

**BOATING**

2014

# Gift Guide

Boaters are at once easy and hard to shop for. Boaters always need something. But boaters are also very picky about their gear. We did our best to provide a diverse and eclectic mix of gift ideas with this guide. For even more ideas, check out our expanded guide at [boatingmag.com/giftguide14](http://boatingmag.com/giftguide14).

*BY THE BOATING TECH TEAM PHOTOS BY ZACH STOVALL*



**WEARABLES**



**FISHABLES**



**WATER SPORTS**



**ELECTRONICS**



**MAINTENANCE**



**EXTRAS**

# Wearables



**GRUNDENS GAGE**  
STORM SURGE 2.5 BIB PANTS AND JACKET

Tailored from 10,000 mm waterproof nylon, Grundens' new Gage Storm Surge 2.5 layer bib pants are lightweight, breathable and cut for athletic mobility. Fully taped seams and heavy-duty Velcro-cinch ankle adjustments seal out water. The interior lining features a

Northern Pacific weather-fax print. They're available in XS to 5XL. Match them up with a Gage Storm Surge jacket for a gift any boater will love. Bib pants starting at \$119, jackets at \$98.70; grundens.com



**AETREX**  
JUSTIN BOAT SHOE

With built-in orthotic support and memory foam, these might be the most comfortable boat shoes to wear right out of the box. They also have an anti-microbial lining to prevent odor and water-resistant leather. The

slip-resistant sole is designed to work on wet or oily surfaces. \$119.95; aetrex.com



**COSTA**  
REALTREE XTRA FRAMES

As fall hunting and fishing season kicks off, Costa announces its new frame color, Realtree Xtra camo, on select styles of sunglasses. While the camo pattern blends perfectly year-round in a wide variety of habitats, it blends best from the leaf change of fall through winter and then again in early spring before green-out. Shown in Fisch frame style with 400G mirror lenses. \$209; costadelmar.com



**MAUI JIM**  
IKAIIKA SUNGLASSES

Maui Jim Ikaika sunglasses fit larger faces better with bigger lenses. They feature anti-corrosive, spring-hinge hardware and oleophobic lens coatings to repel water and grease. Their scratch-resistant properties are legend. Ikaika is a saltwater-friendly style with a contoured, aerodynamic shape that comes in two high-grade nylon frame colors: matte black rubber or matte tortoise. \$249; mauijim.com



**Q&Q**  
SMILESOLAR WATCH

Timepieces were once the highest of boating tech, allowing for precise navigation. This solar-powered watch operates for months once charged, perfect for modern times. Made with recycled resin and water-resistant to 5 bar, it's a great gift for mariners. \$40; smile-qq.com

# Fishables



**SHIMANO**  
SUSPENDING WAXWING FISHING LURE

The original Shimano Waxwing saltwater lure has incredible side-to-side swimming action but sinks fast. The new Suspending Waxwing has a slower sink rate so you fish slower over heavy cover. It features coated treble hooks and an internal rattle. \$14.99; fish.shimano.com

device into a fish finder, the SonarPhone SP200 will be the hit of the holiday season. It includes a transom-mount transducer, which connects to a "T-box" that becomes a Wi-Fi hot spot. Download the free SonarPhone app, and you can view the bottom and fish to depths of 240 feet on your mobile device. Anyone on board with the app can do the same. \$149.95; sonarphone.mobi



**WILLIAMSON**  
POPPER PRO 180 FISHING LURE

The boating angler on your gift list will delight in receiving the Williamson Popper Pro 180 fishing lure. Great for everything from stripers to tuna, it mimics an injured baitfish breaking the water's surface. This 3.375-ounce "chugger" features a cupped face, 7-inch-long pencil-style body and single VMC hooks for both slash-and-stall and walk-the-dog retrieves. The lure is available in seven color patterns. Starting at \$14.99; williamsonlures.com



**LOWRANCE**  
ELITE-3X COLOR FISH FINDER

Fishermen will love the Lowrance Elite-3x color fish finder. This compact model will fit just about any boat, yet features a dual-frequency 83/200 kHz broadband transducer, Lowrance's



**VEXILAR**  
SONARPHONE

With the ability to turn a smartphone or tablet

## FREEWATERS CHARGER SANDALS

*A soft touch with grippy footing and exclusive comfort licensed by Therm-a-Rest ensures your giftees say yippee when they see you gave them Freewaters Charger sandals.*

Boaters appreciate the arch support, heel cup and water-friendly hydro-leather strap on wet, rocking decks (or just kicking). \$56; freewaters.com



