Sea Ray SLX 350 OB (2017-)

Brief Summary

The Sea Ray SLX 350 OB includes a hardtop with optional sliding sunroof and joystick steering as standard features. She's built to handle triple outboards up to 1050 horsepower total, ensuring exciting performance. A small cabin is tucked under the starboard console, while a head with VacuFlush toilet is hidden in the port console. A mini galley encourages entertainment in the aft cockpit.

Price

Base Price \$365628.00

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

- Cockpit cooler with dedicated storage
- Rockford Fosgate stereo wireless Bluetooth, amplifier, weatherproof, 8 speakers and Digital remote control
- Fiberglass cockpit table
- Wet bar with solid-surface countertop, stainless steel sink, faucet, and refrigerator
- Digital dash with chartplotter
- Extended swim platform and swim ladder with integral grab handle, manual/submersible swim port step
- Cockpit L-shape lounger with opposing seating
- Dual Bucket helm seat with slider, flip-up thigh-rise bolster and footrest
- Bow with hinged cushions, armrests and table storage below

Test Results

RPM	MPH	Knots	GPH	MPG	NMPG	STAT. MILE	NM	dBa
570	3.1	2.7	1.5	2.1	1.8	305	265	55
1000	6.1	5.3	17.2	0.4	0.3	51	44.2	60

RPM	MPH	Knots	GPH	MPG	NMPG	STAT. MILE	NM	dBa
1500	8.3	7.2	5.7	1.5	1.3	212	183.9	70
2000	10.1	8.8	10.3	1	0.9	142	123.4	71
2500	14	12.2	14.9	0.9	0.8	135	117.7	75
3000	21.5	18.7	20.5	1.1	0.9	151	131.6	79
3500	31.1	27	24.2	1.3	1.1	185	161.3	80
4000	37.3	32.4	29.5	1.3	1.1	182	158.3	82
4500	44.5	38.7	39.7	1.1	1	161	140.2	87
5000	48.8	42.4	50.7	1	0.8	138	120.4	89
5500	54.7	47.6	71.2	0.8	0.7	111	96.2	91
6000	58.8	51.1	87.1	0.7	0.6	97	84.5	90
6100	59.5	51.7	89.7	0.7	0.6	95	83	90

View the test results in metric units

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Specifications

Length Overall	34' 6" / 10.5 m		
BEAM	10' 6" 3.20 m		
Dry Weight	10,335 lbs. 4,688 kg		

Tested Weight	11,607 lbs. 5,265 kg	
Draft		
Draft Up	28" 71 cm	
Draft Down	39" 99 cm	
Air Draft		
Deadrise/Transom	21-deg.	
Max Headroom	N/A	
Bridge Clearance		
Weight Capacity		
Person Capacity		
Fuel Capacity	160 gal. 605 L	
Water Capacity	30 gal. 113 L	
Length on Trailer		
Height on Trailer		
Trailer Weight		
Total Weight	11,607 lbs. 5,265 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	4.4 sec.
0 to 20	
Ratio	N/A
Props	21P Rev 4
Load	2 persons, 4/5 fuel, no water, 50 lbs. of gear
Climate	76 deg., 65 humid.; wind: 10-15 mph; seas: light

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The SLX 350 OB has a LOA of 34'6", a beam of 10'6", and a deadrise of 21 degrees, making it one of the largest bow riders on the market.

Mission

The Sea Ray SLX 350 Outboard is a bowrider that has been designed to appeal to boaters wanting outboard power on a large dayboat that can be used for entertaining and watersports. Equipped to host up to 18 guests and provide a day of fun at anchor or underway, the SLX 350 OB has features to take her a step beyond mere convenience without venturing into extravagance. Sea Ray advertises their boats as making owners "want to spend more time on the water," and from the layout of the interior to the boat's handling and controls, that is a succinct way of summing up their mission for the SLX 350 OB.

