

Ranger Boats VX1888 WT (2019-)

Price

Base Price \$42695.00

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

- Aerated livewell/baitwell on front deck
- Minn Kota 70PD 60" BT trolling motor
- Driver and passenger air ride seats with seat slides
- Durable marine-grade carpet
- Fiberglass in-floor cooler

Test Results

RPM	MPH	Knots	GPH	MPG	NMPG	STAT. MILE	NM	dBa
600	2.7	2.3	0.6	4.5	3.9	190	165.5	58
1000	5	4.3	1	5.3	4.6	223	193.6	67
1500	6.8	5.9	1.6	4.2	3.7	178	155.2	71
2000	8.2	7.1	3	2.8	2.4	118	102.2	76
2500	17.3	15	3.4	5.1	4.4	215	187.2	80
3000	25.5	22.1	4.9	5.2	4.6	222	193	82
3500	30	26.1	6.3	4.8	4.2	203	176.6	83
4000	35.6	30.9	8.4	4.2	3.7	179	155.7	87

RPM	MPH	Knots	GPH	MPG	NMPG	STAT. MILE	NM	dBa
4500	40.3	35	9.7	4.1	3.6	176	152.6	86
5000	45.3	39.3	13.9	3.3	2.8	138	120.2	87
5500	49.2	42.8	16.8	2.9	2.6	124	108	94
6000	52.6	45.7	18.8	2.8	2.4	119	103.2	94

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

[ranger_vx188wt_chart_19.jpg](#)

Specifications

Length Overall	18' 11" / 5.77 m
BEAM	102" 2.59 m
Dry Weight	2,100 lbs. 953 kg
Tested Weight	3,286 lbs. 1,491 kg
Draft	
Draft Up	
Draft Down	
Air Draft	
Deadrise/Transom	N/A
Max Headroom	

Bridge Clearance	N/A
Weight Capacity	1,000 lbs. 454 kg
Person Capacity	7
Fuel Capacity	47 gal. 178 L
Water Capacity	N/A
Length on Trailer	24' 4" 7.42 m
Height on Trailer	
Trailer Weight	4,700 lbs. 771 kg
Total Weight	3,286 lbs. 1,491 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	3.5 sec.
0 to 20	
Ratio	N/A
Props	19p 4-blade Revolution
Load	2 persons, full fuel, no water, 50 lbs. of gear
Climate	64 deg., 45 humid; wind: 10-15 mph; seas: light chop

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The Ranger Boats VX1888 WT measures 18'11" long (5.77 m) with an 8'6" (2.59 m) beam and she is rated for seven passengers.

Mission Statement

Ranger designed its flagship aluminum VX1888 WT to be a boat that can handle less-than-ideal conditions and provide active families with the ability to do some serious fishing or serious playing. Fishing features include a 70-pound thrust Minn Kota trolling motor, Lowrance electronics, and a livewell and for fun, there's a Bluetooth stereo, and cell phone management stations with USB and 12-volt outlets.

Major Features

- Seating for six behind the windshield
- Dual livewells
- Wood-free construction with Ranger foam flotation
- Lowrance Hook fishfinder
- Hydraulic steering
- Available with Mercury, Evinrude or Yamaha power

deck plan found or type unknown

With her lower cockpit and raised forward and aft fishing decks, the VX1888 WT is laid out to please cruisers and anglers.

Features Inspection

Power Choices. With so much consolidation taking place in the marine industry, having a choice of motor brands is becoming rare. Ranger offers the VX1888 WT with outboards from Mercury, Evinrude, and Yamaha ranging from 150 to 225-hp.

Ranger VX1888 WT Power Options

Mercury®

- 150 XL Pro XS FourStroke

- 175 XL FourStroke
- 175 XL FourStroke DTS
- 175 XL Pro XS FourStroke
- 200 XL FourStroke
- 200 XL Pro XS FourStroke
- 225 XL FourStroke
- 225 XL FourStroke DTS
- 225 XL Pro XS FourStroke

Evinrude®

- C150PX
- C150FXH
- C200FX
- H225HX G2

Yamaha®

- VF150XA
- VF175XA
- F200XB
- F225XB
- F200XCA Digital

Image not found or type unknown

The 225-hp Mercury Pro XS would be a good choice for performance-minded buyers.

