



# *Boats Tasmania*

## Professional Marine Surveys

Bringing expert knowledge and passion to pre-purchase  
and insurance surveys for all types of boat

BoatsTasmania Pty Ltd  
Marine surveys & consultancy  
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## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

## OUR SERVICES

At BoatsTasmania, we offer the following services:

### **Pre-Purchase Vessel Condition Inspections**

These are detailed surveys, designed to inform prospective boat owners of the state of the vessel they are considering purchasing, including of any repairs which may be needed.

### **Sea Trials**

By prior arrangement, we can undertake full sea trials, which test how the vessel performs at sea, as an optional addition to standard surveys. Sea trials include more comprehensive testing of the motor/s and better inspection of the sails (if applicable) and other equipment. This is a very useful complement to a basic pre-purchase vessel inspection and strongly recommending if you are not in a position to undertake your own sea trials of the boat you intend to buy.

### **Insurance Vessel Condition Inspections**

These surveys cover the same elements as pre-purchase surveys, but reports are provided in less detail. Their purpose is to provide insurance companies with an accurate report of the vessel's condition for insurance purposes.

### **Photo surveys**

Photo surveys are designed to provide a comprehensive visual overview of a vessel, including for clients who are unable to visit the vessel in person. Photo survey reports contain more photos than regular survey reports.

### **Valuations**

This is an estimation of the market value of the vessel based on inspection and comparison with similar vessels. While this is a separate service, it can be included as part of the insurance survey report if requested in advance by the client. We do not include valuations as part of pre-purchase inspection reports.

### **Damage assessments for insurance**

BoatsTasmania may be engaged by boat owners or directly by insurance companies to inspect and report on damage caused to vessels which is subject to an insurance claim.

### **Other services**

- Radio frequency moisture testing and osmosis monitoring
- Ultrasonic metal corrosion and thickness testing
- Supervision of new builds, repairs, refits, installations etc.
- General consultancy
- Project management

## OUR SURVEYOR



### **Denis Planchon – Marine Surveyor**

I learnt the fundamentals of naval engineering and design at the French Naval academy in Brest, before practicing them extensively during my 26-year career as a naval officer. My first operational posting was on one of the last timber boats of the French navy, an ex-mine sweeper in New Caledonia in 1985. I then spent much of my operational career on French aircraft carriers.

Family holidays as a child were always on the sea in the Mediterranean – to Corsica, Tunisia, Sicily and Greece – or off Brittany, on a Jeanneau Sangria (Philippe Harlé) then a Centurion 32 (Holman and Pye, Wauquiez), then a Gladiateur (Holman and Pye, Wauquiez). I have since owned several yachts, including a Sun Legende 41 (Jeanneau), a fast Schionning catamaran 44 built in New-Zealand, a Farrier trimaran F22, a Davidson 34, an Adams 13m and currently a 52' aluminium ketch designed by Holman & Pye which is berthed at Oyster Cove Marina in Kettering. I loved racing when I was young and, although I do not race extensively anymore, I still like to sail fast!

After retiring from the French Navy in 2009, my passion for boatbuilding led me to work in a boatyard in New Caledonia where I focused mainly on composite boat building: learning “hands-on” the subtleties of fiberglass, Kevlar, carbon, epoxy and polyester resin. I established my own marine consultancy business in Noumea, in partnership with a young naval architect, and was involved in numerous refit projects on both motor and sailing craft.

My technical and operational experience in the French Navy, combined with skills learned through work in composite boatbuilding and my extensive sailing experience, led me to the field of marine surveying. Following relocation to Tasmania, I was fortunate to meet and collaborate with experienced Tasmanian surveyor Patrick Synge, the founder of BoatsTasmania, who sold the business to me in 2016 following some time working together.

Each new encounter with a boat, her owner and their common story is always an exciting challenge and a source of learning and sharing.

My wife Anita and I, with our children (Luc, 7 and Isabelle, 6), have lived in Tasmania since 2011 and truly enjoy it.

## OUR TERMS & CONDITIONS

**By engaging the services of BoatsTasmania, clients agree to having read and accepted the Terms and Conditions in this document.**

We take pride in carrying out surveys with thoroughness and integrity.

Clients are welcome to attend inspections and we are happy to answer queries during the inspection. We are happy to discuss the content of our reports for the purpose of clarification. Further consultation is undertaken at normal professional rates.

### **Inclusions**

For pre-purchase and insurance surveys we will examine and report on:

- Hull/deck/cabin construction and condition (including corrosion, 'osmosis', rot, leaks etc. as applicable)
- Steering and stern gear
- Mechanical installation (including ancillary equipment)
- Electrics and electronics installation
- Plumbing (water & gas)
- Rig (close examination of enlarged, high definition photos taken with a 35x zoom lens for elements above the deck), chain plates, fittings, sails etc.
- Safety equipment
- Ground tackle

For pre-purchase surveys only, when practicable, we will run the motor under load and up to normal operating temperature and check operation of all controls, instruments etc. If requested, we can arrange referral to reliable mechanics for full inspection of motors.

Various non-destructive testing (NDT) techniques (ultrasonic thickness/corrosion testing, radio frequency moisture testing etc, acoustic testing/sounding) may be employed as considered appropriate.