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The SLX 350 OB's layout with the hardtop not shown. Note the optional tables in place (bow and cockpit).

Distinguishing Features

- Outboard Propulsion. The SLX 350 OB is powered by outboard engines, thus breaking a long tradition of Sea Ray sterndrive power in bowriders, particularly large ones.
- **Standard Hardtop.** The hardtop provides much needed shade as well as becoming an anchor for isinglass below and electronic aids above.
- **Joystick standard.** By making a joystick standard, Sea Ray has made docking a triple-engine rig a non-issue.

Sea Ray SLX 350 OB

The Vessel View readout on the dash of the SLX 350 OB. This, combined with the Digital Dash system, is a major feature of the SLX 350 OB.

- **Digital Dash and Vessel View.** The SLX 350 OB features two 9" Raymarine touchscreen displays (one upgradeable to 12") that coordinate vessel data, lighting control, and navigation information into one "dynamic" display at the helm. The SLX 350's Vessel View comes from Mercury and consolidates the boat's operation into one intuitive display. Air and water temperature, fuel flow and range, depth, ECO screen, Smart Tow, Troll Control, and system maintenance records -- all in one place.
- Capacity capability. At 34'6", the SLX 350 OB is one of the largest bow riders in class. Arguably, its most distinguishing feature is the boat's capacity and ability to entertain. The SLX 350 OB is rated for 18 passengers with 11 facing forward while seated.
- 4 Forward on helm "deck." There are two individual seats at the helm and two more "companion" seats to port, something we rarely see on any size boat.

- Large Dealer Network. Sea Ray has one of the largest dealer networks in class, something that might be important when boating outside of home waters.
- Same company builds the engines. All engines offered in the 350 are made by Mercury Marine, which is owned by Brunswick, Sea Ray's parent. This relationship should reduce issues of warranty in the matters related to the engines.

Major Features

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The hardtop on the SLX 350 OB can provide extensive cover from the sun and shed more light via the optional retractable sunroof.

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A view inside the head, which is tucked into the portside console just in front of the companion's seats on the helm "deck." Note the light coming in via portlight, the countertop and sink, and the grabrail on the back of the head itself.

• **Port Head Compartment.** Enclosed with a fiberglass, lockable door in the portside console, the compartment has a solid surface countertop, sink, VacuFlush head, and 27-gallon holding tank. There is a wood storage cabinet: the door is mirrored, and there is a portlight and skylight.

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The Dynamic Running Surface is a powerful option on the SLX 350 OB; with preset controls at the dash, it improves performance and aids wake creation for water sports.

• **Dynamic Running Surface.** Weight balance, wake creation, limiting bow rise -- the dynamic running surface optimizes running attitude and trim, which can greatly improve stability and overall performance. The console at the helm also allows for saving presets so that, for example, the "perfect wake" can be achieved and easily replicated in the future. This comes as an option (\$3,423).

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Note the double hinges for the seat cushion and the flat surface upon which is rests.

Storage abounds. Rated as comfortably accommodating 18 passengers, the SLX 350 OB would
naturally require an abundance of storage, and Sea Ray notes it as one of the boat's key features. The
design is innovative in it's creation of storage space drawers below seats, storage space for more
delicate items -- hanging storage for wardrobe items, for example. There is storage in the cockpit
deck, under seating throughout, and dedicated space for food/cooler storage, as well.

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The joystick seen up-close comes standard on the SLX 350 OB and offer a nice upgrade in navigation capabilities.

• **Digital Throttle Control.** Sea Ray has outfitted the 350 SLX OB with Mercury's digital throttle control. Simply put, digitizing this operation makes the performance more consistent and predictable, with the boat's capabilities more responsive.

Inspection

The Bow

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The bow-seating lounge seen here with the optional teak table installed in the side-mount. While there are no grab rails along the top of the seating, handholds are situated within the gunwales, next to the stereo speakers. Note that there is a pedestal base in the center of the deck for a large table for cocktail or dining. At a lower level, the tabletop becomes a platform for a huge sunpad.

