



▲ No compromises needed: The 211 Reata has what serious anglers want, and it pleases the sun-and-fun crowd just as well.

## RANGER 211 Reata

### WHAT WE THINK:

There were about eight boats at our test dock on Kimberling City's Table Rock Lake, but I made a reservation for only one of them — the Ranger 211 Reata. Knowing a Ranger was coming and me being a dedicated bass angler, *this* was the boat I wanted to test drive.

Yet there was a wakeboard arch, a sleek windshield and a trolling motor on the bow. In just minutes, I was certain this boat would fish as well as haul wakeboard and tube riders. In fact, we juggled the idea of putting it in our February fishing-boat guide. It would be at home there or here.

The adjustable helm bucket seat gives an ideal driving position, and the throttle lever falls nicely into hand without reaching, as did the tilt wheel. The Evinrude E-TEC idled quietly and allowed conversation at comfortable levels.

Most low-slung fish-and-ski

► **KEY NOTE:** Evinrude's E-TEC 225 HO is ideal for this Ranger, giving a blend of quiet runability and powerful acceleration.

boats have a tow-pylon option, but Ranger offered the sporty wakeboard tower or a pylon serious anglers might prefer to clear the air for casting.

Acceleration rocked us back in our seats. A four-blade prop boosted a quick hole shot and midrange torque. The strength of Ranger's patented and "pultruded" transom that is molded under tension was evident as the boat smacked down large wakes. Closed-cell foam fills the voids in the hull, adding strength and safety, and dampening sound.

Some might call this two-faced sport boat schizophrenic. We call it ambidextrous. — R.V.

#### TEST DRIVE

- **TEST ENGINE:** EVINRUDE E-TEC 225 HO
- **TEST PROP:** 19-INCH CYCLONE 4-BLADE
- **TEST LOAD:** PEOPLE (400 LB.); FUEL (35 GAL.)
- **MINIMUM PLANING SPEED:** 21 MPH @ 2,500 RPM
- **TOP SPEED:** 51.4 MPH @ 5,000 RPM
- **TIME TO PLANE:** 3.2 SEC.
- **TIME TO 30 MPH:** 8.5 SEC.

#### VITAL STATS

- **LENGTH OVERALL:** 21'4" ■ **BEAM:** 7'9" ■ **DRY WEIGHT:** 2,215 LB., PLUS MOTOR ■ **SEATING/WEIGHT CAPACITY:** 7/1,090 LB.
- **FUEL CAPACITY:** 43 GAL. ■ **MAXIMUM HP:** 225 ■ **MSRP (TEST BOAT W/ EVINRUDE E-TEC 225 HO):** \$50,279



more online

Watch our video review at [boatinglife.com/vtd09](http://boatinglife.com/vtd09)

### STANDOUT FEATURES

- **Minn Kota Power Maxxum 70 24-volt trolling motor makes the Reata buddy-tournament ready right out of the showroom.**
- **Choice of Lowrance X-135 or Humminbird 767 chartplotter/depth finders put anglers on fish.**
- **Retractable tow pylon is standard for those who don't opt for the tower.**
- **A built-in on-board charger means no lugging chargers around.**

PHOTO: DOUG DUKANE