria R40 Fly level

When crossing the camera boat's wake, the hull never pounded, and landings were soft and level.

The boat was also remarkably quiet, and, once again, we think that the through-hub exhaust was part of the reason. Also, there is sound-deadening material in the engine room and under the hatch. Our highest sound reading taken inside the cabin with the doors closed was 84.5 dbA at full throttle.

No Fumes. Underway, the through-hub exhaust never let a hint of diesel fumes enter the open salon door and underway, so she didn't have a "station wagon effect," where the vacuum of the cabin going through air pulls fumes over the transom. The generator exhausts it above the waterline to port.

Features Inspection

Lower Helm

Bavaria R40 Fly dual station boat

Many dual-station boats are not that easy to captain from the lower helm, but the Bavaria R40 Fly is not one of them. Our captain felt equally comfortable at either helm station.

From the lower station, the 10-degree bow rise never obscured the horizon. Our captain felt in complete control operating this boat from this position and sitting, which is how this helm was designed to be used.

You cannot stand at the helm because there is a raised platform here.

Bavaria R40 Fly helm control

The power assist steering allows for fingertip control of the helm. Note the open side door and handy cleat for ease of single-handed docking.

Engine controls consist of digital electronic shift and throttle, along with joystick control for low-speed maneuvering.

Bavaria R40 Fly throttles

The Volvo EVC throttles have a trim switch for the outdrives, station choice and an engine sync function that allows the captain to control both engines with one throttle handle. This boat had Volvo's "glass bridge" screen.

Below the throttle are switches for the engine start and stop as well as trim tab control. Bavaria also chose to use a switch panel to control frequently used systems. Each function can be easily recognized and activated, which in our opinion is better than having to scroll through a touchscreen menu on the display.

Bavaria R40 Fly switch panel

The switch panel is labeled with icons, and the switch is lit when the system is activated.

Bavaria R40 Fly joystick control

The joystick control, at the lower helm, is positioned close to the throttle so both are within easy reach for the captain.

Control position is vital when maneuvering in and around docks. The captain needs to be able to quickly transition from one set of controls to the other, as wind and current affect the boat.

Bavaria R40 Fly AC vents

Perhaps the most important feature of the lower helm station are the dual AC vents that can offset the heat generated by the large glass windshield.

Side Door. Because of the side door, the skipper has a particularly good view of the starboard side of the boat. It also allows fresh air and aids the captain in one-handed operation of the vessel. This is an important feature some boats in class don't have.

Bavaria R40 Fly cleat

The spring line cleat is positioned just outside of the glass door so the boat can be quickly tied off or the captain can make that the last line freed just before the boat leaves the dock.

Bavaria R40 Fly panoramic windshield

The large panoramic windshield is 106.5" (270.5 cm) wide and 45" (114.3 cm) high. There's no center mullion to block the view from the helm.

At the base of the windshield are four defogger vents, and the windshield is kept clear by a pair of large wipers with dual pantograph arms. The wipers also have a washer feature, which helps remove salt spray.

Three bucket seats with wraparound backrests face forward, one to port and two to starboard. They do a good job of holding in the captain and companions. Remember that one of the features of this boat is “sporty” handling, so the bucket seats help keep everyone in place. This is somewhat unusual in this size boat.

We particularly like the second companion seat to port. Like the two helm seats, it is on a raised platform, giving good forward visibility. Directly in front of it is a tray for a laptop computer or tablet. The window outboard slides open to let in fresh air.

Upper Helm

Bavaria R40 Fly flying bridge

The flying bridge is a venue that guests will like. It is also a delightful venue for lunch or cocktails when at anchor.

Bavaria R40 Fly elevated position

The elevated driving position of the flybridge truly gives the sense of being in command of the boat.

Bavaria R40 Fly upper helm

The upper helm has the same controls and instruments and electronic displays found at the lower station. Twin bucket seats, on the fly bridge, lock passengers in with wraparound backrests. This is a welcome feature on a boat that performs as nimble as this one.

Bavaria R40 Fly joystick

The joystick control is mounted forward on the digital throttle and will be the control of choice when docking in close quarters.