Bow seating and storage. A U-shaped seating lounge sits in the bow, upholstered in leather-textured surface marine-grade vinyl with UV and mildew protection, with, as described by Sea Ray, "multiple densities of foam." The attention to detail is there -- the seats have bead welting and bracelet stitching. In addition to the popular seating-to-sunpad conversion in the bow lounge, the SLX 350 OB also offers a sidemount table as an option. The footwell space is roomy -- starting with a width of 4' before narrowing to 16" as the two seating pads converge at the bow.

A retractable beach-boarding ladder rests under a hatch on the bow with the windlass and anchor just underneath and accessible via a flip-up hatch where the two sides of seating meet one another. Storage rests under the two seating panels on either side, and cup holders and speakers rest in and along the gunwales.

Cockpit

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A view of the dash with the digital throttle and joystick at the captain's right arm with the Vessel View and Dynamic Display monitors on the dash itself.

Helm seating and dash. Both the helm and companion positions feature double-stitched leather upholstery on two individual seats on each side. Both sit facing a console, and on the portside the console has a lockable glove box that sits on a fiberglass door leading to the enclosed head.

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Companion seats shown here swiveled back to face the rest of the cockpit. Note the storage drawer just under the seat bottoms.

The companion seats are versatile. They have a sturdy, quality construction, but can also swivel back to face the cockpit seating and convert two spaces (helm/cockpit) into one larger group setting. Each seat has an individual flip-up bolster as well.

The helm seats sit in front of the dash panel and, like the companion's seat, have individual flip-up bolsters. The SLX 350 OB has power-assisted tilt steering via a faux leather-wrapped stainless steel steering wheel. More importantly are the Digital Throttle & Shift (DTS), the joystick propulsion, and active trim controls. All three increase both accessibility of navigation for the new boat owner, as well as responsive, consistent, and exacting performance for the veteran. Information is gathered efficiently into two 12" and 7" monitors, delivering the boat's vitals, GPS, chartplotting, and navigation control in an easy-to-read package. iPod/ iPhone connectivity with weatherproof Rockford Fosgate speakers, and digital cockpit remote control for both the helm and transom.

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A view of the cockpit from the stern; note the wetbar to starboard, the companion helm seats facing aft, and the optional teak table installed in the foreground.

Below the starboard console is a small (4'6" headroom) day cabin, offering relief from the sun or space for a quick nap away from the party. While it is small, it is comfortable as well with a small portlight. An optional flatscreen TV and stereo can be added.

Resting in between the helm and companion seats is in deck storage. Accessed via a latch with gasassisted struts, the space is covered in a vinyl matting and comes with a convenient light.

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The cockpit seating area looking aft from the helm with the optional teak table installed. Note the wetbar to starboard. The decks here are fiberglass and outfitted with snap-on carpet; the option to upgrade to the teak seen on the table and in the transom walk-through exists for this cockpit area as well.

Cockpit seating, storage, and amenities. Just abaft the helm seat is a small, angled two-person seat that extends just to the wet bar. The wet bar has a solid-surface countertop, stainless steel sink, faucet, refrigerator (2.3 cu ft.), trash receptacle, and storage below large enough to stow a cooler.

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A closer look at the wet bar, which has a refrigerator, sink, the faux leather-wrapped grabrail, and storage. Note as well the LED lights, an optional upgrade package, lit up in demonstration.

Abaft the wet bar are two steps toward the stern access point; the steps are hinged and have storage underneath with a third, longer storage space under the short "pathway" to the stern swim platform.

Cockpit banquet. A larger, L-shaped seating area extends around from the transom up along the portside. Storage space resides underneath the hinged panels of this seating area. In the crook of this L-shape is a mounting spot for the optional table, which is offered in fiberglass and fiberglass with teak-overlay.

