

Boston Whaler 270 Vantage (2014-)

Brief Summary

The Boston Whaler 270 Vantage is designed from the keel-up to be a multi-purpose boat that can tackle almost any mission with family or fishing buddies. The fender holder below the helm console is just one example of clever use of storage space, and the broad bow doubles as either a casting platform or a sunning area, once the cushions are in place. The walkthrough windshield provides wind and spray protection, and a full set of cushions for the bow make this a comfortable spot to catch some rays -- or remove them to catch some fish.

Price

Base Price \$133610.00

Prices, features, designs, and equipment are subject to change. Please see your local dealer or visit the builder's website for the latest information available on this boat model.

Key Features

- Bow bolster
- Bow cushions with backrests and flip-up armrests
- Bow walkthrough block off panel
- Drink holders (6)
- Fiberglass lids with latches
- Package tray with drink holders
- Recessed storage / cup holder compartment
- Welded stainless steel forward side rails
- Portable head with pump-out
- 150 CXL L4 DTS dual Mercury Verado FourStroke engines with power steering

Test Results

RPM	MPH	Knots	GPH	MPG	NMPG	STAT. MILE	NM	dBa
550	2.3	2	1.8	1.28	1.11	201	175	62

RPM	MPH	Knots	GPH	MPG	NMPG	STAT. MILE	NM	dBa
1000	5.1	4.4	3.4	1.49	1.29	234	203	66
1500	7.1	6.2	4.4	1.61	1.4	254	221	69
2000	8.9	7.7	4.9	1.82	1.58	286	249	72
2500	11.7	10.2	8	1.46	1.27	230	200	77
3000	17.8	15.5	10.9	1.63	1.42	257	224	80
3500	24.5	21.3	13.2	1.85	1.61	292	254	82
4000	30.9	26.8	16.5	1.87	1.63	294	256	83
4500	36.1	31.4	21.5	1.68	1.46	264	230	85
5000	40.4	35.1	27.4	1.47	1.28	232	202	87
5500	45.4	39.5	39.3	1.16	1	182	158	88
5960	47.2	41	46.1	1.02	0.89	161	140	89

[View the test results in metric units](#)

[bostonwhaler_270vantage_chart.jpg](#)

Specifications

Length Overall	26' 10" / 8.18 m
BEAM	9' 0" 2.74 m
Dry Weight	5,200 lbs. 2,359 kg

Tested Weight	6,196 lbs. 2,810 kg
Draft	20" 0.51 m
Draft Up	
Draft Down	
Air Draft	
Deadrise/Transom	20 deg.
Max Headroom	open
Bridge Clearance	9' 1" 2.77 m (w/ hardtop)
Weight Capacity	
Person Capacity	
Fuel Capacity	175 gal. 622 L
Water Capacity	20 gal. 76 L
Length on Trailer	
Height on Trailer	
Trailer Weight	
Total Weight	6,196 lbs. 2,810 kg
Aft Deck	

Salon Inside Width	
Salon Fore & Aft	
Salon Height	
Salon Volume	
Galley Volume	
Master SR Width	
Master SR fore & Aft	
Master SR Overhead	
Master SR Volume	
Eng. Room Volume	

Acceleration Times & Conditions

Time to Plane	3.8 sec.
0 to 20	
Ratio	1.85 : 1
Props	14 1/2 x 17 Enertia
Load	Load: 2 persons, Fuel: 5/9 full, Water: none, Gear: 50 lbs.
Climate	Temp: 69 deg., Humid: 80%, Wind: 10-15, Seas: light chop

Boston Whaler 270 Vantage

The 270 Vantage is part of a series of boats from Boston Whaler that is designed for multi-purpose boating. The boat shown above is fitted to do most anything.

Mission of the Boston Whaler 270 Vantage

She is intended to be a boat for "all reasons" and thereby appeals to a wide range of boaters both in saltwater and freshwater locations. Perhaps more than any other boat in the Boston Whaler line, she is designed to be an all-purpose boat that can be optioned-out to make her competitive in most any activity.

