



1979 Camper and Nicholson

Price: \$160,000 including Berth



Watershed is one of 20 Nicholson 40 AC models ever produced, she has been meticulously cared for by her owners and has had all the major work recently taken care of to ensure she remains a true stand-out high-quality vessel for years to come. Packaged together with a well-located Marina Berth in the well reputed Opuia Marina all she is awaiting is a new Crew to step aboard and enjoy all the hard work that's been done.

Designed & Built for True Bluewater passage making... not for speed but for dependable, mile-eating performance... the kind that turns ambitious cruising plans into reality. with her fin keel and skeg hung rudder she offers the kind of solid construction and seakeeping ability that inspires confidence far beyond the sight of land.

The rare aft cockpit is deep and well-protected, offering peace of mind whilst providing easy access to the well thought out systems, Storage has been discreetly designed to provide plenty of room for all one might need on a long voyage whilst keeping the cockpit clutter free.

Below deck, she embodies traditional craftsmanship. Rich wood joinery, practical storage solutions leaving no space unused, and a thoughtfully designed layout create a warm and functional living space. The aft cabin provides close access to systems and the cockpit whilst the forward cabin provides a private owner's retreat – comfortable, spacious, and ideal for extended cruising or full-time liveaboard life. The saloon is generous and welcoming with plenty of room for the family, while the galley is well equipped and practical for cooking at sea.

Powered by the ever-reliable Perkins 4 108, this is one low hour example that has always been thoroughly maintained and looked after by an owner who is very knowledgeable with these engines.

Watershed is a prime example of exceptionally well-built vessel that was genuinely built to last, the opportunity of owning a gorgeous Classic yet upgraded vessel matched with a handily located Berth in the Opuia Marina is hard to find – especially at this price point.



DESCRIPTION

VESSEL MAKE AND MODEL: Camper & Nicholson 40 AC
LENGTH OVERALL: 40ft – 12.19M
BEAM: 11.5ft – 3.5M
DRAFT: 4.9ft - 1.52m
TOTAL NUMBER OF BERTHS: 5
DESIGNER: Camper & Nicholson
BUILDER: Camper & Nicholson
YEAR LAUNCHED: 1979
LAST REFIT: Late 2024 Full Bottom plane & Epoxy laminate, Mast removed and full rigging refit, Engine has been fully maintained
MOORING/MARINA BERTH INCLUDED: Opuia Marina Berth D53 included with lease exp 2033
ENGINE: 46 hp Perkins 4108 with only 1,805 hours
ENGINE COOLING: Raw water heat exchanger
FUEL TYPE: Diesel
FUEL CAPACITY: 246L
CRUISING SPEED UNDER POWER: 5 knots
MAX SPEED UNDER POWER: 6 knots
TRANSMISSION: SHAFT/SAILDRIIVE/OTHER: V Drive through Shaft
PROPELLOR: 3 blade fixed bronze
HULL MATERIAL: Solid GRP
CONSTRUCTION: Moulded
ELECTRICS: 1x Start 2x House batteries, Battery Monitor, Solar monitor, 1800w 240v inverter, New switch panels, Gas detector
ELECTRONICS AND NAVIGATION: Autohelm system, Raymarine C80 MFD
ENTERTAINMENT: 12V Stereo with Marine speakers
COMMUNICATIONS: Raymarine VHF
WATER CAPACITY: 322L
WATER SYSTEM: Electric & manual pumps, engine heated & 240v
ACCOMMODATION: Bedside lighting, well allocated storage for each berth, Deck windows provide lovely natural light
HEADROOM: 2.0m for the majority of vessel
HEAD/S: Single manual with holding tank
SHOWER/S: In head Shower
GALLEY: Excellent condition Gasquip 3 in 1 gimballed stove, Large stainless twin sink, convenient storage cabinets, restraint clips built in.
FRIDGE: 60L approx danfoss
EQUIPMENT & SPARES: Container of engine spares incl filters, impellers and various new components, spare lines, spare anchor, stern anchor
SAILING INSTRUMENTS Raymarine st40 Depth, speed and wind.
SAILS: Main & Mizzen good condition, Jib on furler has the outer UV cover peeling but otherwise fair, stored Genoa
STANDING RIGGING: Excellent condition recently replaced along with all running rigging.
NUMBER OF WINCHES AND THEIR LOCATION: 2x on Mizzen Mast, 3x on main mast, 2x Mid deck, 4x in Cockpit
GROUND TACKLE: 25KG plough anchor 60M approx of chain
ANCHOR WINCH: Maxwell 3500 HWC, with remote & foot switch
SAFETY EQUIPMENT: 2x Dan bouy, 2x fire extinguishers
EXTRA CHATTELS: Original Nicholson 40 AC Manual fully explains vessel operation and characteristics filled with useful information that cannot be obtained anywhere else, original Perkins Manual.

ADDITIONAL NOTES OR POINTS OF INTEREST

Here are some of the outstanding features of a 1979 Camper & Nicholson 40 AC sailing yacht — a classic Bluewater cruiser appreciated by serious sailors for its build quality, sea-kindly motion and traditional design:

Solid Classic Construction

Heavy-displacement GRP hull (~11 t / ~24,400 lb) — offers solid momentum through waves and greater load-carrying ability compared with many modern light cruisers.

Fin keel with skeg-hung rudder — balances directional stability with better maneuverability than full-keel boats, helping the yacht track straight on passages.

Cockpit teak decking & quality joinery — reflects the yard's tradition of craftsmanship and longevity under offshore conditions.

Cruising-Focused Rig and Performance

Masthead ketch rig: a balanced sail plan that's versatile in a range of winds; mizzen sail helps reduce weather helm and makes short-handed sail handling easier.

Sea-kindly motion — the heavier hull and balanced underwater profile give a comfortable ride in chop and swell, prized for Bluewater cruising.

Hull speed ~7.4 knots — respectable for a traditional cruiser of this size and displacement.

Accommodation and Practicality

Two cabins + up to seven berths — comfortable accommodation for family cruising or extended voyages.

Generous tankage — about 322 L freshwater and ~246 L fuel capacity, supporting longer periods between stops.

Headroom close to 1.9 m below deck — reasonable space and comfort for a vintage yacht.

Classic Bluewater Characteristics

Stable and predictable handling — a hull designed for offshore cruising rather than racing light airs.

Robust, overbuilt design ethos — Camper & Nicholson yachts from this era are known for being well reinforced and capable of absorbing the rigours of long passages.

Traditional Details

Stainless steel window frames & tempered glass — durable and reliable over many seasons.

Multiple hatches and dorade vents — support ventilation below decks.

In summary: the 1979 Camper & Nicholson 40 AC stands out as a classic Bluewater cruiser with a solid, sea-kindly hull, traditional cruising rig, good tankage and accommodation, and timeless build quality — ideal for sailors who value comfort and seaworthiness over modern high-speed performance.



For more information, or to schedule a viewing of this wonderful vessel, please contact Travis Costello

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