

Ocean Alexander 45 Divergence

FRONT *and* CENTRE

The 45 Divergence may seem something of a departure for Ocean Alexander but, as **Arnie Hammerman** discovers, top-quality features and finishes keep this lively, outboard-powered, centre-console boat firmly in the family.

The hottest trend in powerboating today is outboard engine power and in many parts of the world centre consoles dominate the outboard class. The design of these boats makes them extremely adaptable, meaning they are suited for many different activities such as fishing, diving, and day and weekend cruising. Smaller models are simply open boats used for fishing and short excursions, but larger centre consoles come complete with heads, galleys, cabins and other amenities. The technology used in modern outboards makes the boats quiet, efficient and dependable, with weight-to-horsepower ratios that help them accelerate quickly and achieve high speeds.

Ocean Alexander, which typically builds motor yachts from 20 to 50 metres, is following this trend and introducing an outboard-powered centre console of its own. According to Ocean Alexander's President, Johnny Chueh, the versatility of the centre console platform intrigued him and he knew he could build a boat in this style that would be far superior to most others currently on the market. By bringing the high-quality finish that comes from building larger motor yachts, Ocean Alexander aims to deliver a boat that will satisfy and impress even superyacht

owners. The Ocean Alexander 45 Divergence not only delivers large-yacht quality, it wraps it in an exciting, fun-to-drive package.

The first 45 Divergence debuted in Australia at the Sydney Boat show. At an evening cocktail party, blue underwater lights blazed through the water while above-deck accent lighting highlighted the lines of the hull, showcasing the entertainment aspects of the design. Guests wandered through the boat as music played, providing an excellent demonstration of how the open layout and multiple gathering areas really work. With a forward lounge, pop-up lighting, central helm, cabin with head, and the cockpit opened wide with 'balcony doors' extended, the boat can easily accommodate a large number of people in a cocktail or social setting.

The balcony doors are a special feature on the Divergence – like side doors on steroids, they are lowered by electric actuators to form wing-like platforms either side of the vessel. At 1.8 metres long by 0.6 metres wide, they add close to two square meters of deck space, stretching the beam to over 5.8 metres when both are open and creating an expansive 15.6 square meters of total cockpit area. Lightweight, fashionable carbon fibre stanchions with safety rails protect guests

Opposite: The 45 Divergent proved itself capable of longer passages on a 400-mile delivery to its debut at the Sydney International Boat Show.





AT A GLANCE

13.61m

Overall length

4.19m

Beam

15.4t

Displacement – fully laden

40kn

Maximum speed

and can be removed for swimming or when the balconies are closed. A swim ladder that retracts into one of the balconies converts it to a side swimming platform. The permanent swimming platform aft also has a stainless steel boarding ladder and plenty of room to walk past the outboards, even when they are raised. When there is not enough room to fold down the balconies dockside, a patented door-within-a-door swings in on a hinge to provide more conventional side access.

Ocean Alexander is used to customising boats to meet customers' specific needs and tastes, and on the 45 Divergence it offers more than 400 variations so owners can set up their boats exactly the way they want. The builder differentiates two versions of the boat on its website to help buyers understand the diversity of the platform and the wide variety of available options, but Todd Holzapfel – the Australian dealer – selected key components of each that he considers would work best for Australian buyers. The dolphin blue exterior and blue accents on the four white Mercury 350HP Verado outboards really make the boat sparkle. Fold-up seating aft, complete with fold-out armrests, gives the boat more cockpit space for entertaining and better access to the water when the seat is retracted. Holzapfel opted not to have teak decks, choosing white painted non-skid as a more practical option for the hot Australian sun. Carbon fibre accents, tables and dashboard give the boat a modern look and feel but walnut and other timbers can be ordered

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if an owner prefers, as can a fixed seat aft. Since most Australian boaters will likely use the 45 as a luxury day boat, the premier model here is loaded with options including coldplates in the fish boxes that allow them to act as large beverage coolers, as well as pop up cleats, a high-spec lighting package, and more. For those who want to fish, the 45 can be ordered with rodholders, a cockpit sink, transom livewell, and rod storage.

Ocean Alexander builds the Divergence in its Merritt Island factory in Florida, where the Ocean Alexander 70 is also built. The Evan K. Marshall-designed cabin of the 45 Divergence – which provides an impressive two metres of headroom – is extremely versatile, offering a galley with fridge, microwave and sink alongside a drop

Above: Despite a full equipment list the 45 offers sparkling performance, with the quad Mercury 350 Verados pushing it to a top speed of over 40 knots.

Left: Triple Lebroc bolstered seats make for a comfortable helm position.

Below: The versatile cockpit comes into its own with the side balconies open, which increase beam to over 5.8 metres.

table dinette. The galley comes complete with cookware, cutting boards and place settings for four including all plates, bowls, flatware, napkins and glasses. The inside dining/sitting area converts to a comfortable sleeping area with a queen size bed by folding down the forward bulkhead revealing twin reading lights and nightstand shelves.

The head has ample room and a convenient separate shower compartment finished with an elegant stone floor. Not many centre consoles offer a cabin with the size and comfort that allow a couple to overnight or spend a weekend or longer aboard like the 45 Divergence does. Further, in order to make the Sydney show the boat came down from Brisbane on her own bottom – a





Top: The Evan K. Marshall-designed cabin offers an impressive two metres of headroom, and amenities include a fridge, microwave and sink.

Above: The forward dinette lowers to convert the space from social area to sleeping cabin with queen-size bed. Reading lights and nightstand shelves are concealed in the bulkhead.

delivery of over 400 nautical miles – proving she is capable of longer cruises if desired.

