

# RINKER 196 CAPTIVA OB



## SPECIFICATIONS

**LENGTH** 18 ft., 8 in.  
**BEAM** 7 ft., 4 in.  
**DEADRISE** 20 degrees  
**CAPACITY** 8 people  
**DRY WEIGHT** 2,495 lbs.  
**FUEL CAPACITY** 29 gals.  
**MAXIMUM HP** 200

## TEST STATS

	MPH	RPM	DBA
<b>PEAK</b>	47.6	6000	93
<b>CRUISE</b>	32.9	4500	85
<b>TIME TO PLANE</b>			2.6 secs.
<b>0-30 MPH</b>			6.6 secs.

## PRICE WITH TEST POWER

Yamaha F150 four-stroke \$35,193

**H**ere's something you don't see every day: a Rinker Captiva bowrider without a sterndrive engine. The new-for-2012 196 Captiva OB is the perfect fit for outboard fans wanting to tap into the Rinker value/performance/quality scheme of things. Our test boat is equipped with a Yamaha F150 four-stroke, and its installation on the stern was cleanly integrated with a huge splashwell that allows you to trim the engine all the way up or that you can stand on to pull the cowling for routine maintenance checks. Swim platforms on either side allow easy access to the water, and for extraction there's a starboard stainless steel ladder neatly tucked under a cover. Twin stern tanning platform pads flip up to reveal drainable compartments that are perfect for wet items such as ski-tow lines or jackets.

In the cockpit, which is deep for enhanced family security, there's a stern bench with storage under the outer pads and a larger center pad section that covers a 36-quart Igloo Marine cooler. The layout gives you wrap-around bucket seats for the crew, with the captain's seat featuring

a flip-up bolster. Our boat has the optional tilt wheel that doesn't impinge on gauge visibility. The stereo resides on the port side and has an MP3 port for "my-tuning" it. The boat's ready for ski action, with a keyhole-shaped centerline storage locker that flips open from the rear and an optional ski pylon that holds the tow line high above the engine. The bow carries slightly more beam forward than ultra-pointy-nosed runabouts, which gives seated passengers more legroom. Reclining bowriders have a generous backrest angle, and a 6-foot-tall person can stretch out if he cheats toward the middle a little.

Although we've seen 196 Captiva OBs equipped with as little as 115 hp, the Yamaha F150 proved to be an ideal match. It got us on plane in just 2.6 seconds with moderate bowrise, and we accelerated to 30 mph in 6.6 seconds. Top speed was a rapid 47.6 mph. We tested it side-by-side with the 196 Captiva IO version, powered by a 200 hp Volvo Penta sterndrive, and the outboard version won the drag race with slightly better out-of-the-hole performance, along with a couple of extra miles per hour of top-end speed. — AJ



Steve Barina photos

**3 FAVORITE STANDARDS:** MP3/iPod/CD stereo, Fish Package (2 rod holders, cockpit rod storage, tackle box, GPS w/fishfinder), swim platform w/ stainless steel boarding ladder

**3 FAVORITE OPTIONS:** Color-coordinated Bimini w/boot, telescoping ski tow bar, tilt steering wheel

To see video of our boat test, go to [BoatingWorld.com](http://BoatingWorld.com) and click on Videos.

**Rinker Boats;** [rinkerboats.com](http://rinkerboats.com)