

GRADY-WHITE CANYON 271 (2016-)



Brief Summary

Grady-White has been building fishing boats for a long time and this 27-footer (8.23 m) is right in the tradition of this venerable brand. Hearing customers say 'we like more seating,' Grady added bow seating forward with new innovative patent-pending integrated seatbacks that double as bolsters on the gunwale. She has a level deck, so she is easy to fish around and there is nothing to stumble over. She has high freeboard forward, good bow flare and a deep-V hull which combine to make her just what she purports to be – a canyon runner and now can double as a family fun machine too.

Key Features

- Anchor locker with rode storage
- Wide walkway around center console at deck
- Bow cushioned seating area Port and Starboard with two 85-qt. insulated fishboxes
- Lockable console with stand-up head area, bulk storage and standard marine head
- Flush mount electronics area
- Deluxe lean bar with 42-gal. (159 L) livewell, rigging station, sink, tackle drawers
- 186-gal. (704 L) fuel capacity
- 65-sq. ft. cockpit
- Fold away aft bench seat
- Transom door
- 198-qt. insulated aft fishbox
- T-top (fiberglass) with painted aluminum frame, storage net, LED spreader lights, 4 rod holders, tri-colored (red, blue, white) 4 LED recessed lights, radar flat and outrigger plates

Specifications

LENGTH OVERALL	26' 10" / 8.18 m
BEAM	9' 6" 2.89 m
DRY WEIGHT	5,790 lbs. 2,626 kg
DRAFT	23" 0.58 m
DEADRISE/TRANSOM	N/A
MAX HEADROOM	open
BRIDGE CLEARANCE	8' 2" 2.49 with T-top
FUEL CAPACITY	186 gal. 704 L
WATER CAPACITY	18 gal. 68 L

Engine Options

TESTED ENGINE	Currently no test numbers
STD. POWER	Not Available
OPT. POWER	Not Available

Captain's Report

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The Grady-White Canyon 271 has a 9'6" (2.89 m) beam and weighs 5,790 lbs. (2,626 kgs.) without the outboard engines. Her maximum horsepower rating is 600 total.

Grady-White has been building center console boats for more than 40 years, so it pretty much has the drill down pat. All of the fishy features are here, the hull is made for offshore work at speed. With a 186-gallon (704 L) fuel tank, she should be able to have a range of something on the order of 280 to 300 nautical miles at best cruise, which we reckon would be in the mid to upper 20s (knots, of course) powered by twin 300-hp outboards. We have not tested the boat, this is just our best guess based on similar boats and engines we have tested.



The Canyon 271 now has an optional casting platform to give fishermen even more room.



With cushions in place, it quickly converts to a sun pad with forward-facing seat backs for family fun.

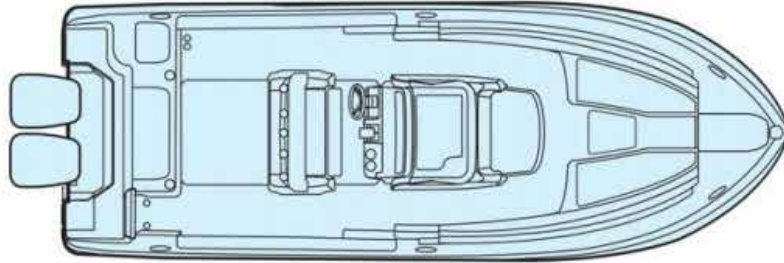


One more quick change and the Casting Platform Insert becomes a table for lunchtime!

Our research tells us that 27' (8.30 m) is in the sweet spot for offshore fishermen. The boat is big enough to get the job done comfortably with four or five anglers aboard, and the price of the boat new is within the budget of successful self-employed entrepreneurs and businessmen who dream all week of blue water action on the weekends. While many think of a large center console as primarily a fisherman's boat, enough amenities have been installed to make it very friendly for a boating family.

The "Fighting Cockpit"

To our mind, one of the most attractive aspects of the Canyon 271 is her "fighting cockpit" which is the area between the transom and the bait prep console. With her 9'6" (2.89 m) beam, she has as much space here, or more, than we see on most center consoles of this size.



The layout plan of the Grady-White Canyon 271.

Readers tell us that the thing they would like to see increased on most center consoles is the square footage in the "fighting cockpit" area and Grady-White seems to have responded to that sentiment. Cockpit depth is 27" (68.5 cm) and there are padded bolsters 360-degrees in this boat, which is really as close to a fighting machine as one is likely to find these days.



This is the heart of the Canyon 271 with bait-prep, tackle drawers and a livewell all in one place, as it should be.

