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Rafale



Boat Details

Built by Salthouse Boatbuilders in New Zealand in 2006 as OUTSIDER. The design brief to Greg Elliot was for a fast, 52ft, canting keel inshore and offshore racer that could take line honours victories in a combination of shorter coastal races and a longer Transatlantic Races. OUTSIDER, now RAFALE, was a full Cabron Fibre build with largely Nomex Core for weight saving. The hull form is well balanced, low drag moderate beam. Stability is enhanced with a canting keel.

OUTSIDER tasted success immediately after her launch by winning the Round North Island Race and the Bay of Islands Sailing Week. She then went on to achieve her primary objective of winning the Nordbank Blue Trans-Atlantic on both Line Honours and IRC.

Being an offshore designed boat, RAFALE is very well thought out design for time at sea. She maintains a dry interior for crew comfort and her deck layout ensures easy and safe handling in all conditions. Since her changing of hands and becoming RAFALE, she underwent some upgrades with a new Hall Spars mast in 2017 and an upgrade from a single backstay to twin running backstays. There have also been major upgrades to the hydraulic canting keel system onboard. To increase her racing performance, she has also a major hull re-faring job and regular upgrades in safety and communication equipment. RAFALE also enlisted the help of Doyle Sails designer Justin Ferris to produce a completely new updated sail plan for RAFALE using the latest in sail design and materials.

All of which have revitalised RAFALE, and her recent campaigning and results are a testament to the boat and how she has been professionally maintained.

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Recent results

2024:

- Gotland Runt: ORCi A 1st & ORCi Line Honours
- German Offshore Champion 2024, earned at Nordseewoche with 1st in Rund Skagen, 2nd in Rund Helgoland, and 3x Line Honours (aforementioned and Cuxhaven-Helgoland)

2023:

- Double 1st in Blue Ribbon Cup, Kiel-Aarhus & Aarhus-Kiel
- 3rd in RORC Transatlantic 2023 from Lanzarote to Grenada

2022:

- Course Record, Line Honours, and 2nd IRC overall in Aegean 600
- 1st in IRC A Class in 151 Miglia Italian Offshore Championship from Livorno to Punta Ala

2021:

• 1st overall & Line Honours in Round Denmark Race Inshore 2021

Further Races:

2023:

Caribbean 600

2022:

- Middle Sea Race
- Giraglia

2021:

• Voiles de St Tropez

Rig and Boom

2017 Hall Spars design mast

- Twin running backstays
- Headboard car with in-track locking for 2 reefs
- External mast jack setup with spreader bar
- Halyards
 - 1 x Main halyard (exit below deck)
 - o 2 x Mast Head spinnaker halyards with locks
 - o 1 x Fractional halyard with lock
 - o 1 x Jib halyard with internal lock
 - o 1 x GS 2:1 halyard.

2017 Hall spars boom

- 2 x internal reefing locks
- Solid vang

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Sails

Awaiting confirmation on the race sails. To the best of my knowledge, the boat has the following:

Mainsails

Doyle race main - 3 seasons old

• North delivery main

Headsails

Doyle J1.5 - 3 seasons old
Doyle J3 - 3 seasons old

North J4 - 5 seasons old (Rarely used)

Delivery jib

Spinnakers

Doyle A2 - 3 seasons old
Doyle A2+ - 3 seasons old

North A5 - 5 seasons old (Rarely used)

Furling sails

• Doyle Code 0 - 3 seasons old

Doyle Jib Top - 3 seasons old (Rarely used due to rating)

Genoa staysail - 3 seasons old

Storm sails

Stom jib

• Trisail (TBC)

Upgrades

Rafale has undertaken an extensive upgrade to her canting keel system. 3 new larger DC motors and pumps were installed in 2023. In 2024 an entirely new PLC and display were installed along with new keel control panels at each helm station. The new motors and PLC has resulted in a reliable system and performance gain as seen by her recent results.

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Inventory

Rafale will be sold ready to race as she is actively being campaign. If the boat is not sold the owner will do a 2025 UK season including a The Fastnet race.

- Full running rigging
- Mast jack ram, cylinders and spreader bar
- KZ marine furlers for Code 0/Jib Top and GS
- Tools required for da to da maintenance
- 2 x dagger boards
- Complete set of foul weather gear.
- Complete safety equipment

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Images





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