Boston Whaler 270 Vantage

Note how far forward the beam is carried and the advantages that this design gives to the boat: 1) double-wide companion seat, big enough for two; 2) larger head compartment on the port side; 3) larger bow seating area with bigger foot well; 4) wider bow to make it easier to use the beach boarding ladder, easier to anchor, and it makes a fun diving platform, too.

Distinguishing Features

Dual Console.

Hard as it is to believe, the Vantage Series will be the first dual-console model in the current Boston Whaler fleet. What distinguishes her from other dual console boats on the market is that her port companion seat is double wide, and the walk through is not on the centerline which means the head compartment can also be larger. But the differences do not end there.

Designed to be Multi-Purpose.

In the last several years many boat builders have been re-purposing their existing boats and marketing them as dual-purpose or multi-purpose boats. Usually this takes the form of putting a trolling motor on the bow of a sportboat, or adding a towing pylon to a fishing boat. The 270 Vantage has been designed from the keel-up to be a multi-purpose boat and for that reason we can think that she can actually do a better job at multiple missions.

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This is the optional "Summer Kitchen" package which is designed for people planning to use their boat for a lot of entertaining. Below the Corian counter is an electric grill, below that a refrigerator.

Activity-Specific Option Packages.

While the 270 Vantage can do an adequate job of most water activities for the casual boater in its standard configuration, consumers who want to be more serious about fishing, watersports or entertaining can select a single package tailor-made for their specific pursuit. While this is not a new concept, Boston Whaler has done an impressive job of providing a comprehensive list of options making it possible to upgrade to numerous specialties.

Level Flotation if Swamped.

All open boats run the risk of being swamped in unusual conditions offshore, in challenging inlets, or by improper boat handling. Boston Whaler has built its reputation on building boats that will float level if swamped, something that is rare among boats on the market today of any type.

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The 270 Vantage is a dual console boat that can be used by the whole family for any number of watersports activities. The windshield wiper is standard, the stainless steel windshield cap is optional, as is the tower and hardtop.

Boston Whaler 270 Vantage

In this view of the cockpit the standard transom seat is folded away making the cockpit ready for watersports action. Note the double self-bailing cockpit drain and the sturdy latch on the transom door.

Durability and Longevity.

While it is a bit too soon to know how well the 270 Vantage will stand up to a life on the water, most of the rest of the Boston Whaler family of boats has a remarkable record of being fairly good-looking boats and quite serviceable 30 to 40 years after being launched. We think that phenomenon is due to several factors -- the foam-cored hulls, thick laminates, high-quality, over-size hardware, and an owner base that takes better care of their boats in the first place because they are more knowledgeable than the average boater.

A Brunswick Company.

Because both Boston Whaler and Mercury Marine are owned by Brunswick if something goes wrong with the engine during the warranty period, Boston Whaler will see to it that the problem is solved.

Basic Specs and Design

The 270 Vantage is 26'10" (8.18 m) LOA plus an extra 5" (12.5 cm) longer due to her swim platforms. She draws 20" (.51 m), but a more revealing aspect of this boat is her beam.

Boston Whaler 270 Vantage

Here we see the optional sun lounge in the bow which makes a huge sunning area.

Beam.

When we compare her beam to 27' center consoles we find that at 9'0" (2.74 m) she is actually a little less than many of them. This may at first seem like the other boats are actually larger inside, but that is mitigated by the 270's design which carries the beam farther forward and has more vertical hull sides and therefore more deck space than it would otherwise. Further, because center consoles have to have a center console wide enough for two people, plus have room to port and starboard to get forward and back, they need the extra beam for men to be able to get around. That extra beam adds frontal area which makes these boats harder to push.

Blunt Bow on Deck.

