



CLUB MARINE

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AUSTRALIAN EXCLUSIVE

First test of Riviera's
stunning new 5400SY



Make the most of your boating with
CLUB MARINE'S GREAT NEW APP!

Brig Navigator 700



The Navigator series is regarded as the all-purpose model in Brig's range of versatile RIBs (Rigid Inflatable Boats). It sits between the sportier Falcon and luxury Eagle models and is the model recommended for those who want a utilitarian vessel that can be used for watersports.

This deep-vee fibreglass side console, with a recommended power range of 115 to 250hp, has a non-slip, self-draining cockpit with storage lockers forward and aft, plus a 350lt underfloor fuel tank and 50lt water tank.

The console is fitted flush against the portside tube. This offset design creates plenty of room – especially useful when it has the maximum 12 passengers onboard. To compensate for the offset, the steering wheel has been positioned on the left side of the console.

There is a seat at the front of this console that will accommodate two, with extra storage space beneath it, while a bench seat is built into the T-top for the skipper and one passenger. The base of this seat is divided into two and flips up so it can be used as a back support for those who prefer to stand up and drive.

There is another bench seat across the transom, also with storage under the seats. There are two rodholders behind these seats, each with a cupholder. Our test

boat also had a built-in freshwater shower, enabling users to wash the salt off after scuba diving or going for a swim.

The console was well-equipped, with 12in and 7in Simrad MFD units connected to the Suzuki's engine management system. This dual arrangement provides the skipper with countless digital configurations to suit their needs. There's also a built-in sound system, making for a very impressive set-up.

The 250hp Suzuki engine includes an electronic throttle system that provides an immediate response to any input on the stick and eliminates any throttle slip. It not only has the 23ft (7m) RIB up on the plane in the blink of the eye, but would likely throw unsuspecting passengers off their feet.

While the conditions on our test day were well short of horrendous, there was certainly



enough chop to provide a solid test of the Brig's performance.

It is capable of pushing into hard turns at 30 to 35 knots (56 to 65km/h) and grips beautifully. In straight line driving, the sharp entry carved its way through the chop and swell like a knife, while the big tubes kept her flat and stable. There was no other way to describe the test drive other than 'fun'.

Brig is the biggest seller of rigid inflatable boats in the world – and for a very good reason. The finish on these boats is impeccable, the ride smooth and comfortable and, providing you put the right motor on the back, the performance invigorating. They are on the expensive side, but I think still a good value for money proposition.

– Steve Lague

BRIG NAVIGATOR 700	
Length overall:	7m
Beam:	2.8m
Capacity:	12 people
Weight on trailer:	700kg
Engine:	250hp Suzuki four-stroke
Fuel Capacity:	340lt
Price: (as tested)	\$125,000

For more information, go to:

boatadvice