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V-28 Bay: Catch Them All

Valhalla Boatworks (VBW) is writing the next chapter in the history of bay boats with its V-28, bringing unprecedented levels of quality, attention to detail, fishability and performance to this genre.

The addition of the V-28 Bay boat and V-29 Hybrid allows VBW to continue broadening its premium center console lineup that was launched in 2019 with the V-33, V-37 and V-41.

The Viking company went bigger with its next two center consoles, the V-46 in 2021 and the V-55 in February 2023. And now the industry leader has sunk its teeth into the coastal/ inshore boat market with a pair of high-end center consoles that share V Series traits but also possess their own purposeful characteristics.

No matter the species, the V-28 has you covered. She draws only 18”, allowing anglers to fish the flats and shallow-water bays. She also has the deadrise and proven double-stepped hull bottom to run out front on calm days to near-shore reefs.

With a maximum horsepower capacity of 600, the new model is available with five different engine packages: single Mercury V10 400hp Verado, twin Mercury V6 225hp 4 stroke, twin Mercury V8 300hp 4 stroke, single Yamaha V8 450hp and twin Yamaha I4 200hp. And with a 130-gallon fuel capacity, the V-28 has excellent range. Heavy- duty Dometic hydraulic jack plate(s) are standard, giving this high- performance boat greater versatility.

Like the existing fleet of V Series center consoles, the V-28 Bay utilizes the patented Stepped-V Ventilated Tunnel running surface from Michael Peters Yacht Design that reduces drag while increasing speed, stability and efficiency. The hull’s integrated engine setback increases deck space while optimizing maneuverability, efficiency and buoyancy.

Twin Blade Series Power-Poles for shallow-water anchoring have been a popular option on the first few boats, as has the Minn Kota Riptide Instinct Quest trolling motor with 60Ah lithium battery and charger installed in a dedicated compartment under the bow casting deck.

Fore and aft casting decks and toekick built into the deck liner and around the console and helm seating module provide the most on-deck space possible. The aft casting deck epitomizes our smart use of space for storage, seating and access to service items. The centerline portion flips up and becomes a comfortable two-person seat with integrated handrails.

Outboard, there are twin 25-gallon insulated live wells. The entire hatch (with seat) lifts 90 degrees to provide access to the lazarette – which is gelcoated white for enhanced visibility and easier maintenance – where you'll find the standard Hooker Sea Chest System, live well and bilge pumps, hydraulic Power-Pole pumps, various manifolds, overboard seacocks and other critical components expertly installed and labeled. The V-28 also features dual in-deck fish boxes that are plumbed to a Whale Gulper pump for overboard discharge.

The recessed black acrylic dash is home to your choice of dual Garmin 19" Multi-Function Displays, dual 16" displays from either Garmin or Simrad, a single 22" Garmin or a single 19" Simrad.

The V-28 and V-29 are available with or without a hardtop. Without the hardtop, a half acrylic or half ProCurve glass windshield is offered. A full ProCurve glass or Costa Clear enclosure or half acrylic or glass windshield are all available with a hardtop. In addition, both models can be equipped with a factory-installed stand-on console with elevated second station, which is the ideal choice for owners looking for a height advantage while sight fishing.

The available hardtop is resin-infused and includes molded-in recessed areas and pods for electronics, lighting, speakers and radar antenna. You can also add Gemlux outriggers.

Thanks to an in-house fabricated stainless-steel bezel and helm mount, the teak helm pod with Edson wheel maintains its classic Valhalla/Viking design while incorporating paddle-control technology. The paddles, which extend from each side of the steering column, allow you to control engine trim and jack plate height without taking your hands off the wheel.

The standard helm seating features a polished aluminum leaning post with removable backrest, five rod holders and four cupholders, storage under the seat and a slide-out Yeti cooler. An optional fiberglass module includes top-mounted rod and cupholders and an upholstered bench seat. The aft portion consists of a slide-out Valhalla cooler with padded seat, large tackle drawer and grabrail. The module can also be outfitted with seating from Release Marine or Llebroc, with choices for armrests and flip-up bolsters. (The Release options include teak backrests and armrests.)

Our bay boat has ample space for a private head with easy ingress and egress via a port-side door with friction hinges. There's also excellent access via a two-door panel in the head to the electronics and electrical wiring, which features a color-coded, numbered and labeled wiring system.

Like the stern, the bow hides a plethora of storage. Each hatch and lid – with accompanying hardware and gasketing – shows the great level of fit and finish and quality of the Valhalla

brand. All forward storage lockers are well-lit and can be used for dry storage, and the outboard lockers can also be utilized as fish boxes with overboard drainage.

The boat's third live well (28 gallons) on centerline features an integrated clear lid. The forward console seat houses an insulated drink box; outboard on each side are dedicated rod lockers with reel pads. Every inch of space is well thought out and used to its fullest potential.

Bottom line: With industry-leading design, engineering, fit, finish and customer service, the V-28 Bay has redefined its class of high- performance inshore boats.

Valhalla Boatworks is a subsidiary of the Viking Yacht Company. Announced in 2019, the Valhalla V Series lineup now includes seven premium center consoles from 28 to 55 feet built with the same quality, attention to detail and high-level engineering as Viking yachts. In addition, the fleet now includes the V-55 Sport Yacht, a luxurious, fast and stylish two-stateroom cruising and entertaining Valhalla.

Specs
LOA: 28' 1"
Beam: 9' 3"
Weight (single Mercury V10 400)
  Dry: 6,930 lbs.
  Half load: 7,160 lbs.
  Full load: 7,942 lbs.
Draft (engine up): 18"
Draft (engine down, jackplate up): 22"
Deadrise @ transom: 18 deg.
Freeboard @ bow: 30-1/2"
Freeboard @ stern: 22-1/2"
Fuel: 130 gal.
Fresh water 28 gal.
Live well: (2) 25 gal. each AFT, (1) 28 gal. FWD
Max Horsepower: 600