

HURON | ONTARIO | MICHIGAN | ERIE | SUPERIOR

# Lakeland BOATING

AUGUST 2015

## RIVIERA 52

ENJOY ALFRESCO LIVING  
ON ENCLOSED FLYBRIDGE

p. 24



### PURSUIT OS 325

What anglers' dreams  
are made of  
p. 28

### THOUSAND ISLANDS BOATHOUSES

Explore the charming  
boathouses of Upstate  
New York p. 32

### PORT OF CALL

Cape Vincent, NY:  
Where river meets lake  
p. 36



**SPOTLIGHTS** CREST ★ HOBIE ★ HUNT ★ RANGER TUGS



# Riviera

## 52 Enclosed Flybridge



*The sum of the parts  
equate to one stylish yacht.*

BY CAPT. TOM SERIO

PHOTOS COURTESY OF RIVIERA

What's in a number? When that number is "two," it may not seem like much. But when it's a jump from 50 to 52 — and in the parlance of yacht length — it's quite substantial. When you do the math, it's evident that the increase is not just in length, but exponential to the increase in volume. Riviera Yachts has come up with a new equation: The 52 Enclosed Flybridge.





Touting a 3-stateroom, 2-head layout below, Riviera packs in the amenities throughout, especially on the main deck. As is the case with many of its models, Riviera promotes indoor/outdoor alfresco living, accomplished via the stainless steel framed tempered glass window in the aft salon bulkhead. Flip it up like an awning, slide the salon door over and, voila; the salon and aft deck now become one airy, luxurious area.

### Spacious salon

Anchoring this large, open layout is the galley, which is aft along the port side. The U-shaped design offers three sides of countertop space and under-counter appliances. The work station features a convection microwave oven, drawer-style dishwasher, multiple hidden-drawer refrigerators and freezers, two-burner electric flat cook top with pop-up fiddles to secure pots, deep stainless sink, sink cover that doubles as cutting board and self-closing drawer storage. There are overhead cabinets that run along the port side, keeping the overall look clean and not impeding visibility from stem to stern. Cabinets are constructed of American Oak wood with a satin finish, but you can opt for high gloss.

Thanks to the open layout, Riviera ensures that no matter where guests are located, they will be connected. Adding to that thought is the forward dining and entertainment area. There's a roomy, U-shaped dining settee with split-table to port, which lowers to become a coffee table for a more casual setting. With sweeping visibility from both sides (thanks to the huge forward and open side windows), this area will soon become a preferred viewing spot. A pop-up, 40-inch TV and sound system in the forward console also make this an ideal entertainment area.

Across to starboard is a seemingly innocent, three-section sofa, but it has two secrets: The center base pulls out and becomes an ottoman; and the bottom of the aft sofa section has a flip-up wood table that fills the hole from the ottoman. It transforms into a second dining area, perfect for the kids' meals or game time. Of course, it also is fully functional simply as a comfortable sofa to stretch out on.

### Sleep in style

Riviera keeps the "relaxation" motif throughout and doesn't disappoint with accommodations below deck, complete with an atrium design that allows light to flow in from above. There are three staterooms that can be configured as you see fit. Make the mid-ship room the master, finished in fabrics and leatherette materials with satin oak and teak accent woods. It also boasts a full walk-around queen berth with storage underneath, end tables, 26-inch LCD TV home theater, cedar-lined hanging lockers across the headboard area, and an en suite head. The head is generous, complete with basin sink, ample counter space, upper and lower cabinets, toilet with teak-capped seat, and large shower stall. The 52 also sports large, rectangular hull-side windows, so lounging in the stateroom doesn't mean you're sitting in a cave.

Prefer to have the master up front? No problem. The forward stateroom also has a centerline queen berth that's hinged for access to storage underneath, 22-inch LCD TV, overhead cabinets

and cedar hanging lockers. As the master, the head will be configured as private. The third stateroom has adult-sized split twin beds and plenty of storage. An optional washer and dryer can be outfitted in the closet area — perfect for the cruising couple.

### Safety first

Riviera Yachts keeps safety in mind, noticeable from the abundance of overhead grab rails and railings. I also appreciate that the battery switch and breaker console are in its own concealed panel just outside the aft door at the mezzanine. Too many times battery switches are located in the engine room. In other configurations, if a fire were to break out, you'd have to open the hatch to access the switch, which would give the fire oxygen to facilitate combustion. Here, power can be shut down while a situation is assessed without compromising a potential fire-area.

Volvo pod drives can be reached via the cockpit deck hatches; great for servicing and keeping an eye on the prize. Accessing fuel filters, sea strainers, Onan generator and other operating gear in the engine room is fairly easy around the twin Volvo Penta IPS 950 engines. Operation of the Riviera 52 is whisper quiet, thanks to the underwater exhaust, insulated air filtration and improved turbochargers. With a fuel capacity of 925 gallons, she can run at more than 20 knots and get a 300-nautical-mile range result.

### Step on up

Perhaps the most fun to be had is up on the fly. From the interior floating staircase you'll find a well-designed, spacious and functional 106-square-foot cockpit and mezzanine deck. With a forward helm to port complete with multiple chartplotter, radar and fish finder displays, Volvo Penta engine display, VHF, stereo and plenty more, the 52 is ready for any waters, be them blue or green, in any corner of the world. Along with the electronic throttle controls, there's also the Volvo Penta joystick control option. If you've never run a yacht with a joystick, fear not — the 52 is utterly responsive with the joystick and pod drive combination, putting the yacht exactly where you want it to go.

Sit with the captain in the second helm seat or on the L-shaped plush settee to starboard, or crack open a cold one at the wet bar with sink and fridge. Add in a 26-inch LED TV and stereo system to create yet another spot for relaxing. For anglers, there are rod holders across from the aft railing and optional aft corner engine controls so the captain can eyeball the fight while running the yacht. Keep in mind this is a fully integrated fiberglass enclosed bridge, with large windows, side sliders and strata glass aft window panels that easily open to communicate with those below. And it's solid — no creaking or groaning as we ran the chop.

To sum it up, Riviera continues to help its owners achieve the ultimate boating experience; the Riviera 52 Enclosed Flybridge is the latest addition to aid in that pursuit. Get on one and you'll see how the number "two" can mean so much more than you ever thought possible. ★



## Riviera 52 Enclosed Flybridge

### Specifications

LOA: 56'8"

Beam: 16'5"

Draft: 3'11"

Weight (dry): 57,600 lbs.

Fuel Capacity: 925 gals.

Water Capacity: 198 gals.

Base power: T-725-hp Volvo IPS 950 diesels

Base Price: Contact dealer

**RIVIERA.COM.AU**