

Ranger Boats 183 Ghost (2006-)

Brief Summary

Big brother to the 169, the 183 Ghost is poised to attack the skinny water market. She is designed specifically for shallow water action and is a budget-friendly rig. This boat has a wide beam with a large wraparound deck for easily working fish front to back.

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

- Extra wide gunnels
- Wraparound deck
- Self-bailing cockpit
- Custom built poling platform
- Retracting push pole holders
- Stainless steel fixtures throughout
- Skid resistant deck and interior
- Aerated livewell/baitwell with in-line filter
- RangerTrail trailer

Test Results

RPM	MPH	Knots	GPH	MPG	NMPG	STAT. MILE	NM	dBa
600	2.2	1.9	0.1	22	19.13	693	603	68
1000	4.9	4.2	0.4	13.86	12.05	437	380	68
1500	6.4	5.6	1.9	3.46	3.01	109	95	76
2000	8.7	7.6	3.5	2.52	2.19	79	69	79

RPM	MPH	Knots	GPH	MPG	NMPG	STAT. MILE	NM	dBa
2500	19	16.5	4.1	4.68	4.07	147	128	83
3000	26.1	22.7	3.7	7.05	6.13	222	193	84
3500	33.4	29	7.4	4.51	3.92	142	123	89
4000	38.8	33.7	10.1	3.84	3.34	121	105	90
4500	42.9	37.3	12.2	3.52	3.06	111	96	90
5000	46.5	40.4	16.4	2.83	2.46	89	78	96

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

ranger183ghost-chart.jpg

Specifications

Length Overall	18' 3"
BEAM	7' 1.5"
Dry Weight	1, 050 lbs.
Tested Weight	
Draft	9.5"
Draft Up	
Draft Down	
Air Draft	

Deadrise/Transom	N/A
Max Headroom	open
Bridge Clearance	N/A
Weight Capacity	
Person Capacity	
Fuel Capacity	35 gal.
Water Capacity	none
Length on Trailer	
Height on Trailer	
Trailer Weight	
Total Weight	
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	2.6 sec.
0 to 20	
Ratio	1.86 : 1
Props	Cyclone 14 1/8 x 21 4 blade
Load	2 persons, Fuel: full, Water: none, Gear: minimal
Climate	Temp: 72 deg., Humid: 90%, Wind: 10-15 mph, Seas: moderate chop

Ready for the FLW

Ranger 183 Ghost

By Capt. Bob Smith

Table Rock Lake in northern Arkansas is a great lake for fishing and watersports. You can catch everything from trout to bass and crappie within a few miles of the dam. I came to Arkansas to test six models from Ranger's lineup and the 183 Ghost was one of them. We had some pretty rough winds and chop to test in, nevertheless the 183 performed well.

The 183 is the 169's big sister. Ranger builds some of the most fishable boats in the freshwater market, and now they have taken that building knowledge and applied it to the saltwater market.

Bow Features

The bow of the 183 features a full wraparound deck that carries the width of the boat, making this a larger casting space. The navigation lights are flush-mounted so they are less likely to be a fouling point when working the fish up to the net or gaff. Up here are three lockable lockers. The first is a generous anchor locker that is deep enough for plenty of anchor rode and chocks for a Danforth. The next locker is a dry storage locker for your gear such as life jackets and tackle, and just aft of the dry locker is the battery locker for the optional trolling motor. By moving the batteries forward, allows for less draft and greater stability.

Cockpit

In the center cockpit and under the gunwales is rod storage for rods up to 10' long. In addition to these rod holders there are three vertical rod holders are on each side of the console. Above the starboard gunwales are three flush mounted push pole holders for locking the pole securely in place while moving from one fishing hole to the next. The fuel tank is mounted in the center of the cockpit floor, below the center console. The console is simple featuring a stainless steel wheel with hydraulic steering and a speed knob for better maneuverability in tight spaces. The trim tabs are controlled with switches on top of the console, and analog gauges are above the wheel with switches to the right for the shifter binnacle. In front of the console is a baitwell with a seat cushion cover to add seating. The driver has a seat cushion on the aft deck with an optional seat back.

On the stern, the 183 has a raised poling platform over the engine. This platform has a heavy duty aluminum frame and sturdy deck over the engine. Below are twin dry storage boxes to port and starboard, with a large aerated livewell for your catch in the center. Every box on the 183 has stainless steel gas-assist arms and great rubber seals to keep the gear dry.

Specifications

The 183 Ghost measures 18'3" length overall with a beam of 85 1/2". She draws about 9 1/2" making her a great boat to slip into the flats. She carries 35 gallons of fuel and weighs about 1,050 lbs dry without the engine.

Performance

We tested in 10-15mph winds with a moderate chop. Keep in mind the test conditions were far from optimal and you should get better results in calmer waters where this boat is typically operated. Our test boat was equipped with an Evinrude 150-hp Saltwater Series outboard on her stern and a Cyclone 14 1/8 x 21 4-blade propeller. The 183 was out of the hole and breaking plane in 2.6 seconds and up to 30 mph in 5.7 seconds. At 3000 rpm and 26.1 mph, you can expect to run about 222 miles on a full tank of fuel. Pushed to the limits, the 183 Ghost produced 46.5 mph at 5000 rpm for a range of 89 miles. The ride was as smooth as expected and I did not notice any hull slap. I did get some spray, but most importantly the gear stayed dry. The ride was smooth and the seat cushion was comfortable, but I recommend the optional backrest if you plan on long runs to your fishing spots.

So, if you are ready for the challenges of the FLW redfish tour or just enjoy leisurely slipping around in the sawgrass chasing the elusive fish, the 183 Ghost is ready to silently slip in there and give you the chance!