SANPAN 2500 DELUXE CRUISER



BILL DOSTER

Test Drive

Test Engine: Honda 90-hp four-stroke
Test Prop: 13.75 x 13, aluminum
Test Load: People (190 lb.); Fuel (24 gal.)
Top Speed: 23.6 MPH @ 5,750 RPM
Time to 20 MPH: 6.3 sec.

RPM	MPH	SOUND LEVEL
Idle	2.1	54 db
1,000	2.7	56 db
1,500	4.3	64 db
2,000	6.1	71 db
2,500	8.3	69 db
3,000	11.0	71 db
3,500	13.8	73 db
4,000	16.0	74 db
4,500	18.7	73 db
5,000	20.9	74 db
5,500	22.8	78 db
5,750	23.6	82 db

- Upscale comfort
- Level ride
- Smooth acceleration

Of all the places where our six-person team could sit during short breaks for note taking or rehydrating, three seats stood out as the most popular at our Indiana site — the two forward recliners and one captain's chair on the Sanpan 2500 DC. The furniture on this 25-foot boat is designed with high backs, and we can say that no pontoon at our tests had a more comfortable platform from which to work, or relax.

Appropriately, the boat was rigged with a 90-hp Honda four-stroke, which we couldn't hear until 2,000 rpm. The throttle system is so smooth we could set it at whatever rpm we wanted easily. When accelerating, the boat never jerked — and it didn't "pop" into gear when backing from the slip.

We noted the fore-aft balance of the ride on the 2500 Deluxe Cruiser, with almost no stern sag, which the engineers say is due to Godfrey's StrataTech Chassis design. The motor mount is tucked farther under the sun pad than on most pontoons, shifting the weight forward. The pad is raised and has a recess on its underside so you can tilt the engine all the way up without making contact. Another benefit of all these physical characteristics is a quieter cruise — our test boat barely went over the 80-decibel mark at top speed.

The plush interior has a few tricks. The speakers of the Clarion sound system are smartly angled toward the ears rather than across the floor. Mood lighting runs along the furniture bases and is turned on and off via remote. Our boat had an optional refreshment center that swings out on a pressurized shock from a headrest in the bow, revealing a sink, Alpha Stone countertop, trash can, light and 12-volt outlet. It's cool because it doesn't eat up space when not in use. A standard entertainment module, with speaker, CD holder and carry-on cooler, is behind the driver.

Knowing this boat will be running frequent evening cruises, we'd recommend the test setup. Entertainment extras will not be overkill. — *R.S.*

Stats

Length Overall: 25'
Beam: 8'6"
Dry Weight: 2,375 lb. (w/out engine)
Seating/Weight Capacity: 16/na
Fuel Capacity: 24 gal.
Max HP: 155
MSRP (test boat): $29,535

Notable Features

• Bow corner pods have 12-volt outlets and are padded for footrests. • Side skirting helps reduce drag and noise from below. • Optional spotlight is controlled from the dash for easier night docking. • NextWave Electrical System with water-resistant Deutsch connectors. • Padded entry gates make the entire boat appear upholstered. • Optional changing room retracts under the port chaise.



The position of the engine creates a quiet ride at all speeds on this luxury model.

Contact: Sanpan Pontoon Boats (by Godfrey Marine), Elkhart, Indiana | 888-463-3739

Go to boatinglifemag.com/boats/sanpan2500dc for Photo Gallery • Boat Comparison

Video on the Web