

Sea Ray SLX 250 (2016-)

Brief Summary

Iconic styling and hull sculpting makes the Sea Ray SLX 250 a noteworthy at any dock. She includes high-end amenities such as digital instrumentation and engine controls, plus options like a submersible hydraulic swim platform, rarely seen on boats of this size. Sculptured and embroidered two-tone seating gives the interior an upscale look and feel. Standard trim tabs retract against the running surface and conform to the shape of the chines, a unique approach compared to standard transom tabs.

Price

Base Price

Prices, features, designs, and equipment are subject to change. Please see your local dealer or visit the builder's website for the latest information available on this boat model.

Key Features

- Standard with MerCruiser's new 6.2-liter V-8 300-hp Bravo III Engine with Digital Throttle & Shift
- Iconic styling with elegant hull sculpting, available in multiple color configurations
- Expansive cockpit space
- Luxurious and plush seating, with abundant storage beneath
- Transom seating with transformable backrest
- Spacious head compartment
- Proprietary Quiet Ride Technology featuring Tuned Transom
- Stereo with wireless Bluetooth, dual zone volume control, amplifier and six weatherproof speakers

Test Results

RPM	MPH	Knots	GPH	MPG	NMPG	STAT. MILE	NM	dBa
600	3.8	3.3	1.4	2.7	2.4	N/A	159.2	62.2
1000	5.7	5	1.3	2.5	2.2	N/A	145.4	68.5
1500	7.6	6.6	4.3	1.8	1.5	N/A	103.7	67.2

RPM	MPH	Knots	GPH	MPG	NMPG	STAT. MILE	NM	dBa
2000	8.6	7.4	7.4	1.2	1	N/A	67.8	73.8
2500	19.2	16.7	9.8	2	1.7	N/A	114.9	75.2
2750	24.6	21.3	10.4	2.4	2.1	N/A	138.5	76.8
3000	28.6	24.9	12.2	2.3	2	N/A	137.5	79.8
3250	32.6	28.3	14.1	2.3	2	N/A	135.4	80.6
3500	35.8	31.1	15.9	2.2	2	N/A	131.9	81.7
4000	42.1	36.5	20.1	2.1	1.8	N/A	122.7	82.4
4500	48.8	42.4	28.4	1.7	1.5	N/A	100.7	83.7
4830	52.2	45.4	32	1.6	1.4	N/A	95.7	84.5

[View the test results in metric units](#)

[screenshot of speed chart](#)

Specifications

Length Overall	25' 6" / 7.77 m
BEAM	8' 6" 2.59 m
Dry Weight	5,800 lb. 2,631 kg
Tested Weight	7,445 lbs. 3,377 kg
Draft	43" 109 cm

Draft Up	31" 79 cm
Draft Down	43" 109 cm
Air Draft	
Deadrise/Transom	21-deg.
Max Headroom	open
Bridge Clearance	N/A
Weight Capacity	2,400 lbs. 1,088 kg
Person Capacity	15
Fuel Capacity	75 gal. 283 L
Water Capacity	20 gal. 76 L
Length on Trailer	
Height on Trailer	
Trailer Weight	
Total Weight	7,445 lbs. 3,377 kg
Aft Deck	
Salon Inside Width	
Salon Fore & Aft	

Salon Height	
Salon Volume	
Galley Volume	
Master SR Width	
Master SR fore & Aft	
Master SR Overhead	
Master SR Volume	
Eng. Room Volume	

Acceleration Times & Conditions

Time to Plane	N/A
0 to 20	
Ratio	2.0:1
Props	Bravo IIIx
Load	2 person, 3/4 fuel, full water, 30 lbs. of gear
Climate	N/A

Sea Ray 250 SLX running shot

The Sea Ray SLX 250 bowrider measures 25’6” (7.77 m) long with an 8’6” (2.59 m) beam and rivals similarly sized deckboats for passenger capacity.

Mission

Sea Ray designed the SLX 250 to be a luxurious, well-appointed family bowrider with plenty of seating and a comprehensive list of standard equipment, including high-end amenities such as digital instrumentation and engine controls, an enclosed head and aft-facing transom seating with a convertible backrest. For performance to match the luxury, the boat comes standard with a 300-hp MerCruiser 6.2L MPI ECT Bravo III sterndrive with digital throttle and shift and options up to 430-hp are available.

Sea Ray 250 SLX over head

The Sea Ray SLX 250 is designed to accommodate lots of people with a rated passenger capacity of 15.

Features Inspection

The Stern

Room to Move.

The SLX 250's swim platform is 2'1" (.64 m) fore and aft and has the space for a rider to put on a wakeboard before slipping into the water.