## INCREDIBLE AND TRUE FISHING STORIES

Everyone who loves a good fishing yarn will enjoy this collection of more than 100 too-good-to-be-true fishing stories compiled by Shaun Morey and published by Workman Publishing. \$10.95; workman.com



"IT'S OUT THERE AT SEA THAT YOU ARE REALLY YOURSELF." — VITO DUMAS

"ONLY FOOLS AND PASSENGERS DRINK AT SEA." — ALLAN VILLIERS

# Water Sports



**HO**  
SPORTS AGENT KNEEBOARD

Kneeboarding is as hot as ever, and this pro-style Agent ensures the lake gets shredded. The two-stage rocker maximizes “pop-off” from all wake sizes, while curved flow channels permit deep carving hold from the edges. Its PannoLock knee strap is regarded as the most durable in the game. \$299; hosports.com



**KWIK-TEC**  
AIRHEAD LIVE WIRE AHLW-2

Dual tow points create a variety of towing options for riders of this new-for-2015 towable. A

## **JIMMY STYKS** MYSSTYK PINK PACKAGE

*This stand-up paddle board (SUP) is especially balanced to enhance the experience of water-borne practitioners of yoga while additionally serving admirably as a coastal cruising board. Remarkably stable, it's rated for novice riders up to 190 pounds and comes with a paddle, fins, board bag and a leash. The manufacturer donates \$20 to breast cancer charities with every purchase. \$899.99; westmarine.com*

multitude of grab handles with neoprene knuckle guards ensure multiple seating and riding positions. Kwik-Connect tow point and Speed Safety Valves for quick inflation and deflation add to this two-rider inflatable's value. \$349.99; airhead.com



**ZAYAK**  
SEA SLED A1-DLX

Who needs a sleigh and reindeer when you can have a Zayak Sea Sled instead? The Zayak A1-DLX enables everyone who has ever desired to view the “features and creatures” beneath the surface to do so while floating comfortably on a sturdy and stable flotation device that gives them a panoramic view of the undersea environment. Super cool! \$375; zayakseasled.com



**HO**  
CX SLALOM SKI

Sharing many features with the pro-model A3 ski, including signature speed skin, acceleration flex, auto-centering continuous rocker and automatic angle shape, CX slalom ski also boasts unique features. It has a new hybrid sidewall and clean-edge technology to provide support where you need it and to give you 50 percent less drag to make cutting through the wakes super-easy for you. It's handmade in Seattle. \$650; hosports.com

PHOTOS: BILL DOSTER (4), ZACH STOVALL (ZAYAK)

# Electronics

**IRIS**  
NIGHTSPOTTER HANDHELD  
THERMAL-IMAGING SCOPE

Watch the boater in your family light up when he opens this gift. Available in two versions — IRIS240 (384x288 resolution) and IRIS241 (160x120) — the thermal-imaging NightSpotter is lightweight and IP67 waterproof, and it floats. Ideal for boating after dark, both rubberized models feature digital zoom, palette inverse and a video output port to view the image on a monitor or multifunction display. Starting at \$2,700; boat-cameras.com



## **DRYTUNES** WATERPROOF SPEAKER

The Bluetooth-enabled audio system isn't just waterproof. It's wireless, affording boaters 400 cubic inches of stowage for valuable, sensitive gear. Rock on! \$399; drytunes.com



**CLARION**  
CMS5 MARINE STEREO

This Clarion CMS5 marine stereo won the coveted CES Innovations Award. We can see — and hear! — why. This all-in-one digital media stereo features a color LCD display, Bluetooth hands-free profile and advanced audio distribution profile with aptX audio coding and AVRCP 1.4 compatibility. It's waterproof and offers both iPhone and Android device controls. \$TKTK; clarion.com

to 1 meter (3.28 feet) for 30 minutes. Plus, it floats. Its lithium-ion battery provides power for 10 hours of continuous play, and it can double as a hands-free phone speaker. \$79.95; cobra.com



**ICOM**  
IC-M92D VHF RADIO

What boater wouldn't want the gift of the world's first floating handheld VHF radio with DSC, GPS and active noise canceling in one unit? We've tested this Icom technology aboard boats and in helicopters during our photo shoots and can attest to the claims. The new user-friendly interface is killer. \$299; icomamerica.com



**COBRA**  
AIRWAVE BOX

This Bluetooth speaker is waterproof to IPX7 standards, meaning it is submersible



**COBRA**  
HH450 DUAL

This rugged waterproof unit doubles as a handheld VHF or a walkie-talkie. It includes Cobra's exclusive Rewind-Say-Again technology, and its power can be adjusted for short, medium or long-range communication. It can also access specific-area message encoding (SAME) weather alerts. \$129.95; cobra.com