On deck this boat really shines, providing open-air entertaining areas that are stylish and comfortable. The cockpit has the fold-down balconies, twin couch seating, and a table that is raised out of the sole electronically which allows this area to be fully cleared for water sports, fishing or entertaining. With the table raised it is a great spot for alfresco dining, lounging under the Shureshade

The inside dining/sitting area converts to a comfortable sleeping area with a queen-size bed by folding down the forward bulkhead.

automatic awning, or watching a movie or the big game under the stars on the retractable cockpit 50-inch TV. An outdoor galley comes complete with an electric Kenyon grill, stainless steel sink, induction cooktop, drawer fridges and an icemaker. Forward, ahead of the helm, lounge seating comes complete with drink holders, a table, a Fusion Apollo-series stereo, a sunshade on carbon poles, and a windlass with washdown system.

A hardtop covers the triple blue-and-white Lebroc bolstered helm seats, which all feature arm- and footrests. The carbon-accented dash has a full Garmin package with triple 8617 MFDs, (FLIR Thermal Night Vision M324S with stabilised gyro is an option), AIS, Sirius weather, Octoplex NMEA 2000 network-controlled electrical system, and all engine dials. The tilt wheel, throttles and the Smartcraft joystick for the Mercury outboards with optional Skyhook are within easy reach of the helm seat. Visibility is good all round, and the helm's air conditioning

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The Ocean Alexander 45 Divergence is equally adept as a luxury day boat, weekend cruiser, or fishing or diving platform for family and friends.

provides a refreshing breeze on a hot day.

Cruising at 1,100 RPM for a no-wash speed of 5.4 knots showed a range of 593 nautical miles based on tanks that were at 90 percent of a 2,298-litre capacity. Once in the clear we pushed up to cruising speed. The 45 Divergence is a large vessel packed with features and amenities including, on our test boat, a Seakeeper 6 gyro stabiliser which weighs 395 kilograms, but the quad Mercury 350 Verados pushed the 45 smoothly over the hump and onto the plane. At a fast cruising speed of 35.9 knots

at 5,500rpm the 45 burnt 332 litres/hour, providing a range of 224 nautical miles, and at wide open throttle we hit an exhilarating 41.2 knots. In high speed, hard-over turns, speed dropped by nearly 10 knots from 33 knots but the boat stayed on the plane and felt secure, and once back on the straightway we quickly came back up to speed. This boat is easy to manoeuvre with the joystick controls for docking and is certainly fun to drive.

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Above: The 45 Divergence is offered in over 400 variations, and its versatility means it can be enjoyed as anything from a luxury day boat to weekend cruiser.

family and friends, and is ideal for open-air entertaining. Its quality construction, features and amenities will impress boaters, and while the size, fuel and propulsion type might be a departure for Ocean Alexander, having fun on the water is not divergent at all. O

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SPECIFICATIONS ➔



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Ocean Alexander 45 Divergence



1

MAIN-DECK
BALCONIES CLOSED

Open layout with centre console offers high-end day-boat experience. Ocean Alexander standard of hull quality, fit-and-finish, a big positive, while the top speed of 40+ knots delivers plenty of thrills.



2

MAIN-DECK
BALCONIES OPEN

Electric fold-down doors extend beam to 5.8 metres, creating an on-water terrace with hidden swim ladders. Outdoor galley includes drawer fridges, icemaker, and electric grill.



3

LOWER DECK

Extremely versatile space with dinette converting to queen berth. Head and shower, plus galley equipped with microwave, fridge and sink. Headroom of 1.83 metres ensures a spacious feel.



SPECIFICATIONS

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Builder | Ocean Alexander |
| Model | 45 Divergence |
| Country of build | Florida USA |
| Designer | Evan K Marshall |
| Interior designer | Evan K Marshall |
| Year of build | 2019 |
| LOA (length overall) | 14.45 metres (including engines) |
| LWL (waterline length) | 11.29 metres |
| Beam | 4.19m, 5.82m when balconies extended |
| Draft (Engines Down) | 0.95 metres |
| Displacement (fully laden) | 15.4t |
| Classification | ISO12217 |
| Hull construction | Fibreglass |
| Superstructure | Fibreglass |
| Engines | 4 x Mercury Verado 350 outboards, 350hp each |
| Output | 1400hp |
| Propellers | Stainless steel |
| Drive train | 4-stroke outboards |

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|--------------------------------------|--|
| Stabilisation systems | Seakeeper 6 Gyro |
| Speed (max) | 40 knots (approx.) |
| Speed (cruise) | 33 knots (approx.) |
| Fuel capacity | 2298 litres (approx.) |
| Range | 224 nautical miles at 33 knots |
| Freshwater capacity | 379 litres (approx.) |
| Blackwater capacity | 151 litres (approx.) |
| Generators (main) | Kohler 11kw diesel with 227-litre capacity |
| Bow thrusters | Side Power Bow Thruster |
| Winches | Maxwell fully automatic electric windlass |
| Navigation electronics | Triple Garmin GPSMAP 8600 series 17" MFDs |
| Depth sounder | Garmin |
| Underwater lights | 6 x Lumishore |
| Radios | Garmin 210 VHF with Garmin Sirius XM antenna |
| Owner berth | Cabin dinette converts to queen bed accomm. |
| Maximum people on board | 16 |
| Standard warranties | 10 year transferrable structural hull |
| Price in Australian dollars (landed) | AU\$1.89 million |

40 knots

Speed (max)

35.9 knots

Speed (cruise)

2,298 L

Fuel capacity

224nm

Range

2

Guests overnight

AU\$1.89m

Price

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