FLORIDA SPORTSMAN



Highlights from the World's 'Largest In-Water Boat Show'

Florida Sportsman was at the annual Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show. Here's what we saw.

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By Jeff Weakley

Didn't get a chance to visit the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show last week? Florida Sportsman Editor Jeff Weakley made the rounds, and shares snapshots and notes from what organizers call the "largest in-water boat show in the world."

Grady-White Freedom 345



Grady-White Freedom 345. (Photo by Jeff Weakley)

Packed into this ocean-class dual console boat, <u>Grady-White</u> has an answer to just about any conceivable need on the water, from refrigerated fish box storage aft, to air-conditioned cabin spaces and helm, to plush forward seating. The helm station is designed around exceptional visibility, with obvious attention given to line of sight over the dash; still, they're able to accommodate twin 19-inch multifunction screens. Dual captain and companion chairs to starboard, and the port side features a comfy reclining area. Aft-facing cockpit seats retract, and the transom bench folds. Corian counters, contact chargers for cell phones, hand rails in logical places—there's a lot to take in. With triple 350 Yamahas, top end is reportedly 56 mph, and optimal cruise is 30 mph at 1.1 mpg.

