



Spitfire 18 Specification

Features

- Performs well with a family on board cruising in estuary waters or lakes etc.,
- Fast, comfortable and competitive in class racing events.
- Camping capability is provided under a cleverly designed tent supported on the curved gaff.
- Dedicated kit stowage lockers.
- Engineered lightweight construction
- Constructed using ecologically sustainable materials.
- Easy to launch and recover and can be trailed behind virtually any car
- Self righting from a knockdown
- Self Bailing
- Virtually unsinkable having 15 separate watertight compartments.

Design Philosophy

The brief was to produce a vessel that is fun to sail with an exceptional turn of speed whilst remaining safe and predictable to handle. The vessel was to be usable in a "racing" mode and for a family to quietly enjoy messing about in. Making the craft to have the ability to accommodate up to 4 people under canvas was equally important as was the requirement to stow everything in watertight lockers. The resultant hull shape has a fine entry with stiff bilges and a flat run aft to a moderately wide transom which makes for exceptional stiffness and safety. The light-weight construction permits the hull to easily lift onto the plane without a tendency to broach during acceleration. All this makes for an exciting performance whilst maintaining complete and predictable control even in a stiff wind. The curved gaff which is a blend of gunter and traditional Dutch sail allows for the mast to be stowed on deck and not to overhang the hull to facilitate practical towing and easy rigging by one person.

Hull Structure

The shell is constructed of glass and epoxy sheathed Western Red Cedar stiffened transversely and longitudinally with top quality Marine Plywood. All the components are engineered to provide optimum strength whilst keeping weight to a minimum

Lifting Keel

An airfoil shaped ballasted swinging keel is operated by ropes from the cockpit to a hand operated winch mounted on top of the centreboard case with rope clutches.

Rudder Tiller and Skeg

A polished stainless steel stock and an epoxy and glassed sheathed western red cedar blade. The tiller is laminated spruce.

Deck Fittings

The sheet leads, cam cleats track and cars are all supplied by **Ronstan**. The headsail sheets pass through the side decks to lead blocks located to be easily handled by the crew. Cleats, stem head, bowsprit tabernacle and mast gate/pin rail are all polished stainless steel. The halyards are cleated to the specially designed stainless steel pin rail and mast gate. A **Ronstan** track and ball bearing cars for the mainsheet is mounted on the aft deck and folding stainless steel mooring cleats are fitted on the aft deck.

Engine

A Suzuki 2.5HP 4-stroke outboard is included with the aperture in the hull and deck tailored to suit. The aperture in the hull is fitted with a portable plug to eliminate turbulence when the engine is lifted out and stowed in its dedicated locker.

Fit out

There is plenty of space for 4 adults to sail her comfortably. The cockpit is formed out of marine plywood coated and painted to a high specification.

The well is self draining via automatic bailers located under lift-out covers. Watertight stowage lockers are formed in the side benches. The forward locker has space for a portable toilet (included in the camping package), and the aft locker is dedicated to stowing the engine.

The Rig

The innovative new **Spitfire** rig comprises a lightweight hollow spruce mast that is only as long as the boat. The curved gaff is laminated to the distinctive curved "**Spitfire**" shape also in spruce. The mast fittings are polished stainless steel. The sails are designed and supplied by **Jeckells** with the mainsail being loose footed and stiffened by carbon fibre battens. The jib is carried on a **Ronstan** furler. The standing rigging is **Dynastay** tensioned with lashings. The running rigging consists of jib, asymmetric, peak and throat halyards and is 8mm braided **Dyneema**. The blocks are all by **Ronstan**. The optional asymmetric head sail adds a new dimension to the sailing experience. It is operated on a "top-down" furler so is easily deployed and recovered from within the cockpit. A carbon fibre bowsprit with stainless steel deck fittings is provided with the optional asymmetric sail.

Camping (See Camping Package)

The whole cockpit is covered with a lightweight tent that is rigged over the gaff and supported by flexible tent poles all strapped over the coamings. A rolled-up bed base is can be deployed between the benches at the aft end providing a large sleeping platform. And optional bed base can be provided between the forward side benches.

Coatings

The paint finish is **AwlGrip** 2-pack over epoxy high build and polyurethane base coats. A metallic finish available as an option on the Standard Sport or Camping packages and is standard on the Fully Loaded package. The spars, rudder, tiller, coamings and rubbing bands are clear coated.

For prices, packages and accessories see separate list

We reserve the right to alter the specifications of our craft without notice in pursuance of our policy to improve our products following improved technology and availability of proprietary fittings and/or materials