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jackplate

A 6" jackplate enhances the boat's versatility, letting her get into skinny water for fishing and boosting performance.

The Stern

Our test boat was equipped with a Mercury 225 XL FourStroke and a dual-overhead cam design with 24 valves. Electronic fuel injection is computer controlled with Advanced Range Optimization. A 6" (15.24 cm) manual jackplate helps drivers fine-tune the boat's trim and raises the motor when anglers want to get into shallow water.

The VX1888 WT's shallow outboard well has weep holes to avoid collecting water. The transom gave us a good look at Ranger's all-welded construction. Beneath our feet, the boat is built with Ranger foam flotation. The boat comes standard with SeaStar hydraulic steering and the only other connection between the boat and engine is a rigging tube. A screw-in inspection plate provides access to the bilge. Four pull-up cleats are on each side at the bow and stern, but we would think about relocating the fuel filter so it doesn't get snagged by a dockline. A stainless-steel boarding ladder meets ABYC guidelines and freeboard measures 23" (58.42 cm) at the stern.

ladder not found or type unknown

The stainless-steel ladder is on the starboard side of the transom and extends below the hull to facilitate re-boarding.

New for 2020, the VX1888 WT has a choice of graphics packages including, white, crystal red, charcoal metallic, midnight blue, carbon and fusion lime green. The high-gloss paint is baked on for improved durability.

graphics not found or type unknown

The lime-green graphics give the boat a sporty appearance and the paint is baked on for a durable finish. Just forward of the transom on each side are hinged hatches. The lined hatch to port reveals open storage with a drain. To starboard, the hatch unveils the cranking battery that is appropriately secured and the standard Dual-Prop 6X3 charger. If tow sports are in the day's plans, an optional ski tow pylon that screws into place is available.

storage not found or type unknown

The aft in-deck compartment to port has open storage and the aluminum hatch is a smart choice because it won't flex when stepped on.

batteries not found or type unknown

Aft to starboard are the cranking batteries and the three-bank charger.

towpylon found or type unknown

The optional tow pylon secures in the aft deck and extends well above the motor.

The aft fishing deck spans 6'7" (2.01 m) by 3'5" (104.14 cm) at the deepest pockets on each side. The depth is 24" (60.96 cm) to make room for the motor well and the fiberglass fish station includes tool holders, two drink holders, two rod holders, a forward-facing compartment for Plano boxes, and a measuring stick. A latching hinged hatch conceals a 20-gallon (76 L) aerated and timed livewell.

aftdeck found or type unknown

The aft deck has plenty of space for an angler to move when fighting a big fish.

livewell found or type unknown

The 20-gallon (76 L) livewell has an aerator and a timer and Ranger reinforced the hatch so it won't sag when someone walks on it.

afttackle found or type unknown

The tackle station is a study in efficiency with rod, cup and tool holders, a measuring board, and slots for Plano boxes.

The height from the top of the casting deck to the top of the cap rail is 20" (50.80 cm). A 10 ½" (27.67 cm) wide caprail with rubber nonskid adds safety. Jump seats on each side of the fish station fold up to add passenger capacity. The bottom cushions lift up to show 14" x 11 ½" x 9" (35.56 cm x 29.21 cm x 22.86 cm) storage compartments.

jumpseats found or type unknown

On each side of the aft fishing deck, jump seats fold up and notice the custom upholstery that's color-matched to the boats' graphics.

jumpseats2 found or type unknown

The bottom cushions fold up to reveal lockers that are perfectly sized for PFDs or throwable cushions.

The Cockpit

The VX1888 WT's cockpit decking is covered in marine-grade nonskid vinyl that looks good and provides safe footing even when wet. Marine-grade carpet lines areas where nonskid decking isn't needed.

All of the seats have custom marine upholstery color-matched to the boat's graphics. The driver and companion travel in air-ride seats that also adjust fore and aft. The cockpit seat backs also fold down. With the bucket seats and aft jump seats, there's seating for six behind the windshield. The boat is rated for a maximum of seven people and the total combined capacity for people, outboard and gear is 1,920 lbs. (871 kg).

cockpit not found or type unknown

With the jump seats, the cockpit has space for six passengers.

deck not found or type unknown

Vinyl material covers the deck, providing improved grip and keeping bare feet cool.