“NOW ... BRING ME THAT HORIZON!” — CAPT. JACK SPARROW

“BOATS, LIKE WHISKEY, ARE ALL GOOD.” — R.D. CULLER

# Maintenance



## MAGICEZY HAIRLINE FIX FOR GELCOAT

These tubes of quick-fix formulas for fine cracks in fiberglass gelcoat make great stocking stuffers for DIY boaters. MagicEzy requires no mixing or sanding, yet results in nearly perfect cosmetic repairs in nine seconds. It cleans up with water. It comes in 11 colors, including four shades of white. Also available are 9-Second Chip Fix and Mega Fusion for repairing aluminum and plastic. \$24.99 for 0.43-ounce tube; magicезу.com



## RULE AQUACHARGE XTREME CORDLESS WATER PUMP

Besides being fully submersible to 6 feet, this portable pump works in both fresh and salt water and can pump up to 600 gallons in one Ni-MH (nickel-metal hydride) battery charge. It can pump to a height of 17 feet. \$139; xylemflowcontrol.com



## STAR BRITE BOAT CARE BUCKET

*Every boater will welcome the gift of one of these Star brite Boat Care Buckets. This maintenance kit comes with a highly absorbent sponge, a hull cleaner, boat wash, vinyl shampoo and Vinyl-Brite protectant. All in a sturdy unbreakable bucket! \$59.99; westmarine.com*

## CHARISSA SUPER SPICE

Fish and game taste great when seasoned with cHarissa. This cumin-based blend embodies the uncanny ability to lend a different flavor to various foods. Developed from a family recipe, cHarissa is becoming popular as more and more outdoor people use it to enhance their table fare. Use as a condiment or as a dry rub. Starts at \$5.95; outdoortom.com



## GEAR KEEPER MICRO ZINGER

This is a must-have stocking stuffer for the boater or angler. (Boating anglers especially!) The Spectra line is rugged and keeps gear secure. At time of use, attached equipment can be pulled and utilized at lengths of up to 3 feet! Super retraction keeps keys, clippers or you-name-it at the ready. \$12.99; gearkeeper.com



## ACCON QUICK-RELEASE DRINK HOLDER

If the boater on your holiday list believes there is no such thing as too many drink holders aboard a boat, Accon's Quick-Release drink holder is the perfect gift. Available in single or double models, these drink holders snap into Accon's stainless-steel bases and are easily removed. For

true opulence, an optional wineglass-holder insert is available. Stainless-steel version starting at \$78.52; acconmarine.com



## ONTARIO KNIFE RAT 1A SP

Face it, when boaters need a knife, they need a good knife. And the Ontario Rat 1A SP fills the bill. Single-handed, ambidextrous operation means it's ready in a flash. The super-sharp satin blade will cut line from a fouled prop as readily as it will gut that fish you caught for dinner. \$48.75; ontarioknife.com



## OUTDOOR PRODUCTS CANYON WEATHER DEFENSE PACK

This pack is great for throwing some clothes and gear, or even your tablet or smartphone, into to bring aboard for a day on the water. The Weather Defense fabric keeps the interior dry and secure. It has two separate compartments for dividing up gear. The padded straps and back pad keep it comfortable while donning on shore. \$55; outdoorproducts.com

# Extras



## PELICAN 0955 SPORT WALLET

Every boater knows that at some point his leather wallet is going to get dunked, turning everything inside an unpleasant shade of brown. You can opt for the water-resistant, crushproof sport wallet. Its easy-open latch reveals two mesh pockets that hold credit cards, drivers license and some fast cash. \$29.95; pelican.com



## SP GADGETS POV DIVE BUOY

This is a multipurpose camera handle grip with added features. Aside from offering great control when filming and keeping your camera afloat if you drop it into water, you can now fill the handle with water to create neutral buoyancy when scuba diving. If you are not underwater, you might even want to use the watertight compartment to keep a little something hidden and dry. \$38; sp-gadgets.com

## THETFORD PORTABLE FRIDGE/FREEZER

Thetford Marine's NRF 30 portable refrigerator/freezer is a gift that will be truly appreciated. Just 15.6 inches tall by 15.7 inches wide by 22 inches deep, it holds 42 beverage cans. Change from fridge to freezer with the turn of a dial. Runs on AC or DC power. \$549; thetford.com



"THE CURE FOR ANYTHING IS SALT WATER — TEARS, SWEAT OR THE SEA." — ISAK DINESEN

"THE DAYS PASS HAPPILY WITH ME WHENEVER MY SHIP SAILS." — JOSHUA SLOCUM