



Willy Roberts Boats

FLATS BOAT
CAPE CANAVERAL, FL
\$59,000-\$85,000

The granddaddy of the modern technical poling skiff is still a serious contender on the flats—and a serious head turner. "I tell customers to plan for that," says Mike Williams, owner of Willy Roberts Boats, with a laugh. "They'll need an extra half hour when they stop for fuel because people always want to talk about the skiff. When you pull one on the interstate, people are honking, zooming up to get beside you, and flashing okay signs. It's crazy, but it happens all the time." That's easy to understand. The late Willy Roberts designed and built one of the earliest flats skiffs—some say the earliest—in Islamorada in 1959. The company constructs its versions, based on Roberts's original molds, one at a time using modern composite materials and techniques, and they can include generous swaths of gleaming wood. (How generous depends on your budget.) The Classic 20 handles bigger chop like a bay boat but can be fashioned to float in water six inches skinny.
willyflatsboats.com

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321-987-5612
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