A padded lockable rod-storage compartment is in the port bulwark and just above is a grab handle. Padded textured access panels enhance the VX1888 WT's upscale feel. Outboard of the aft starboard fishing seat is an open compartment. Grab handles are outboard of the aft seats on each side.

rods not found or type unknown

Lockable rod storage is in the port gunwale and notice the rubber grab handles in each from the seats.

gunwale not found or type unknown

The open tray to starboard has a retaining lip to help keep contents in place.

The Helm

The driver's console is 5'1" (129.54 cm) tall from the sole to the top of the tempered glass windshield and the windshield itself is 18" tall (45.72 cm). The windshield bends at the corners to form a 90-degree angle and there's no distortion from any angle.

Engine instruments are installed in a custom fiberglass console above the competition steering wheel. The gauge cluster includes a depthfinder, a tachometer, a speedometer and fuel and trim indicators. The Lowrance Hook-2 5" (12.70 cm) sits in clear view to the right of the wheel. The flush-mounted shift-throttle control is on the starboard bulwark in comfortable reach.

helmdash not found or type unknown

The compact dash has the gauges efficiently grouped above the wheel with the Lowrance Hook fishfinder to starboard.

gauges not found or type unknown

When the lights are turned on, the gauges are red instead of white to reduce eye strain.

helmaccessories not found or type unknown

Accessory switches, a cell phone tray, and the livewell controls are all down low, which keeps the helm uncluttered.

Below the controls are 12-volt, USB ports and livewell controls. Accessory switches are labeled with icons and the ignition key and a phone holder are angled up toward the driver. A drink holder is just aft of the panel. Directly ahead of the driver's legs are storage with expandable cargo netting and a stereo speaker. In

the port console are a locking glove box, grab handle, stereo controls, 12-volt and USB ports, a speaker, and a cell-phone holder. Between the two front seats, a 14" x 18" (45.72 cm x 25.40 cm) deep, insulated insole cooler is in convenient reach and it drains into the bilge.

glovebox found or type unknown

There's a locking glovebox in the port dash with a foam-lined tray alongside to port. Below is the remote control for the stereo.

cellphone found or type unknown

Positioning the cell-phone tray and charger down low keeps the device protected from spray.

consolestorage found or type unknown

Down low ahead of each console are storage areas with expandable net pockets.

cooler not found or type unknown

The under-deck cooler is an easy reach from either of the front seats.

The Bow

Two latches release the center section of the windshield. The windshield passageway has two steps up from the sale that measure 6" (15.24 cm) and 11" (27.94 cm). The top step is a deck extension that lifts up to reveal the added purpose of the lower step. It's a hinged, latched hatch that picks up on dual gas struts. Within this locker, another hatch picks up to reveal the trolling motor batteries.

battery found or type unknown

Having the trolling motor batteries forward helps keep the boat balanced and saves weight because the heavy cables don't have to be run all the way to the stern.

With the deck extension in place, the forward casting deck measures 4'4" x 6'9" (1.32 m x 2.05 m). On the port side forward of the console, a hatch covers storage measuring 17" x 29" (43.18 cm x 73.66 cm). The compartment is 19" (48.26 cm) at the deepest point. For convenient maintenance, Ranger attached a wiring diagram to the inside of the hatch cover. A socket for a fishing chair is dead center on the casting deck. Directly forward of the helm station, a hatch opens the aerated 7-gallon (26.50-liter) baitwell. Just ahead is another locker measuring 13" x 16" (33.02 cm x 40.64 cm). The hatch just forward of the fishing chair socket uncovers the Minn Kota trolling motor foot control.

A fiberglass insert at the bow has space for a fishfinder with a screen up to 12" (.30 m). It also contains membrane switches for outboard motor trim, bow lights, and accessories plus two cup holders and tool slots. The VX1888 WT comes standard with a Minn Kota Powerdrive 70-lb. (32 kg), 60" (152.40 cm) BT trolling motor. The Minn Kota Terrova pictured is one of 10 upgrades available and they all mount on the

port side of the bow.

Removable navigation lights install in a socket on the foredeck next to the Minn Kota heading sensor.

