

Stacer's line-up of bowriders in different sizes and configurations includes the 489, 509, 539, 579, and 619 Easy Rider, as well as 549 and 579 Sportsters. They are all good, but out of the pack the Stacer 619 Easy Rider is my pick of the new releases, due to its pure suitability to family boating, as well as the hot new look that really adds a sense of style. There is some pretty impressive performance on offer as well.

At 6.09m in length overall, the 619 Easy Rider is the big brother of the Easy Rider range, and by far the show-stopper out of all of them. In my opinion, size does matter and the 619 certainly offers plenty of people space and is also a very stylish-looking craft.

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Designed purely to cater for family fun days on the water, the 619 has the most spacious layout of them all, offering a far more roomy bow and cockpit layout.

SPACE TO CHILL

Up in the bow the large, cushioned wraparound lounge section is spacious enough to be used for a spot of sunbaking or reclining and, with the addition of the centre table, it's the ideal spot to kick back with a cocktail and snacks. Fishos will certainly appreciate the idea of chilling on the cushions with a rod between their toes.

The cockpit is another very spacious and well thought out area, with comfortable seating at the dash. There is also generous storage space, and new UV-stable mouldings that extend further around the corners of the dash for a more aesthetic look

The Navigator pedestal seating keeps skipper and first mate tucked up within the confines of the large windscreens and both can swivel to face the stern, which is great for monitoring skiers. They also have fold-up bolsters for elevated seating while driving.

The low-profile sports deck is fully carpeted and there is a canopy as standard, which is

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definitely a must for those hot days on the water. There are also dual raised side pockets for storage, a good-sized central ski locker, a comfy rear lounger with wraparound bolstered back rest, open access to plumbing, a ski pole, and – best of all – a good-sized kill tank.

COMPLETE PACKAGE

Anglers will also appreciate the flush-mounted rodholders, which all add to the Easy Rider's credentials as a complete family package, easily capable of fishing or watersports duties. The only thing I'd be worried about would be spilling blood on the carpet and upholstery.

A drop-down boarding ladder, together with large boarding platform, adds to the ease of access, both in and out of water, along with transom door entry into the boat.

Moving around the boat is easy given the spaciousness and with a maximum rating of eight people, which it handles comfortably, you never have to worry about having to leave any family and friends behind.

With a 175hp Evinrude E-TEC on the transom, there are zero complaints on the power side, as these low-emission V6 two-strokes have all the punch needed to pull skiers out of the water, as well as easily achieved top-end speeds of around



Navigator pedestal seats provide comfort for skipper and first mate. Passengers are similarly spoiled with a comfy rear lounge.

38.3 knots (71km/h). Wakeboarding, slalom or even barefoot skiers will be regular sights behind the 619, I'm picking.

Watersports demand low-end torque, combined with mid- to high-end power, and the 175hp E-TEC has the ideal combination of both throughout the rev range. Combined with good fuel economy, this combination works well for the 619.

REFINED RIDE

Coupled with top-end high performance, the new Easy Rider hulls have one of the better, more refined rides that I've experienced on an aluminium bowrider. Being the big boy of range, the hull naturally has a bit more weight to it, enhanced by the sturdy 4mm bottomsides. Combined with a flared high bow and sharp entry on the keel line, it delivers a really good ride on calm water and even more impressive in the rough. Bowriders, in particular, need to be soft-riding and the 619 certainly lives up to its Easy Rider tag.

Besides delivering impressive performance, Stacer has also put some thought into making the 619 an easy and comfortable boat to drive. As mentioned, the pedestal seats are really comfortable and, together with a nice dash layout, big screens and well-positioned controls, driving is pretty much effortless.

If you are chasing an alloy bowrider that's a bit flashier in style, has more space to entertain friends or larger families, plus a boat that offers considerable value for money, then the Stacer 619 Easy Rider would be worth a look.

It's quite a sporty boat, but is just as comfortable in cruise mode and, with the addition of a few fishing accessories, it makes an ideal angling platform, too. As it is, the 619's standard inclusions of a sounder and rodholders give it a promising head start as a fisher.

Like most boats in the Stacer range, there are plenty of other standard inclusions, resulting in a boat that's ready to launch out of the showroom. And for a bit extra, there are heaps of other options to bling it up in looks and accessories.

For a family looking for affordable, all-round boating, the 619 Easy Rider is a worthy contender, indeed.

SPECIFICATIONS: STACER 619 EASY RIDER	
Hull length (LOA):	6.09m
Beam:	2.48m
Power as tested:	175hp
Recommended power:	115hp
Weight:	1098kg
Towing weight:	1538kg
Performance at WOT:	38.3 knots (70.93km/h)
Fuel capacity:	160lt
Priced from:	\$54,636
Price as tested:	\$56,864
For more information, contact Whitewater Marine, Southport, Qld, tel (07) 5532 4402 or go to: stacer.com.au.	

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