The table can be further upgraded to being hydraulically actuated, rising from the deck from flush-with-thefloor to table height. Like the bow seating, filler cushions are available as an option to turn the L-shaped lounge into a larger sunpad.

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The design of the cockpit allows entertaining, sunning, and cruising.

All the seating, as in the bow, is upholstered with marine-grade vinyl that has both UV and mildew protection.

Hardtop. The hardtop comes standard on the SLX 350 OB and can be outfitted with a number of options. For shade, Sea Ray offers both bow and aft shading via retractable canvas from the hardtop, as well as a package that outfits the hardtop with canvas curtains for even more sun protection. For more sun, the hardtop also can be upgraded to include a retractable canvas sunroof.

Stern

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The aft-facing seat is a perfect spot for Mom and Dad to watch the kids. The outboard engines, of course, can be tilted up as anchoring in skinny water.

Swim platform and Reboarding. Moving into the stern, the swim platform on the SLX 350 OB is wide -- wider than the footprint created by the three outboard engines, providing a platform on each side free of obstruction for swimming and easy reboarding. Also standard is the submersible swim step, shown in the photo above, as the little girl is sitting on it.

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The fold out rumble seat/lounge is easy to hide when needed, but still big and accommodating when it comes out.

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The foldout seat folded-up and raised to show the storage beneath -- note the gas-assisted struts. When this lid is down and the seat folded up, it becomes an excellent surface for tying down water toys via the

stainless steel grab rails.

Fold-out aft seating. The SLX 350 OB has a rear-facing fold out lounge seat in the stern, which sits atop storage space (divided into bins). The design of the foldout is aesthetically pleasing -- when not in use, it blends seamlessly with the boat, and does not appear to be a bench waiting to be unfolded. The fiberglass lid completely convertible, flipping up to be the seatback with the bottom folding out for a large, comfortable seat footprint. A useful touch comes with the deployment of the aft-facing seating, where its seatback creates a headrest for the L-shaped cockpit seating butting up against it.

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While only operable when the boat is at rest, the aft facing lounge seat offers a nice, relaxing venue everyone can enjoy.

Fit and Finish

Decking. The decks in the bow and cockpit come standard as fiberglass with the snap-in carpet. Teak decking is an option. The 350 SLX OB has overboard drainage throughout.

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The Sea Ray hull is robotically cut and gel coated, which eliminates human error in these key areas. **Hull construction.** The QuietRide system proprietary to Sea Ray's boats speaks to a great attention to detail in construction. The through-hull fittings are all stainless steel, and the gel coat finish in a choice of color gives the SLX 350 OB a clean, polished look to match its interiors. Sea Ray cuts and gel coats their hulls robotically, which leads to a consistency and reliability in performance.

Stainless steel throughout. Between cup holders, grab-rails, cleats, navigation lights, all the way to the windshield panes, Sea Ray has outfitted the SLX 350 OB with stainless steel hardware that speaks to an overall quality in construction that extends to the upholstery, deck materials, and electronics.

Power

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The triple Mercury outboard engines pictured here, in white, are 300-hp each.

Engine options. The SLX 350 OB comes with triple Mercury 300-hp Verado 4-Stroke outboard engines (painted black) with the joystick piloting as standard propulsion. White engines are an option.

Performance

As we get underway, the Sea Ray SLX 350 OB has a sleek and contemporary look with the gracefully sloping rub rail and forward slanted hardtop supports. She has a LOA of 36'11" (11.25 m), a beam of 10'6" (3.20 m), and a draft of 39" (99 cm). With an empty weight of 10,335 lbs. (4,688 kg), 81% fuel and two people onboard, we had an estimated test weight of 11,607 lbs. (5,265 kg).

