

On The Water

First Look: Grady-White 231 Coastal Explorer

A comfortable inshore vessel with an abundance of angler-friendly features

by [Noah Lamperti](#) June 26, 2024



Designed to suit the needs of avid inshore boaters, Grady-White's new 231 Coastal Explorer incorporates features from the larger 251 CE and 281 CE models into a smaller platform.

With the same SeaV² fiberglass hull as the 251 CE and 281 CE, the 231 Coastal Explorer gives boaters the confidence required to handle rough seas and to explore shallow water in a craft suited to a variety of angling adventures. The 231 CE is powered with a Yamaha 250hp four stroke outboard.



Two aft jump seats feature innovative swing-open, walk-through backrests.

Like its larger siblings, the 231 Coastal Explorer comes standard with 19 rod holders in the t-top, gunnels, on the lean bar, and throughout the rest of the deck. Spacious casting platforms on the bow and stern of the 231 CE are complete with convertible seats. Passengers can ride in comfort on the way to productive fishing spots, and then fold their seats down or around so that they can cast unobstructed to breaking fish anywhere around the boat, and then battle these fish from anywhere around the hull's perimeter.



The 231 Coastal Explorer's spacious helm dashboard can accommodate up to two, 12" electronic displays. Additional features at the helm designed with fishermen in mind include an aerated livewell underneath the cushioned seat, as well as a variety of storage spaces for any tools or accessories required while on the water. Just like all other Grady-White watercraft, the cockpit is self-bailing; when coupled with integrated foam floatation, this vessel is extremely safe and stable in a variety of weather and wave conditions.



The 277-quart forward fishbox is insulated and drains overboard.

Built with fishing success in mind, the 231 Coastal Explorer has a 277-quart insulated fish box underneath the comfortably cushioned sun pad area that doubles as a storage space. An additional insulated cooler box in front of the center console offers a separate space for the day's refreshments, so that they will never have to be mixed in with the day's catch in the fish box at the bow.



| A casting platform serves double duty as a cushioned seating and lounging area.

The practical features of Grady-White's new 231 Coastal Explorer perfectly suit the pleasure boater and advanced angler alike. From bow to stern, this watercraft comes outfitted with features to facilitate incredible experiences exploring inshore waters, chasing the catch of a lifetime.

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