The 270's beam is brought forward not to a point as on most boats, but rather to a blunt bow which is roughly 4'6" (1.37 m) wide, or almost exactly 50% of the boat's max width. By doing this, the builder is able to install more area forward for casting, sunning, entertaining, and jumping or climbing off the bow. Boston Whaler has been able to do this without resorting to a pickle-fork or a split-chine design.

Boston Whaler 270 Vantage

There is clever fender storage under the helm console which is accessed from the bow area. Storage under the seat at right can be used for most anything including as a fishbox.

Displacement.

At 5,200 lbs. (2,359 kgs.) without engines or fluids, the 270 is in the middle when we compare her displacement to 27' center consoles. This is partially due to her having less beam. The result, obviously, is a boat that is easier to push with the resulting advantages in speed and fuel efficiency.

Other Specs.

Her deadrise at the transom is 20-degrees which is typical for this type of boat. Her gunwale height is 28" (.70 m) and her transom height is 30" (.76 m) with a single engine and 25" (.64 m) with twin engines. Her fuel capacity is 175 gallon (622 L).

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The horsepower range for the 270 Vantage is from 300-hp to 450-hp. All engines are supplied by Mercury Marine.

Power Options

Standard power on the 270 is a pair of 150-hp 150 CXL L4 DTS Mercury 4-stroke Verado outboards with power steering. Optional engines are twin 200 CXL L4 DTS Verados with a deluxe gauge package and power steering, or twin 225 CXL L6 DTS Mercury Verados with a deluxe gauge package and power steering.

Speed?

We have not tested this boat so can give no definitive speed and fuel consumption numbers. However, the techs at Boston Whaler have tested her with the twin 225-hp Mercury Verado option and report a top speed over 52 mph. They report that at 3500 rpm the boat travels 25 mph, burning 13.2 gph.

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The fun-in-the-sun theme is carried on in the cockpit as the companion seatback rest has three positions -- straight up, reclining forward, and flat to make a sun pad.

Activity-Specific Features

Sunning, Day Boating. The standard 270 Vantage is set up for sunning with the bow seating area designed for lounging. The back rests are at an angle and there are flip up arm rests.

In the cockpit the companion seat back folds forward at an angle for lounging or will lie flat to provide a double wide sun pad. The foldaway stern bench seat is a good place to sit while underway. As shown in the pictures, mom and a couple of small children can ride facing forward in the double-wide companion seat.

Options.

On the option list we find a sun lounge that will make the area forward of the windshield a large sun bathing pit.

Boston Whaler 270 Vantage

Boston Whaler calls this the "Summer Kitchen" optional package. This console is immediately behind the helm. The counter looks like marble but it is Corian.

Entertaining.

When having little guests aboard it is reassuring to know that the depth of the cockpit is 28" (70.6 cm). (Incidentally, 28" is 4" more than required by ABYC Standards.) There are courtesy lights in blue and white

which help guests move around at night. The standard boat also comes with a 54 quart cooler, cutting board, and sink with pull-out sprayer.

Optional Package.

Perhaps the most popular option package will be the one for entertaining called the "Summer Kitchen." This package takes into account that owners will be entertaining at anchor as well as when tied up to the dock. Items in this package include--

- 12-V refrigerator with stainless steel front
- 1500-watt inverter
- Battery charging system
- Corian counter top
- Dedicated storage
- Electric grill
- Shore power access
- Utensil holders
- Sink with pressure water is standard

We would also order the optional table for the bow, and the optional Fusion stereo AM/FM system with 4 waterproof speakers.

Watersports.

The 270 Vantage comes standard with small platforms integral to the hull port and starboard outboard of the engines. These are the launching spots for skiers, wakeboarders and divers. These platforms are small on all boats of this type due to outboards taking up most of the space, and the 270 Vantage is no exception. However, the transom gate to starboard makes access easy to the starboard platform and provides a bit more space. There is a telescoping dive ladder on the stern and an optional 4-step beach boarding ladder on the bow. In the cockpit sole between the consoles there is a lockable storage compartment large enough for skis and wakeboards.

