



**Who should buy it:** The Q5i is built by one of the world's largest boatbuilders for quality-conscious boaters who seek value in their family boating and recreational water-sports experience.

## TAHOE Q5i Sport

■ LENGTH OVERALL: 19'5" ■ BEAM: 7'7" ■ SEATING/WEIGHT CAPACITY: 8/1,300 LB. ■ FUEL CAPACITY: 23 GAL. ■ MAXIMUM HP: 220 ■ MSRP (W/ MERCURISER 4.3L 190 HP, ALPHA): \$19,995



### What we think:

The Q5i we tested was a prototype of the latest in Tahoe's popular runabouts. In its final form, it will offer boaters one of the best boating values. It's so fresh in the lineup and changes are yet to come.

For its size we were impressed to see the unique walk-through transom with a techy slide away seat that reveals a nonskid boarding step to the cockpit. That's standard, not an option. Also standard is the extended integrated transom platform. It curves outward far enough to give a diving platform kids will love while helping protect them from bumping knees and shins on the stern-drive when at anchor. You pay extra for that on many boats, and some can't even offer it.

The bow seating area is ideally contoured for

stretching out. Grab rails fall into the hands comfortably. Seat cushions are removable to convert the area for fishing. In fact, a ski-and-fish version of the Sport comes with a livewell and removable trolling motor.

The running surface of early prototypes, including ours, was formed to make the hole shot snappier and to keep the boat on plane at lower speeds. It worked well in that respect, but the final version will improve top-end speed with a less radical shape to let the boat plane more smoothly, giving a steadier ride.

Engine access in the Q5i is ample since Tahoe's construction techniques allowed removing bulkheads on either side of the motor. This should reduce mechanic time for more affordable service tabs. — R.V.

### Full Test Reports

- Find our full performance report with a 190 hp motor.
- Locate the nearest place to buy.
- Compare the Q5i with other bowriders.

Go to [boatinglife.com/bbg08](http://boatinglife.com/bbg08) and select Tahoe Q5i Sport for more details.

### Also consider . . .



**Q6 Sport**  
LENGTH: 20'6" BEAM: 8' MAX HP: 300

Step up in size and horsepower with the Q6. Dress it for water sports by adding the wakeboard tower option with board racks.



**Q4 Sport OB**  
LENGTH: 18'7" BEAM: 7'9" MAX HP: 150

Coastal boaters will go for the outboard. Its slightly more compact size, shallower draft and easy maintenance are the drawing cards.



- MerCruiser 4.3L, Alpha 190 hp – \$19,995
- MerCruiser 4.3L MPI, Alpha 220 hp – \$21,795

PHOTOS (B): COURTESY TAHOE