In some cases, we may recommend engaging a shipwright to remove/replace fastenings, fixed panelling etc. This would only occur with the agreement of the vessel's owner.

### **Reports**

Where possible we will provide a verbal report upon completion of the inspection. If required, we can provide a written summary report within 24 hours at an additional cost. We recommend that no commitment should be entered into on the basis of the verbal or summary report.

We will provide a full written report within 7 working days of the inspection, unless time-consuming research is to be undertaken on the client's behalf.

Within the limitations of a standard survey (see below), we will detail all visible faults or weaknesses clearly detailed in the survey report, with recommendations for any repairs or modifications that may be required. Whenever possible detailed photographs are included for clarification.

Pre-purchase survey reports will contain more detail than insurance survey reports. For pre-purchase reports, if relevant (and when practicable) we endeavour to establish the history of the vessel by internet research, contacting the builder, previous owners etc.

Comments and recommendations in reports are informed by:

- Uniform Shipping Laws Codes (AUS)
- The American Boat & Yacht Council (ABYC),
- Australian Standard AS1799 Small Pleasure Boats Code
- The 2003 / 44 / EC Recreational Craft Directive as adopted by the European Union.

### **Limitations/Exclusions**

All opinions expressed in reports are given in good faith but, notwithstanding this, the information contained may be inaccurate and/or misleading. 'Vessel Condition Reports' are based on a visual inspection of the vessel and equipment.

The inspection does not cover areas that are accessible only by invasive or destructive means. In some cases, sealed tanks may need to be opened for internal inspection, or fixed panelling or tankage may need to be removed. This may involve engaging shipwrights and/or other specialists and may incur additional expense. If such inspection is required this must be specifically authorised by the vessel's owner.

More comprehensive inspections, such as withdrawal and inspection of propeller shafts, rudder stocks and other fittings and fastenings (e.g. chainplates, keel bolts etc.), will only be undertaken by prior arrangement and with agreement in writing from the vessel's owner or agent.

Machinery, electrical, gas and other equipment are inspected as seen in position without dismantling. We do not give an assessment of the internal/mechanical/electronic condition of the motors or other equipment.

Pre-purchase inspections are not undertaken to ascertain whether the vessel complies or otherwise with any rule or code of practice that may be required by any jurisdiction under whose authority the vessel may be operated.

Vessels are not tested for longitudinal or transverse stability and the report must not be taken to imply that the vessel has sufficient stability or buoyancy for its intended use.

We do not climb masts etc. to inspect rigging terminals and other fittings for hairline cracks and other damage beyond what can be identified by examination of our high-resolution zoom photography. Specialists in these areas should be engaged if this is required.

Inspection reports do not contain valuations unless specifically requested as an additional service (This option is not available for pre-purchase reports).

## **Fees**

BoatsTasmania fees are charged and payable in AUD. No GST is charged or applicable.

The cost of a survey is determined by a number of factors, including the boat's:

- size
- age
- condition
- method and material of construction
- previous documentation available (i.e. previous survey report, registration papers, etc.)

Pre-purchase survey reports are more detailed and therefore cost more than insurance reports.

BoatsTasmania will provide a best estimate quote based on information provided by the client when a survey is requested. Final costs may vary from the quote provided. If the surveyor becomes aware during a survey that the cost is likely to rise significantly (for example, due to unforeseen complexity of construction), BoatsTasmania will make every effort to consult the client before continuing with the survey.

### ***Sea Trials***

The cost of sea trials is based on the additional time required for testing and reporting and is calculated at \$85/hour.

### ***Travel costs***

BoatsTasmania surveyors will travel free of charge to locations in the Hobart region from Kettering to Bellerive to Goodwood. Travel beyond this area accrues an additional charge of \$50/hr + \$0.50 per kilometre.

Travel expenses and accommodation for interstate or overseas inspections are charged at 'cost plus time' and are payable in advance. Rates are negotiable depending on the destination and other considerations. All fees charged in A\$ (Note: no GST is charged or applicable).

### ***Additional costs***

All additional costs in connection with the survey, such as slipping or marina fees, and the costs of any recommended repairs, are the responsibility of the client.

### ***Payment***

Payment is due directly upon receipt of the invoice. We prefer payment by electronic transfer, but will also accept cheque or money order if required.

Amounts outstanding 14 days from the date of the invoice, will accrue an additional 5% per fortnight. Clients with fees outstanding to BoatsTasmania will also be liable for all legal costs and disbursements incurred by BoatsTasmania as a result of the debt and any efforts to recover it.

Interstate and overseas clients are required to pay 50% of the estimated fee in advance.

## **Marketing**

Internet and social media are important means of advertising for us.

We usually post the first (cover) page of a survey report on our Facebook page. This generally includes 1-3 external photos of the boat, its name and the date of survey. It does not include the name or contact details of the client. Photos taken during a survey may also be used on our website or other platforms for publicity purposes.

If you don't wish to have your boat appear on our Facebook page, website or other platforms, please advise us at the time of survey.

At times, we will seek to contact former clients for feedback or to provide updates on our services. Please advise us at the time of survey if you do not wish to be contacted in future by BoatsTasmania.



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