

# CLEAN, COMFY, and CLASSIC

THE HINCKLEY 35 SPEAKS A LANGUAGE WE ALL UNDERSTAND.

By Steve Davis

**T**he first impression anyone gets seeing the new Hinckley 35 is that it's their typical picnic-style boat. But this new design from the 93-year-old company is as different as it is similar to a brand that has a distinctive style recognizable from any distance.

The Hinckley 35 is a true Hinckley in every respect. The open-air cockpit and salon layout have plenty of room for a family to play on the water or to host guests for a cocktail cruise around the bay. The elegant cherry woodwork, the varnished teak cabinetry, a clean, simple helm, the plush berth and salon settees along with the classic picnic-style profile are all signature Hinckley.

"At the foundation of the Picnic Boat and the Talara models is jet propulsion," says Scott Bryant, vice president of sales and marketing.

"That creates a radically different experience. They're incredible performing boats, infinitely maneuverable, the acceleration is smooth, they're wonderful to be on, and with a shallow draft, you can go places others wouldn't consider." So what makes the 35 different?

"There are some slight trim differences on the Hinckley 35," says Bryant. "But we found that there's what I like to call, 'the language of outboards,' and a lot of folks speak that language." Just as jet propulsion creates a different driving experience, the 35 with twin Mercury 350

outboards has its own driving experience. "We wanted to develop a product that was easy, that was kind of an immediate thing for people to understand. They know outboards, they want outboards, and we felt like we could build an incredible outboard product within the Hinckley family," adds Bryant. "But it's not a picnic boat because it doesn't have jet propulsion. It's a different experience on this boat, and we didn't want to confuse the experiences."

## Designed for Outboards

The 35 carries on the classic Hinckley style, but the hull is specifically designed for outboard propulsion. "We've been longtime partners with Michael Peters," says Bryant. "It's been since 2008 when we went to more of a faster, performance-style boat with the Talarias. Peters is a wonderful designer, and this hull is optimized for outboard propulsion. Michael designs boats for a lot of people, but he really loves designing boats for us as we respect his demands. And his demands on us are, 'You have to get the longitudinal center of gravity (LCG) correct for this to work.'"

That's not always easy to do, but Hinckley feels they nailed the right formula. Peters designed the hull with slightly wider chines and strakes that give more lift and stability as well as balance to optimize the outboard propulsion. "We're not talking about being a couple inches within that LCG, we're talking like point zero-zero-one percent within that target," explains Bryant. As a result, the ride is spirited and fun to drive. "It just feels right," he says. "It just behaves."

Besides getting the LCG right in each of Hinckley's models, how they build the hull comes from their evolution of design. "Starting in the early nineties, we were one of the first companies to adopt the SCRIMP system [Scemann Composites Resin Infusion Molding Process] and started infusing boats with vinyl ester resin," says Bryant. "Three years ago, we altered our process and went to infusing carbon with epoxy. We built an eighty-foot oven up in Maine for post-curing, so we get that cosmetic longevity and heirloom quality that our customers expect." Because of that process, Hinckley offers a lifetime hull warranty.



The Hinckley 35 offers a stylish, comfortable ride that cruises 300-plus nautical miles at 35 mph.



The center cockpit seats electrically lift to reveal a large storage area as well as easy access to mechanical systems. Inset: The uncluttered helm has all the controls within reach.

#### Beauty in Simplicity

Craftsmanship goes hand in hand with Hinckley Yachts, and one of the first things I noticed when stepping aboard was the varnished teak that seems inlaid into the rails and gunwales. The same goes for the shiny teak trim framing the salon windows, the armrests with cupholders, and the helm chairs. It's just the right amount to add that touch of class.

I have a habit of going directly to the helm to imagine piloting the boat even before leaving the dock to check out the visibility, the accessibility of the controls, and the overall comfort. There should be a place for everything and everything in its place when at the wheel operating a boat.

"We wanted to make sure that when you stand at the helm and look forward, it's completely unobstructed. The ClearView windshield is a single piece of custom, compound-curved glass that's made just for us and engineered by us," says Bryant. "It's self-supporting, beautiful in its simplicity, and incredibly effective." What's more important is the visibility, a 360-degree, unobstructed view. In addition, the helm and passenger chairs swing around to engage with family and guests in the salon and the cockpit.

Keeping with Hinckley's "beauty in simplicity" perspective, I've not seen such a minimalistic helm. The Mercury Joystick for Outboards, multi-engine console mount, and the bow thruster joystick

are positioned ergonomically to starboard along the armrest. The dash is clean and uncluttered with Mercury's VesselView screen to starboard, a Garmin GPSMAP display center, and the Zipwake trim control to port. Just a few toggle switches for the anchor, running lights, horn, and roof hatches keep the dash simple. Switches for lighting, pumps, electronics, and circuits are accessible through the Garmin display as are the navigation charts, radar, and engine gauges.

#### Onboard Comfort and Space

The Hinckley is, primarily, a day boat for entertaining and family fun at the beach. There's plenty of comfy seating out of the sun as well as in the cockpit, and with a transom door to access the ample swim platform that wraps the engines, water fun only requires the nerve to get wet. But if you're up for it, set the anchor in a secluded cove and spend the night. A plush V-berth (with filler cushion), a galley with sink, microwave, fridge, and cooktop, and a spacious wet head offer comfort after a long day in the sun.

There's an abundance of storage everywhere, but one of the coolest features is the mechanical space belowdecks that behaves like a garage. The cockpit aft-facing seats are molded with the deck that opens with the click of a button to a huge area to store inflatable paddleboards, floats, scooters, and more as well as easy access to the optional Seakeeper, battery management system, and filters.

Trends over the last two years have shown more people understanding the benefits of boating. A younger crowd is joining their parents and grandparents out on the water. "We are seeing a younger generation of boaters that are going to do what they want to do," says Bryant. "They're going to go for their cocktail cruise, take the boat to the beach with their young kids, pull a tube; they're going to do all that."

The Hinckley 35 is for the boater who aspires to have the best possible experience on the water. "It means being on a boat that's incredibly easy and fun to operate and feels powerful, but refined," says Bryant. "But it also means that in the entertaining spaces, they feel connected to the people they're with in a very seamless, experiential way."

#### SPECIFICATIONS

<b>LOA:</b> 38' 8"	<b>Fuel/Water:</b> 300/35 U.S. gals.	<b>Contact:</b> Hinckley Yachts
<b>Beam:</b> 11'	<b>Power:</b> 2x Mercury Verado 300 outboards	Portsmouth, Rhode Island
<b>Draft:</b> 2' 10"	<b>Range:</b> 300-plus nm @ 35 mph	(401) 683-7100
<b>Displacement:</b> 14,900 lbs.	<b>Top Speed:</b> 45 mph (48 with optional twin 350-hp outboards)	<a href="http://hinckleyyachts.com">hinckleyyachts.com</a>



  
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