

Seabrave Boats presents their new 16 footer.....



Technical Information

Length overall: 5m

Beam: 2.05m

Draft: 0.40m

Dry Weight: circa 450kgs

Max HP 115

Max persons 6

Overview

I was invited down to the Seabrave workshop on the 14th July to witness the first sea trial of the new 16 footer from Seabrave boats. Seabrave have listened to the market and with their 16 footer, set out to design a boat that would offer its customers excellent sea keeping abilities, versatility in terms of available engine power, a high freeboard for safety and a seriously spacious boat for a 16 footer.



The first thing that strikes you when you view the 16 is that it looks so much larger, its bow has a beautiful flare and the entire boat has an extremely sporty look. Seabrave have worked hard to preserve the flowing lines of the boat, that can even be seen on the bow stainless steel railings. The entire design and construction of the boat has been done in house to CE standards, and the 16 is rated up to a maximum of 115hp. Their first customer boat which we were on was fitted with an Evinrude E-TEC 75hp direct injection two stroke, weighing in at 145kgs with a gear ratio of 2.00:1. This inline 3 cylinder 1295cc engine was matched to a 15 pitch aluminum propeller that powered the boat up to an impressive 32 knots@5,200 rpm with a full load (Fuel, water and 3 adults).



Construction

The hull is hand laid and made up of 2mm gel coat, 300 chopped strand matt (csm 300g/square meter), 3 layers of 450csm, 450csm woven roving up to a final total of 9 layers, with an extensive wooden longitudinal and transverse stringer system that is glassed in place with 2 layers of 450csm. Finally the double bottom is foam filled with marine grade foam that adds to the incredible strength and solid feel that this boat has. One of the Seabrave trademarks is a 27mm thick wooden engine mounting plate on the transom that is glassed in with 2 layers of fiberglass, giving the engine a very solid mount.

Up on the interior deck, Seabrave have provided an insulated bow storage compartment that doubles as either a cooler for your drinks and food, or storage for your ice and fish when going out to the fishing grounds. We were informed that the insulation in this bow compartment is capable of holding a cool temperature for up to 10 hours, and the compartment itself is self-draining making clean up a breeze.



27 mm thick transom mounting plate



9 layer hand laid hull seen in the mold.

Cockpit

As mentioned earlier, one of the key design factors with the 16 was to provide customers with the most amount of interior cockpit space, something which has definitely been achieved by Seabrave with an interior beam akin to most 18 foot boats. The freeboard is very high for a boat this size offering occupants with additional safety and comfort, and for those of you with children, this will be a most welcomed feature.



The single position driver's seat has a pivoting backrest that can either be used in a social setting to face the rear occupants whilst anchored, or to provide additional support when fighting a fish. Under the seat one finds a very large storage compartment held in place by a deck latches. The deck is self-draining and the console has been designed to be sealed to prevent water ingress, whilst under the steering wheel one finds a sealed storage compartment that also contains the sound system's USB interface and 12V power outlet. Fuel and water fillers have been located on each side of the console, and this boat had interior lighting added just below knee level to provide illumination at night.

The console has been designed to accommodate a large display screen, whilst also providing sufficient space to house a stereo and VHF, with an easy to reach recessed switch panel. A cup holder has been added port of the steering wheel, which can either hold your mobile phone or an ice cool beer from that bow cooler! The front of the console has a handy storage compartment for easy to reach items, and one can also find a small table mounted in between the front seating.

Seabrave have opted for a very modern upholstery design on this boat that really works to maintain its sporty feel, and the rear bench seat can comfortably take three people; two adults with plenty of leg room to the port and starboard of the helmsman's seat, and a third occupant in the middle. Under the rear bench seat one finds a large bilge storage compartment, along with the various wiring and ancillary connections.

Performance on the Water

The 16 continues to impress on the water aided by the E-TEC 75 that gave the boat an excellent hole shot with a full load, and extremely impressive stability. We tested the boat out both within Bizebuggia bay and outside of the breakwater and we were very impressed with its comfortable cruising characteristics, and soft entry into the waves. This boat achieved a maximum speed of 32 knots at 5,200 rpm with a fast cruise of 25 knots at 3,800rpm allowing you to reach the fishing grounds quickly. We hope to be able to post some fuel flow numbers once these are available to provide some better analysis of the hull/engine performance.

I was particularly impressed with the stability of the boat both whilst underway and whilst stopped and when the builders offered to do a stability test and have every move over to one side and lean out, I started to turn white convinced we might topple over!

The 16 is more than capable of taking its max advertised HP of 115, having noted that the stern of the boat was barely affected by the weight of the 75hp E-TEC, with lots of positive buoyancy built into the boat's design. We've listed below a comparison between the E-TEC 75, the E-TEC 115 and some of the leading 75 and 115hp engines available on the market.



The team at Seabrave should be incredibly proud of what they have achieved with this model, that continues to enhance their existing range of new boats.

Engine Comparison Analysis 75 and 115 HP

MODEL	ENVINRUDE E-TEC 75	MERCURY 4 STROKE 75	MERCURY OPTIMAX 75	HONDA 4 STROKE 75	YAMAHA 4 STROKE F75
WEIGHT	145 kgs	181 kgs	170 kgs	163 kgs	169 kgs
DISPLACEMENT	1295 cc	1732 cc	1526 cc	1496 cc	1590 cc
GEAR RATIO	2.00:1	2.33:1	2.07:1	2.00:1	2.59:1

MODEL	ENVINRUDE E-TEC 115	YAMAHA 4 STROKE F115	YAMAHA 2 STROKE 115	MERCURY 4 STROKE 115	MERCURY OPTIMAX 115	HONDA 4 STROKE 115	SUZUKI 4 STROKE 115
WEIGHT	177 kgs	182 kgs	162 kgs	181 kgs	170 kgs	225 kgs	194 kgs
DISPLACEMENT	1726 cc	1740 cc	1728 cc	1732 cc	1526 cc	2254 cc	1950 cc
GEAR RATIO	2.25:1	2.15:1	2.01:1	2.07:1	2.07:1	2.00:1	2.59:1

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