

MORE FOR LESS

The Levant Energy Saving System gives this Iberian beauty's Sport Fishing version stand-out appeal for boat anglers.



This 880 Sea Pro has the Levant Energy Saving System



The helm is compact and very functional



There's seating inside the wheelhouse too



The Sport Fishing boat with twin outboards



Words and photography by **Dave Barham**

DURING A TRIP TO PORTUGAL I stumbled upon this superb boat, the Levant 880, a 28ft beauty that comes in various guises with a wealth of uses here in the UK.

The various 880 options feature the same V hull, designed for cutting through waves and giving a smooth ride for less power.

It is laminated with woven glass and isophthalic resin, with a thickness of 25mm in the keel, 15mm deep and 9mm on the side.

Internal structure comes from a one-piece

mould, which is attached to the helmet with flexible structural adhesive. This gives unrivalled robustness and strength, yet allows a small degree of flex that absorbs the energy and vibrations transmitted to the hull by waves.

This boat features the Levant Energy Saving System (LESS), which centres on the bracket mounted at the stern of the vessel. It is where the outboard engines are mounted – giving increased fuel economy and better performance. The benefits of this are two-fold. Firstly, the props run cleaner with less cavitation. Secondly, the engines can be raised to reduce drag because less of the engine shaft is in the water.

There is, of course, a much greater benefit to this system too – the engines are mounted

outside the hull, which means the available space on board is significantly improved. The only downside, as far as I'm concerned, is that this type of set-up can get in the way when fishing at anchor.

Here's my overview of the various 880 types:

SPORT FISHING

Designed for the leisure market, the 880 Sport Fishing is ideal for the charter and private boat sector. Its enormous hull stability makes this boat an ideal platform for fishing and diving, even as a passenger ferry.

With its speed, robustness and economy, this model has a huge number of customisable equipment choices, allowing you to pick the most suitable configuration for the proposed activity. It can be fitted with the LESS option, or you can have an inboard engine, or even stern drives.

I've not actually had the pleasure of going to sea on this model, but if the smaller 770 and 560 hulls are anything to go by, then I'm in no doubt that this boat is going to be a winner in the UK.

SEA PRO CABIN

This version has a smaller cabin than the Sport Fishing model, and is designed purely to give the crew much-needed shelter in rough weather conditions.

It can also be customised at the factory for a specific activity, including fishing.

SEA PRO CONSOLE

The versatility of the Sea Pro Console allows it to adapt itself to a leisure use. The boat can be equipped with outboard engines, interior engine with shaft, or even stern drive.

The outboard engine version is equipped with the amazing LESS system, which increases the performance of the engines by 25-30 per cent in speed, and decreases the fuel consumption by 20-25 per cent.

SEA PRO PASSENGER

The Sea Pro Passenger version is a boat that is built with the intention of transporting passengers, exactly like the ferries in some of the Scottish Lochs. ■

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INFORMATION

BOAT SPECIFICATIONS

Overall length	8.82m
Hull length	7.99m
Beam	2.75m
Weight	1,500kg
Draft	0.44m
Maximum power	315HP
Fuel Capacity	220 440lt
CE rating	C3
Maximum capacity	12 persons

INFO

For more details on the 880 and others in the Levant range, contact Jamie Day, tel: 01437 710490 or email: j4mied4y@gmail.com

Alternatively, visit: www.levantboats.wix.com
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PRICES

880 Sport Fishing with 2x Yamaha F150 DETL outboards £49,295 + VAT



The 880 hull can be transformed into a ferry



This Sea Pro would make a mean bass boat