

British C Power

As the C-Boat glides menacingly into port, the first thing that strikes you about this glossy predator is its nod to Britain's naval heritage. From the deep 'V' of the prow to the open-end stern, its sharp angles pay lip service to the agile gunboats that once patrolled our high seas. Its creators have, from the outset, sought to hone a luxury cruiser, built entirely in the UK, that can combine the task-decked elegance of an Aquariva with the functional modernism of a Twenties torpedo boat. Commissioned and built by Jason Carrington in collaboration with creative director Jonathan Glynn-Smith, the nine-metre vessel has been realised by Humphreys Yacht Design and costs €580,000.

Pivotal to its tough physique is its carbon fibre shell (hence C-Boat) and a series of unrelenting 45-degree angles that lend the hull immense structural rigidity. This allows a pair of matching 236HP Steyr engines to achieve speeds of up to 45 knots, without so much as a tremor. And, as it relies on jet propulsion rather than a traditional propeller, the boat thrives in very shallow depths, while its intelligent braking system allows sharp turns to be carved at a moment's notice. On deck, the finish is fittingly elegant, but never incongruous. The smooth, wooden decking, for instance, has been hand-finished by a veteran of the Purdey gun workshop to withstand the outdoors. The leather panelling on the dashboard and seating is the same treated hide employed inside tank turrets. This is a waterborne plaything that is as resilient as it is eye-catching. ✦ c-boat.co.uk

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