

Grady-White 251-CE

The 251-CE (Coastal Explorer) is the builder's first hybrid center console, and its looks are quite a bit different from a traditional Grady-White. It still rides on the company's SeaV2 variable-deadrise hull, with proven offshore capabilities and that classic Carolina raised sheer, says vice president of marketing Shelley Tubaugh. "We made sure it had a shallow draft, but you still have the capability to run offshore a few miles comfortably, too," says Tubaugh.

The 251-CE stands out for offering the clever, functional seating and storage solutions mentioned previously. You can set up the bow in arrangements geared to fishing, lounging, sunbathing or dining by adding or removing cushions and the fiberglass insert or by using the flip-up backrests. Fishing features include two built-in 74-quart insulated fishboxes with drains under the forward platform. In the stern is the same kind of fishing/cruising functionality.

Standard equipment includes a bow ladder for beaching, a stern ladder, hydraulic steering, a recessed stainless steel bow rail and a step-down head in the console. A hard or soft T-top, the platform/table insert, trim tabs and a live well round out the optional features.

A single Yamaha F250 or F300 powers the 251-CE. With the F250, she gets 3.3 mpg at 26.5 mph, with a top end of 45.5 mph. The F300 powers her to nearly 50 mph at full throttle, and you'll get about 3.5 mpg from 27 to 30 mph.

LOA: 24 feet, 7 inches • **DRAFT:** 1 foot, 2 inches • **FUEL:** 78 gallons
• **DEADRISE:** SeaV2 variable-deadrise • **MAX HORSEPOWER:**
300 • **SPEED:** 50 mph top, 30 mph cruise • **PRICE:** \$96,720 (Yamaha
F300) • **CONTACT:** Grady-White Boats, Greenville, North Carolina,
(252) 752-2111. gradywhite.com



| GRADY-WHITE 251-CE

SOUNDINGS®

REAL BOATS, REAL BOATERS