Between the outboard well and the fold-away seat is a 198 quart (218 L) fishbox with a top-loading lid. The standard 42-gallon (159 L) livewell is in the bait prep console abaft the helm. A second livewell is optional. In the prep console, there is a sink, cutting board and numerous trays for

the prep console, there is a sink, cutting board and numerous trays for tackle, everything you would expect to find. Grady-White has always been proud of its patented fold-away transom seat design, which differs from those of other builders. Grady-White uses aluminum tubing to support the cantilevered seat. Other builders in this class typically use heavy stainless steel struts or supports. Note that there are no support legs touching the fiberglass deck, which is a good thing.



We like the classic wheel with the turning knob. Power steering and tilt-wheel come standard.

At the Helm

The console was reworked by Grady-White this year and has been refined to be even easier for the captain to see all his gauges, switches and stereo and affords even greater space for today's large screens. The Canyon 271 was a molded-in footrest for both the captain and the navigator. The seat/leaning bar has been well-thought-out, something else that Grady-White has refined over time to get right. It has a flip-up bolster that most people will lean against when shooting along at 35 knots offshore. With the bolster down, both captain and companion can put feet in the footrest, and still lean against the seat and cushion. Alternatively, on long stretches of flat water, the operator and friend might want to hop up onto the seat with the bolster down, and there is a seat back to make sitting even more comfortable. We like the fact that Grady-White has provided three ways to use the leaning bar/seat, because we have found on long hauls we like to change position.



The all-new T-top is standard. We like its design, particularly the careful placement of aluminum supports to maximize forward visibility and the newly added full windshield.

We think that Grady-White has done a good job of keeping the aluminum piping for the standard T-top as unobtrusive as possible with no support bars in the helmsman's field of vision. The top also has an enclosed box for a VHF or whatever, plus stereo speakers, rocket launchers, handholds and all the rest. The windshield is now a fully integrated console-to-T-top, scratch-resistant, hard acrylic -- the same material used in helicopters -- that can handle a windshield wiper, which is standard equipment as is a washer system. We are happy to see these two items on the standard list, as anyone going offshore needs it.



There is stand-up headroom for most people in the head compartment.

The Console Inside

The lockable head is large for a boat this size with a couple of delightful twists. First, it has full-standing head room for most people. There is also the usual access to the back of the instrument panel, and here you will be able to see the care with which Grady-White craftsmen install the ship's wiring. Overhead is a skylight, which is a clever way of getting "free" light into this otherwise dark space and with this year's revamp, they added even more light to the compartment. And finally, there is a mirror on the head door for no extra charge. As with all center consoles, prospective buyers must stand, lean and sit at the helm to make sure that they can comfortably see over the console both at rest, but more importantly, while running. Most boats run with a 5-degree bow-up attitude so plan on that. Speaking of trim, Grady-White has equipped its Canyon 271 with hydraulic trim tabs as standard equipment. Just like windshield wipers, trim tabs are a must on deep-V boats particularly ones which might be having heavy crewmen aboard. We are interested that Grady-White has stuck with hydraulic trim tabs rather than going with the newer electric versions that most builders are installing these days. We're sure that there is a good reason for that, and buyers should ask their Grady-White dealer why.



The seat box forward can be used for a number of different purposes. As you can see here, where it is used as an ice chest. It can also be a 67-quart fishbox. It drains overboard.

Going Forward

Beneath the bow seating, port and starboard are large 85-quart insulated, overboard draining fishboxes to store your catch of the day. As mentioned earlier, the convertibility of the bow area makes it a great fishing platform and a great family day boat too.



Patent-pending bow seat backs easily change from flush bolsters to comfortable backrests for cruising or sunning when the fishing day is done.

The gunwales are higher here than aft thanks to the Grady-White "Rybovich" sheer line that has been Grady-White's signature look almost since the beginning. The higher freeboard helps keep water out and provides added support for anglers fighting fish.



The Canyon 271 has high freeboard forward which is essential for canyon runners. The plow anchor through the stem is standard. The bow thruster is optional.

In the bow of the Canyon 271 is a very large anchor locker, something we like to see. The boat features a "thru-the-bow-stem" anchor system that has become popular with many builders in the last few years. We like it as it looks shippy, keeps the deck clean, and is easier to handle. The Canyon 271 has a standard anchor windlass.

General Observations

The cockpit of the Canyon 271 is self-draining and it has four scuppers to pipe water overboard, a true self-bailing boat, where all the boxes drain overboard as well. Grady-White states in print that the Canyon 271 is "unsinkable" and has "basic flotation." In the boating industry, "basic flotation" means that some part of the boat will float above the water even with the engines attached. Safety, seaworthy and reliability all in a classically beautiful package where form and function meet in harmony.