



It isn't often you see a pontoon boat that reminds you of an Italian sportboat, but the new Bennington 2875 RCW will do just that with its pair of rearward-facing stern lounges. What makes these different than other sun lounger seats is that they have side bolsters that allow you to ride back there while the boat is running, although we would recommend that it be confined to adults only at slower speeds for safety. Introduced last year on the 2575, these "super lounges" feature a centerline walk-through atop the I/O engine compartment hatch that rises electronically with the push of a button.

At 28-plus feet, this is the largest Bennington ever built and our test model features the optional elliptical Sport Package, which give you a larger center tube for 28 percent more buoy-

ancy. This configuration changes the handling dynamic and makes the 2875 lean inward like a monohull when carving a tight turn, which it does very nicely. It also helps rough-water performance by riding higher, which contributes to its excellent performance.

Powered by the 300 hp MerCruiser 350 MAG MPI inboard/outboard, we got on plane in 3.6 seconds and reached 30 mph in 7.9 seconds, which for a near 30-footer is moving right along. Top speed is about 41 mph and it tracks well at top speed. Its happiest cruise speed seems to be at 3500 rpm, which is where the MerCruiser runs effortlessly and quietly (84 dBA), pushing the 2875 at 27 mph while burning 11 gallons per hour less than at wide-open throttle.

Like other Benningtons, the interior is comfortable with overstuffed lounge seating that has loads of storage underneath. There's a massive 12-foot Bimini top that has LED lights, along with quick-release fittings and an embroidered boot for a neat look when stowed. For rinsing off after a ski run, there's a standard pressurized freshwater system with a stern shower.

3 FAVORITE STANDARDS Mahogany cockpit table, Garmin depthfinder, under-deck Wave Shield

3 FAVORITE OPTIONS Bimini top, digital depth finder/bow and cockpit cover

To see video of our boat test, go to boatingworld.com and click on Buyers Guide.

SPECIFICATIONS

TEST BOAT STATS

LENGTH
28 ft., 6 in.

BEAM
8 ft., 6 in.

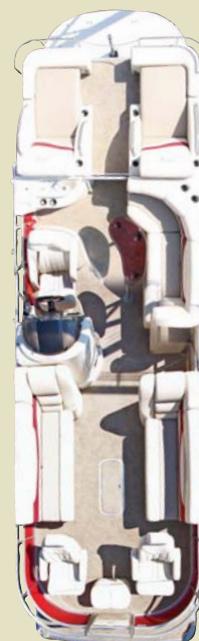
CAPACITY
16 people/
2,280 lbs.

DRY WEIGHT
4,262 lbs.

FUEL CAPACITY
62 gals.

MAXIMUM HP
425

DEADRISE @ TRANSOM
N/A



PERFORMANCE

	MPH	RPM	MPG	RANGE (MILES)	DBA
PEAK	41.2	5000	1.82	113	94
CRUISE	16.1	2500	3.04	188	78
TIME TO PLANE				3.6 seconds	
0-30 MPH				7.9 seconds	

TEST POWER

MOTOR MerCruiser 350 MAG 300 hp

PRICE

WITH TEST POWER	\$64,569
MERCUISER 5.0L CARB 220 HP	\$59,312
MERCUISER 5.0L MPI 260 HP	\$61,720