The transom lounge

can accommodate a couple of people and the convertible ratcheting backrest adjusts to multiple positions for sunning or just plain added comfort. There are two cup holders on each side of the lounge and a stainless-steel ski tow pulls up from out of the backrest for the bench seat.

Sea Ray 250 SLX boarding ladder

The boarding ladder secures beneath the starboard side of the swim platform, which makes it easy for users to deploy from the water.

Easy Access.

A passageway to starboard provides direct access to the SLX 250's cockpit. In the gunwale, is a pull-out shower and an optional fold-down step for boarding from a higher dock. A hatch in the walkway opens on a gas strut to access draining storage.

Sea Ray 250 SLX swim platform

While our test boat did not have this option, it is one that is popular with many people for the obvious reason shown in this picture. It is called the submersible hydraulic swim platform.

Sea Ray 250 SLX shower

The transom shower is smartly located in the starboard passageway to the cockpit so that passengers can clean up before stepping into the primary seating area.

The Cockpit

A large lounge with storage in the base wraps around from the forward end of the cockpit passage to port and to starboard is a two-person seat with dedicated space for the carry-on cooler and for a wastebasket beneath the removable bottom cushion. Forward is a pair of bucket seats and in between is the ski and board locker in the deck.

Sea Ray 250 SLX cockpit

Notice the raised leg supports for the cockpit lounges. They help keep passengers in place and provide more comfort. In this configuration there is seating for at least eight adults.

Sea Ray 250 SLX cooler

The bottom cushion for the starboard lounge pulls out of the way to make it easy to secure and remove the portable cooler. The wastebasket is at left.

Sea Ray 250 SLX ski locker

We like the placement of the gas struts on the ski locker. They let passengers use two hands to retrieve gear and they don't restrict the usable space. Note the rubber gasket to keep water from sloshing in.

Sea Ray 250 SLX helm seats

The driver's and companion's bucket seats swivel, adjust fore and aft and have fold-up bolsters. Notice the textures and embroidery that give the upholstery an upscale look and feel.

The Port Console

Forward of the port bucket seat, the console opens to reveal the step-down head compartment. It has a locking hatch and comes standard with a portable head. Owners can upgrade to a VacuFlush toilet with a 10-gallon (30-L) holding tank.

Sea Ray 250 SLX head

This photo shows the upgraded VacuFlush toilet. The head has a finished fiberglass liner so it will be easy to clean up if someone uses the pull-up shower wand on the sink.

Sea Ray 250 SLX glove box

The glovebox in the port dash has a rubber mat in the bottom and a 12-volt plug.

The Helm

The SLX 250's helm is finished in dark colors to reduce windshield glare. Gauges including the multi-function tachometer and speedometer are in a single row above the tilt steering wheel. The stereo is to port on the lower panel adjacent to the wheel with push-button-style accessory switches on each separated on each side. The digital shift and throttle control is comfortably positioned on the starboard inwale. The dash can be upgraded to a 12" multi-functional digital switching display ("Dymanic Display").

Sea Ray 250 SLX helm

The helm reminded us of one in an upscale automobile with dark colors and an upholstered eyebrow over the instruments.

Sea Ray 250 SLX shift throttle

Forward of the shift/throttle control there's a cup holder and the trim switch panel tells drivers how to adjust the tabs to affect the boat's ride.

Bow Passageway

Moving forward from the cockpit, the bow passageway closes off with the open-able center section of the windshield and a hinged door that folds out from the starboard console to protect passengers from the onrushing air. Behind the door is a storage locker.

Sea Ray 250i SLX door

Close the windshield and this door below it to keep onrushing wind out of the cockpit.

Sea Ray 250i SLX locker

This locker in the starboard console provides additional storage and notice that the hatch closes on a thick rubber gasket to dampen rattles and keep out water.

Sea Ray 250i SLX plugs

The locker also contains a USB port, a 12-volt power plug and a dimmer switch for the cockpit courtesy lights.

The Bow

Recline In Style.

In the SLX 250's bow there are angled backrests with fold-down armrests on the front of the consoles. Outboard on each side are cutouts in the gunwales with small-item storage, 12-volt power plugs (unusual) and stainless steel grab rails wrapped in leather. Cup holders are forward beneath a small removable cushion. There's an anchor locker in the forepeak and a windlass and stainless steel anchor as available options.

Sea Ray 250i SLX bow

The SLX 250's bow is designed for forward-facing travel with the reclined backrests on the consoles.

