

*A new Malö 46 Classic with a Finnish flag at the stern is moored in Kungsviken. It looks like it is equipped for serious Blue water cruising judged by the amount of extras onboard. I asked the owners Heikki and Maila Asujamaa where they intend to sail and their background and plans for the future.*

*They have had several boats before and the first one was an Albin Cumulus, which they kept for 5 years. The next boat was a Finnish Maestro 35, which they had for almost 16 years. They have also been renting several boats on different occasions such as Greece, Turkey, Australia and Caribbean. Therefore, they felt they had the experience needed and also knew what boat they were looking for when the time came to look for a new boat*

*They are now planning for a world cruise and have no job obligations. The first year will be spent in the Northern waters to get to know the boat and the equipment. The year after, they will set course and the plan is to stay out as long as we can. They don't intend to join any Rallies as the ARC since they prefer to make their own routes.*

*Their Malö 46 has been equipped so 2 persons can sail it with for example, twin headsails, furling main, electrical winches and wind wane. For the comfort onboard are there also watermaker, diesel generator, washing machine and large fridge and freezers. They are able to connect shore power to both 115 and 220V.*

*Internal power is taken from a large inverter supplying all the outlets together with the washing machine and the micro. There are all sorts of Instruments: Raymarine ST 70 system, Radar, VHF, Navtex for example. On top of the radar pole is an Imarsat satellite antenna for telephone and internet connection.*

*What was the reason you bought a Malö 46 I asked? Yes, it was a long process it probably took those 4-5 years before we knew which the right boat was for us. They started with all the high quality brands; Swan, Nauticat, Najad, Hallberg-Rassy and some more.*

*The most important thing for them was how the boat was looking under the waterline. They didn't like to have a small fin keel and a free hanging rudder without a skeg, or the new designs with a beamy flat hull, since they need active steering the whole time.*

*Next question was aft or centre cockpit or decksalong. On a centre cockpit design, you are sitting higher and subsequently feel the motion more and we wanted to sit safe deep down in the cockpit so the answer was to look for aft cockpit versions.*

*With this in mind, they came to the conclusion that the most ideal boat is the Malö 46 Classic with its deep protected cockpit, large stowage and Targa arch for safe sailing.*

*I then asked how the building process and the delivery were. The answer was that they have been here almost one time per month to check the progress and to fine-tune the equipment. The yard has been very responsive to what can be done onboard and they always felt they had a good dialogue. A few new things have been designed such as the sail locker on foredeck and the second bow roller for the Fortress anchor.*

*Now how does it feel when you have had your boat for a few weeks? Fine, they say. They are very satisfied with the yard and the after service. They have been doing some shake downs already and discovered a few things that they will take care of before leaving the yard.*

*I wish them good luck with their new boat and to their trip around the world.*

Kay Kjellgard.: Malö Club Sweden



