

# **Owner's Operating Manual**

Thank you for choosing the GoDu 10.5 and welcome to the GoDu Adventure Family!

## **Getting Started:**

The Godu 10.5 is about as rugged and tough as they come, but even this little lady needs some love and care to fully live her best life of adventure. This manual will help give you some introductory information as well as cover the nitty gritty details of the care and feeding of your new boat!

## Let the adventure begin!

*Please Note:* If this is your first boat and/or you are new to operating a boat on the water, we at GoDu recommend you to take an instruction course on how to safely and competently operate the boat.

Never operate a boat outside of your experience level. Know the weather and plan accordingly.

## **Registration:**

All undocumented vessels that are equipped with propulsion machinery shall be registered in the state of principle use, according to Federal Law. A certificate number shall be issued upon registration and shall be displayed on the boat. The owner must carry a valid certificate number when operating the boat.

The number must be displayed per standard specification. Contact your dealer or state marine authority for numbering display requirements.

# Selecting a Trailer:

The GoDu 10.5 is a very light weight boat. You should seek to purchase a trailer rated to carry at least 600 lbs. Most Personal Watercraft (PWC) trailers are rated to carry 1,000-1,200 lbs and are a great choice.

Always park your rig so that the trailer tongue is higher than the stern of the boat with your drain plug removed, so that any water can drain from the hull.

# Mounting the Outboard:

You must review and follow the manufacturers recommendations on mounting your outboard motor properly. Please ensure that your outboard motor is properly attached and the mounting screws are appropriately tight. Use a tape measure to make sure the outboard is centered on the transom.

Be careful to fully understand the operation of your outboard motor before using your GoDu 10.5. It is your responsibility as the captain to be safe and in control of your vessel. We recommend that you always wear your outboard safety lanyard.

## Fuel Tank:

The GoDu 10.5 is designed for you to put the fuel tank in the bow of the boat and secure it to the "Gear Storage Bulkhead". This is easiest to accomplish with a piece of line or rope, but commercially available straps can be used as well.

Route the fuel line from the tanks connection point, through the bulkhead and down the center of the boat until it connects to the outboard motor. Be careful not to pinch or kink the line in any way.

Follow your outboard manufacturers instructions to prime the fuel bulb.

## Life Jackets:

We always recommend you wear your Personal Flotation Device when on the water. But the space surrounding the fuel tank made by the "Gear Storage Bulkhead" in the bow of the boat is a perfect spot to store spare life jackets.

## **Collapsible Paddle:**

Your included collapsible paddle should be in the boat whenever you are out on the water.

## Storage Cover:

It is highly recommended to cover your GoDu 10.5 whenever it is not in use. This will protect your investment from the damaging effects of ultraviolet rays and keep dirt and debris off the SeaDek and out of the boat.

Before storage the boat should be cleaned and rinsed with fresh water. Do not cover the boat before it is completely dry or mildew could grow. The cover should be ventilated and the drain plug left out.

# **United States Coast Guard Requirements:**

Make sure you review and understand the requirements of the USGC and the state you are operating in.

Acquaint yourself thoroughly with the "Rules of the Road" as laid out in the USCG manual.

Familiarize yourself with the capacity plate information in your GoDu 10.5. Know its limits and load the boat accordingly.

Naturally, it is impossible to describe here all the different situations that you may encounter. Just remember that COMMON SENSE is your best safety precaution. Your new boat is built to safely carry you in NORMAL OPERATION, but it is up to you to stay alert and to avoid dangerous situations. Safe boating is in the hands of the operator.

## Pre-operation checklist:

- Make sure every passenger is wearing a suitable personal flotation device.
- Make sure there is an extra buoyant device that can be thrown to rescue a person in the water.
- If boating with passengers, instruct at least one passenger in the basics of boat handling, starting and operation of the outboard motor.
- Check that every passenger is securely seated and hold a safe line, grab handle or rope.
- Make sure the bow line is aboard and secure.
- Make sure the load in the boat is distributed evenly.
- Make sure you respect the maximum load specified for the boat as described on the manufacturer's plate.
- Make sure that all required safety gear is on board, e.g. whistle, waterproof flashlight, first aid kit, fresh water, tool kit... etc.
- Check that the boat is equipped with a paddle.
- Make sure the outboard motor is securely fastened to the transom.
- Make sure the drain plug is fully functional.
- Check fuel tank level and make sure it suits your plan.
- Start the outboard motor and make sure it stops when the lanyard is disconnected from the switch.