Sea Ray 250i SLX bow sun pad

The filler cushion for the bow turns it into a large playpen that's sure to please the kids or sun bathers of any age.

Bow Storage

Most bowriders have the bottom cushions hinged on the inboard side or not at all. Sea Ray hinged the port side bottom cushion at the aft end with scissor-style hardware while the starboard cushion is hinged at the front. The bow locker is carpeted and has the expected amount of capacity. To starboard, the compartment is extra-large and could be customized to carry items such as SCUBA diving tanks.

Sea Ray 250 SLX bow storage

Sea Ray uses these clever scissor-style hinges to raise the bottom cushions in the bow, which is smart because they let crew members use two hands to retrieve gear.

Sea Ray 250 SLX back rest

To make it easier to get to items stowed to starboard, the backrest raises on a gas strut.

Power and Performance

We tested the Sea Ray SLX 250 with three different engines – each with both light and heavy loads. As a result we have some of the most exhaustive test data we have ever presented on a boat in this class.

With the MerCruiser 8.2L MAG H.O. ETC – 430-HP

Top speed

for the SLX 250 powered by the 430-hp 8.2L HO V-8 with a “light load” – test weight 7,445 lbs. (3,377 kg) – was 53.7 mph. The lower unit was a Bravo IIIx with a 2.0:1 gear ratio. Loaded up with 1,200-lbs. (544 kg) of passengers, she had a WOT speed of 53.2 mph – just .5 mph off her top speed with two people aboard.

Best cruise

was found to be at 3000 rpm where with just two people aboard, she went 31.0 mph, burning 12.0 gph for a range of 174 statute miles with a 10% fuel reserve. With the 1,200-lb. (544 kg) load at 3000 rpm, we found

that she dropped just .7 mph, getting 13.3 gph for a range of 153 statute miles with a 10% fuel reserve.

[Sea Ray 250 SLX light chart](#)

[Sea Ray 250 SLX light data](#)

The performance data for the MerCruiser 8.2L MAG H.O. ETC in light load.

[Sea Ray 250 SLX heavy chart](#)

[Sea Ray 250 SLX heavy data](#)

The performance data for the MerCruiser 8.2L MAG H.O. ETC in heavy load.

MerCruiser 8.2L MAG ETC – 380-HP

Top speed

for the SLX 250 powered by the 380-hp 8.2L V-8 and the same Bravo IIIx 2.0:1 drive with a “light load” – test weight 7,445-lbs. (3,377 kg) – was 52.2 mph. Then loaded up with 1,200-lbs. (544 kg) of passengers, she had a WOT speed of 51.6 mph – just .5 mph off her top speed with two people aboard.

Best cruise

was found to be at 2750 rpm where with just two people aboard, she went 24.6.mph, burning 10.4 gph for a range of slightly over 159 miles. With the 1,200-lb. load at 3250 rpm, we found that she went 32.2 mph, burning 13.6 gph for a range of virtually the same – 159 statute miles – so, we say with this engine, just let her rip at the higher cruise setting for no loss in efficiency. These ranges are with a 10% fuel reserve.

[Sea Ray 250 SLX light chart](#)

[Sea Ray 250 SLX light data](#)

The performance data for the MerCruiser 8.2L MAG ETC in light load.

[Sea Ray 250 SLX heavy chart](#)

[Sea Ray 250 SLX heavy data](#)

The performance data for the MerCruiser 8.2L MAG ETC in heavy load.

[Sea Ray 250 SLX running shot](#)

The 250 SLX is available with several engine options that go fast, faster and fastest.

MerCruiser 6.2L ECT – 350-HP

Top speed

for the SLX 250 powered by the 350-hp 6.2L V-8 with two people aboard – test weight 7,183-lbs. (3,258 kg) – was 50.2 mph. The lower unit was a Bravo III with a 2.2:1 gear ratio. Loaded up with 1,200-lbs. (544 kg) of passengers, she had a test weight of 7,983-lbs. (3,621 kg) and a WOT speed of 48.8 mph – 2.4 mph off her top speed with two people aboard.

Best cruise

was found to be at 3500 rpm where with just two people aboard, she went 30.1 mph, burning 9.9 gph for a range of 205 statute miles with a 10% fuel reserve. With the 1,200-lb. load at 3500 rpm we found that she dropped to 28.9 mph, getting 10.6 gph for a range of 184 statute miles with a 10% fuel reserve.

[Sea Ray 250 SLX light chart](#)

[Sea Ray 250 SLX light data](#)

The performance data for the MerCruiser 6.2L ECT 350-hp engine in light load.

