

# Beneteau 25 Platu

## Sailboat Data and In-Depth Review

The **Beneteau 25 Platu**, designed by renowned naval architect Bruce Farr and launched in 1997, is a high-performance one-design racing sailboat that has gained widespread popularity across international regatta circuits. With its nimble handling, sleek hull lines, and well-balanced rig, the Platu 25 continues to attract competitive sailors seeking precision, speed, and tactical racing.

### Design and Construction

With a length overall (LOA) of 7.49 meters (24.58 feet) and a beam of 2.59 meters (8.50 feet), the Platu 25 features a compact yet powerful design optimized for inshore racing. Its hull form reflects Bruce Farr's signature approach to speed and responsiveness, combining a narrow waterline beam with subtle flare for buoyancy and stability.

The boat is equipped with a fin keel with a bulb and a deep spade rudder, offering a high degree of control and agility, particularly when sailing upwind. The displacement is relatively light at 1,250 kg (2,755 lbs), of which 510 kg (1,124 lbs) is iron ballast—resulting in a Ballast-to-Displacement ratio of 40.8%. This ensures excellent righting moment without sacrificing acceleration.

Built in fiberglass using modern resin infusion techniques (in later production runs), the hull is durable yet light, striking an ideal balance between rigidity and responsiveness—a critical factor in one-design competition. Deck layouts are optimized for crew efficiency, with a wide cockpit, ergonomic winch placement, and accessible control lines for trimming on all points of sail.

## Performance

The Platu 25 features a fractional sloop rig with a non-overlapping headsail and large mainsail, favoring upwind performance and ease of trimming. With a total sail area of 28.99 m<sup>2</sup> (312 ft<sup>2</sup>), the boat is well powered for its size and displacement. The Sail Area to Displacement (SA/Displ) ratio of 25.47 indicates a design focused on light-air efficiency and rapid acceleration—key for tactical short-course racing.

The theoretical hull speed is calculated at 6.31 knots, but in practice, the Platu 25 often exceeds this in downwind legs under spinnaker. The boat's fractional rig allows precise tuning of mast bend and sail shape, offering advanced sail control for competitive crews.

## On-Water Behavior

The Beneteau 25 Platu is known for its sharp upwind pointing ability and clean handling, even under pressure. With its modest displacement and deep rudder, the boat reacts quickly to helm input, making it ideal for tight mark roundings and frequent tacks during buoy racing.

A Comfort Ratio of 10.75 and a Capsize Screening Formula index of 2.43 make it clear that the Platu 25 is purpose-built for inshore or near-coastal racing, not for offshore cruising. Though relatively easy to handle, it rewards precise teamwork and is often crewed by three to five sailors, depending on event rules.

## Racing Heritage

Since its introduction, the Platu 25 has grown into a strong international one-design class, recognized by World Sailing and governed by the [International Platu 25 Class Association](#). Active fleets exist in Europe, Asia, and South America, with annual national and continental championships and a rotating World Championship.

The strict one-design rules ensure a level playing field, emphasizing crew skill and tactics over technological advantage. Its affordability and accessibility have made it a stepping stone for sailors transitioning from dinghies to keelboats, as well as a favorite among club and regional race teams.

## Conclusion

The Beneteau 25 Platu is a refined, lightweight, and race-ready keelboat that delivers outstanding performance for inshore one-design racing. Designed by one of the world's top naval architects and supported by a strong global class association, it remains a compelling option for sailors who value close competition and responsive sailing over comfort or cruising amenities. Whether competing at the club level or in international regattas, the Platu 25 offers a fast and engaging sailing experience for teams who live for the start line.

## Specifications

|                              |                                               |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| <b>Hull Type</b>             | Fin w/bulb & spade rudder                     |
| <b>Rigging Type</b>          | Fractional Sloop                              |
| <b>LOA</b>                   | 24.58 ft / 7.49 m                             |
| <b>LWL</b>                   | 22.17 ft / 6.76 m                             |
| <b>Sail Area (reported)</b>  | 312.00 ft <sup>2</sup> / 28.99 m <sup>2</sup> |
| <b>Beam</b>                  | 8.50 ft / 2.59 m                              |
| <b>Displacement</b>          | 2,755.00 lb / 1,250 kg                        |
| <b>Ballast</b>               | 1,124.00 lb / 510 kg                          |
| <b>Max Draft</b>             | 5.17 ft / 1.58 m                              |
| <b>Construction</b>          | Fiberglass (FG)                               |
| <b>Ballast Type</b>          | Iron                                          |
| <b>First Built</b>           | 1997                                          |
| <b>Builder</b>               | Beneteau                                      |
| <b>Designer</b>              | Bruce Farr                                    |
| <b>Sailboat Calculations</b> |                                               |
| <b>S.A. / Displacement</b>   | 25.47                                         |

|                                                |                                               |
|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| <b>Ballast / Displacement</b>                  | 40.80                                         |
| <b>Displacement / Length</b>                   | 112.87                                        |
| <b>Comfort Ratio</b>                           | 10.75                                         |
| <b>Capsize Screening Formula</b>               | 2.43                                          |
| <b>Hull Speed</b>                              | 6.31 kn                                       |
| <b>Pounds/Inch Immersion</b>                   | 673.33 pounds/inch                            |
| <b>Rig and Sail Particulars</b>                |                                               |
| <b>I</b>                                       | 29.86 ft / 9.10 m                             |
| <b>J</b>                                       | 8.53 ft / 2.60 m                              |
| <b>P</b>                                       | 30.84 ft / 9.40 m                             |
| <b>E</b>                                       | 11.98 ft / 3.65 m                             |
| <b>S.A. Fore</b>                               | 127.35 ft <sup>2</sup> / 11.83 m <sup>2</sup> |
| <b>S.A. Main</b>                               | 184.73 ft <sup>2</sup> / 17.16 m <sup>2</sup> |
| <b>S.A. Total (100% Fore + Main Triangles)</b> | 312.08 ft <sup>2</sup> / 28.99 m <sup>2</sup> |
| <b>Est. Forestay Length</b>                    | 31.05 ft / 9.46 m                             |

#### **Additional Notes**

Also built in New Zealand as the PLATU by McDell Marine.

- Find more details and photos in the full [Beneteau 25 Platu profile](#) on our website
- Complete [catalog of Beneteau sailboats](#) analyzed on our website