



Hurricane SunDeck 2690 OB

This twenty-six foot outboard yacht is a family pleaser

By Captain Chris Kourtakis

As I exited the bus at the marina that overlooked Lake Michigan, the sun was shining but the wind was brisk and stiff. Pushing over 10 mph, the flags on the flag poles were whipping around and white caps were starting to develop on the lake. As we walked onto the docks, most of the journalists headed straight for the larger boat due to the water conditions, but not this captain, I went straight for the Hurricane SunDeck 2690 with the all new Evinrude E-Tec 250 HO G2 motor mounted on the transom.

As I approached the Hurricane the first thing that I noticed was that the engine matched the boat's hull color. I don't mean the accent stripe or custom paint job, I mean the side panels on the engine were the same color as the hull on the boat. This is an industry first. The second thing that you immediately notice is the extra wide beam. This boat sports a 9'0" beam - with a meager 15" draft - that allows Hurricane to pack in all the amenities that this boat has to offer for a great day on the lake.

As I untied the boat and pulled away from the dock, I had to double check that the G2 motor was running because it was so quiet. Shifting the boat into gear with the new ergonomic shifter was effortless due in part to the drive-by-wire digital shifting. Quickly grabbing the wheel I accidentally overcompensated because of the built in power steering on the G2. You think your car is easy to drive, wait till you get behind the wheel of a G2! Quickly adjusting to the effortless power steering I slowly putted

through the no wake zone and into the open water.

Immediately I pushed down on the throttle only to discover that Evinrude was not kidding when they said they improved torque on the new engines. The 210 cubic inch, 74 degree V6 E-TEC direct injection outboard jumped the 2690 out of the water and planed off in a mere 5.9 seconds! We quickly reached the top end speed of 41.2 mph at 5,900 rpms cutting through the choppy water. The auto trim feature on the new 558lb G2 is sleek and spot on. The auto trimmed raised the motor to the exact where the boat would reach optimal performance. For first time boat owners, this is a great feature to have, as you will never have to play with the trim button again.

Carving through the chop with frosted white tips, the twenty-six foot Hurricane performed better than expected (cornering sharply like a smaller runabout), and my expectations were pretty high knowing that the SunDeck was the largest boat Hurricane ever produced with an outboard motor. The G2's power steering performed flawless even in the heaviest winds and water. And it runs on standard 87 octane gasoline.

After tearing up the conditions on Lake Michigan, it was time to really check out this boat and all of the amazing amenities that it has to offer a family or a bachelor(ette) so that they can enjoy a perfect day on the water. One of the must have options on this boat is the Wakeboard tower with integrated bimini, 2 speakers and the optional racks on the side by Xtreme. The tower provides



Check out these stairs leading to the swim platform!



The traditional helm is well designed and there is room behind the wheel to stand and navigate when needed.



The aft-facing tower speakers make this party on the water come alive.

PBC HURRICANE 2690

extra storage on the boat and honestly, makes the boat look sporty and really cool. Another option to consider (and a must if you get the tower) is the Thunder and Lightning upgrade which gives you Polk audio speakers, and an 1,800 watt amp and subwoofer.

The bow area is home to two large facing loungers on the port and starboard sides. These loungers are surrounded by two cup holders, a stainless steel grab rail and a speaker. Designed as a lounge or a seat, the extra high gunwales are perfect for small children. Rounding out the front of the boat is the walk through step up that provides easy access to the four-step stainless-steel telescoping ladder under the fiberglass lid. While up there it is hard not to notice the amount of space the designers at Hurricane give you.

Mid ship on the port side you will find a large step down changing/bathroom area. The area is large enough to serve its purpose, but is elegantly decorated with cherry cabinets with stainless steel knobs, a stainless steel sink and a Corian looking counter. Our head facilities had the optional electric flush toilet with optional pump out for easy waste removal. Both of these fea-



The starboard side entertainment centre is compact but fully functional



tures you would not expect to find on a boat of this size. On the starboard side is where most of the excitement happens when you get behind the wheel of this yacht looking instrument cluster with lighted rocker switches.

Positioned perfectly in the middle of the helm is the standard Garmin EchoMap 70s color chart plotter that is surrounded by the combo speedo and trim gauge on the left and tachometer, fuel battery meter combo on the right. The dash is wrapped in leather to match the tilt steering wheel. Each item on the dash is strategically placed for easy site view, sun glare and optimal use.

Directly behind the captain's chair is the large entertainment center that you would expect to find on larger yachts. While our test boat was not equipped with the electric grill with inverter, it did have the stainless steel refrigerator which is great because now you never have to ask someone to get up to access the cooler under their seat. A large sink and storage to the stern make this the perfect layout for enjoying your favorite beverage or BBQ.

The stern of the boat continues to impress with a large rear facing lounge on the port side and a smaller, but functional seating arrangement on the starboard side with a slide down seat to provide additional access to the entertainment center. The transom was easily accessed using the two-steps dressed in Versa-Teak. It was hard not to notice how clean the rigging was on the G2 as the only thing connecting the boat to the motor was a single back tube. There were no power steering hoses, pumps or other rigging items on the front of the motor that would normally take up space. In the future Hurricane will be able to design motor wells smaller and rear swim platforms larger and with even more functionality than they currently have.

A couple of other things that you don't see that are noteworthy and impressive are the 98 gallon fuel tank that should get you just about anywhere you want to go. Below the floor you will find the fiberglass stringer system that provides ample storage, stability and rigidity. The other is that this boat is yacht certified and that means that the only limitations to the number of passengers you can take out with you will depend on the captain and the life jacket count.

Additionally, another optional package you may want to consider is the premium package, which gives you the upgraded stereo remote on the dash and on the transom, underwater lighting and Versa-Teak on the swim platform, walkthrough and in the head compartment.

As my test ended and I pulled back up to the dock, the G2 made me look like I have owned this boat for years. The agility and precision of the Hurricane hull combined with the all new Evinrude G2 250 HO are a must have combo when you are considering this yacht. Hey, it has a yacht certification, I call it like it is and you will too once you get behind the wheel and on the water with the 2690. ⚓

SPECIFICATIONS

LOA:	26' 4" / 7.9 m
Beam:	9' 0" / 2.7 m
Dry weight:	2,718 lb. / 1235 kgs
Seating/weight capacity:	Yacht Certified
Fuel capacity:	98 gal. / 372 L

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