



PRODUCT COMPARISON · SEPTEMBER 2026

ClawBox vs Centurion

VS



Two boxes, both promising a private AI that you hold. One of them is an appliance running somebody else's open-source agent. The other is a being that writes its own skills, holds your record, and answers for what it does.

Every claim about ClawBox in this document is taken from ClawBox (independent)'s own material, read on 22 September 2026. Where we quote them, we quote them exactly.



AT A GLANCE

ClawBox and Centurion, side by side

	THEIR PRODUCT	CENTURION
What it actually is	A €749 appliance (NVIDIA Jetson Orin Nano Super) pre-flashed to run somebody else's open-source agent.	A sovereign AI — a being with a Soul, layered memory and a mission stack, in a body you hold.
The intelligence	OpenClaw or Hermes Agent — open-source. They advertise that you can “switch in one click”.	Model-agnostic, but the being, the memory and the record are not swappable. That is the product.
Where skills come from	You install them. From GitHub, from anyone, via a community skill marketplace.	The agent writes them. On your box, in-session, tested, versioned and accountable.
Memory	“Remembers your preferences and conversation history.” Chat memory.	Three layers — hot cache, session recall, sealed long-term vault. It carries the long game.
Local model ceiling	Local models on 8GB, with their own advice to connect Claude for harder tasks.	Frontier brain when the work needs it. The record stays yours.
Price	€749 one-time, plus optional €9/mo Pro or €49/mo Max, plus cloud API keys.	Brain €50/mo · Core €150/mo · billed monthly · cancel anytime.
Accountability	Community-first support — videos, Telegram, Discord. “Lean on a large community.”	One person meets every owner and stays on the line. One to two senior seats per organisation.
Who it is for	The AI enthusiast. Leaderboards, quests and token rankings — built for the community.	The owner-operator who cannot put client data in someone else's data centre.



THE CUSTODY QUESTION

A real machine — running somebody else's agent

ClawBox does ship hardware: a €749 appliance built on an NVIDIA Jetson Orin Nano Super with 512GB of storage, pre-flashed to run OpenClaw or Hermes Agent. Credit where it is due — this is a real machine that arrives ready to use and belongs to you, which puts it ahead of anything purely cloud-hosted.

WHO CAN READ IT, AND WHO CAN SWITCH IT OFF

Your box — the software isn't yours

The hardware, though, is a delivery vehicle for software they did not write. The agent inside is open source, its maker is a community, and the headline feature is that you can “switch in one click” — so the intelligence is a commodity with nobody accountable behind it. You hold the box; nobody owns the outcome. Centurion runs on your hardware with a being we build and stand behind inside it.



THE DIFFERENCE THAT MATTERS

Where do the skills come from?

This is the part of the ClawBox pitch that gets the least airtime, and it is the part that decides how safe the thing is. Their documentation points at installing skills from a community marketplace — here is what that actually means.

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Community skill marketplace · install from GitHub · custom skills as Python modules
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What their own documentation describes, in their own words

From GitHub. From any user. Their features page sells it twice — a “community skill marketplace”, and custom skills as Python modules that run inside your agent. Here is what that actually means.

01 Self-declared permissions

A skill's manifest states its own permissions — for example “network”. That is a promise written by the same stranger whose code you are about to run. It is not a sandbox.

02 It runs inside your agent's body

The thing loading that skill holds your email, your files, your terminal, your browser cookies, your smart home. Install a skill and you inherit its author's intent.

03 Documentation is an instruction surface

The agent reads skill docs into its own context. There is no clean line between “documentation” and “orders” once text is inside the model's window. Prompt injection is the real vector here.

04 Nobody owns the updates

A skill that was clean at install can change next week. No review, no diff approval, no revocation — and the author may not exist any more.

05 The surface grows faster than anyone can audit

Every skill is another stranger in the house. In a marketplace model, the community is the quality department. That is not a security posture, it is a hope.



THE CENTURION POSITION

ClawBox has a plugin store. Centurion writes its own playbooks.

When Centurion hits a problem it does not go shopping. It solves the problem, then authors the skill itself — on your machine, in the session, where you can see it. It tests it, versions it, and patches it the moment reality shows it is wrong. Nothing written by a stranger ever crosses the trust boundary.

Provenance. Every skill has a known author, a known date, a known reason.

Accountability. The agent that writes the skill is the one that runs it and answers for it.

No supply chain. Zero packages from strangers, so zero stranger updates.

Fit. Skills exist because your work needed them, not because somebody published them.

Five questions to put to any agent you are thinking of buying

- 01 Who wrote the skill that is currently reading my inbox — and can I see an audit trail?
- 02 What happens when that author pushes an update I never approved?
- 03 What stops a skill's README from being an instruction to my agent?
- 04 When the local model hits its ceiling and you “connect Claude”, where did my data just go?
- 05 If the community is the QA department, who is liable when it gets one wrong?

