

**PERFORMANCE  
TESTED**



# LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL SUN TRACKER PARTY BARGE 26 (REGENCY EDITION)

## By Go Boating Test Team

The name Party Barge pretty much sums up what this boat was designed to do — share good times with a whole boatload of friends and family. With comfortable seating for 16, room to relax with food and drinks, a rockin' sound system and a great view, a party can break out anytime.

“Barge,” however, belies this boat’s sporty feel, attractive interior and spirited performance. As a matter of fact, the outboard-powered Party Barge 26 Regency Edition is ideal for watersports excitement as well as casual cruising. It scoots along well enough to pull a skier, and provides a steady and roomy platform for fishing or exploring.

## FIRST IMPRESSIONS

The deck layout is well designed, with large L-shaped bench seats in the bow and stern and three swiveling and reclining “captain’s” seats — one at the helm, one in the bow and one amidships. The forward bench seat features a lean-back on the starboard side, great for relaxing and reclining a lazy after-

noon away. Underneath the starboard bench you’ll also find storage and a removable trash receptacle. The port-side bench seating features a ski locker to safely secure your slalom skis and other sports gear. Heavy 28-ounce sculptured carpet and new, more deeply cushioned seats and backrests further increase passenger comfort.

The fiberglass-reinforced console features simulated burlwood accents, tilt sport steering, soft-touch digital switches and a full complement of gauges and instruments including a digital depth sounder and flush-

mounted Ritchie compass. Beside the helm, there’s a special recessed area in the gunwale that stores the included fire extinguisher. A satellite-ready AM/FM CD player with an MP3 jack and four directional speakers is right at hand to keep the party atmosphere going.

In addition to comfortable aft wrap-around bench seating, the Party Barge 26’s versatile aft layout includes a starboard changing room with a bench and a padded sundeck for soaking up rays.

## PERFORMANCE

With a 135 hp OptiMax outboard, our test boat topped out at 36 mph while still getting a respectable 2.3 mpg. At 4000 rpm and almost 24 mph, fuel efficiency increased to 3.3 mpg. With numbers like these, it’s easy to see how this pontoon will keep the cruising, tubing or skiing fun going all day long. We found its cruising sweet spot at 3000 rpm and 15 mph, where you can expect to stretch 3.8 miles from each gallon of fuel.

Sun Tracker’s NV Performance pontoon design provided a smooth ride and helped the Party Barge 26 get onto plane in just over 4 seconds. Keep on the throttle, and this roomy 26-footer will crack 30 mph in just over 11 seconds.

The sporty console with tilt hydraulic steering (standard with 90 hp outboards and up) gives the driver a family runabout feel and helps the Party Barge 26 track confidently and smoothly through turns. Sun Tracker’s heavy-duty construction adds to the solid feel and quiet ride. It’s made with 26-inch multichambered pontoons with full-length deck support, full-width “Z” bar floor supports and one-piece “M” bracket floor supports. Special sound- and vibration-deadening insulation is used on the fence for reducing noise when running in choppy waters. **GO**

## Sun Tracker Party Barge 26

### SPECIFICATIONS

Length	27 ft., 1 in.
Beam	8 ft., 6 in.
Capacity	16 people
Dry Weight	3,460 lbs.
Fuel Capacity	45 gals.
Maximum Power	135 hp
Tubes/Diameter	2/26 in.

### PERFORMANCE

	mph	rpm	mpg	range	dBa
Peak	36.0	5300	2.3	94	87
Cruise	15.0	3000	3.8	156	75

Time to Plane	4.1 seconds
0-30 MPH Acceleration	11.3 seconds

*Range based on 90 percent fuel capacity*

### POWER

Test	Mercury 135 OptiMax
Hp	135
Cylinders	V6
Displacement	2.5L
Weight	431 lbs.
WOT Range	5000-6000 rpm
Prop	15-inch-pitch aluminum

*Craft available with outboards ranging from 90 to 135 hp*

### BASE PRICE

w/Mercury 90 ELPTO 2-stroke	\$28,495*
w/test power	\$34,795*

*\*Price can vary depending on options and location — does not include trailer, freight or prep*

### FIVE NOTABLE STANDARDS

Refreshment center w/freshwater sink, Lowrance digital depth gauge, flush-mounted Ritchie compass, LED interior lights, wheelchair access gate

### NOTABLE OPTIONS

Ski/tow bar, Dura-Deck decking material and range of outboard engines

### FINANCING

\$296/month for 15 years\*

*\*Assuming a final price of \$37,000 with a 15% down payment and a fixed interest rate of 7.75% — does not include sales tax*

### BUILDER

Tracker Marine, 2500 East Kearney, Springfield, MO 65803; (417) 873-5900; www.trackerboats.com. Sun Tracker is an NMMA certified builder.

Circle 31 on reader service card, page 89

# SUN TRACKER PARTY BARGE 26 (REGENCY EDITION)



## FEATURES IN BRIEF:

**1 The Entertainer:** Ideal for food, drinks or a friendly card game, Sun Tracker's removable table easily mounts in three different locations.

**2 Store It:** A unique seat headrest opens up to provide useful storage space for small items.

**3 Pon-Tunes:** Sun Tracker includes a four-speaker Sony sound system with a handy CD tray to keep your tunes organized.

**4 Chill Out:** The fiberglass-reinforced console features innovative interior storage for the standard 38-quart ice chest.

**5 Center of Attention:** Just aft of the console is a refreshment center with a sink, freshwater, countertop, storage drawers, drink holder and fiddle rail to keep things in place.



### TECH NOTES:

- Its open, roomy cockpit layout encourages passengers to move about and enjoy themselves.
- Sound-deadening insulation and the quiet OptiMax outboard make conversing pleasant.
- Fuel-efficient performance and 45 gallons of fuel capacity keep the fun going all day long.