Sea Ray SLX 350 OB performance data

With the triple 300 Mercury Verados powering our test boat, we reached a top speed of just under 60 mph at 6100 rpm. Best economic cruise came in at 3500 rpm and 31.1 mph. At that speed, the 24.2 gph fuel burn translated into 1.3 mpg and a range of 185 sm, while still holding back a 10% reserve of the boats total fuel capacity.

Handling

In acceleration tests, the bow came up 10-degrees upon hitting the throttle, we reached planing speed in 4.4 seconds, at which point the bow settled into a 5-degree bow high cruise attitude. We accelerated to 20 mph in 6.4 seconds, 30 mph came and went in 8.4 seconds and we continued through 40 mph in 11.4 seconds.

We had mild chop on our test day that showed the 350 running through with no hull slap or adverse effects. In turn testing, she held her track nicely, throwing a wall of water to testify to her ability to hold onto the turn. With the turn held, she rolls comfortably into the turn and only showed chine walk when putting her beam to the chop, otherwise she stayed solid and showed no sign of ventilation. She'll also come around in roughly two boat lengths when cranking from lock-to-lock.

Docking

When it came time to return to the dock, the Axius joystick functionality made it a non-issue and we were able to effortlessly maneuver with just small pulses of the joystick. Easy as you please.

Options to Consider

The SLX 350 OB isn't presented as a boat with appeal predicated on the ability to customize -- the standard design makes its case, and, instead, the options are more geared toward upgrading a feature that may be important to a given buyer. Here are some of the key options Sea Ray offers:

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The LED light package, seen here in action, can be a useful tool in entertaining into the evening.

- Docking Lights (\$385)
- Dynamic Running Surface (\$3,423)

- Electric Grill (for the wet bar) (\$2,462)
- Helm Berth Upgrade (cushions, cup holders, iPod/iPhone connectivity, TV) (\$2,077)
- LED Light Package (exterior and cockpit) (\$1,838)
- Through-Hull Underwater Lighting (\$1,000)
- Macerator with Seacock Interlock System (\$915)
- Premier Audio Stereo Upgrade (\$2,538)
- Hydraulically Actuated Cockpit Table; Fiberglass/Teak (\$10,769 \$11,231)
- Air Conditioning for berth (\$3,077)

Note as well the Canvas Package for the hardtop (\$2,308), which includes an aft curtain with bungee straps, front and side curtains, and a bag for storage of the canvas. The larger scale canvas upgrades for the hardtop include the retractable extended aft sunshade (\$7,692), the forward bow shading system (\$762), and the retractable canvas insert for the hardtop (\$4,462).

The hull design can be upgraded as well to two-tone (\$2,154) or three-tone (\$3,077) that both require choosing from a number of color options.

Finally, Sea Ray offers a trailer for the SLX 350 OB as an option with choice of aluminum with bunks or rollers.

Warranty

Sea Ray offers a five-year factory warranty, which it calls "Sea Ray SURPASS." All 2017 gas-powered Sea Ray sport boats (which includes both sterndrive and, like the SLX 350 OB, outboards) feature a five-year, bow-to-stern factory warranty on the boat and its components from defects in materials and workmanship. The engine is covered for the same five-year period, using a warranty backed by Mercury and Brunswick Product Protection. The SLX 350 OB also has a Limited Lifetime Structural Hull Warranty.

This warranty only covers 2015, 2016, and 2017 Sea Ray sportboats purchased in the U.S. and Canada.

Price

Sea Ray lists the MSRP (from the base model with the standard engine and destination charges) as \$365,628.

Observations

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A bird's eye view of the boat highlights its size and design features, while also underscoring it being "too much boat" for some.

For those in the bowrider/sportboat market, a big decision regarding the SLX 350 OB will be its size. The ability to accommodate 18 guests is a big selling point relative to the competition, and the 34'6" length sets it apart as well. The details are all in place -- this is a well-made boat that will provide entertainment, convenience, and a huge platform for watersports.

We think it is a lot of boat and has a lot of functionality for the money.