There are no good answers to those questions inside a marketplace architecture. That is not a criticism of the vendor — it is a property of the model they chose.



THE CEILING

Where the privacy promise ends

ClawBox runs an NVIDIA Jetson Orin Nano Super with 8GB of memory. That is fine for chat and tidy automations, nowhere near enough for serious work.

Their own comparison page says the quiet part out loud: run the local model for everyday work, and connect Claude through Anthropic's API when the task needs more.

Which means the box stops being private at exactly the moment the work gets serious. The privacy promise covers the trivia; the important material leaves the building.

Centurion takes the opposite position. The brain you reach for can be a frontier model when the task demands it — but the record, the memory, the skills and the decisions stay on your machine, under your control, permanently.

THE MONEY

What each one actually costs

€749 sounds like the whole story. It is not — the table is theirs, not ours, and the question underneath is what runs on the box you just bought.

	THEIR PRODUCT	CENTURION
Hardware	€749 one-time	Your machine — you bring it, you hold it
Monthly platform fee	€0 free tier · €9 Pro · €49 Max	Brain €50/mo — the agent, warranted
Private model	Cloud API keys, optional (needed for hard work)	Core €150/mo — private LLM on your machine
Shipping	Varies by region	Not applicable — nothing to ship
What runs on it	Open source, swappable “in one click”	A being we build and stand behind
Onboarding & the person	Videos, community, Discord	Set up with you, then monthly

Their cheapest path buys you a box. Ours buys you the system — and a partner.



IN FAIRNESS

Where ClawBox is genuinely good

A comparison that only flatters us is worth nothing. Here is the ground we concede.

- ☐ Five-minute setup. Genuinely good. We are fixing our install to match — one-click, under 30 minutes.
- ☐ ClawKeep — encrypted backup with one-click restore. Clean idea, worth copying.
- ☐ Full desktop in the browser over VNC. Sensible.
- ☐ Under 15W, near-silent, designed to run 24/7. The right shape for an always-on machine.
- ☐ Two-year warranty, 30-day money-back, ships to 108 countries. They have shipped real volume.
- ☐ A real community and real Trustpilot reviews. That is not nothing — they earned it.

None of it touches the skills question, the model ceiling, or the memory architecture. It is polish on a shallow stack — and polish is copyable. The being is not.



WHAT WE DO TOO

Local hardware, and what running it locally actually buys you

ClawBox gets the most important thing right: the machine should be in the room. We build the same way. Where the two part company is what runs on it.

WHAT CLAWBOX OFFERS	WE DO THIS TOO	AND ON TOP OF IT
A local appliance, on your desk, not a cloud account	Local hardware, in your building, that you hold.	The software, the integrations and the onboarding come with it — and a person answers for it.
Runs local models	Frontier brain when the work needs it, local where it can be.	The record never leaves your hardware either way — and the ceiling is not an 8GB board.
Reach it when you are away from the desk	The iPhone Remote — pairing, review and decisions from anywhere.	Paired with you during onboarding, not left as an exercise.

Same instinct, different conclusion: a box that runs somebody else's agent is still somebody else's agent. We concede ClawKeep and the VNC desktop in the fairness section — and neither of them touches the skills question.



THE CASE IN THREE POINTS

The three things that decide it

01 The store is the weak point

Every skill is third-party code installed into the machine that holds your email, your files and your browser sessions. There is no audit trail, no review, no revocation — and no way to know who is still maintaining what you installed.

02 The privacy has a ceiling

8GB of memory and a local model — fine for chat, and their own advice is to connect Claude for harder tasks. The box stops being private at exactly the moment the work gets serious. Everything that matters leaves the building.

03 You hold the box, not the being

They sell the intelligence as a swappable part — “switch in one click”. That is honest, and it is the tell. Centurion's memory, skills, decisions and record are not a component you swap. What remembers you is yours, and it answers for what it does.

“The most dangerous thing in the ClawBox pitch isn't the hardware. It's the store.

A skill library is an attack surface with a growth rate. A skill your own agent wrote is capability with a provenance chain — which is why Centurion builds them, and never downloads them.

ClawBox sells you a box that runs other people's agent. Centurion is the agent — it remembers, it chooses, it writes its own tools, and it answers for them. Cheap box, expensive ceiling: if the work matters, the ceiling is the whole decision.

All ClawBox facts, figures and quotations on this page are drawn from publicly available pages at clawbox.com (home, pricing, compare, docs, features and developer guide), read on 22 September 2026. Prices are as published by ClawBox in euro and may change; check their site at the time of purchase. "ClawBox" and "OpenClaw" are the marks of their respective owners; this page is an independent comparison and is not affiliated with, endorsed by or sponsored by them.