The Joystick. Twisting the control knob spins the boat on its own axis. Tilting the knob in any direction makes the boat move in that direction. We found the system easy to use once we realized there is a delay from the time we moved the joystick until the system engaged. With that in mind, it is simply a matter of anticipating the boat’s next move.

Bavaria R40 Fly dual throttles

More experienced captains may be more comfortable using the traditional dual throttles, instead of the joystick, for docking. The traditional gears and throttle are silky smooth with no lag in reaction time from the engines once engaged.

Bayaria R40 Fly anchor davit

Another advantage of a top-mounted anchor davit is that it can be seen as it's hauled up, to know when it's fully retracted and ensure the anchor is properly secured.

Anchor Locker

At the bow is a built-in anchor windlass. The anchor stows on a roller davit and the locker below the windlass is very large, which is a good thing. Having a large locker for the anchor chain is important for two reasons: it can hold plenty of chain and, more importantly, it's large enough to allow a person to get inside, if necessary, to untangle the chain. In rough water, anchor chain can get tossed around like cloths in a washing machine and become tightly tangled.

Bayaria R40 Fly washdown

A freshwater washdown can be added as an option to wash off the ground tackle after use.

Bayaria R40 Fly bow seat

The bow seat, with split bow rail, allows the boat to be docked, bow-to, if necessary. The opening in the pulpit permits easy boarding and egress from and to the dock. At anchor, kids will enjoy sitting here or even using it as a diving board.

Engine Room

The engine room is accessed through a hatch in the cockpit sole. Insulation on the hatch helps keep noise and heat to a minimum. Once below, the ladder can be unhinged to aid in getting outboard of the starboard engine.

Bayaria R40 Fly insulation

Additional insulation, on the underside of the cockpit sole, helps to quiet the noise from the diesel engines. Forward is an 11 kW Kohler genset. Flanking both port and starboard sides of the genset are the fuel filters for each diesel engine, and just below the generator shelf are the main engine start batteries.

Raw Water Cooling. Cooling water for the generator goes overboard with the exhaust after passing through the muffler. A separator sends exhaust out the side of the boat and the separated water overboard through a large seacock. Raw water for main engines is picked up through the outdrives, thus eliminating two additional holes in the bottom, and engine exhaust also goes through the outdrives.

Bayaria R40 Fly headroom

Headroom in the engine compartment measures 5" (12.7 cm), and there's 14" (35.6 cm) in between both engines.

For convenience, Bavaria located both engine dipsticks in the center walkway. There's also 16" (40.6 cm) forward clearance from the front of the engine to the generator, providing room to change the serpentine belt, if necessary. To starboard is the hot water tank, and just forward of the tank is a raw water pickup for the four on-board air conditioning units scattered around the boat.

Bavaria R40 Fly fuel tanks

The fuel tanks are made out of poly and housed in separate plywood compartments, which are fiberglassed in place. Foam blocks hold the port and starboard fuel tanks securely in place, and the fact that they are non-metal eliminates corrosion as a concern.

Entertaining

Aft Deck

The aft deck features a U-shaped lounge. The backrests have thick padding with built-in stainless steel drink holders. The step that leads from the cockpit up to the side decks has a filler cushion to extend the lounge.

Bavaria R40 Fly exhaust

Because of the underwater exhaust, we detected no fumes, so this can be a comfortable place to sit while underway.

Bavaria R40 Fly teak decking

Optional teak decking adds an upscale look to any yacht.

Bavaria R40 Fly filler cushion

Once dockside, the filler cushion can be stowed to make it easier to get on and off the boat.

Bavaria R40 Fly icemaker

Under the port side ladder, which leads to the flybridge, is a stainless steel icemaker built into a fiberglass cabinet.

Bavaria R40 Fly zippered

This zippered skirt allows for clear curtains to completely enclose the aft deck, effectively extending the size of the salon. This can make the aft deck a three-season venue, if not year-round. We like using cruising canvas in this way as it adds to the boat's living space for little cost.

Bavaria R40 Fly entertaining

The aft deck lounge and bow sun pad support the R40's entertaining features.

