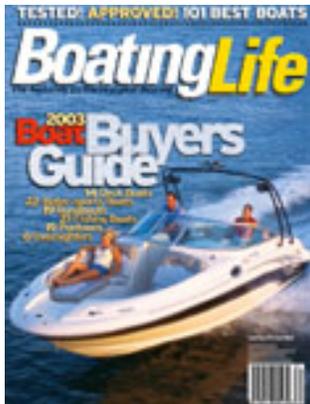


TAHOE 192 I/O

Jan 9, 2003



TAHOE 192 I/O

By Darryl Taylor

Boating Life - January 2003



We had to keep reminding ourselves the Tahoe 192 I/O has an MSRP of less than \$20,000. It has the features and handling of a more expensive deck boat.

Ours had been upgraded to the optional 190-horsepower 4.3L MerCruiser Alpha engine, which gave it some pop when we put the hammer down. It would have been appreciated even more if we'd had the opportunity to ski -- the 192 I/O has a standard ski-tow ring and in-floor ski storage. Couple that with a planing time of under four seconds, crisp helm response, great visibility and a tight turning radius -- and you have a watercraft bound to do a great job towing skiers and thrilling tubers.

The hull has a one-piece liner, which is what we expect in top-quality boats, and a fiberglass stringer system to which we attributed the sturdy feel of the 192 in cruising mode. When we poked around the boat's innards, we found the storage bins and bilge area were gelcoated. And even in the out-of-the-way spots of the engine compartment there were no sharp fiberglass edges to nick our hands.

We wouldn't be afraid to play hard all day in the 192, and if we spilled a few refreshments on the fiberglass floor, a little detergent and water would wash it down in a hurry. Not that we would have many spills; it has an abundance of well-placed

cup holders, even for the driver. But if the interior needed scrubbing, we could be back on the lake having fun in minutes -- no 24-hour wait for carpet to dry.

Other fun features we liked include a cooler and dry storage amidships, port and starboard bow seats, a port-side couch and a full-width aft seat, all with dry storage underneath. To top it off, there's a detachable pedestal table and a large padded tanning deck. For this price we'd spring for the optional 4.3L MerCruiser; all of our tests confirmed that it's a great value.

Final Take: A great buy for getting on the water, in the sun and onto a tube or wakeboard

We Also Like ...

1. Interior is clean, so it's roomy for a boat under 20 feet.
2. Quick on plane with no loss of horizon at any time, from idle to top speed.
3. Turns on a dime and gives you a nickel back.
4. Abundant storage space under all seats, in the floor and in the transom area.
5. Excellent instrumentation layout, and full for an inexpensive model.
6. Handy fuse panel location makes it easy to change in a pinch.

DETAILS

Length Overall: 18'10"

Beam: 8'

Dry Weight: 2,475 lb.

Seating/Weight Capacity: 8/1,100 lb.

Fuel Capacity: 28 gal.

Max HP: 220

MSRP (test boat): \$18,410 (trailer adds \$1,695)

Contact: 417-873-5900

PERFORMANCE

Test Engine: 4.3L MerCruiser Alpha 190-hp

Test Prop: 14 x 23, Aluminum

Test Load: Fuel (24 gal.); People (200 lb.)

Top Speed: 50.9 MPH @ 4,750 RPM

Time to Plane: 3.5 sec.

Time to 30 MPH: 8.0 sec.

Minimum Planing Speed: 20.5 MPH @ 2,300 RPM

Noise at Idle: 57 db

Noise at 30 MPH: 76 db

Cruise Stats: 77 db; 38.3 MPH @ 3,450 RPM

POWER CURVE

RPM MPH

625 3.3

1,000 5.6

1,500 7.4

2,000 11.4

2,500 25.4

3,000 32.1

3,500 38.6

4,000 44.2

4,500 49.4

4,750 50.9

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