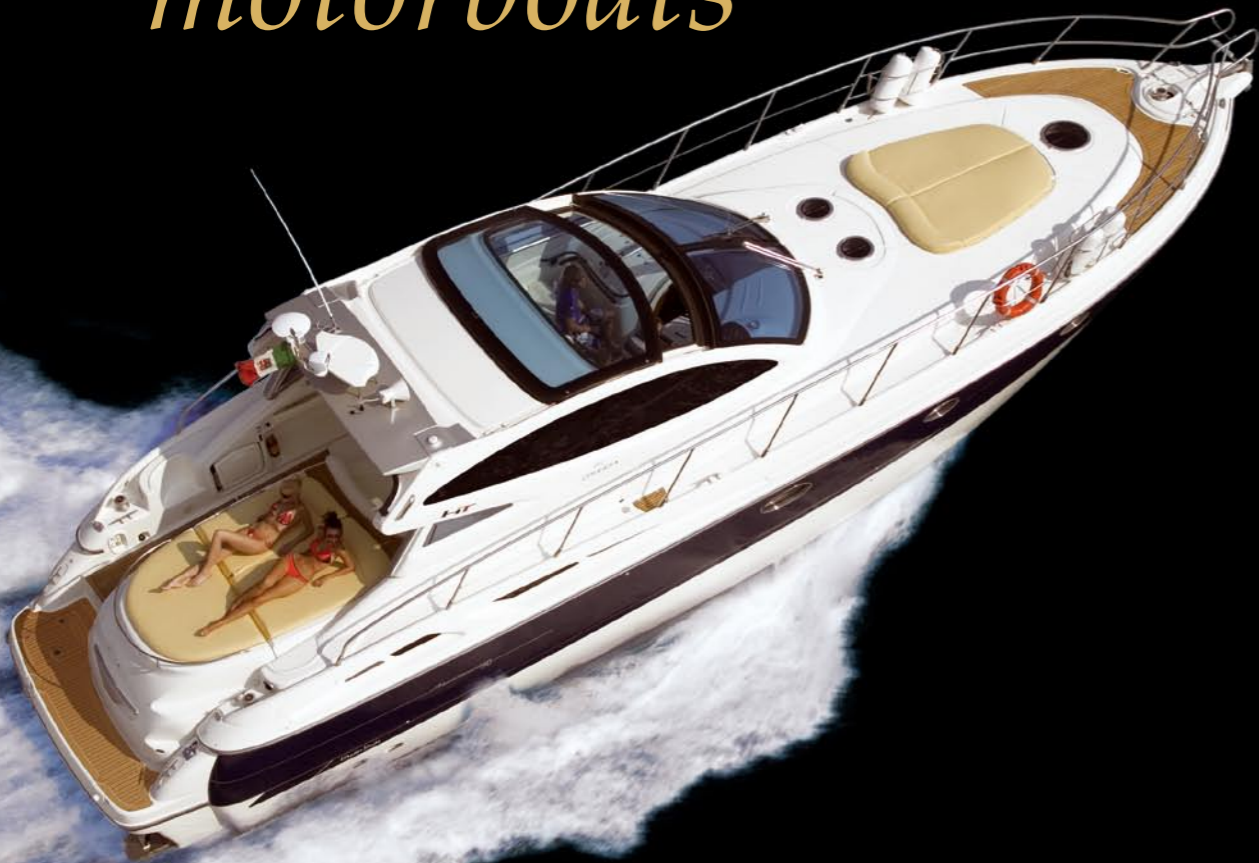


A paradise for motorboats



The sole importer of the Italian motorboats *Cranchi* is the German, Hans Pregler. Two years ago he visited Playa Blanca for the first time and since then he became filled with enthusiasm by the perfect conditions that the south of Lanzarote offers motorboat drivers. He checked all the good spots in the south personally and after seeing how wonderful it was in Playa Blanca for boat excursions, he then took the decision to live and work here. We interviewed the Mediterranean expert who shared his passion with us.

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What is the difference between driving a motorboat in the Mediterranean and Playa Blanca?

The biggest advantage that Playa Blanca has is the fact that you can use your boat all the year round. In the Mediterranean the season only lasts five months. In May it is a happy occasion when the boats are got out but sadly they have to be put back into storage in September; a very short season. Here by contrast you can use your boat all the year. I have been in this business for over 30 years now, and we ran a shipyard in Ampuriabrava, which is the biggest sports harbour in Europe, for over 20 years. However I have never found such ideal conditions as here.

What makes Playa Blanca so special?

The geographical location in the south is ideal because in front you have the Isla de Lobos and Fuerteventura and adjacent are incredible places such as the Papagayo beaches. All this makes for a perfect area in which to drive boats, I don't think that you can find similar conditions anywhere else in the Canary Islands. Additionally you have the new and beautiful sports harbour, which compares very favourably with the standards of Mediterranean harbours, and offers an affordable luxury service. All this plus the very low price of gasoline, together with low prices for all services, costs are about 30% less than on the mainland, making it a paradise for motorboat drivers.

What did you like most during your boat excursions?

All the places are very near and you can reach them easily. Depending on the

direction of the wind you have the alternative of going to the opposite side of the coast to find ideal driving conditions. You can also visit nearby islands, Fuerteventura is only 8 miles away, giving you the opportunity to go to a multitude of sandy beaches with beautiful bays of crystal clear water or you can go along wild volcanic coastlines. Here you can still find quiet bays in which to moor your boat, relax and enjoy the peace, completely safe from the wild seas. There is so much to explore, it is very easy to find a bar or restaurant close to the coast that offers a place where you can safely berth your boat.

How do you see your professional future in Playa Blanca?

We are the sole German importer of the Italian company Cranchi. Our company, Boats Pregler, can offer a wide selection of craft here on the island and can help our clients with all the formalities, including transport and all the paperwork, also possible repair work. Already we have sold some boats in Playa Blanca and all our customers are very satisfied. It is easy to get in touch with us and we are happy to help every motorboat enthusiast to get to know this wonderful place.

Is driving a motorboat a luxury sport, only affordable by some people?

No, it is quite the reverse. We guarantee that we can find something for every-



Riva-Hansi

body, including for example second hand boats. The fact that you can use your boat the whole year round makes it possible for you to share it with a group of people if you wanted to, thereby spreading the costs. It may be an exclusive pleasure in some parts of the world but here the chance to explore the coast in your motorboat is available to everyone.

What is your personal experience in Playa Blanca?

Two years ago my wife and I came here for the first time. As a professional I noticed immediately the ideal conditions. This is the perfect alternative, especially in the winter, to the Mediterranean. In the summertime it is never too hot you have a perfect climate and the chance to explore somewhere new every day. You can practice a wide variety of water sports or just go fishing on one of your excursions. For me Playa Blanca is a paradise for motorboats and because of all this I have already brought my own boat to Lanzarote and have bought a house here too.