Bow Lounge

Under a canvas cover, on the bow deck, is a sun pad. It has a half Bimini top, for partial shade, and the aft section of the cushion tilts up and locks into place to form a forward-facing lounge. The width of this pad is 70.4" (179 cm) and, when flat, it is 78" (198 cm) fore and aft.

Bayaria R40 Fly sun pad

This is an inviting place to soak up a little sun or stargaze at night.

Fly Bridge

Bayaria R40 Fly fly bridge

Running the boat from the flybridge, the hull was stable and carried the weight up top with no increased movement.

Bayaria R40 Fly entertaining guest

The large flybridge is laid out for entertaining guests up top with an L-shaped lounge. The area measures 92" wide (234 cm) and the long seating area to starboard is 145.6" (370 cm) fore and aft. The forward edge lifts up to create a chaise. The table is 25.9" (66 cm) by 49.2" (125 cm).

Going up to the flybridge, to port is a stainless steel ladder with teak steps, which leads to a large smoked glass deck hatch — which is important to keep closed when guests are on the flybridge.

Like most Euro designs, the seats on this flying bridge are made low and the bulwarks are minimal. On the starboard side, the actual fiberglass structure is just 9" (22.9 cm) above the deck. On top of that is Plexiglas, which rises to 28" (71 cm). On the port side, the fiberglass rises to 18" (45.7 cm) off the deck. This keeps both the look and the reality of the boat's superstructure low. At 13'1" (4 m) bridge clearance with the radar mast and Bimini down, the R40 can get under most bridges on major European rivers.

Bayaria R40 Fly lounge

To the starboard of the upper helm is an L-shaped settee. The teak cocktail table is mounted on a pair of aluminum pedestal bases and has stainless steel hinges and twin foldout leaves. The seating height is 18" (45.7 cm), and installed below (aft) is a pullout, refrigerated drawer for drinks.

Bayaria R40 Fly backrest

A backrest tilts up and locks into place to form an aft-facing lounge.

Bayaria R40 Fly maneuvering

Maneuvering in close quarters is much easier from the flybridge, with the ability to see 360 degrees around the vessel.

Mounted atop this stainless steel pedestal is a closed-array antenna for the radar. Its fixed height is only 3'9" (1.14 m) above the aft lounge seat and 5'1" (1.55 m) above the deck. We'd like to see it mounted 2' (0.6 m)

higher.

Bavaria R40 Fly radar antenna

We would rather see the radar antenna mounted another foot or two higher. The baseplate does allow it to fold, which lowers the overall air draft.

Salon

Bavaria R40 Fly dinette

To bring the entertaining indoors, the salon features an L-shaped dinette with accent lighting below. The pedestal-mounted, solid wood cocktail table has foldout leaves that double its length.

Bavaria R40 Fly cabinetry

The salon cabinetry is finished in manufactured wood paneling, specially designed for a marine environment. The headliner includes recessed LED strip lighting as well as Tivoli lighting under the upper cabinets.

Bavaria R40 Fly doors and table

Opening the four-panel sliding glass doors as well as a second cocktail table lets the entertaining flow from the salon out onto the aft deck. The four-door panels nestle-up to port, leaving a large entry area. Note that the deck of the cockpit and the salon are on the same level.

Galley

The galley has all of the conveniences of home but is hidden out of view by the countertop and doors.

Bavaria R40 Fly countertop

The Corian countertop can be used as a wet bar or buffet. Filler pieces are stored above the microwave.

Bavaria R40 Fly faucet

The right side of the countertop has a built-in stainless steel sink with flip-up faucet.

Bavaria R40 Fly cooktop

To the left is a built-in two-burner glass cook top. Being recessed into the countertop replaces the need for a fiddle in rough conditions.

Bavaria R40 Fly microwave

Below the center of the countertop is a hidden microwave oven. The two filler pieces stow above it. Additional features of the galley are an optional dishwasher drawer, cabinet storage, and drawers for cutlery and utensils. Above the galley are three upper cabinets; the doors are held open by stainless steel shocks. Just forward of the galley is an additional passenger seat, like the pair behind the lower helm.

Accommodations

Bavaria R40 Fly interior

The interior accommodations of the Bavaria R40 are large because the boat is powered by a sterndrive system. Note the relative size of both cabins which have en suite heads.