[Sea Ray 250 SLX heavy chart](#)

[Sea Ray 250 SLX heavy data](#)

The performance data for the MerCruiser 6.2L ECT 350-hp engine in heavy load.

Acceleration Tests

Perhaps the most remarkable difference among the performance comparisons was in the 0 to 20 mph timed runs. It was no surprise that the light boats were quickest, but interestingly, the 380-hp 8.2L MAG and the 350-hp 6.2L ECT both hit 20 mph in 6.2 seconds. The other combinations of engines and weight varied from 8.2 seconds to 11.3 seconds going 0-to-20 mph. Fastest to 30 mph, again were the two “light” boats that won the 0-to-20 mph contest and the other engines and loads ranged from 12.0 seconds to 15.8 seconds from 0-to-30 mph.

Bottom Design

All 6 strakes run the length of the hull, providing additional lift, which enhances efficiency and provides for a more level ride. Deadrise at the transom measures 21-degrees. Part of the design is that the trim tabs are integrated into the hull bottom and conform to the shape of the chines.

Sea Ray 250 SLX bottom

On the 250 SLX's bottom, all the strakes run full length and notice the concave in the running surface between the inner and outer strakes.

Sea Ray 250 SLX running shot

This photo shows the three lifting strakes on each side of the SLX 250's bottom.

Sea Ray 250 SLX trim tabs

The aluminum trim tabs retract into the running surface and to the shape of the chines, which should give them more influence on the boat's ride.

The Science of Silence

Sea Ray's Quiet Ride and its Tuned Transom are part of a system that the manufacturer designed to reduce noise and vibration in all its boats. A boat without the system averages 86.2 decibels, while a boat equipped with Quiet Ride averages 79.4, according to Sea Ray. We have visited the company's factory and inspected the procedures that they employ to make their boats quieter – and then we have tested them. They are, in fact, quieter.

Engine and Equipment Access

A section of the aft bench seat raises on a power ram to provide access to the engine and to the polyethylene fuel tank just ahead. The bottom cushion in the corner of the L-shaped cockpit lounge is removable and beneath it the two batteries are secured in plastic trays.

Sea Ray 250 SLX engine

The entire section of the aft bench, including the backrest, lift up to provide good access to the engine.

Sea Ray 250 SLX batteries

Nearby, the batteries are secured in trays beneath a removable bottom cushion.

Price

- \$107,834 with a single 300-hp MerCruiser 6.2 MPI ECT Bravo 3 DTS sterndrive
- \$114,988 with a single 350-hp MerCruiser 6.2L MPI ECT Bravo 3 DTS sterndrive
- \$121,142 with a single 380-hp MerCruiser 8.2 MAG Bravo 3 DTS sterndrive
- \$129,142 with a single 430-hp MerCruiser 8.2 MAG HO Bravo 3 DTS sterndrive

Warranty

- Limited lifetime structural hull/deck warranty to original owner

- Limited 10-year structural hull/deck warranty to second owner

- Limited five-year pro-rated laminate hull blister warranty

- Limited five-year cosmetic exterior gelcoat warranty

Trailer Packages

- Painted tandem-axle bunk trailer with dual-axle brakes: \$7,923

- Painted tandem-axle roller trailer with dual-axle brakes: \$8,308

- Galvanized tandem-axle bunk trailer with dual-axle brakes: \$8,538

- Galvanized tandem-axle roller trailer with dual-axle brakes: \$9,231

Sea Ray 250 SLX trailer

At a dry weight of 5,800 lbs. (2,631 kg), the SLX 250 can be towed by a full-sized SUV or truck and owners can choose from painted or galvanized trailers from the factory.

Options to Consider and Pricing

- Bow and cockpit covers (\$1,077)
- Air compressor for water toys (\$231)
- Battery charger (\$385)

- Dynamic Display with 12.3" touchscreen display for all onboard functions (\$7,462)
- Bow filler cushion (\$500)
- SeaDek swim platform pad (\$769)
- VacuFlush toilet with 10-gallon (37 L) holding tank (\$2,077)
- Beach ladder on bow with hatch (\$300)
- Submersible automated swim platform (\$5,615)

- Electric watersports tower with Bimini (\$13,077)

- Windlass, rope/chain with remote control and stainless-steel anchor (\$4,385)

Observations

The Sea Ray SLX 250 is a luxury bowrider that should be attractive to a family that likes to bring along friends and stay active during a day on the water. She has passenger capacity that is greater than most deck boats of similar lengths but rides on a V-bottom design that should handle rough water much better when the wind kicks up at the end of the day. She comes at a luxury price with some of the amenities that most owners would want and has available a number of options they can add to complete the package.