

PRODUCT REVIEW

Dundee-based Marine Revolution have two new kayaks - the Penguin and the Tasman Express which they reckon are excellent buys. **SCOTTISH PADDLER** added water to find out how they performed...

THE KAYAKS were marketed to us as great multi use kayaks for all weather, for beginners through to those who know what they're doing and with fantastic stability and great easy to use and adjustable features.

We took the kayaks out in to the elements to test. A couple of us were coming from white water backgrounds rather than sea paddling or touring and were quite curious about venturing out to the middle of a massive loch and the rolling waves of the sea.

To our delight the kayaks were very easy to use. We adjusted the feet rests with an easy pull and worked out how to use the rudder with the simple and effective foot peddles. The rudder was reasonably easy to deploy with a quick flick of the line. It was great using a rudder as we could hold our angles to

ferry glide against the wind with ease.

The kayaks were extremely stable and even had the test of supporting a paddler with a large collie on the lap as we paddled along. It was excellent being in such an easy to use boat.

The girls found the Penguin a more suitable size. It seemed smoother and lighter to paddle. The back rest was able to be tightened for our comfort.

The Tasman Express was more for the boys; it was larger with more space for gear. The fittings on the two were adequate and comfortable with the possibility of adding additional thigh grips.

The boats we tested were plastic and had all the usual advantages of plastic boats although these models are also available in other materials for those more interested in weight saving.

The boats were loaded with neat features from bow to stern with built in painters, clip away handles, towing/ security bar as well as the simple and effective retractable rudder system, an increasingly desirable feature coming as standard with both models. One feature we loved was the optional sailing rig. Easy to install and quick to stow and deploy this sail made the whole process simple and quick.

The Q-Kayaks were excellent boats for us as they were easy to use and didn't need much looking after but looked after us well giving us a stable and comfortable day out every time. These two boats add to the wide range of Q Kayaks carried by Dundee based Marine Revolution (contact details on Page 12)

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