Under-gunwale rod holders are on both sides of the bow.

bow not found or type unknown

The forward fishing deck is recessed below the caprails to add safety when fishing and cushioned backrests when people sit in the bow.

bow seat not found or type unknown

The fishing seat secures in the foredeck and Ranger reinforces the socket with a metal plate.

foot pedal not found or type unknown

Just ahead is the locker where the trolling motor foot pedal is stored.

tools not found or type unknown

Our test boat had the optional Lowrance Hook fishfinder in the bow panel alongside the navigation light and trim switches. Just aft are beverage and tool holders.

bow storage not found or type unknown

Outboard on the bow, there's dedicated storage for two fishing rods.

compartment not found or type unknown

Just ahead of the port console is an open storage compartment.

compartment2 not found or type unknown

Opposite are another locker with the baitwell just aft.

rod locker not found or type unknown

The hatch for the center rod locker opens on dual gas struts and there's a diagram for using the racks on the underside.

The Trailer. The VX1888 WT comes on a custom-built Ranger Trail trailer. It has tandem axles with SM4700 brakes on 15" (38.10 cm) directional painted wheels and a tongue jack. To make it easier to fit into a garage, the trailer has a swing-away tongue. It also comes with waterproof lights, integrated load guides, and leaf springs. The trailer is certified by the National Marine Manufacturers Association for meeting basic standards. Ranger Boats Road Armor protective finish is applied at the factory. The GVWR for the trailer is 4,700 lbs. (2,132 kg) so that will give an owner an idea of how much towing capacity is required to pull the boat and trailer package.

trailer not found or type unknown

The steel trailer is matched to the boat and finished in an anti-corrosive paint.

Performance

The Numbers. The VX1888 WT measures 18'11" (5.77 m) with an 8'6" (2.59 m) and a dry weight of 2,100 lbs. (953 kg). With two people, 47 gallons (178 L) of fuel and test equipment aboard, we had an estimated test weight of 3,286 lbs. (1,491 kg). We tested the boat with a 225-hp Mercury XL FourStroke outboard turning a 14 5/8" x 19" (37 cm x 48 cm) pitch 4-blade Revolution stainless-steel propeller.

With the engine peaking at 6000 rpm, we hit a top speed of 52.6 mph at 6000 rpm. Best cruise came at 3000 rpm where we recorded 25.5 mph and burned 4.9 gallons per hour, resulting in 5.2 mpg and a range of 220 statute miles while holding 10 percent of the boat's 47-gallon (178 L) gas tank.

In acceleration tests, the boat planed in 3.5 seconds and had 12-degrees of bow rise, so use the motor's power to get the bow down quickly. She ran through 20 mph in 5.9 seconds and through 30 mph in 7.5 seconds.

When it comes to handling, the VX1888 WT is an easy boat to drive. Being relatively light, she's a little sensitive to trim. To get the boat to maximum speed, trim out the motor to about three-quarters on the gauge and she'll sit up on the pad in the aft end of the running surface. Steering is a little resistive at low speeds because there's no power assist. Once on plane, it becomes smooth and responsive.

running2
ground or type unknown

With the most powerful engine option clamped to the stern, the VX1888 WT tops 50 mph.

Retail Price

Retail price with 225-hp Mercury XL FourStroke outboard and custom trailer: \$41,995

Retail price with 225-hp Evinrude H225HX G2 outboard and custom trailer: \$51,995

Retail price with 225-hp Yamaha F225XB outboard and custom trailer: \$48,195

Options to Consider

- Choice of bow electronics from Garmin, Humminbird and Lowrance
- Choice of console electronics from Garmin, Humminbird and Lowrance
- Custom boat cover

- Stand-up top
- Digital gauges from Mercury, Yamaha or Evinrude
- Snap-in carpet
- Ski tow pylon
- Hydraulic tilt steering
- Fore and aft deck vinyl replaces carpet
- Front deck cushions
- Front trailer step
- Choice of trolling motor upgrades from Minn Kota or Motor Guide

Observations

The Ranger Boats VX1888 WT feels like more boat than her 19' (5.79 m) and the boat is fun to drive. Part of the reason for that could have been that she was powered by the largest outboard available.

The value of the protection that a wraparound windshield provides is huge and the addition of an airdam to close the walkway would be a smart option that would let owners extend their seasons. For family boating, we would make the optional bow cushions standard equipment.