The forward cabin may have more movement in rough conditions, plus there will be a bit more hull noise from waves slapping against the hull. The mid-cabin should be more stable, being further aft, but there will be some noise from the generator to contend with when it's running.

But that is why Bavaria has installed 12V flatscreen TV sets in the boat — the generator need not be working to watch videos.

Forward Stateroom

Bavaria R40 Fly forward berth

The forward berth is 76" (1.93 m) head to foot and 63" (1.6 m) wide.

Bavaria R40 Fly ports

Ports on either side of the cabin allow in natural light and have opening ports for fresh air.

Bavaria R40 Fly hanging locker

To starboard is a hanging locker.

Bavaria R40 Fly linen closet

To port is a linen closet with shelving.

Above the forward berth is a deck hatch to let in natural light and fresh air; it is also an emergency exit.

Below the berth are additional pullout drawers. Headroom in this cabin is 76" (1.93 m).

Bavaria R40 Fly head

A door inside of the forward cabin leads to the en suite head, which also doubles as the day head.

Bavaria R40 Fly porcelain sink

The head features a top-mounted porcelain sink with a stainless steel faucet.

Bavaria R40 Fly base

The porcelain marine head is mounted on top of a fiberglass base.

Bavaria R40 Fly stand up shower

The separate stand-up shower has bi-fold acrylic doors with a hand-held showerhead.

In the head, above the sink, are cabinets, one with a mirrored door, complete with a ground fault 110 plug inside. Below there is more storage. The head has a walk-in separate shower stall and the port light opens for a little ventilation. We'd like to see an exhaust fan in the head.

Mid Cabin

Bayaria R40 Fly island berth

The Island berth, in the mid cabin, measures 78" (1.98 m) fore and aft and is 62" (1.58 m) in width.

Bayaria R40 Fly mid cabin headroom

The headroom of the mid-cabin varies from a maximum of 87" (2.21 m) to a minimum of 53" (1.35 m).

Bayaria R40 Fly starboard berth

To the starboard side of the berth is a lounge that could double as a bed for a child if needed.

Bayaria R40 Fly mid cabin closet

At the foot of the berth, in the mid cabin, is a linen closet with shelving.

Bayaria R40 Fly port dresser

To port is a built-in dresser. Hull side ports bring in loads of natural light.

Bayaria R40 Fly 12v tv

The boat is wired for three TVs, which are all 12 volts, so you can watch TV without shore power or the generator running.

Bayaria R40 Fly drawer

Just below the TV is a drawer with a built-in vanity.

Bayaria R40 Fly mid cabin head

This head includes the same porcelain top-mounted sink and marine toilet as the forward cabin.

Bayaria R40 Fly shower stall

The separate shower stall measures 79" (2.01 m) tall and is separated from the head by a pair of acrylic doors.

Swim Platform

Bayaria R40 Fly swim platform

The aft swim platform measures 9' (2.74 m) wide and 62" (1.58 m) fore and aft.

Bayaria R40 Fly swim platform feature

It covers the outdrives and has an optional feature that allows it to be lowered into the water 12" (30.5 cm) deep to be used as a sandbar beach or a tender lift that can support up to 880 lbs. (399 kg).

Bavaria R40 Fly fresh water shower

To port is a pullout fresh water shower and a stainless steel gate that secures access to the swim deck.

Price

Our test boat had an MSRP of \$660,000, which included a hefty list of options like the teak decking and hydraulic swim platform.

Bavaria R40 Fly angle

With zero trim added, the hull had a 3-degree up angle while underway.

Observations

Bavaria has figured out how to pack a lot of features in a length of only 40 feet. Diesel power gives the boat reliability and efficiency. The Duoprop outdrives enhance the racy feel at the helm and allow for a shallow draft. Sterndrives are just as efficient as pod drives and are a lot less money the buy and considerably easier to maintain; replacement, if necessary, is much less money.

Guests will like the flying bridge, and two couples can cruise in privacy with the en suite staterooms.

For people looking for a weekender and mid-range cruiser, the Bavaria R40 might be just the ticket.