

BAY & DELTA Yachtsman

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BOAT TEST:

 **RIVIERA**
**47' Flybridge
Convertible**

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Richard Boland Yachts
1070 Marine Vlg. Pkwy. #107
Alameda, CA 94501
(510) 521-6213

RIVIERA

47' Flybridge Convertible

By Mike Bruhn

Power Plant

Our test boat was equipped with the powerful twin Cummins QSM-II's producing 660-hp each. With its full length keel, the brawny 47 was able to achieve 26 knots/2,120 rpms and cruised comfortably at 22 knots/1,850 rpms burning 56 gallons of fuel-per-hour. Although the 47 is considered a "long range" sportfisherman, its 608-gallon fuel capacity is indeed scant for the burn rate of these engines.

The 47 handled the 4-ft. seas outside the Golden Gate with ease and agility. Raising the tabs and bringing the bow up to a higher angle allows the full length keel and hull weight to crush the swells, thus providing an exceptionally smooth and stable ride.

Going Up

The main attraction of the 47 is the flybridge. It is comfortable and has enough seating capacity for 10 adults. The ergonomic helm station is located to the rear of the flybridge and provides excellent visibility forward as well as an unencumbered view of the cockpit. The standard hardtop is secured to the flybridge with stainless steel tripod supports, which also double as convenient grab rails. In addition, the flybridge includes all the amenities necessary for entertaining, such as refrigerator/ice-maker and sink. The Eisinglass enclosure is of exceptional quality and superior optic clarity.

Going Down

Don't enjoy too many cocktails on the bridge before retiring for the night.

For almost 40 years, the Riviera name has been synonymous with quality and performance. With its new 47-ft. flybridge convertible, the Riviera Group of Coomera, Australia, establishes the benchmark and continues the tradition.

Every Riviera hull is made of hand-laid, solid fiberglass and incorporates a stringer system composed of transverse and longitudinal supports providing strength and durability. Consistent hull thickness is guaranteed by allowing each layer of glass and resin to cure, before applying the next layer. For additional strength and rigidity, each floor is screwed and fiberglassed to the hull while it's in the mold.

Riviera adds safety to quality and strength in every one of its masterpieces. All Riviera hulls include a watertight collision bulkhead in the bow and several bulkheads located throughout the hull.

At \$15,000-per-foot, the Riviera 47 may be considered extravagant. However, new Rivieras typically sell for 20 percent less than other manufacturers' popular flybridge convertibles of similar dimensions. Also, Riviera products have an extremely high customer satisfaction rate and unparalleled resale value. Most pre-owned Rivieras sell for close to their original purchase price and in some situations can sell for substantially more.





When descending through the lockable hatch from the flybridge to the cockpit, the access ladder requires full dexterity due to the curved, inward angle at the base of the ladder. Obviously, the ladder was designed to save valuable cockpit space but could be improved upon in future models.

The cockpit is expansive with plenty of square footage for entertaining or fishing. The floor is reinforced with an aluminum plate to provide a solid platform for attaching game chairs or a table for entertaining. Fishing enthusiasts will appreciate the live bait tank with plexi-glass window integrated into the transom. Large fish boxes, a convenient bait station, refrigerator and an abundance of storage are key features of this well designed cockpit.

Engine room access is easy through a hatch located in the forward section of the cockpit. The engine room is organized and offers easy access to all major engine components including filters and sea strainers.

Main Floor

When entering the opulent main salon you may forget that the 47 is a serious offshore sportfisher. Just push the electric rocker switch and you'll be reminded of this boat's real purpose as the two cavernous rod storage compartments in the headliner are revealed.

The aroma of sumptuous leather upholstery and teak woodwork overtake the senses and for a moment, you don't realize that you're standing in the salon of a 47-ft. boat. If entertaining guests is a priority, the 47's salon provides all the necessary amenities

such as state of the art entertainment system and a conveniently located dinette. You and your guests will appreciate the comfort that this luxurious space affords.

Step down into the galley and you'll find an array of conveniences including a dishwasher, convection microwave oven, abundant storage space and a large refrigerator/freezer.

Equipped with three generous sized staterooms, the Riviera 47 can accommodate six adults with room to spare. The forward master stateroom is equipped with a spacious head and separate stall shower. Additionally, ample hanging lockers, overhead cabinets and large drawers are a feature of this lavish stateroom.

Your guests will appreciate their sizeable staterooms with plenty of storage for their gear. Both staterooms are equipped with air conditioning and circular opaque hatches for ventilation. The additional guest head with separate shower stall is easy to access from either guest stateroom or the salon.

It's obvious that all the materials, furnishings, fixtures and equipment on the Riviera 47 are of the highest available quality. Form and function meet to create a versatile convertible that is built for fishing and designed for living.

For more information, please contact Richard Boland at Richard Boland Yachts, 1070 Marina Village Pkwy., Suite 107, Alameda, CA or call 510/521-6213.



2004 Riviera 47 Specifications:

Length overall 53'8"
 Beam 15'11"
 Draft 4'5"
 Dry Weight 38,580 lb
 Water Capacity 164 gal.
 Fuel Capacity 608 gal.
 Sleeping Capacity .. 6 persons