# SeaDek Care and Maintenance:

Please review the care and maintenance of your SeaDek on their website. At the time of this writing, it is located here:

https://www.seadek.com/what-is-the-best-way-to-clean-seadek/

Mild soap and water will handle the majority of minor dirt and stains.

# Care and Maintenance of Exo Metal RAW Aluminum:

The marine grade 5052 aluminum is impervious to sun and saltwater, but is susceptible to alkaline corrosion (High PH Level) and so should be rinsed regularly with fresh water and cleaned with mild soap and clean water.

It's especially important to rinse biological debris (Example: Fish Parts) from the bilge.

Give your GoDu's aluminum similar care to what you would give to your car. Use common mild soaps and fresh water for cleaning. DO NOT USE caustic, alkaline or ammonia based cleaning items as these will harm and discolor your aluminum. There are many aluminum cleaners available on the market. Many of these use a strong acid. Care should be taken with these cleaners as they will likely destroy your SeaDek and possibly damage your bumper cover.

The bare aluminum surfaces on your hull will form a whitish haze over time. This is normal; it is a passive oxide layer that protects your boat from corrosion. Never use a metal brush of any kind on the exterior surface of your boat. You can apply a polishing compound and wax your bare aluminum regularly if you wish to retain its original appearance longer.

## **Beach Wheels:**

Your heavy duty beach wheels make rolling the GoDu 10.5 up the beach much less of a drag. Deploy them after turning off your outboard engine and before it is too shallow. Before using the beach wheels, make sure they are fully locked in the lowered position before putting weight on them.

Wash the beach wheels thoroughly whenever you wash the boat. Protect the tires from UV when possible.

When utilizing the beach wheels, do not drag the GoDu 10.5's hull across the ground. It will act as sandpaper and slowly remove metal from the hull. If you are not strong enough to carry the hull free of the ground, you can apply a replaceable keel guard to the GoDu 10.5 to protect it.

# Care and Maintenance of powder coated, LUX EDITION:

Protective powder-coated surfaces are a dry, free-flowing powder applied electrostatically and then cured under heat to form a hard, durable and attractive finish. These surfaces, like any other, require proper maintenance.

## **Bottom Paint:**

We recommend that any boat left in the water for long periods of time be given the appropriate coatings to protect it.

## Use a Mild Soap and Water:

All powder coated products should be cleaned with either a soft cloth or a brush, using a solution of mild soap and warm water. The best type of soap to use for this purpose is one that has emulsifiers that can break down the most common types of stains. **Avoid** 

**harsh chemical cleaners.** Exposed surfaces of powder coated products that are deemed the most critical should be cleaned regularly (on either a weekly or a bi-weekly schedule). These can be wiped down and rinsed with filtered water.

## Protect the Exposed Surfaces With Wax:

Finished surfaces that will be handled or may come into contact with other objects will benefit from being treated with wax.

## **Galvanic Corrosion:**

Galvanic Corrosion is a type of problem that is caused by dissimilar metals. Galvanic Corrosion can occur for many reasons; including dissimilar fasteners and fittings that are in direct contact with bare aluminum, or like loose items (ie: sinkers and hooks that get into the bilge area). These dissimilar metals cause galvanic corrosion when they are immersed together or while they are in contact with saltwater, hard water or even contaminated Freshwater.

Try not to leave dissimilar metals in contact with your GoDu 10.5's hull for long periods of time.

## **Electrolysis Corrosion**

Electrolysis Corrosion can occur when an electrical component in an AC or DC system was either incorrectly installed or has an electrical fault which makes your boat the ground. This fault doesn't necessarily need to be on your boat to cause an issue. It could be located on a boat near you or a boat in the marina that is connected to the same AC on the marina supplied power connection. These faults can turn your boat into a battery, with the saltwater as the conducting electrolyte.

Be weary of the use and installation of electrical components.

## Winterization:

Remove the plug for the tubes. Store your GoDu with the transom plug out and in a bow up position so any interior water will drain or store the boat upside down.