

## 49<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL FORT MYERS BOAT SHOW NOVEMBER 11 – 14, 2021

The Fort Myers Boat Show, Southwest Florida's largest, longest running, and most complete showcase of everything boating is back in downtown Ft. Myers for the 49<sup>th</sup> year. Featuring boats of every size and style, from skiffs to yachts, on land and in-water along the Caloosahatchee River in the Historic River District.

Exhibits wind through Centennial Park along the river and Edwards Drive to the City Yacht Basin. The beautiful new Caloosa Sound Convention Center is filled with accessory exhibits with everything from engines and electronics to boat lifts, boating services, fishing gear, clothing and just about anything else you might need on the water.

"Virtually every area dealer and every major boat line will be on hand," says Show Manager Kyle Good. "New boats, new designs, the latest technology in engines and electronics will all be on display. Whether you are in the market for a boat, looking to repower or upgrade your current boat, or just want to see what's new, you will find what you are looking for at this show. This truly is one of the nicest settings for a boat show in the country. There is a lot to see and do, so plan to spend at least a full day to see it all."

In this new Covid world, many discovered that getting out on the water is a great way to enjoy the outdoors with family and friends. The increase in boating traffic makes it more critical than ever, that boaters understand the basics needed for a safe and enjoyable boating experience. What are the differences in wake zones? What do all those lights, markers, and buoys mean? How should we pass or approach another vessel? Where is it safe to run my boat? What's the best way to tie up my boat? What are the basics of being a safe and courteous boater? What's the deal with different types of life jackets (PFD's)? What kind of gear should I have on board?

To help answer some of those questions, we have created the "Be In The Know Zone", an interactive boating information area inside the Caloosa Sound Convention Center. Show visitors can attend Fishing Seminars and Boating Basics Seminars. Experienced boaters will interact with visitors be at the "Know Before You Go" display with hands-on boating tips and demonstrations. Plus, local law enforcement agencies and several other boating organizations will have displays with great local boating information.

Show visitors will be safe and can easily maintain social distancing. The show is spread out along the river and is never overly crowded. Face coverings are recommended. Masks will be available at all show entrances and there will be hand sanitizing stations throughout the grounds. "We know that people are ready to get out and enjoy the show," said Good, "All we ask is that everyone do their part to make other show visitors and exhibitors comfortable."

Plan to spend the day. Not only for the boats and boating products, but also to enjoy downtown Ft. Myers. There are a variety of popular restaurants and bars a block away from the show. Come early, enjoy the show, take a break downtown for lunch and head back to the show.

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For More Information:
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# 49<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL FORT MYERS BOAT SHOW NOVEMBER 11 – 14, 2021 JUST THE FAQS (FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS)

**WHERE IS THE BOAT SHOW?** The Boat Show is located along the Caloosahatchee River in downtown Fort Myers. The Main Show Entrance is at Heitman and Bay Street next to the Post Office. Boat and accessory displays wind through the park to the Convention Center and east along the river to the Ft. Myers City Yacht Basin, where hundreds of new and used boats are on display in the water.

#### DATES AND HOURS?

THURSDAY, NOV. 11 <sup>th</sup> 1through SUNDAY,	NOV. 14, 2021
Thursday, Friday, and Saturday	10AM – 6PM
Sunday	10AM – 5PM

<u>ADMISSION PRICE</u> Admission is \$16.00 per person, with children under 16 free with paid adult admission. To avoid lines and unnecessary contact, On-Line Tickets are suggested (no additional fees for on-line purchase).

**NO PETS** – We are pet lovers but due to insurance issues, we cannot allow pets.

#### **DIRECTIONS**

**From I-75** Take Exit 138 (MLK Boulevard). Head west (about four miles) to the downtown area and look for parking signs.

### From U.S. 41

FROM THE SOUTH: Merge to the right before the bridge and follow signs not downtown FROM THE NORTH: As you come over the river, stay in right lane and follow signs into downtown and Historic District.

**PARKING** - There are numerous parking locations available around the downtown. Most are within fairly easy walking distance to the show. Parking fees vary. There is a parking map at <u>www.fortmyersboatshow.com</u>. Shuttle busses are running a route through the downtown stopping at most of these lots. Masks and Hand sanitizers are available on the shuttles.

The Fort Myers Boat Show is owned by the Marine Industries Association of Southwest Florida & Tampa Bay a member owned organization that has worked to protect the rights of boaters and the marine industry for more than 40 years.

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