

# Regal 2565 Window Express

A family-sized cruiser that's road trip-ready.

by Tom Thompson



**Y**ou could call it a portable palace. Regal's 2565 Window Express has an impressive amount of interior room for a trailerable boat. What's more, the company lets the sun shine in with more windows than you'll find on most comparable models.



Regal's idea of opening up the inside is achieved by a large window panel that comes up from the foredeck and stretches nearly full-beam. This, coupled with wide oval side windows, allows a flood of daylight into the cabin.

The 2565 Window Express can sleep four adults. The V-berth forward doubles as a dinette or seating area by day. The mid-cabin's berth is more spacious than the typical "cave" you'd expect to find tucked under an express cruiser's cockpit. An innerspring mattress is an option.

A compact galley is built into a cabinet amidships along the starboard side. Standard features include a molded fiberglass sink with hot and cold pressurized water, a single-burner electric stove, a microwave oven and a dual-voltage under-counter refrigerator. The countertop's Corian surface is standard.

The removable dinette table in the forward area serves double duty as a cockpit table. The tabletop that comes standard is made of fiberglass, but our test boat had an interior upgrade package that includes cherry and holly cabin decking, a solid cherry step at the companionway and a cherry tabletop.

There are two hanging lockers in the cabin, a storage compartment in the deck and several smaller lockers, not to mention cabinet space, in the galley. When not in use, the cabin table components can be stowed in dedicated compartments. A Kenwood AM/FM stereo with a CD player is standard. A 13-inch

LCD TV and DVD player are options.

You can control the cabin climate with four opening portlights—two along each side, one in the mid-cabin berth and one in the head—and an overhead hatch forward, plus the screened entryway from the cockpit. There's optional air conditioning, too.

Cabin headroom measures 6 feet at its highest point, and there's about an inch less in the head compartment. The fiberglass-lined space has a vanity sink with a mirror above it and a full-length dressing mirror on the door. A window at eye level and an opening portlight at waist level provide light and ventilation. A manual-flush toilet is standard, with a VacuFlush unit optional.

The 2565's deck layout is as accommodating as its cabin. A pair of two-person bench seats is on the starboard side. The backrest of the one opposite the helm flips so passengers can face either forward while underway or aft when using the removable table that fits between the benches. The forward bench has an extension along the port gunnel with a backrest cushion mounted on the dash. It's likely to be a prized perch for stretching out. A bimini top with four side curtains comes standard.

A molded fiberglass console directly behind the helm sports a sink, storage locker and space for a 25-quart cooler. Drink holders and grabrails are strategically placed around the cockpit, right where you need them. The 2565's wide swim

platform has a hot and cold transom shower and a rack for holding fenders or dive tanks.

Although compact, the helm is nicely laid out. All controls and gauges are easy to see and reach. The flip-up bolster, footrest and adjustable seat let you get comfortable, no matter what your size. There's room for an optional Raymarine GPS chart-plotter on a panel to the left. I liked the sound system remote controls built into the Dino steering wheel.

The 2565 uses Regal's patented OceanTrac hull. The boat handles well in chop and is dry-riding. Our test boat was powered by a single Volvo Penta 5.0L OSi gas engine rated at 270 hp. The top-end speed edged up to 40 mph. According to Volvo Penta's numbers, the cruising range is about 135 miles on a tank of fuel with a 10-percent reserve.

The Regal 2565 Window Express is a stately home away from home, no matter where you travel. ⚓

### Specs

LOA .....	27'6"
Beam .....	8'6"
Draft .....	2'10"
Weight .....	5,960 lbs.
Fuel capacity.....	72 gals.
Sleeps .....	4
Base power.....	Volvo Penta 5.0L GXi DuoProp (270 hp)
Base price .....	\$69,812
Power as tested.....	Volvo Penta 5.0L OSi DuoProp (270 hp)
Price as tested .....	\$71,089

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