



FACT SHEET: 23rd Annual Providence Boat Show

Explore the world of boating at the 23rd Annual Providence Boat Show, a family-friendly event presented by Washington Trust that features summer in winter. This four-day expo, one of the largest indoor boat shows in New England, will showcase boats for every pocketbook—from a wide range of powerboats to sailing dinghies and paddle-powered watercraft. The show also includes free seminars to give you the know-how on boat handling, navigation, and equipment, along with plenty of inspiration with special features and appearances of boating experts and personalities. From seasoned veterans to those who have never stepped foot on a boat before, all levels of boaters will find the guidance and equipment they need to plan their adventures afloat this summer.

WHEN: Thursday, February 4 to Sunday, February 7

WHERE: Rhode Island Convention Center (1 Sabin Street, Providence, R.I.)

EXHIBITORS: A total of 150 companies from throughout New England are exhibiting at the show with the latest boats, gear and equipment for today's recreational boaters.

THE FLEET: The Providence Boat Show fleet includes a wide range of powerboats, sailing dinghies, personal watercraft, and paddle-powered craft. The event will showcase several new designs, including: the North Rip 30, a new boat designed in concert with tournament-winning fishermen and built in Rhode Island by US Watercraft; the RS Aero, a singlehanded sailing dinghy from Zim Sailing (Warren) that offers three different rig configurations for skippers ranging from a 77-pound youth to a 210-pound dinghy champion; three new Stingray powerboats at South Attleboro Marine that range 19 to 20 feet in length and feature speed, comfort, and plenty of seating for family and friends; the Sea Fox 206 Commander center console; and a new POP Inflatable Stand-Up Paddleboard from East Coast Paddle Sports (Wakefield & East Greenwich).

SPECIAL FEATURES & ATTRACTIONS: Special features and attractions include sea-to-table demonstrations with the region's leading chefs from Simone's (Warren), Simpatico Jamestown, Malt (Newport) and Blaze Village Kitchen (Pawtucket); a rare look at a dramatic rescue-at-sea story depicted

in the just-released Disney film *The Finest Hours*, on Sunday, with Michael Tougias, co-author of the book on which the film is based; hands-on fun with *Coastal Angler Magazine's* professional-grade fishing simulator; and special interest areas including: "Reel Island" for fishing fans and enthusiasts; "Island Time" for New Englanders looking for a taste of the Caribbean and its world-class boating and resort destinations; the "Youth Boat Build," sponsored by Jamestown Distributors, where aspiring boat builders can watch students from Chariho Career & Technical Center and Warwick Area Career & Technical Center do a live boat build; and a special ArtSEA gallery that will showcase the work of local artists inspired by the sea. New this year is an indoor pool, where showgoers can have fun with model boats and watching Stand-Up Paddleboard demos.

FREE SEMINARS: Showgoers can learn from some of the most experienced captains and tournament-winning fishermen on the East Coast. Sport fishing seminars, sponsored by North Rip Boats, are organized by East Coast Charters (Warwick); boating seminars are organized by Confident Captain/Ocean Pros (Middletown) and the Annapolis School of Seamanship. There is even a session on "How to Become a Rhode Island Boater" with great advice on how to get started. Thanks to the R.I. Department of Environmental Management, showgoers can take an exam to earn their Certificate of Boating Safety Education during the show. A special Premium (paid) Seminar for "Women on the Water" takes place on Saturday, February 6.

SPONSORS: The 23rd Annual Providence Boat Show is presented by Washington Trust. Sponsors that join Presenting Sponsor Washington Trust include: Antigua & Barbuda Department of Tourism, the Bitter End Yacht Club, North Rip Boats, *Coastal Angler Magazine*, Helly Hansen and Keel Vodka.

TICKETS: Adult one-day tickets are \$12; children 12 and under are FREE. A special Family Pack ticket can be purchased online only. The online Family Pack ticket is \$20 for two adults and up to four children age 15 and under.

DATES AND HOURS:

Thursday, February 4 / 3:00pm - 9:00pm

Friday, February 5 / 12:00pm - 9:00pm

Saturday, February 6 / 10:00am - 8:00pm

Sunday, February 7 / 10:00am - 3:00pm

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Visit the show's website at www.providenceboatshow.com and follow the show on Facebook. A new Providence Boat Show app will be available prior to the show's opening.

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MEDIA CONTACT

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NOTE TO MEDIA: Photos of the boat show are available.