Optional Package.

There is a ski pylon available and this will probably do for casual water skiers. Those more into the sport or wakeboarders should consider the optional Watersports Tower package. This tower has --

- Welded aluminum frame
- Tow bit
- Navigational lights
- Rod holders (4)
- Wakeboard racks are extra
- Tower-mounted speakers with amp are extra

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This is a good view of the bow and it shows how the designers were able to make the bow wide on deck without resorting to a pickle-fork or split chine.

Fishing.

The 270 Vantage comes standard with four gunwale-mounted stainless steel rod holders, cockpit combing bolsters all around and below are deck lockable rod storage. Cleats are out of the way. And, in the cockpit, they are on the bulwarks. Forward the cleats are in a carved out indentation in the bow to eliminate snagging a line. The boat has two large storage compartments which can be converted into fishboxes.

Optional Package.

Boston Whaler knows what fishermen want and have provided most of it in one, easy-to-order package.

Included are--

- 19 gallon livewell with light
- Bait and fish prep station
- Raw water washdown
- Stainless steel toe rails in the gunwales with storage shelf

- Stainless steel rod holders in the transom

Anglers wanting to have a little fun at night may consider the optional underwater lights, which are guaranteed to attract fish -- and sometimes game fish.

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The helm console is simple and uncluttered and without the molded-in flourishes we see on sportboat bowriders. The panel can take 9" or 12" screens.

Features for All Reasons

Having listed many of the activity-specific features above, there are also a number of features that most any boater will use. They include the clever fender holder below the helm console, the starboard windshield wiper, the bow walkthrough block-off door, compass, the deluxe Boston Whaler helm seat with bolster, the fold-out bench seat with padded back rest, and the portable head with pump out in the port compartment. Recessed electric trim tabs are standard as are stainless steel props for maximum performance and durability. A number of other standards have already been mentioned in the sport-specific sections.

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Opposite the helm is the companion seat with storage underneath. Note the robust nature of the hardware and cushions.

Options for All Reasons

One of the important aspects of the 270 Vantage is that it can be effectively customized with options, however some options we think are applicable to any sport. Heading our list is the fiberglass hardtop that is seen in most of the photos on this page. We are firm believers in sun protection and there is nothing more refreshing than shade with a 20-knot breeze made by boat speed on a hot summer day. Other options that some people might want to include are the VacuFlush head system, the tandem-axle trailer, or the premium stereo system. The 270 also has four electronics/navigational packages. Every boat should have a VHF radio, and all boats need canvas for winter storage or sun protection if for nothing else. Again, all one has to do is check off the box on the 270 Vantage's option list.

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By off-setting the walk-through windshield to starboard the 270 was able to have a larger and deeper head/changing compartment. The VacuFlush head is an option, but the Corian counter around the sink, and the inlay sole are standard.

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This countertop looks like marble, but it is actually Corian and is standard, along with the sink and faucet. The compartment comes with a light, three hanging hooks and is lockable.

Observations

Regular readers know that we at BoatTEST.com have always liked the dual console concept. The reason is that it is so versatile. It is also a good way for people who don't want to own a sportboat to take advantage of the room a bowrider provides. Boston Whaler has looked at the dual console boats on the market, incorporated the good ideas, thrown in a few new ones of their own, then wrapped it all up with its secret sauce and the Boston Whaler build technique to produce a boat that fits into its line perfectly.

We often say that all boats are a compromise, but we think that in this case the builder has given a lot of thought to how boaters can get close to their perfect boat with the 270 Vantage. Clearly, the strategy has been to provide a versatile basic platform that can be customized to eliminate most of the compromises. As everyone knows, Boston Whalers aren't cheap; so by allowing the buyers to outfit the 270 Vantage as they would like, at least the money spent is on equipment and features that will be used, appreciated and add utility for the customer.